



January 1, 2014

Newsletter #3

The New Year Brings Good News for WIKISTIM

We are pleased to announce that WIKISTIM has received support from Boston Scientific, Inc., in the welcome form of a one-time educational grant. WIKISTIM has also received a substantial donation from an individual. Together, these will fund approximately a third of our operating budget in 2014.

Who Will Use WIKISTIM?

The question we heard most often at NANS 2013 (the annual conference of the North American Neuromodulation Society) was “Who will use WIKISTIM?” Our answer is, “Everyone in the field.”

- 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 research report, could also use the WIKISTIM data category template as an outline for their work (and could then submit the completed datasheet as soon as their report is accepted for publication)
- Authors and readers who wish to correct mistakes 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

You Can Help!

WIKISTIM is being developed by The Neuromodulation Foundation, Inc., as a resource for the neuromodulation community. You can help by spreading the word and encouraging people to register on the site. You can also help by making a tax-deductible donation: The Neuromodulation Foundation, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization. Please contact janeshipley@gmail.com for donation information.

December Accomplishments

December, of course, is a short work month. Nevertheless, we accomplished the following:

- Presented a WIKISTIM abstract at NANS and distributed more than 1,000 WIKISTIM bookmarks to raise awareness
- Held small meetings at NANS with representatives of industry to discuss funding for WIKISTIM as well as to raise awareness of the resource and its unique helpful features
- Convened a WIKISTIM Advisory Committee meeting to solicit ideas from leaders in the field of neuromodulation about the best ways to realize WIKISTIM’s potential
- Created a data submission template form with specific instructions for each line
- Conducted the monthly search of PUBMED, acquired PDFs, and added citations to WIKISTIM
- Applied for a grant from an additional source

- Finalized a paper on WIKISTIM for submission to Neuromodulation
- Used the Discussion forum for the first time to point out a possibly incorrect P value; when the author agreed that this was an error, we corrected the P value on the WIKISTIM datasheet
- Increased the number of registered users by 51%

Goals for January

- Continue to develop content by completing 40 additional datasheets, searching PUBMED for new papers, acquiring PDFs, and adding citations
- Link appropriate datasheets with the *Practice Parameters for the Use of Spinal Cord Stimulation in the Treatment of Chronic Neuropathic Pain* (neuromodfound.org)
- Link completed WIKISTIM datasheets from the list in the Discussion forum to the list of searchable papers
- Identify authors who will submit datasheets for WIKISTIM
- Update the mailing list and send out the February newsletter
- Continue quality control and improvements

Ongoing Goals

- Complete 500 datasheets by the end of 2014
- Add data categories (e.g., for SCS experimental studies, DBS, PNS, etc.)
- Safe-guard the specificity and sensitivity of the search results when we expand in scope
- Increase the number of registered users by increasing awareness of the benefits of WIKISTIM
- Explore ways to secure funding into the future
- Continue to solicit feedback

Features of WIKISTIM

- 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)

Value of WIKISTIM

- Improved patient care
- Support for reimbursement efforts
- Facilitated regulatory submissions
- Improved quality of published reports
- Inspiration for research and innovation
- Increased communication

Disclosure

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

We wish you a HAPPY NEW YEAR and thank you for your continued interest in WIKISTIM!

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