

program of training, dissemination, utilization, and technical assistance activities that are well-anchored in the research program and address the needs of stakeholders.

Find out more at: [www.nmdinfo.net](http://www.nmdinfo.net)

**Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Workplace Supports and Job Retention**, *Virginia Commonwealth University* (H133B040011) led by Paul Wehman, PhD. Edna Johnson, Project Officer.

Abstract: The purpose of the RRTC on Workplace Supports and Job Retention is to study those supports which are most effective in the workplace for assisting persons with disabilities to maintain employment and advance their careers. Research includes two long-term prospective randomized experimental control research projects: (1) determining the efficacy of public/private partnerships, and (2) determining the efficacy of business mentoring and career based interventions with college students with disabilities. The RRTC is partnered with Manpower, Inc., several community rehabilitation programs, and the VCU Business Roundtable. Additional projects look at disability management practices, extended employment supports, job discrimination in employment retention, benefits planning and assistance, and workplace supports. These studies are done in conjunction with Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Society of Human Resource Professionals, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Find out more at: [www.worksupport.com](http://www.worksupport.com)

**Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Measuring Rehabilitation**, *Boston University* (H133B990005) led by Alan M. Jette, PhD. Ruth Brannon, Project Officer.

Abstract: This Center develops new, more effective outcomes measurement tools and applies these tools to determine the effectiveness of medical rehabilitation interventions. Research components include: (1) identifying gaps in existing outcome measures and developing new instruments that address these gaps as part of a rehabilitation outcomes system; (2) critically evaluating the newly developed instruments against tools currently in use; (3) implementing the newly developed outcome instruments across impairment groups and across rehabilitation settings to assess their feasibility, responsiveness, and validity; (4) investigating the extent to which specific rehabilitation interventions affect outcomes following the onset of a stroke; and (5) applying modern psychometric techniques to develop dynamic outcome instruments that can also be used with individual patients in a clinical setting. Several components have been designed to enhance the translation of research findings into rehabilitation practice and to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to provide input into the Center including surveys of the use of medical rehabilitation outcomes data, consensus conferences, institutes, fellowships, a web site, and a consumer guide to choosing postacute care services.

Find out more at: [www.bu.edu/cre/rehaboutcomes](http://www.bu.edu/cre/rehaboutcomes)

**The Employment Discrimination Experience of Americans with Diabetes: An Empirical Analysis of the EEOC Charge Data System**, (H133F040034) led by Brian T. McMahon, PhD. A. Cate Miller, PhD, Project Officer.

Abstract: The project documents the employment discrimination experience of Americans with diabetes. The project uses the data from the Charge Data System of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to address the following research questions: (1) What is the employment discrimination experience of persons with diabetes with respect to: the demographic characteristics of the charging party? What is the industry and size of employers against whom complaints are filed? What is the nature of discrimination (i.e., type of adverse action) alleged to occur? What is the prevalence of "regarded as" disability charges? What is the prevalence of "record of" disability charges? What is the prevalence of discrimination charges against associates? What is the legal outcome or resolution of these complaints? (2) How does the employment discrimination experience of Americans with diabetes compare and contrast to that of Americans with other disabilities with respect to these same questions? (3) Using four US census track regions, are there geographic differences with respect to the employment discrimination experience of Americans with diabetes?

## Current Literature - *Selections from REHABDATA*

Stancliffe, R., Lakin, C. (2005) **Costs and outcomes of community services for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.** NARIC Accession Number: R08567. Project Number: H133B031116.

Abstract: Book compiles information on the costs and outcomes of community services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Topics include: differences in outcomes and costs among various community service models; direct and indirect costs of family care; the criteria used to allocate funds for community services; ways to develop a rational, equitable budgeting process that facilitates the desired lifestyle of each person; public policy considerations involved in developing individual budgets in a statewide system of services; the debate over independent budgets versus traditional funding; costs and outcomes of consumer directed services; the question of whether greater expenditures and more staff lead to better outcomes; the impact of residential setting size and institutional downsizing on per-person expenditure; and recommendations for future policy and practice.

Larson, S., Hewitt, A. (2005) **Staff recruitment, retention, and training strategies for community human services organizations.** NARIC Accession Number: R08569. Project Number: H133B031116.

Abstract: Book offers supervisors, managers, and administrators guidance for facing the three most challenging issues facing community human services organizations: recruitment, retention, and training of direct support professionals. Each chapter focuses on a critical workforce issue such as recruiting and hiring employees, socializing and supporting staff, strengthening commitment and skills through mentoring programs, building effective teams, fostering diversity and cultural competence, and designing and surviving organizational change. To help readers meet each of these challenges, the book lists specific competencies every manager or supervisor should develop to address that issue.

Each year, NARIC adds more than 2,000 documents to its collection. NARIC hand selects reference volumes, textbooks, curricula, and other literature to add to its *Reference Collection*.

*Please note: These abstracts have been modified. Full, unedited abstracts, as well as any available REHABDATA citations, are available at [naric.com](http://naric.com).*

**Thousands of additional resources on these topics are available from NARIC's resource pages at [www.naric.com/public](http://www.naric.com/public)**

For July's *RehabWire* we've prepared a list of new books and journal issues written or edited by NIDRR projects. Add them to your beach reading!

McMahon, B., Edwards, R. (2005) **Special issue: Workplace discrimination and disability in America.** *Work: A Journal of Prevention, Assessment, and Rehabilitation*, 25(1), 88. NARIC Accession Number: R08636. Project Number: H133B040011; H133F040034.

Abstract: Special journal issue on workplace discrimination and disability focuses on the National Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) American with Disabilities Act (ADA) research project. EEOC maintains a database known as the Integrated Mission System, which is used to track the filing, investigation, and resolution of all allegations of workplace discrimination brought under federal statutes, including Title I of the ADA. Articles address findings from the database regarding the employment discrimination experiences of people with diabetes, hearing loss, missing limbs, HIV/AIDS, cumulative trauma disorders, disfigurement, or traumatic brain injury. The final article differentiates factors that influence workplace discrimination against people with disabilities based on attribution theory: controllability and stability of the impairment. Articles are included separately in the NARIC collection under accession numbers J49422 through J49430.

Carter, G. (Ed.). (2005) **Current trends in neuromuscular research: Assessing function, enhancing performance.** *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Clinics of North America*, 16(4), 311. NARIC Accession Number: R08675. Project Number: H133B031118.

Abstract: Special issue reviews research on the current status of treatment for neuromuscular diseases (NMDs). Topics include: understanding skeletal muscle adaptation in exercise training in humans; functional enhancement of skeletal muscle by gene transfer; cell therapy for muscle regeneration and repair; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) microgenomics; redox mechanisms of muscle dysfunction in inflammatory disease; single muscle fiber physiology in neuromuscular disease; electrodiagnostic studies in a murine model of demyelinating Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease; using electromyography to assess function in human and animal models of muscular dystrophy; neurotrophic factors in neuromuscular disease; electrodiagnostic automation; physiological and anatomical basis of muscle magnetic resonance imaging; obesity, physical activity, and the metabolic syndrome in adult neuromuscular disease; approaching fatigue in neuromuscular diseases; the role of microglial cells in ALS; skeletal muscle in ALS; chronic pain in adults and children with NMD; and respiratory support of individuals with Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Two of the articles are included separately in the NARIC collection under accession numbers J49765 and J49766.

DeJong, G., Horn, S. (2005) **The post-stroke rehabilitation outcomes project.** *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 86(12, Supplement 2), 126. NARIC Accession Number: R08688. Project Number: H133B990005.

Abstract: This journal issue is devoted to the Post-Stroke Rehabilitation Outcome Project (PSROP), a study designed to provide an in-depth understanding of inpatient stroke rehabilitation practice and outcomes. Articles examine the following topics: PSROP patients, processes, and outcomes; observational studies and the clinical practice improvement approach; methods used and baseline results, timing of initiation of rehabilitation; physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology; central nervous system medications; tube feeding; the early impact of the prospective payment system on case mix, practice patterns, and outcomes; relationship between therapy and outcomes; and a comparison between New Zealand and United States stroke rehabilitation facilities. The articles are included separately in the NARIC collection under accession numbers J50095 through J50108.

## NIDRR Grantees on the Cutting Edge

**Research and Training Center on Community Living (RTC/CL)**, *University of Minnesota* (H133B031116) led by Charlie Lakin, PhD. Dawn Carlson, PhD, MPH, Project Officer.

Abstract: The Center conducts research, training, technical assistance, and dissemination to enhance inclusion and self-determination of citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD). The research program has six outcome areas: policy studies, database supports for full participation, self-determination and consumer-control, workforce development, and quality assessment and improvement systems. The research program within the priority areas includes: (1) research syntheses of the state of knowledge and practice; (2) secondary analyses of high quality, topically relevant national and state data sets; (3) case studies of best practices; (4) evaluation of demonstration efforts to improve policy and practice; (5) survey and interview studies of critical issues; and (6) group process studies with key constituencies. An integrated intramural training program addresses the development of skilled disability researchers and community service professionals. Outreach training programs provide training and technical assistance to agencies and individuals providing support to people with ID/DD, including members of their families. The College of Direct Support provides on-line interactive multi media training to thousands of direct support professionals across the US. Outreach programs include conferences and workshops for a wide variety of national, regional, and state audiences, a state-of-the-art conference, annual "Reinventing Quality" conference, and intensive technical assistance with community organizations, including advocacy and self-advocacy organizations. The Center disseminates practical information to targeted audiences through its internal publication program that includes: IMPACT, Policy Research Brief, DD Data Brief, and Frontline Initiative. It maintains high standards for scholarly productivity and publication through books, journal articles and technical reports. About 18,000 people visit Center websites each month for access to view publications or other information on best practices in person-centered services ("QualityMall.org"), national statistics on services and expenditures, the direct support workforce, and other contemporary topics. Find out more at: rtc.umn.edu

**Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Neuromuscular Diseases**, *University of California, Davis* (H133B031118) led by Craig McDonald, MD. Theresa San Agustin, MD, Project Officer.

Abstract: The purpose of the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center in Neuromuscular Diseases (RRTC/NMD) is to enhance the health, function, and quality of lives of persons with neuromuscular diseases (NMD). The goals of this project are to: (1) develop a program for multicenter rehabilitation research in NMD through the Cooperative International Neuromuscular Research Group (CINRG); (2) conduct research that continues to address rehabilitation needs, particularly related to exercise, nutrition, pain, secondary conditions, and the quality of life of individuals with neuromuscular diseases; (3) develop and evaluate new or emerging technologies and interventions that provide the information needed to improve employment, community integration, and quality of life outcomes for this population of individuals with disabilities; (4) develop and evaluate appropriate health promotion and wellness programs that enhance the ability of individuals with neuromuscular disease to be physically active and participate in recreational activities; and (5) conduct a comprehensive

## Looking for NIDRR-Funded Literature?

The REHABDATA database has thousands of articles, reports, books, newsletters, and other materials produced by NIDRR grantees.

### Where Can I Find More?

A quick keyword search is all you need to connect to a wealth of disability and rehabilitation research. NARIC's databases hold more than 75,000 resources. Visit [www.naric.com/research](http://www.naric.com/research) to search for literature, current and past research projects, and organizations and agencies in the US and abroad.



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