

Best Research Paper Award (NARRTC Research Committee)

In 2007, the NARRTC Research Committee created a subcommittee comprised of five members. This subcommittee created the first annual 'Best Research Paper' award. The process includes a call (via email) to researchers conducting work in the disability and rehabilitation fields. Professionals are asked to submit any peer-reviewed published manuscript (from the past calendar year) funded by NIDRR that he/she believes represents excellent research and work that contributes to the disability field. The subcommittee allows approximately a month for researchers to submit articles to the chair of the subcommittee. Research manuscripts are thoroughly evaluated by all committee members who use strict criteria. The criteria are based on research rigor as well as the contribution to the disability and rehabilitation fields. The research must be supported by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR).

Since that year, NARRTC's Best Research Paper award has generated the submission of many interesting and well-done peer-reviewed studies in the field of rehabilitation and disability. The winner is selected a few weeks before the annual spring NARRTC conference. The 'Best Paper' award is then presented at the annual NARRTC meeting. The winner is awarded a \$500 honorarium as well as a plaque with the authors' names, the article and journal name, and the title of the paper. All additional authors receive plaques. In addition, the subcommittee recognizes those submissions that deserve special mention and recognition. These manuscripts are considered to be runners-up to the 'Best Research Paper.'

Submissions adhere to the following criteria:

1. Acknowledges NIDRR as the funding source.
2. Has been published in a peer-reviewed journal.
3. Manuscripts can be quantitative or qualitative. Clinical trials, meta-analyses, or secondary analyses accepted. (*Literature reviews will not be accepted*).
4. Has been published in the past *calendar* year.
5. Reports on research that has received most of its funding from NIDRR.
6. The winner must be a NARRTC member. If he/she is not, they must become a member before receiving the award.

In 2008, the committee received approximately 25 submissions and in 2009 approximately 20 submissions were received. In 2010 the committee received 28 articles, and the number fell in 2011 when 11 papers were submitted. A total of 7 papers were submitted in 2012.

The winners and runners-up are listed below:

2013 WINNER (published in 2012)

Giacino, J. T., Whyte, J., Bagiella, E., Kalmar, K., Childs, N., Khademi, A., Eifert, B., Long, D., et al. (2012). Placebo-Controlled Trial of Amantadine for Severe Traumatic Brain Injury. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 366, (9), 819-826.

2013 Runner-up: Failli, V., Koop, M., Gericke, C., Martus, P., Klingbeil, S., Brommer, B., Laginha, I., Chen., Y., et al., (2012). Functional neurological recovery after spinal cord injury is impaired in patients with infections. *Brain*, 135, 3238-3250.

2013 Runner-up: Krause, J., Saunders, L., & Acuna, J. (2012). Gainful employment and risk of mortality after spinal cord injury: effects beyond that of demographic, injury and socioeconomic factors. *Spinal Cord* (2012) 50, 784–788.

2013 Runner-up: Kaye, H. S. (2012). Gradual rebalancing of Medicaid long-term services and supports saves money and serves more people, statistical model shows. *Health Affairs*, 31(6), 1185-1203.

2012 WINNER: (published 2011)

Nash, M. S., Lewis, J. E., Dyson-Hudson, T. A., Szlachcic, Y., Yee, F., Mendez, A.J., Spungen, A.M., & Bauman, W. A. (2011). Safety, tolerance, and efficacy of extended-release niacin monotherapy for treating dyslipidemia risks in persons with chronic tetraplegia: a randomized multicenter controlled trial. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 92(3), 399-410.

2011 WINNER: (published 2010)

Krause, J. S. (2010). Risk for subsequent injuries after spinal cord injury: A 10-Year longitudinal analysis. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 91(11), 1741-6.

2011 Runner-up: Engrav, L. H., Heimbach, D. M., Rivara, F. P., Moore, M. L., Wang, J., Carrougher, G. J., Costa, B., Numhom, S., Calderon, J., & Gibran, N. S. (2010). 12-Year within-wound study of the effectiveness of custom pressure garment therapy. *Burns*, 36(7), 975-83.

2011 Runner-up: Groah, S. L., Lichy, A. M., Libin, A. V., & Ljungberg, I. (2010). Intensive electrical stimulation attenuates femoral bone loss in acute spinal cord injury. *PM&R*, 2(12), 1080-7.

2010 WINNER: (published 2009)

Stancliffe, J. R., Lakin, C. K., Taub, S., Chiri, G. & Byun, S. (2009). Satisfaction and sense of well being among Medicaid ICF/MR and HCBS recipients in six states. *Intellectual and developmental disabilities*, 47(2), 63-83.

2010 Runner-up: Branski, L. K., Herndon, D. N., Barrow, R. E., Kulp, G. A., Klein, G. L., Suman, O. E, Przkora, R. et al. (2009). Randomized controlled trial to determine the efficacy of long-term growth hormone treatment in severely burned children. *Annals of Surgery*, 250(4), 514-23.

2010 Runner-up: Kaye, H. S., LaPlante, M. P. & Harrington, C. (2009). Do non-institutional long-term care services reduce Medicaid spending? *Health Affairs*, 28(1), 262-72.

2009 WINNER: (published 2008)

Bombardier, C. H., Cunniffe, M., Wadhvani, R., Gibbons, L. E., Blake, K. D. & Kraft, G. H. (2008). The efficacy of telephone counseling for health promotion in people with multiple sclerosis: a randomized controlled trial. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 89(10), 1849-56.

2009 Runner-up: Drum, C. E., Horner-Johnson, W. & Krahn, G. L. (2008). Self-rated health and healthy days: Examining the “disability paradox”. *Disability and Health Journal*, 1(2), 71-8.

2009 Runner-up: Heinemann, A. W., Lazowski, L.E., Moore, D., Miller, F. & McAweeney, M. (2008). Validation of a substance use disorder screening instrument for use in vocational rehabilitation settings. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 53(1), 63-72.

2009 Runner-up: Mallinson, T. R., Manheim, L.M., Orit Almagor, O., DeMark, H. M., Allen W. & Heinemann, A. W. (2008). Trends in the supply of inpatient rehabilitation facilities services: 1996 to 2004, *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 89(11), 2066-79.

2008 WINNER: (published 2007)

Krause, J. S., Brotherton, S. S., Morrisette, D. C., Newman, S. D., & T. E., Karakostas, (2007). Does pain interference mediate the relationship of independence in ambulation with depressive symptoms after spinal cord injury? *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 52(2), 162-169.

2008 Runner-up: Schiff, N. D., Giacino, J. T., Kalmar, K., Victor, J. D., Baker, K. & Gerber, M., Fritz, B. et al. (2007). Behavioural improvements with thalamic stimulation after severe traumatic brain injury. *Nature*, 448, 600-604.

2008 Runner-up: Suzuki, R., Krahn, G., McCarthy, M. & Adams, E. J. (2007). Understanding health outcomes: physical secondary conditions in people with spinal cord injury. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 52 (3), 338-350.