



## January 2015 Newsletter

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### Happy New Year!

We use these monthly newsletters to report what we have accomplished for WIKISTIM each month. This December, our Managing Editor was called away for several days due to a family emergency, but we are grateful that we have nevertheless made progress. As we continue into 2015, we want to thank again the companies and individuals (see below) who have contributed to WIKISTIM as well as the leaders in our field who have endorsed WIKISTIM by agreeing to serve on our Editorial Board (see list below). We are also grateful to our registrants for helping to spread the word. Each month after this newsletter goes out, more and more people become subscribers.

### December accomplishments

The month of December brought us the greatest increase in subscribers in a single month since we launched WIKISTIM. This, no doubt, was thanks to our presence at NANS, where we presented two abstracts and handed out scores of bookmarks. Dr. North also described WIKISTIM to those who attended the NANS Foundation reception (WIKISTIM has the distinction of being the first project funded by the NANS Foundation). During the conference, Dr. North met with other members of the WIKISTIM Editorial Board and also met with the *Neuromodulation* Editorial Board and proposed a way that the WIKISTIM data sheets could be used by the journal to improve content and facilitate the peer review process.

As we prepared for NANS, we used WIKISTIM to make a list of all of the SCS literature that had been reported in *Neuromodulation*. This is easy to do because our website allows anyone to sort the list of papers by journal and then download the citations into a table. Despite the fact that we believed we had all of the SCS literature with primary data listed on WIKISTIM, we did a double-check by searching "spinal cord" on the *Neuromodulation* website and found a score of papers that had not appeared in our PUBMED searches because their titles referred to "stimulator(s)" instead of "stimulation." We added these citations along with the others (total 31) that we identified during our usual monthly search.

We were also finally able to post the DBS data category list on the website. Like many things that seem easy when they are finished, this process is more complicated than it seems because the categories have to appear in many places and forms.

### Volunteer effort will flesh out the DBS section

We are delighted to report that Dr. Slavin, the DBS Section Editor, has enlisted the help of three residents who will complete datasheets for the citations in this section. This effort is just beginning, and we will keep you informed about its progress and make certain that these volunteers are properly acknowledged and thanked.

## Funding update and other plans for January

Funding WIKISTIM remains a challenge. We don't as yet have enough subscribers to share out the costs reasonably among them, and fund-raising takes a lot of time and energy. Our fund-raising strategy to date has been to create a product that the entities that award grants in our field would be delighted to fund. To this end, we have expanded beyond SCS, and we continue to add new features, such as the ability to download multiple citations in one table. In January we will concentrate on increasing our subscriber base through efforts to spread the word about this free resource and on finding new sources of grant support. We will also have to increase the consulting work we do to keep The Neuromodulation Foundation afloat. We will continue to add new citations and pay attention to quality control.

## How you can help

- Please consider supporting WIKISTIM with a tax-deductible donation to The Neuromodulation Foundation, Inc.
- Spread the word about WIKISTIM (all past newsletters with detailed information about WIKISTIM are available on the home page before registration is required)
- Submit extracted data from published reports of your choice or use our datasheets as a guide when you write your paper and submit the datasheet to us upon journal acceptance.
- Notify us about any reports we might have missed for SCS, DRG, and DBS/OCD or reports you would like to see added for DBS/PD.
- Suggest website improvements (and thanks to those who have done this—we have incorporated your suggestions).
- Suggest potential donors.
- Nominations remain open for the positions of Sacral Nerve Stimulation Section Editor (and thanks to those of you who have sent in nominations), and we have just opened nominations for the position of Vagus Nerve Stimulation Section Editor.

## Financial support

Support for 2015:

- Greatbatch
- B. Todd Sitzman, MD, MPH
- The NANS Foundation (3-year grant commitment started Dec 2014)

We are grateful for the ongoing support of these nonprofits:

- The North American Neuromodulation Society (publicity and NANS conference registration)
- The International Neuromodulation Society (publicity)
- The Neuromodulation Foundation (parent non-profit, overhead and development)

Support during 2014:

- Boston Scientific (grant for development)
- Greatbatch (travel grant to Mechanisms conference)
- Medtronic (grant for development)
- Neurovations/Napa Pain Institute (Mechanisms conference registration and conference booth for publicity)
- St. Jude Medical (grant for development)

## Editorial Board

Editor-in-chief, Richard B. North, MD

Tracy Cameron, PhD, Peripheral Nerve Field Stimulation

Elliot Krames, MD, Dorsal Root Ganglion Stimulation

Bengt Linderöth, MD, PhD, Experimental Studies

Robert Foreman, MD, PhD, Co-editor Experimental Studies

Richard B. North, MD, Spinal Cord Stimulation

B. Todd Sitzman, MD, MPH, At Large

Konstantin Slavin, MD, Deep Brain Stimulation

To be determined, Sacral Nerve Stimulation

To be determined, Vagus Nerve Stimulation

Managing editor, Jane Shipley

## Disclosure

WIKISTIM includes citations for indications that are or might be considered off-label in the United States.

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