



July 2015 Newsletter

PLEASE FORWARD TO YOUR COLLEAGUES

www.wikistim.org

Record number of new subscribers thanks to the INS

Because the INS provided us with a table in a prominent position during its 12th International Congress in Montreal last month, we were able to introduce WIKISTIM to many attendees. As a result, a record 37 new subscribers registered. (We might well have had more, but the amount of Internet traffic we were generating triggered an automatic alarm to the Conference hotel's ISP, which responded by blocking access to WIKISTIM.) This number is more than 4 times the normal amount we receive in a single month through word-of-mouth and brings our total to 217 registrants, with 255 people receiving this newsletter. The increased number of registrants should help get the word out even more.

New section in the works

We are grateful that Thomas Abell, MD, has agreed to edit our new section on Gastric Electrical Stimulation, which we plan to have on-line by Labor Day.

CME credit update

Just before leaving for the INS Conference, we received the following message of preliminary approval from WVSIPP for our plan to offer CME credits to people who hyper-abstract data from scientific publications into our data fields to complete WIKISTIM data sheets:

"I am pleased to announce that the educational committee of WVSIPP has tentatively accepted your application for CME accreditation of the WIKISTIM project. We feel WIKISTIM is a valuable resource and its mission closely aligns with the core values of our society." Jeffrey Peterson, COO of WVSIPP

WVSIPP is also overseeing CMEs for peer review for the journal *Neuromodulation*, and our friends at the journal have promised to share their experience preparing the necessary paperwork with us. Each case presents a new paradigm that allows physicians to provide a service to their professional community even as they earn CME credits. We know that the opportunity to earn CMEs will be an incentive to WIKISTIM datasheet completion, enriching our database and thus increasing the value of WIKISTIM for all of our users, who as a result will be able to analyze and cite our literature more effectively in their own works. Digesting a scientific paper with the level of attention required to fill in our fields is, of course, a meaningful and helpful educational exercise.

More quotes of the month

"Nobody can depend upon anybody to find everything." Richard B. North, MD

We are doing our best to find everything, but we depend upon our community (this means YOU!) to inform us about citations of papers with primary data that we might have missed.

And this from a Neuromodulation Corporate Medical Affairs Professional

"When WikiStim first came out, I wondered, 'What's the point? We have PubMed, EMBASE, Google Scholar, and ScienceDirect. What do we need another literature database for?'" During a recent complex search, I was certain there had to be literature on the subject, but I couldn't find any. As a last resort, I consulted WikiStim. I found two articles that I had not found in all of my other searches. Now I'm a convert and use WikiStim in many of my literature searches at the outset."

Crucial fund-raising efforts

We spent much of our time at the INS Congress meeting with potential WIKISTIM sponsors. WIKISTIM offers those in the neuromodulation community with the capacity to award grants the opportunity to support an ongoing resource with an unlimited audience and an unlimited duration—a resource that can be accessed at any time of the day or night from any place in the world. Indeed, our first 110 subscribers (the last time we analyzed our registrants) were from 13 different countries.

When people understand the value of WIKISTIM, they are enthusiastic about what it offers now and the benefits it will provide as it expands in depth and scope. Our challenge is to introduce the site and the concept upon which it is based to enough people with the imagination and foresight to see the role WIKISTIM will play in the publication, dissemination, and analysis of neurostimulation data. In the meantime, we have sufficient funding to continue our work uninterrupted through August.

This month-by-month, hand-to-mouth situation demands attention that we would rather be paying to enhancing WIKISTIM. During the INS Congress, we discussed this situation with our Editorial Board members, who offered some suggestions that we are pursuing. As a result, we spent a significant amount of time in June after the Congress fine-tuning the supporting documents that we need to send with grant applications.

If you can help us, if you have a relationship with a CEO of any company in our field that will allow you to suggest that he or she consider supporting WIKISTIM, we would be most grateful. We will be happy to email our basic grant application package to you at your request to wikistim@gmail.com. WIKISTIM is an initiative of The Neuromodulation Foundation, Inc., which is a recognized 501c(3) charitable organization in the USA. We also gratefully accept and acknowledge individual donations and are working to institution a mechanism to donate directly through the website.

July 1st citation numbers

- SCS 1796, 51 new,
- DBS PK or general 1213, 14 new
- DBS OCD 101, 1 new
- DBS Epilepsy 228, 4 new, with 2 more under consideration
- SNS 715, 4 new
- PNS 26 (list is preliminary)
- DRG 22, 0 new

How to use WIKISTIM

The searchable, collaborative website, WIKISTIM.org, uses customized data categories and fields to display neurostimulation data from curated lists of published reports (or those accepted for publication) containing primary data. These lists are organized by stimulation target and updated monthly.

WIKISTIM's data category lists each contain nearly 200 fields organized into appropriate groups, customized and available for download from the SUBMIT page for several stimulation targets: [SCS](#), [DRG](#), [DBS](#), [PNS](#), and [SNS](#) (with GES in the works).

In their raw form, these data sheets can serve as checklists for authors writing research reports and peer reviewers assessing a manuscript.

Completed data sheets can be used by investigators to review background information, prepare evidence tables, craft study protocols, and determine research needs.

Completed datasheets (currently available for SCS, DRG, and PNS) can be downloaded as a group from the relevant list of searchable papers or from search results to create evidence tables that can be manipulated in response to specific needs, including meta-analysis. Thus, WIKISTIM provides literature support to answer clinical questions and aid in reimbursement and payment decisions.

WIKISTIM is a collaborative project: users can submit content, query and correct inconsistencies in

published scientific papers, and discuss published reports without space or time limits.

WIKISTIM links to PUBMED abstracts and to the [SCS Practice Parameters](#). WIKISTIM subscription remains free.

How you can help

- Please consider supporting WIKISTIM with a tax-deductible donation to The Neuromodulation Foundation, Inc.
- Spread the word about WIKISTIM. (Links to all past newsletters, FAQs, and an ABOUT page are available on the [home page](#) outside of the registration firewall.)
- 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 that contain primary data on SCS, SNS, DRG, PNS, DBS/OCD DBS/Epilepsy, 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 to the best of our ability).
- Suggest potential donors.

Financial support (listed alphabetically by first name) to date for 2015:

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

We are grateful for the ongoing support of these nonprofits:

- The International Neuromodulation Society (publicity and INS conference registration)
- 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
- Medtronic
- The NANS Foundation
- Neurovations/Napa Pain Institute (Mechanisms conference registration and conference booth for publicity)
- St. Jude Medical

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Disclosure

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

States.

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