

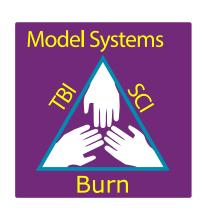




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—October 2022

SPAULDING RENEWED AS SCI, TBI, AND BURN INJURY MODEL SYSTEM SITES

We are thrilled to share that recently Spaulding's Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and Burn Injury Rehabilitation Programs have been renewed as Model System sites by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). Spaulding continues to be the only institution nationally to have all three Model System specialties at the same time. Maintaining this distinction is an immense validation of the work in research, care, advocacy, and education that our teams are committed to make happen each day. These grants are awarded in five-year cycles by NIDILRR through an extremely selective process. NIDILRR awards Model System grants to institutions that are national leaders in medical research and patient care. Each site provides the highest level of comprehensive specialty services, from the point of injury through rehabilitation and community reentry.



Under the leadership of Dr. Andy Taylor as Co-Investigator of the <u>SCI Model System Site</u>, Dr. Joe Giacino as Program Director for the <u>TBI Model System Site</u>, and Dr. Jeff Schneider as Program Director for the <u>Burn Injury Model System Site</u>, each Model System program has fostered a dynamic culture of discovery and has championed the causes of the communities they serve. The process to submit an application and achieve renewal is immense and took the contributions of dozens of people working closely to make it possible. We want to take this moment to honor and thank all of those from the Model System teams, research and physician departments, administration, and clinical teams who played a role in this tremendous achievement.

This funding will allow Spaulding clinicians and researchers to continue to improve both regional and national understanding of SCI, TBI, and burn injury treatment models. Each Model System invites newly injured individuals to participate in research studies and contribute to a national database in their condition area. These databases are the largest of their type in the world and are publicly available for research purposes. Information is used to further the understanding of the long-term consequences of these injuries and to develop improved treatments and systems of care.

Our Model System designations are also an important part of our reputation score in U.S. News & World Report and help us recruit talented applicants for our PM&R Residency and Fellowship programs. We are honored to earn this recognition once again and look forward to fueling new approaches and discoveries through this work that will benefit the communities we are so honored to serve. Please join us in congratulating all those that made this accomplishment possible.

Ross Zafonte, DO

President

Spaulding Rehabilitation Network

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