

October 2013 MSKTC Headlines

Model System Researchers to Present at the 90th Annual American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Conference

Model Systems researchers will participate in the 90th Annual American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Conference in Orlando, FL, November 12–16, 2013. [Allen Heinemann, Ph.D.](#), co-principal investigator of the [Midwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury Care System](#) will deliver the [John Stanley Coulter Award Lecture](#). [Michael Boninger, M.D.](#), director of the [University of Pittsburgh Model Center on Spinal Cord Injury](#), will present a plenary address on advances in brain computer interfaces and rehabilitation robotics. The [MSKTC](#) will also exhibit at the conference. Stop by booth 204 to meet with MSKTC staff and learn more about our work. A list of other Model Systems researchers participating in the conference is available [here](#) and additional information can be found in the [conference program](#).

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

Model System Releases Fall 2013 Newsletter *SCI on Rancho*

The [Southern California Spinal Cord Injury Model System](#) recently introduced the inaugural issue of the newsletter [SCI on Rancho](#). This newsletter will come out biannually bringing the latest information about living well after SCI and highlighting the activities of the Southern California Spinal Cord Injury Model System at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

Model System is Seeking Members of SCI Community for an Online Survey

The [Northwest Regional Spinal Cord Injury System Center \(NWRSCIS\)](#) is seeking creative solutions and modifications to make life with SCI easier, healthier, or more enjoyable. Members of the SCI community may submit tips, modifications, and ideas through the [online survey](#). NWRSCIS staff will review submissions to be included in their [Tips from the Wheel World series](#) and [newsletter](#).

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

Model System's Researcher Receives an Award at Annual Conference

[Jeffrey Kreutzer, Ph.D.](#), project director for the [Virginia Commonwealth University Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#), received the North American Brain Injury Society (NABIS) Innovations in Treatment Award at the annual conference on brain injury that was held September 18–21, 2013, in New Orleans, LA. The award is given annually to an individual selected by the NABIS Board of Directors for developing and implementing innovative and efficacious treatment for people with brain injuries.

Model System Center Designated As State’s Lead Agency for Brain Injury

The Wexner Medical Center at Ohio State University, home of the [Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#), has been designated lead agency for planning and policy related to brain injury for the state of Ohio. The Brain Injury Program held the first meeting of its Advisory Council on October 24, 2013. The program will promote access to services, explore new options for care delivery, and establish a TBI surveillance system to collect information on the incidence and prevalence of brain injury in Ohio. Activities include educating consumers, professionals, and policymakers and identifying resources for individuals who have experienced a brain injury and their families.

Model System Researchers Teach Course to TBI Professionals

[Nancy Chiaravalloti, Ph.D.](#), project director of the [Northern New Jersey Traumatic Brain Injury System \(NNJT BIS\)](#), and [Neil Jasey, Jr., M.D.](#), medical director of the NNJT BIS, taught a course on the newest treatment modalities and research in TBI and cognitive rehabilitation. The course, *Frontiers in Brain Injury: Neuroprotection and Cognitive Rehabilitation*, provided continuing education for nurses, therapists, case managers, counselors, speech-language pathologists, and social workers. It was held in June and September 2013 in Chester, NJ, and West Orange, NJ.

Model Systems Researchers Published in *NeuroRehabilitation*

Researchers from the [New York Traumatic Brain Injury Model System](#) recently published an article in *NeuroRehabilitation* titled “What is Post-TBI Fatigue?” Access the [abstract here](#).

=====Burn=====

Resource Highlight: Employment After Burn Injury

Have you read the factsheet, “Employment After Burn Injury,” available on the [MSKTC](#) Web site? Returning to work after a burn injury can be an important phase of recovery that helps one return to a routine. Learn more about returning to work after a burn injury by accessing the factsheet [here](#). If you are interested in this resource, please look for our upcoming hot topic module “Employment After Burn Injury.” This hot topic module will consist of a suite of resources to help individuals with burn injury transition back into employment.

Upcoming Events

- Nov 12–16 [90th Annual American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Conference](#)
- Nov 14–17 [26th Annual Southern Region Burn Conference](#)

Mar 19–22

[10th World Congress on Brain Injury](#)

Apr 8–12

[8th World Congress for NeuroRehabilitation](#)