***September 2015 MSKTC Headlines***

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

**MSKTC Releases New Factsheet: SCI and Respiratory Health**

The MSKTC recently released a new factsheet, *SCI and Respiratory Health*, authored by Eric Garshick, MD, MOH, Phil Klebine, MA, Daniel J. Gottlieb, MD, MPH, and Anthony Choido, MD, in collaboration with the MSKTC. The factsheet describes how the respiratory system changes after spinal cord injury and provides basic information to manage respiratory health. The factsheet may be reproduced and distributed freely with appropriate attribution. It is available on the MSKTC website in both English and Spanish [here](#).

**SCI Model System Researchers Present at 2015 American Spinal Cord Injury Professionals Conference**

Researchers from the New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center (NERSCIC) Model System recently presented at the 2015 Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals (ASCIP) Educational Conference and Expo in New Orleans from September 6-9th, 2015. David Rosenblum, MD, co-principal Investigator for NERSCIC, presented the poster *New England Spinal Cord Injury Toolkit Offers an Easy to Access and Use Education Tool to Any SCI Caregiver*. This poster described the development process for creating and disseminating the New England SCI Toolkit, and how it is used to improve SCI care practices and, subsequently, the quality of life for persons with spinal cord injuries. Sarah Everhart Skeels, MPH presented the poster, *Novel Application of the Peer Health Coach Model to Address Health Care Management Among People with Chronic SCI*. This poster highlighted the development of the Peer Health Coach model and its innovative use in NERSCIC’s site-specific project, My Care My Call, which aims to increase access to health care through peer-led empowerment training.

**SCI Model System Host Site Awarded a Spinal Cord Injury Medicine Fellowship Grant**

The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, home of the Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System (MRSCIS), has been awarded a Spinal Cord Injury Medicine Fellowship grant through the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation. The grant will help to fund one medical fellow who will have the opportunity to collaborate with model systems researchers beginning in 2016.

**Model System Hosts Site Will Hold the Neurorehabilitation Summit in 2016**

The Mayo Clinic, home of the Mayo Clinic Traumatic Brain Injury Model System, will hold the Neurorehabilitation Summit: *Regeneration, Recovery, Reintegration* on April 11-12, 2016 in Rochester, MN. The summit will address the latest advances in medical and rehabilitation management of adults with neurologic disorders. Topics span the continuum of care from cellular science to optimizing lifelong health. Learn more [here](#).

========Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)====
MSKTC Releases New TBI Infocomics

The MSKTC and TBI Model Systems have released two new infocomics based on the previously developed consumer factsheets, Emotional Changes after a TBI and TBI and Sleep. Content for the infocomics was adapted by Silas James and Matthew Cory illustrated the resource. The infocomics are available on the MSKTC website in English and Spanish here.

Model System Researcher Presented the William Fields Caveness Award

Mark Sherer, Ph.D., ABPP, FACRM, project director of the Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System of TIRR, has been given the William Fields Caveness Award by the Brain Injury Association of American (BIAA). This annual award is given to an individual who, through research on both a national and international level, has made outstanding contributions to bettering the lives of people who have sustained brain injury. Much of Dr. Sherer’s research has been funded through the TBI Model Systems program. He has worked in the TBIMS program since 1991 and has served as project director for TBIMS sites at Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson, Mississippi and at TIRR Memorial Hermann in Houston, Texas. Dr. Sherer is Senior Scientist and Assistant Vice President for Research at TIRR and Clinical Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas Medical School at Houston. Read more here.

Model System Supports a TBI Camp Held Annually

Each year North Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Model System (NTX TBIMS) sponsors Mountain High Camp. This camp is a unique five day retreat for young adults with brain injury held in the cool mountains of Red River, New Mexico. Baylor Rehab’s contribution is to send several staff members with specialties in various areas of therapy and nursing, along with a physician and resident to assist in any urgent medical needs. At this year’s camp – held Aug. 30-Sept. 4 -- more than 60 TBI campers enjoyed fishing, fellowship and the opportunity to enjoy friends who have gone through similar circumstances. The camp not only proved to be a great experience for the TBI survivors, but for the volunteers and counselors as well!

==== Burn ====

Resource Highlight: Understanding and Improving Body Image after Burn Injury Factsheet

Major burn injuries can change how the body looks and functions, and can also lead to body image distress. Learn more about phases of healing and supports available here.

Model System Researcher Publish Manuscript

Researchers from the Boston Harvard Burn Injury Model System (BH- BIMS) recently published the manuscript, Is Real-Time Feedback of Burn-Specific Patient-Reported Outcome Measures in Clinical Settings Practical and Useful? A Pilot Study Implementing the Young Adult Burn Outcome Questionnaire in the Journal of Burn Care and Research. This study examines the use of a computerized burn-specific Patient Reported Outcome Measure (PROM) and the
Young Adult Burn Outcome Questionnaire for use in the clinical setting. The questionnaires were administered to patients aged 19-30 using an iPad platform prior to their visit which produced a report that included recovery curves in the domains of physical function and social function. The report was used as a communication tool during the clinic visit. Patients and providers were then asked to complete satisfaction surveys regarding its ease of use and the helpfulness of the information the report provides. The full article can be accessed [here](#).

### Upcoming Events

| Oct 17-21 | Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference |
| Oct 21-24, | 27th Annual Phoenix Society World Burn Congress |
| Oct 25-30 | 92nd Annual American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) Conference |