



February 2015 Newsletter

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Funding update

We are delighted to announce that Medtronic has maintained and increased its support of WIKISTIM by awarding us a grant that met 100% of our request. This award is sufficient to keep us afloat through half of 2015. We are grateful to Medtronic for its continued support and its recognition that WIKISTIM is an increasingly important resource for the field of neuromodulation. We will be submitting additional grant requests to other neuromodulation technology companies in the coming months.

We continue to explore ways to make WIKISTIM self-sufficient. One possibility would be for our parent non-profit, The Neuromodulation Foundation, to become an accredited provider of continuing medical education credits (CME), which we would award to health care providers who successfully complete WIKISTIM data sheets. This activity is more rigorous than many for which CME credit is awarded, and we believe that engaging in it will be of immense value to the recipient of the credit. This would also allow the recipient to contribute to the entire field, since completed WIKISTIM datasheets will be posted (after they have been vetted) for everyone to use. If you have any feedback about this idea, please email us (wikistim@gmail.com).

INS support

We are also grateful to the International Neuromodulation Society for its support of our attendance at its upcoming 12th International Congress, "Neuromodulation: Medicine Evolving Through Technology," which will take place June 8-11, 2015 (with pre-conference workshops on the 6th and 7th) in Montreal, Canada. We will have tabletop space dedicated to WIKISTIM in the exhibit area.

New Section Editor

We welcome Roger Dmochowski, MD, a professor in the Department of Urologic Surgery at Vanderbilt, as the Section Editor for Sacral Nerve Stimulation, which will be our next section. We plan to follow this with new sections on Gastric Electrical Stimulation and Vagus Nerve Stimulation; we are seeking nominations for editors of these sections. Section Editors advise us, work with us to develop the data category fields, help us identify citations we might otherwise have missed, and recruit individuals to complete data sheets.

Using WIKISTIM

This month, Dr. North consulted the WIKISTIM search engine while updating a review chapter, and he was pleased that he could 1) sort the list of SCS literature by year published with most recent first and quickly read down the list and 2) easily search for key words and authors' names without the overwhelming number of false positives one finds on PubMed. He noted that the WIKISTIM search engine is not perfect yet; we are once again working to remove a bug that is preventing all of his papers from appearing with a simple search for "north" (we had this problem before and solved it before; we just need to find a permanent solution).

Anyone writing a review article, especially a structured literature review or meta-analysis, could profitably use the appropriate WIKISTIM data sheet and then submit the completed version for uploading. We also gratefully accept partially completed data sheets.

When we have had occasion to use WIKISTIM in the middle of meetings, we called up completed data sheets and found that the design of the online version facilitates readability and presents vital data at a glance.

WIKISTIM can also be used as a teaching tool; assigning the completion of WIKISTIM data sheets to medical students or residents/fellows creates a worthwhile teaching exercise that allows the student to 1) become familiar with the results of a study, 2) improve his or her ability to read carefully and critically, and 3) contribute to the field by submitting the result to WIKISTIM.

Please email Jane Shipley (wikistim@gmail.com) and let us know how you use WIKISTIM in your practice or research or teaching.

January statistics

- 1712 SCS (19 added) and 20 DRG (1 added)
- 1231 DBS (this includes 93 OCD, with 5 added this month, 1136 studies of Parkinson's disease—20 added this month—that include some motor cortex stimulation literature waiting to be put in its own section)
- 179 people get this newsletter
- 145 registered users

Obviously, we will be delighted when the last two bullet points match the first two, and we will appreciate anything you can do to help us achieve this goal by spreading the word.

Plans for February

In addition to identifying new articles for the extant sections on WIKISTIM, we will begin developing the new Sacral Nerve Stimulation section. This involves working with our new Section Editor to create a list of data categories and identifying papers that report primary data as well as physically creating the section (it is strange but true that physical effort is required to create a location in virtual reality). We must also continue to explore ways to raise funds to support WIKISTIM.

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 and FAQs 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.
- We have just opened nominations for the positions of Vagus Nerve Stimulation and Gastric Electrical Stimulation Section Editors.

Financial support (listed alphabetically by first name)

Support to date for 2015:

- B. Todd Sitzman, MD, MPH
- Greatbatch
- Medtronic

- The NANS Foundation (3-year grant commitment started Dec 2014)

We are grateful for the ongoing support of these nonprofits:

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

Support during 2014:

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

Editorial Board

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

Tracy Cameron, PhD, Peripheral Nerve Field Stimulation

Roger Dmochowski, MD, Sacral Nerve Stimulation

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

Elliot Krames, MD, Dorsal Root Ganglion Stimulation

Bengt Linderoth, 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, Vagus Nerve Stimulation

To be determined, Gastric Electrical 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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