



February 1, 2014

Newsletter #4

## More Good News for WIKISTIM

We are pleased to announce that WIKISTIM has received welcome support from St. Jude Medical in the form of a one-time educational grant and from Greatbatch, Inc., in the form of a travel grant from to underwrite our attendance at the “Mechanisms of Action: Electrical Stimulation of the Nervous System” conference (moaconference.com) in Orlando in March. We acknowledge with thanks once again the support we received last month from Boston Scientific, Inc.

## January Accomplishments

- Met our goal of 40 additional completed datasheets
- Conducted the monthly search of PUBMED, acquired new PDFs, and added them to the WIKISTIM database, which now includes 1058 citations
- Increased the number of registered users
- “Rediscovered” and noted a widespread misnomer (the use of “VAS [visual analogue scale]” to refer incorrectly to numeric rating scales)
- Refined the procedure to link appropriate datasheets with the *Practice Parameters for the Use of Spinal Cord Stimulation in the Treatment of Chronic Neuropathic Pain* (neuromodfound.org)
- Linked completed WIKISTIM datasheets from the list in the Discussion forum to the list of searchable papers
- Continued quality improvements
- Refined, edited, and added data fields as a result of abstracting data from the 40 additional papers

## Goals for February

- Update the data fields on the website
- Review papers abstracted in 2013 to add data in the newly added fields as necessary
- Upload the 40 new completed datasheets (abstracted using the new data fields)
- Develop new ways to highlight which papers have completed datasheets
- Continue to link to the Practice Parameters (www.neuromodfound.org) and update that website as needed
- Create and populate (by searching the SCS mechanisms literature and uploading as many as 250 citations/week dedicated to this task) a new branch of WIKISTIM that will comprise SCS experimental studies
- Prepare for the Mechanisms of Action conference (moaconference.com) in March by developing new data fields and categories to support non-clinical, experimental work and by abstracting data from mechanisms papers authored by meeting faculty
- Invite authors of all completed datasheets to review our work and to submit datasheets from additional studies
- Continue quality improvements
- Conduct monthly search of the literature
- Develop additional sources of funding

## Ongoing Goals

- Complete 460 additional datasheets by the end of 2014 (for a total of 500 added this year)
- Add data categories (e.g., for SCS experimental studies, DBS, PNS, etc.)
- 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 the benefits of WIKISTIM
- Explore ways to secure long-term funding

- Continue to solicit feedback
- Identify authors and researchers who will submit datasheets for WIKISTIM

### **Who Will Use WIKISTIM? Everyone in our field! And we have a new reason why:**

- **NEW!** 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 this sort of data discrepancy. WIKISTIM should help reduce this unfortunate mishap.
- 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**

- 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](http://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

### **You Can Help!**

WIKISTIM is being developed with startup funding 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](mailto:janeshipley@gmail.com) for donation information.

### **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.

### **We thank you for your continued interest in WIKISTIM!**

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