



May 2021 News

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NEW GLOSSARY TO SHED LIGHT ON LANGUAGE

Many of the activities we undertake on behalf of *The Neuromodulation Foundation, Inc.*, reflect our commitment to the written communication needed to advance scientific research. WIKISTIM is obviously our contribution to efforts to corral the literature and extract data efficiently. The raw WIKISTIM data sheets themselves can be used to enhance study design, manuscript preparation, and peer review. Filling in a data sheet can uncover (and has in our experience) inconsistencies and flaws in the presentation of results, and completed data sheets can reveal important points from a scientific report at a glance. ([Click](#) to see one of ours as an example.)

Because a common terminology is vital for communication, Dr. North is spearheading a joint effort of our Foundation, IoN (the [Institute of Neuromodulation](#)), and the INS (the [International Neuromodulation Society](#)) to create a glossary of neurostimulation terms. Even as WIKISTIM has its origins in tables Dr. North published in the early 1990s of important details from the SCS literature, the lineage of this glossary extends to an appendage in [one](#) of his 1998 papers. Along the way to this joint effort, which will likely result in three related and variously overlapping glossaries (a lovely example of a VENN diagram), we created a [glossary](#) in 2007 as part of *The Practice Parameters for the Use of Spinal Cord Stimulation in the Treatment of Neuropathic Pain*. We have recently updated that glossary and are in the process of updating the Practice Parameters to reflect developments in the field.

Our glossary will offer us a common language—if we must use specialized jargon, at least let us agree on the terms; it will encourage us to translate our jargon into the vernacular as much as possible for patients and other members of the public so they can readily understand what they need to know; and, by offering definitions that move beyond what might almost be considered a secret code, we might help authors avoid the negative effects, such as [attracting fewer citations](#), that arise from the use of jargon.

MOBILE PHONES AND IMPLANTED DEVICES

Since the late 1990s, we have had [reports](#) of anti-theft devices interfering with implanted spinal cord stimulators. Indeed, in our [2007 Practice Parameters](#), we recommended that patients disable SCS systems “before entering electromagnetic fields produced by anti-theft devices, metal detectors, or other security screening systems.”

The latest iPhone 12 contains more magnetic force than its predecessors, and, to address the concern

that the new model will increase interference with internal medical devices, APPLE [advises patients](#) with such devices to keep their iPhone and MagSafe accessories at a safe distance and to consult with their physicians for specific instructions on safety.

MEMBERSHIP

In April, the number of our subscribers grew to 1465. Thank you for helping to spread the word!

CITATIONS ADDED FROM SEARCH ON APRIL 26, 2021 (if necessary, please click "View Entire Message")

Deep Brain Stimulation (now 6184 citations)

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Dorsal Root Ganglion Stimulation (now 189 citations, with 9 completed WIKISTIM abstracts)

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Gastric Electrical Stimulation (still 507 citations)

Peripheral Nerve Stimulation (now 506 citations, with 6 completed WIKISTIM abstracts)

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Spinal Cord Stimulation (now 2693 citations, with 133 completed or partially completed WIKISTIM abstracts)

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Sacral Nerve Stimulation (now 1078 citations)

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