



April 2016 News

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**CHECK OUT THE APPENDIX TO SEE THE MOST RECENT CITATIONS ADDED TO WIKISTIM**

#### **DONATIONS WELCOME**

We are grateful for any donation in any amount from those who use this free resource. All donations are 100% deductible for those of you who file US income tax and itemize deductions.

#### **MORE ON THE FUTURE OF ACADEMIC PUBLISHING**

In a commentary (Shanahan DR. A living document: reincarnating the research article. *Trials* 2015 16:151, available for free download), Daniel Shanahan states that research articles as traditionally published must now be considered “effectively fraudulent” in light of the new possibilities for “transparency and reproducibility” offered by information technology. He concludes that it is “no longer acceptable to continue to perpetuate [such] a centuries-old absurdity.” As an alternative, he suggests that the process of publication begin when the study is entered into a registry and continue as the protocol (the methods section) is developed, perhaps revised, and finally fully executed. At this point, the publication would include the results and the interpretation of these results. This model envisions peer review occurring at various stages of the process, with these reviews becoming “associated with” various versions of the publication that would be frozen, dated, and assigned unique identifiers. This would require “citations. . . to include the access date.” Secondary analyses, conducted by external researchers, would also become extensions of the root publication, presumably with their own time-stamped version identifiers. This living document would link to all of the underlying data and data analyses generated by the study.

Shanahan acknowledges that “contemporary cultural attitudes and workflows, within both publishing and academia, along with research conduct and evaluation, present barriers” to this type of living publication. Among these barriers, surely, is the reliance on lists of publications in a typical curriculum vitae. And is a publication model that requires various versions to become frozen in time really different from a model where succeeding versions are published over time in discrete publications, even in separate scientific journals?

While we and others contemplate the merits of suggestions such as Shanahan's and the absurdity of dismissing the entire extant scientific literature as fraudulent, we believe that everyone can agree that finding a way to make data embedded in research articles more readily available for comparison and

analysis is a worthy endeavor. Thus, WIKISTIM.

## REMINDERS

### **North American Neuromodulation Society and Neural Interfaces Conference Joint Meeting**

In our session on “Maximizing the Value of Neural Interface Data” at the [NANS2/NIC conference](#) on June 25th through 29th, we will explain how the way something is reported predicts what will be reported and demonstrate how WIKISTIM will be a positive influence on the quality of the data that will be published as well as on the way these data are analyzed in relation to the findings of other neural interface studies.

We urge you to use the link above to access the agenda for this important meeting, which will take place at a hotel overlooking Baltimore’s beautiful inner harbor.

## CURRENT STATUS

Our 5 new subscribers in March increased our total to 320. Please continue to encourage your colleagues to register for access to our free resource. And THANK YOU for being early adopters!

**April 1st numbers (These numbers might not add up from month to month as we remove the inevitable duplication that occurs. See appendix below for list of new citations.)**

- 320 subscribers (5 new)
- SCS citations 1891 (14 new)
- DBS citations 1731 (27 new; 22 Parkinson’s; 2 OCD, 3 epilepsy)
- SNS citations 765 (2 new)
- PNS citations 38 (11 new)
- DRG citations 33 (1 new)
- GES citations 470 (0 new)

## CONTINUING PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- Encourage people to earn CME credits by filling in datasheets
- Transform our datasheets into forms that can be completed online easily
- Include additional sections, with VNS next in line
- Optimize performance on various platforms (screen sizes, browser types, etc.)
- Create forms for online data submission, with easy checkboxes when applicable
- Link data fields to additional information (e.g., descriptions and preferred uses of study designs and outcome criteria, authors’ CVs, etc.)
- Incorporate cutting edge data visualization graphics that will update immediately as data are extrapolated from papers and uploaded
- Offer a dynamic user experience, including the ability to save searches and customize the way the site behaves
- Secure continued funding
- Continue to make quality improvements

## HOW THE NEUROSTIMULATION COMMUNITY CAN HELP

- Submit extracted data from published reports of your choice, or use our datasheets as a guide when you plan your study and write your paper, and then 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, GES, 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).

## **FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR 2015 to 2016**

### **(Listed alphabetically by first name):**

- B. Todd Sitzman, MD, MPH
- Greatbatch
- Medtronic
- The NANS Foundation (3-year grant commitment started 2014)
- NEVRO
- Richard B. North, MD
- Thomas Abell, MD

### **Ongoing in-kind support:**

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

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

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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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## APPENDIX: Citations added April 1, 2016

### DBS-PD (We continue to add older DBS citations that we passed over in our initial list.)

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## SNS

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