



June 1, 2014

Newsletter #8

Status report

1267 citations uploaded

78 papers with data extraction completed

94 subscribers

Funding secured through October 2014

NEW! Nominate your favorite paper for data extraction

If you have a favorite paper, email janeshipley@gmail.com to ask that it be moved to the top of the queue for data extraction.

WIKISTIM data extraction reveals flaws in reports

In the past month, our data extraction process has revealed two papers with discrepancies that require explanation. We have noted below (in "Who will use WIKISTIM") that authors writing scientific publications could profitably use the WIKISTIM data category template as an outline for their work (and could then submit the completed datasheet to us as soon as their report is accepted for publication). This would not only help us complete more datasheets in a timely manner, it will help reduce mistakes in the scientific literature. If authors consider our template when presenting their data, inconsistencies can be avoided. Authors can not rely upon journal peer reviewers or copy editors to catch mistakes.

Funding update: no news is *not* good news

To date, we have sufficient funds to continue WIKISTIM through October 2014. We hope to hear from a new potential source of funding soon. In addition, a researcher who has used WIKISTIM extensively during the past month is also trying to secure funding for us from another source. We know that as we increase its depth (with completed datasheets) and breadth (with additional citations in additional areas), WIKISTIM will grow in importance. In the meantime, we thank those with the vision to see the value of WIKISTIM who have been inspired to underwrite our work to date. Please consider supporting WIKISTIM with a tax-deductible donation to The Neuromodulation Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization. Our address appears below; please contact janeshipley@gmail.com with questions about donations.

Content developed and quality improvements in May

- Uploaded 78 citations
- Acquired, processed, and considered 116 PDFs (awaiting 14 more)
- Completed 10 datasheets
- Continued to identify and acquire papers and prepare citation entries for SCS experimental studies beyond the models and technology studies
- Reviewed all publications listed as "epub" to add volume/issue/page numbers as they became available
- Created Google synonyms so that accented names will render properly in response to a search query without the accent (the Google search feature needs time to catch up with the synonyms)
- Removed a "featured image" that only appeared on some citations
- Improved the display of "volume(issue):pages"

June plans

- Add a new feature--the ability to search by date a citation was added and date the data extraction was completed, so that our users can easily see "what's new"
- Continue to complete datasheets (towards goal of 500 completed in 2014) and to seek feedback from authors
- Continue to update epubs as print citation information becomes available
- Continue to check the rendering of recently added citations
- Search the literature for new papers and finish our review of old print bibliographies
- Upload citations for SCS experimental mechanisms studies and then expand to DBS studies

Ongoing goals

- Work with Drs. Foreman and Linderoth to develop new data fields and categories for SCS mechanisms studies
- Create links from WIKISTIM data fields (e.g., "migration") back to the appropriate page in the Practice Parameters* and continue to update entries on that website as needed.
- Work with website developer to allow our users to create a downloadable table that displays results from multiple papers (at the moment, users have to create tables themselves by cutting and pasting columns downloaded individually)
- Improve and safe-guard the specificity and sensitivity of the search results as we expand in scope.
- Increase the number of registered users by increasing awareness of WIKISTIM.
- Identify authors and researchers who will submit datasheets for WIKISTIM.

POINTS YOU CAN MAKE ABOUT WIKISTIM

Who will use WIKISTIM? Everyone in our field!

- Authors who write a series of papers can use WIKISTIM to confirm that data reported in a new paper are congruent with data reported in a prior paper. Over the years we have seen several cases of data discrepancy. WIKISTIM should help reduce this
- Busy clinicians who need answers to clinical questions or literature support for reimbursement
- Representatives of industry who are seeking regulatory approval or need comparative data for approved devices
- Researchers who want to determine research needs, review background information, prepare evidence tables, etc.
- Authors working on scientific publications who could profitably search WIKISTIM and, if they are writing a protocol or research report, could use the WIKISTIM data category template as an outline for their work (and could then submit the completed datasheet to us as soon as their report is accepted for publication, expediting entry and facilitating readership and citation)
- Authors and readers who wish to query and correct inconsistencies in published scientific papers
- Critical thinkers who want to discuss published reports without the typical space and time limitations of Letters to the Editor
- Investors and other interested lay people who are exploring neuromodulation therapy
- Regulatory agencies and third-party payers who need a basis for decision-making

Features of WIKISTIM

- Subscription is free
- Published neuromodulation data abstracted and categorized
- Custom Google search engine
- Users download datasheets and can perform their own meta-analyses
- Users submit data from published papers
- Discussion of papers unlimited by time and space
- Links to PUBMED abstracts and to SCS Practice Parameters (neuromodfound.org)
- Includes citations that are not listed on PUBMED

Goals of WIKISTIM

- Improved patient care
- Support for reimbursement
- Facilitated regulatory submissions
- Improved quality of published reports
- Inspiration for research and innovation
- Increased communication that will extend the useful life of published reports

***What are the “Practice Parameters”?**

In 2007, we published the “Practice Parameters for the Use of Spinal Cord Stimulation in the Treatment of Neuropathic Pain” in a 75-page special issue of *Pain Medicine* and on-line (www.neuromodfound.org). This publication presents the same data captured by WIKISTIM in a different format. For each topic, we present questions and answers, with a citation-only list of the reports that support the answers (when available). This document is not meant to provide medical advice, but it can be and has been used as a “guide” and as a resource by clinicians and researchers. We have added important reports published since 2007, but we need to conduct regular reviews to keep the information as current as possible. We are linking WIKISTIM entries to the appropriate sections of the Practice Parameters in order to update this equally important resource. The Practice Parameter site does not require registration at this time.

Disclosure

WIKISTIM includes citations of studies of the use of neuromodulation therapies for indications that are or might be considered off-label or experimental in the United States.

Thank you for your continued interest in WIKISTIM!

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