

February 2014 MSKTC Headlines

Model Systems Work Published in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*

Researchers from the [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) and the [University of Michigan Spinal Cord Injury Model System \(UM SCIMS\)](#) recently collaborated on an article published in the *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. The article is titled *Environmental Factors Item Development for Persons with Stroke, Traumatic Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury*. The manuscript reported methods used to develop environmental factor item banks, sets of questions that identify environmental factors that serve as facilitators and barriers to participation following spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, and stroke. Access the [abstract here](#).

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

National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center Post New Tool

The [National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center](#) has created a free online life expectancy tool for individuals with SCI, caregivers, practitioners and clinicians. This tool was developed to address consumers' questions about life expectancy and contribute to life care planning. It is designed for people who are at least 2 years post-spinal cord injury, have access to good quality healthcare, are not on a ventilator, and have not regained all normal feeling and movement. The tool is not designed for those who do not experience neurological issues, as life expectancy for this group is considered close to the general population. View the life expectancy tool [here](#).

Model Systems Post New Resource

The [Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System \(NWRSCIS\)](#) recently posted a new forum video about relationships for persons with SCI titled *Love & Marriage after Spinal Cord Injury*. This panel discussion features three couples who met, fell in love, and got married long after one of the partners sustained a spinal cord injury. Learn how they met and have kept the romance alive over the years in this frank and illuminating [video](#). See the NWRSCIS' complete list of SCI videos [here](#).

The [New England Regional Spinal Cord Injury Center \(NERSCIC\)](#) recently posted a new recorded video and related handouts for research in SCI titled *Neuroregenerative Properties of Dental Pulp Stem Cells and Their Future Potential to Improve Neurological Outcomes in SCI*. This video allows viewers to listen to a panel of speakers as they discuss a new project to assess the neuro-regenerative properties of dental pulp stem cells and their future potential to improve neurological outcomes in SCI. View the video [here](#). Additional education program online videos are also available on the NERSCIS website [here](#).

Model System Researcher to Participate in Symposium

[Michael Boninger, MD](#), director of [University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury](#) will be speaking at the *Third Annual International Symposium on Regenerative Rehabilitation* held April 10th-11th in San Francisco, CA. During this symposium participants will learn about integrated laboratory-based approaches to enhance regeneration, discover the principles of regenerative medicine and how rehabilitation will interface with this state-of-the-art technology for optimal patient recovery, and participate in interactions with clinicians, researchers, and therapies through formal and informal networking activities. For more information visit the [conference website](#).

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

MSKTC Recruiting Veterans, African Americans and Latino/ Hispanics with TBI

The [Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center \(MSKTC\)](#) is recruiting people with TBI who are veterans, African American, and Latino/Hispanic to participate in a phone interview for a study to improve the information available for individuals with TBI. Input will help provide better health information available for individuals with TBI. Participants must have a TBI, over 18, and be veterans OR African American OR Latino/Hispanic. They will receive \$75 after participating in the interview, which will last approximately 60 minutes. For more information, check out our [recruitment page](#).

MSKTC Resource Highlight: Quick Review on Longitudinal Description of the GOS-E

The [Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center \(MSKTC\)](#) recently release a quick review titled *Longitudinal Description of the GOS-E*. This study was conducted to examine individual level patterns of change in functional outcome using data from the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems National Database. View the quick review [here](#).

=====Burn=====

Burn Model Systems will be represented at the American Burn Association Meeting

The [Burn Model Systems](#), [National Burn Model Systems Data Center](#), and [MSKTC](#), will exhibit at the [46th Annual American Burn Association Meeting](#) held March 25th-March 28th in Boston, MA. Stop by the booth and pickup resources, view the newly released [Employment After Burn Injury video](#), and meet members of the burn model systems network.

Upcoming Events

- Mar 19-22 [International Brain Injury Association's Tenth World Congress on Brain Injury](#)
- Mar 25-28 [46th Annual American Burn Association Meeting](#)

Apr 8-12

[8th World Congress for NeuroRehabilitation](#)

May 1-2

[38th Annual Williamsburg Traumatic Brain Injury Conference](#)

May 14-17

[American Spinal Injury Association 2014 Annual Meeting](#)