May 2013 MSKTC Headlines

======Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)=====

SCI Model System Hosts Grand Rounds on State of Spinal Cord Injury

The Northern New Jersey Spinal Cord Injury System Center (NNJSCIS) hosted "The State of Spinal Cord Injury: Latest News on Clinical Trials of Interventions to Promote Neurological Recovery, a Special Grand Rounds" on April 17 at Kessler Conference Center. More than 200 SCI researchers, professionals, and consumers attended the event, and presenters discussed a range of U.S.-based and international research, from stem cell studies to activity-based therapy. The SCI Model System presented the Grand Rounds in collaboration with the Spinal Cord Injury Project of the W.M. Keck Center for Collaborative Neuroscience at Rutgers University. For information on the next Grand Rounds announcement, follow SCIResearch at Kessler on Facebook.

SCI Model Systems Seeks Individuals to Participate in Study

The New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Model System Center (NERSCIC) is seeking individuals living with SCI in Massachusetts to participate in a survey of health needs. The survey is also open to anyone interested in the health of people with disabilities living in the State. The survey is anonymous and will be active until May 31. The SCI Model Systems is conducting the survey in collaboration with the Health and Disability Program of the Office of Health Equity at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

SCI Model System Researchers Present at American Spinal Injury Association Conference

Three researchers from the University of Michigan Spinal Cord Injury Model System (UMSCIMS) spoke at the 2013 American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) annual conference, May 6–8 in Chicago, IL. Denise Tate, Ph.D., ABPP, the project’s principal investigator, presented “Placebo Response With and Without Placebo: Tales of a Depression Trial for Persons with SCI/D,” which was based on a clinical trial that the UMSCIMS conducted during the 2006–2011 grant cycle. David Tulsky, Ph.D., presented “Validation of the SCI-QOL and SCI-FI Measurement Systems for Persons with SCI,” which was based work conducted both through the SCIMS grant and an NIH R01, both of which are developing and validating measures of quality of life and functioning. Martin Forchheimer, M.P.P., gave two talks: “Subject Retention in a Clinical Trial of an Antidepressant for Treatment of Mild to Moderate Depressive Symptoms in People with SCI,” based on the same trial about which Dr. Tate spoke; and “The International SCI Data Sets for Bowel and Bladder: Development of Interview Forms,” which described development of an instrument as part of a current UMSCIMS site-specific study.

======Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)=====

TBI Model Systems Wins Telly Award

“Relationships After Traumatic Brain Injury,” a Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) produced video, won a Bronze Telly Award for outstanding achievement in the
category of Internet Online Video: Education. The 12-minute video shows the impact of TBI on a couple’s relationship and how the individuals worked with researchers at the Virginia Commonwealth Traumatic Brain Injury Model System Center to improve their relationship. The MSKTC produced the video as part of the Hot Topics module series. View the video here.

Dr. Jeffrey Kreutzer - Ask Me Anything On Reddit (AMA)

The MSKTC invites you to join Dr. Jeff Kreutzer, director of the Virginia Commonwealth University Traumatic Brain Injury Model System, as he answers questions about traumatic brain injury(TBI), common changes in family and couples’ relationships, and strategies to be successful. This session will be held on May 22, 2013 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm EST on Reddit! For more information visit the MSKTC Web site.

TBI Model System Cosponsors Conference

Virginia Commonwealth University Traumatic Brain Injury Model System and Brain Injury Services cosponsored the 37th Annual Conference, “Rehabilitation of the Adult and Child with Brain Injury: Practical Solutions to Real World Problems,” May 1 – 3 in Williamsburg, VA. This conference highlighted TBI model systems research and clinical programs and included internationally renowned speakers and attracted more than 150 participants. Neil Brooks, a visionary brain injury researcher and clinician, presented the keynote Rosenthal Memorial Lecture. Presentations addressed diverse topics, including executive function disorders, sports concussion, cognitive support technologies, behavior management, neuropsychological assessment, community-based treatment, and family intervention. Planning for the 2014 conference is underway, and the planning committee requests suggestions for speakers and topics. Visit the conference Web site for more information.

MSKTC Exhibits at 2013 Promising Practices for Healing Psychological Trauma

The MSKTC participated in the 2013 “Promising Practices for Healing Psychological Trauma of Service Members, Veterans, Family, and Community” on May 10, 2013, in Fairfax, VA. The MSKTC staff displayed and highlighted the work of the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems and distributed factsheets based on TBI Model Systems research. View the conference program for additional information.

====Burn====

University of Washington Awarded BMS National Data and Statistical Center

The MSKTC congratulates the University of Washington on being awarded the Burn Model Systems National Data and Statistical Center. The new center staff includes Dagmar Amtmann, Ph.D., principal investigator; Kurt Johnson, Ph.D., co-principal investigator; Mark Harniss, Ph.D., co-investigator; Peter Esselman M.D., co-investigator; Jeff Witzel, B.S., senior computer specialist; Kara McMullen, M.P.H., project manager; and Rebecca Matter, M.S., evaluation specialist. Find more information at the BMS data center Web site. Email comments or questions to burndata@uw.edu.
Model System Treats Patients of Boston Marathon Tragedy

Experts at Boston Harvard Burn Injury Model System (BH-BIMS) treated patients after the Boston Marathon bombings. At least 10 Boston-area hospitals treated more than 170 patients following the bombings Monday, April 15, 2013. At Massachusetts General Hospital, a 34-year-old man is the last bombing victim remaining and is among a few of the most seriously injured in the attack not yet released from other hospitals or transferred to rehabilitation facilities. Several marathon bombing victims were treated at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, another BH-BIMS institution, just as the hospital prepared to relocate to a brand-new facility within days of the bombing. Spaulding continues to work with several patients, taking a team approach to rapidly restore function to the individuals based on their needs and to provide them with a sense of independence early on, addressing both their physical and psychological concerns.

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 27–29</td>
<td>Paralyzed Veterans of America's Summit 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2–4</td>
<td>Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 9–12</td>
<td>Phoenix Society's Annual World Burn Congress Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 12–16</td>
<td>90th Annual ACRM Conference</td>
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</tbody>
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