



# USC SleepHuB Special Seminar

Co-hosted by the Chan Division of Occupational Science  
and Occupational Therapy



## Sleep Disturbance and Chronic Neurologic Dysfunction

Donald Fogelberg, PhD, OTR/L  
University of Washington



**USC Center for Sleep Health using  
Bioengineering**

[sleephub.usc.edu](http://sleephub.usc.edu)

**USC** Mrs. T.H. Chan Division of  
Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy



# Welcoming Remarks

Special thanks to:



**Michael C.K. Khoo, PhD**  
SleepHuB Center Director, Dean's Professor of  
Biomedical Engineering and Pediatrics  
Viterbi School of Engineering



**Grace Baranek PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA**  
Associate Dean, Chair, Mrs. T.H. Chan  
Professor of Occupational Science and  
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# SleepHuB Center Leadership Team

## Center Director



**Michael C.K. Khoo, PhD**  
SleepHuB Center Director, Dean's Professor of  
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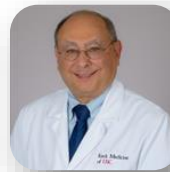
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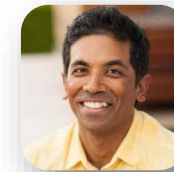
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## Today's Presentation



# Sleep Disturbance and Chronic Neurologic Dysfunction

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# Sleep Disturbance in Chronic Neurologic Conditions

Donald Fogelberg, PhD, OTR/L

University of Washington

2024

**WHY IS SLEEP IMPORTANT?**

# Why is sleep important?

- Sleep loss is associated with cognitive problems, including:
  - Decreased alertness
  - Problems remembering
  - Decreased attention span
  - Impaired judgment & decision making

# Why is sleep important?

- Sleep loss can increase the experience of pain
- Sleep loss increases the risk of depression
- Sleep loss is associated with a number of health problems, including:
  - Immune and endocrine system dysfunctions
  - Obesity
  - Diabetes
  - Cardiovascular disease

Banks & Dinges, 2007; Lautenbacher, Kundermann, & Krieg, 2006



# **IMPORTANCE OF SLEEP IN THE CONTEXT OF NEUROREHABILITATION**

# Sleep disturbance following TBI

## – Prevalence

- Estimates range from 3% and 84% (Zeitzer et al., 2009)
- Acute: 68% (Makley et al., 2008)
- Chronic: 27% (Colantonio et al., 2004)

# UW TBI Model Systems

## – Participants

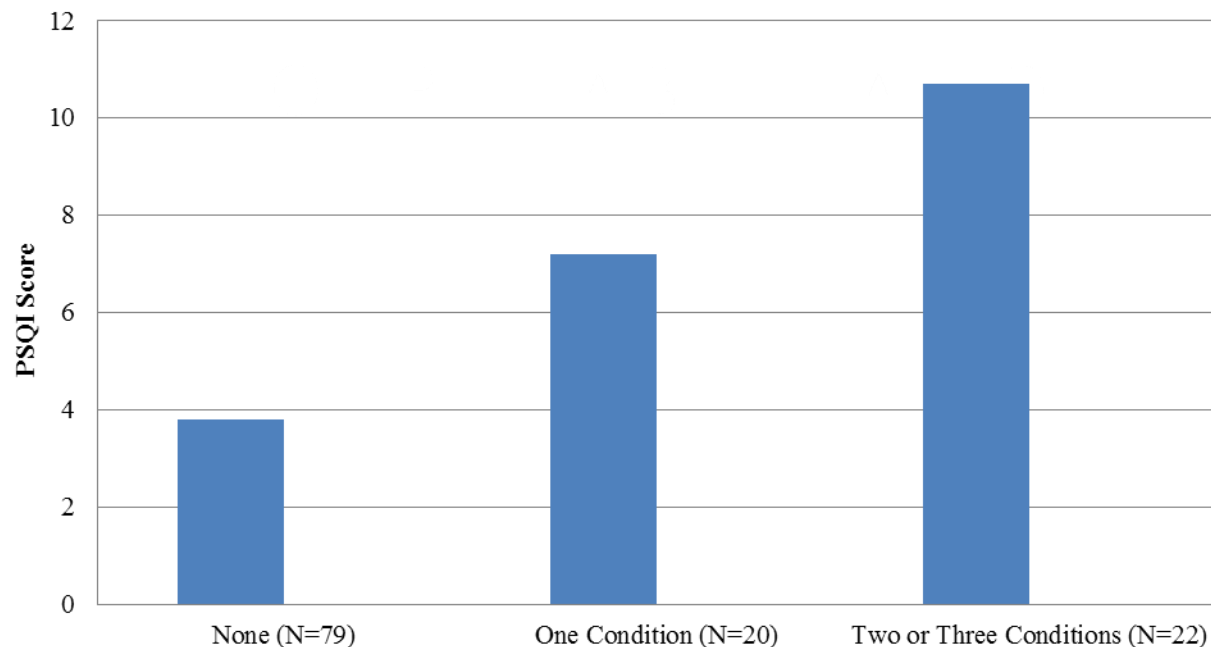
- N = 174
- Moderate to severe TBI
- 1 year post injury

# PSQI Subscale Scores

	TBI	General Population
<b>Sleep quality *</b>	0.83	0.35
<b>Latency *</b>	1.32	0.56
<b>Duration</b>	0.43	0.29
<b>Efficiency</b>	0.29	0.10
<b>Disturbances *</b>	1.23	1.00
<b>Medication use *</b>	0.55	0.04
<b>Daytime dysfunction *</b>	0.74	0.35
<b>Global scale *</b>	5.54	2.67
<b>* = p &lt; .05</b>		from Buysse, 1989

# Sleep and Co-Occurring Conditions after TBI

- Global PSQI score correlated with depression (PHQ-9,  $r=.72$ ), anxiety (GAD-7,  $r=.39$ ), and pain (average pain intensity during past week,  $r= .56$ )



# Sleep following TBI

	FIM		DRS		SWLS	
<b>Sample Median</b>	≤118	>118	≤1.5	>1.5	≤21	>21
<b>Sleep Quality</b>	1.10	0.59*	0.69	1.15	1.18	0.46*
<b>Latency</b>	1.70	0.97*	1.14	1.72	1.71	0.89*
<b>Duration</b>	0.56	0.44	0.49	0.51	0.64	0.34
<b>Efficiency</b>	0.52	0.51	0.44	0.65	0.58	0.44
<b>Disturbances</b>	1.43	0.81*	0.92	1.54*	1.39	0.83*
<b>Medication Use</b>	0.79	0.30	0.43	0.78	0.66	0.42
<b>Daytime Dysfunction</b>	1.05	0.45*	0.56	1.13*	1.04	0.39*
<b>Global Score</b>	<b>7.12</b>	<b>4.04*</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>7.42*</b>	<b>7.19</b>	<b>3.73*</b>

from Fogelberg et al., 2013

# **SCI AND THE EXPERIENCE OF SLEEP DISTURBANCE**

# Why would sleep be affected by SCI?

- Physiological
  - Melatonin
  - Antidiuretic hormone (ADH)
    - Lack of variation in daytime and nighttime levels
    - Leads to increased night-time urinary output
  - Body temperature regulation systems affected
  - Respiratory changes
- Psychological
  - Pain
  - Depression
- Behavioral
  - Pressure ulcer prevention routines
  - Changes in activity levels
  - Increased time spent in bed



# USC Pressure Ulcer Prevention Study

	Mean	SD (Range)
Age at study commencement (Years)	43.6	±12.52 (28-78)
Time Since Diagnosis/Injury (Years)	14.9	±11.76 (1-37)
Age at Time of Injury (Years)	27.5	±12.65 (5-60)
<b>Sex</b>	Frequency (%)	
Male : Female	14:6 (70:30)	
<b>Education</b>	Frequency (%)	
High School Graduate or Less	8 (40)	
Some College/College Graduate	11 (55)	
Graduate School or Higher	1 (5)	
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	Frequency (%)	
White	6 (30)	
Black/African American	8 (40)	
Asian	1 (5)	
<b>SCI Level</b>	Frequency (%)	
C1-C4	3 (15)	
C5-C8	8 (40)	
T1-S5	9 (45)	
<b>SCI Completeness</b>	Frequency (%)	
Complete	16 (80)	
Incomplete	3 (15)	
Unknown	1 (5)	

# Sleep Disturbance in PUPS

## Participants

- Transcripts for 18 participants (90%) contained sleep related data
- Descriptions of sleep included:
  - Difficulties initiating or maintaining sleep
  - Poor quality, non-restorative sleep
  - Sleep restriction and deprivation
  - Irregular sleep patterns

# Sleep Disturbance in PUPS Participants

- Barriers to sleep:
  - SCI-related motor and sensory dysfunction
    - E.g., pain, muscle weakness/paralysis
    - Bladder management
  - Co-occurring conditions
    - Pressure ulcers
    - Anxiety
    - Depression
  - Sleep environments and surfaces

# Helen

- I've been on that [medication] for years and years. That's to help me sleep. 'Cause I couldn't sleep... I could not sleep. You know, I just couldn't. So as result of not sleeping I couldn't think right. I just, I just wasn't functioning right at all. Now that I look back, I wasn't.

# Dave

- I wish I could go to sleep at 1:00 at night and wake up at 9:00 in the morning. I used to sleep like you wouldn't believe, and I can't do that anymore. I am up all night long and then all of a sudden I'll fall asleep for a few hours, and then I'll be awake for a few hours and then I would fall asleep for a few hours or...

# Mitch

- When I sleep, I'm not even sure I'm asleep 'cause I can hear stuff.... If I'm sleeping and you're talking, I can hear you.
- Mainly because of my arm, I couldn't really raise myself up and I would lie [down] and my face would be buried in the mattress, so it wasn't too comfortable. And I couldn't turn my head too much, because my neck [had] been fused....

# Chris

- Sometimes it's annoying, when you're trying to take a nap and then my head will start sliding across the pillow.... I'm lying [there] and then I will go that way and my head will start [sliding] this way, and I'm like, oh, man!
- It's hard for me to sleep with so much pain. It's weird; my body is like freaking out on me...

# **COMMON MEASUREMENTS IN SLEEP RESEARCH**



# Self report

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## Consensus sleep diary

- > **Carney, et al, (2012) *Sleep***
- > **Available online**
- > **Multiple versions available, with varying degrees of complexity**
- > **Online calculator being developed:**  
**<http://opensleepcalc.com/getting-started/>**
- > **Widely used in behavioral sleep medicine and sleep research**



# Sleep Diary

Sample		Consensus Sleep Diary-Core							ID/Name: _____
Today's date	4/5/11								
1. What time did you get into bed?	10:15 p.m.								
2. What time did you try to go to sleep?	11:30 p.m.								
3. How long did it take you to fall asleep?	55 min.								
4. How many times did you wake up, not counting your final awakening?	3 times								
5. In total, how long did these awakenings last?	1 hour 10 min.								
6. What time was your final awakening?	6:35 a.m.								
7. What time did you get out of bed for the day?	7:20 a.m.								
8. How would you rate the quality of your sleep?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Very poor <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good	
9. Comments (if applicable)	I have a cold								



# Self report

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## Questionnaires

### > **PROMIS**

- **Separate item banks for sleep problems and sleep-related problems**
- **Publicly available via: PROMIS website (registration required)**

### > **Medical Outcomes Study Sleep Scale**

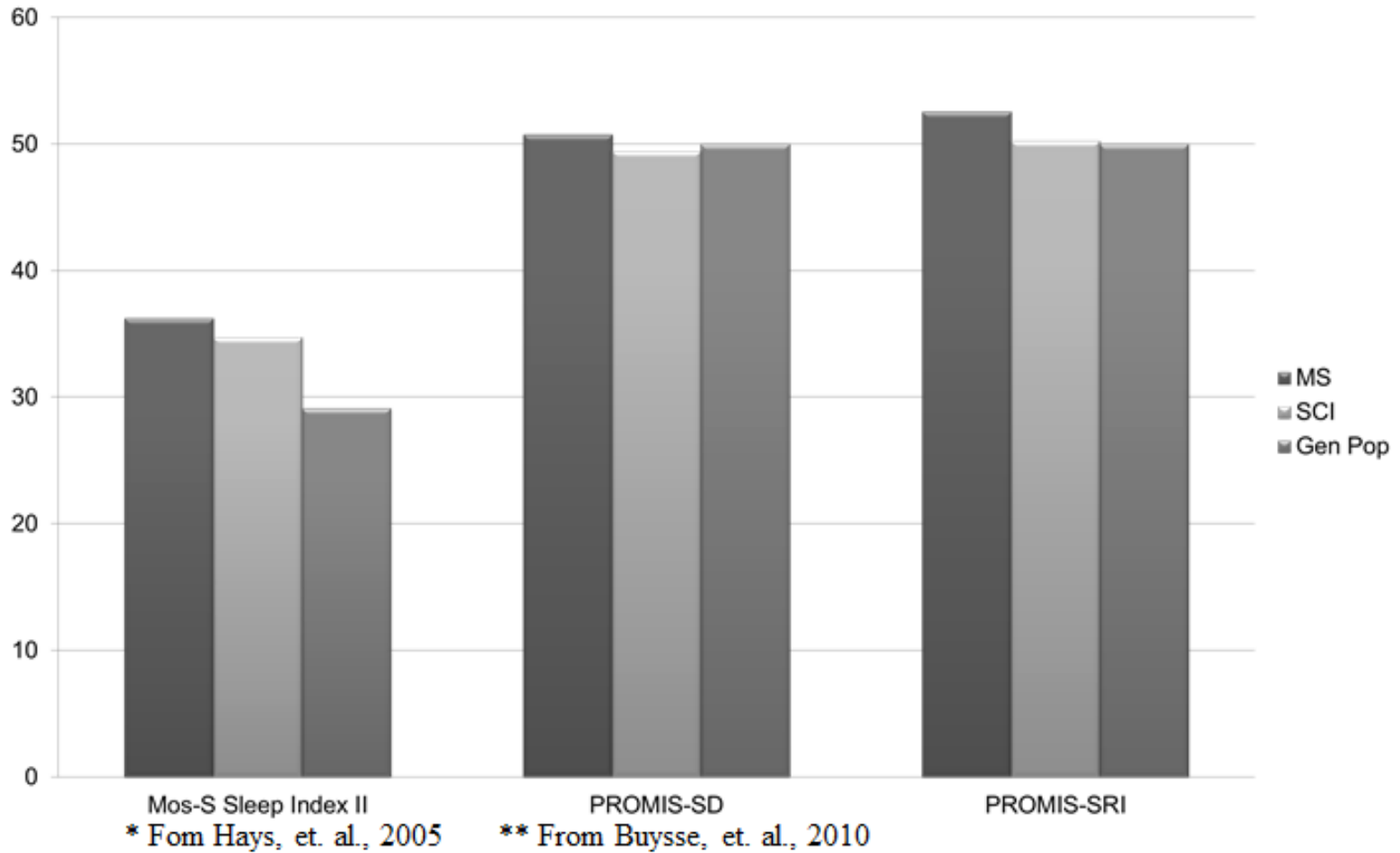
### > **Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index**



# Patient Reported Outcome Measures

- Adults (age 18 and older) with either MS (N=461) or SCI (N=239)
- Medical Outcomes Study Sleep Scale
- Patient Reported Outcomes Information System (PROMIS) short forms
  - Sleep Disturbance (PROMIS-SD)
  - Sleep Related Impairments (PROMIS-SRI)

**Figure 1: MOS-S, PROMIS-SD and PROMIS-SRI scores for MS, SCI, and General Population samples**



# MOS-S vs PROMIS

- Response options:
  - MOS-S: none, little, some of the time, a good bit, most, all of the time)
  - PROMIS: not at all, a little, somewhat, quite a bit, very much
- Time frames:
  - MOS-S: 4 weeks
  - PROMIS: 1 week

## Drawbacks of self-report

- > **May be perceived as burdensome**
- > **Dependent on accurate recall**
- > **Missing data**



# Actigraphy

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- > **Consumer models**

- Fitbit
- Smartwatches

- > **Research models**

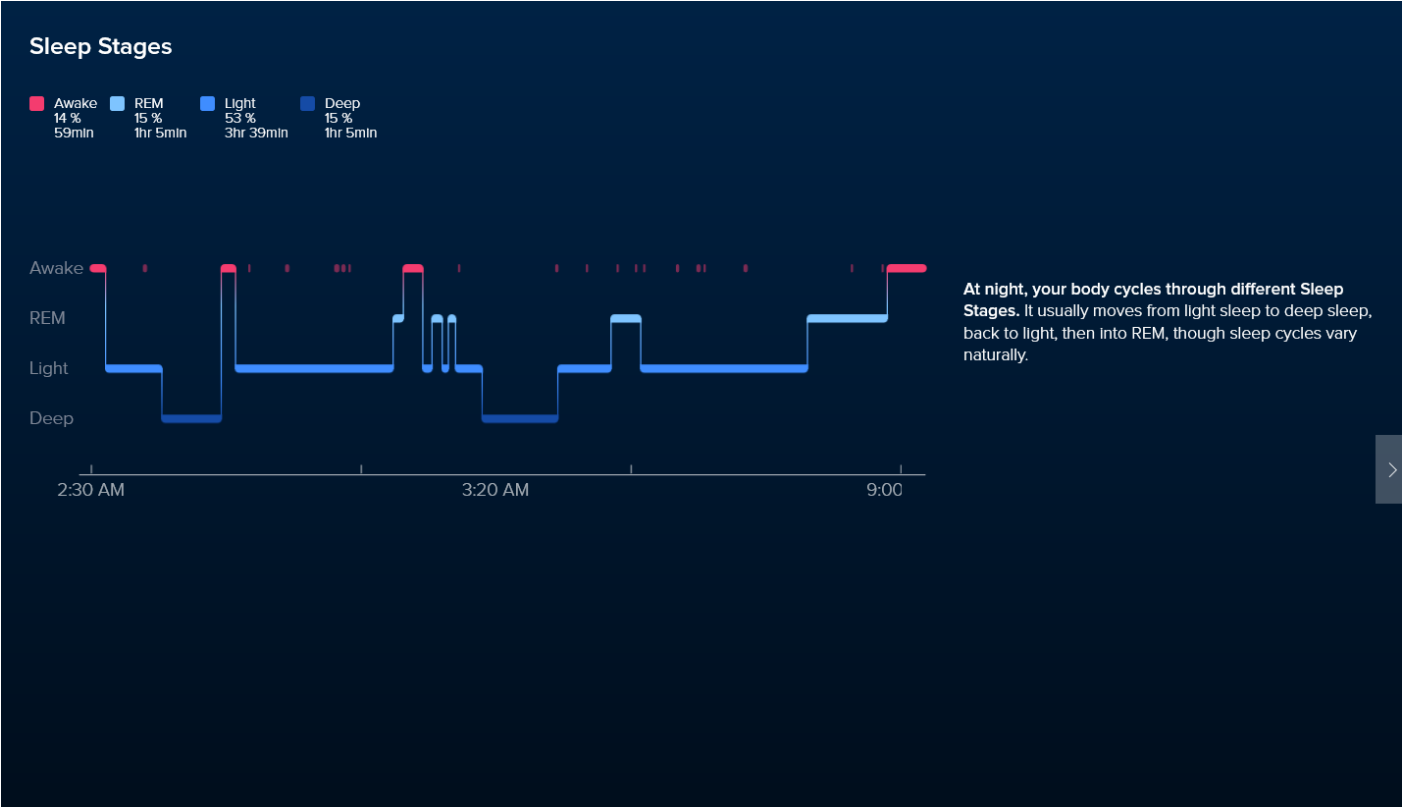
- Philips Respironics
- Actigraph





# Fitbit Alta HR

## Sleep Stage Feature



**Database Viewer**

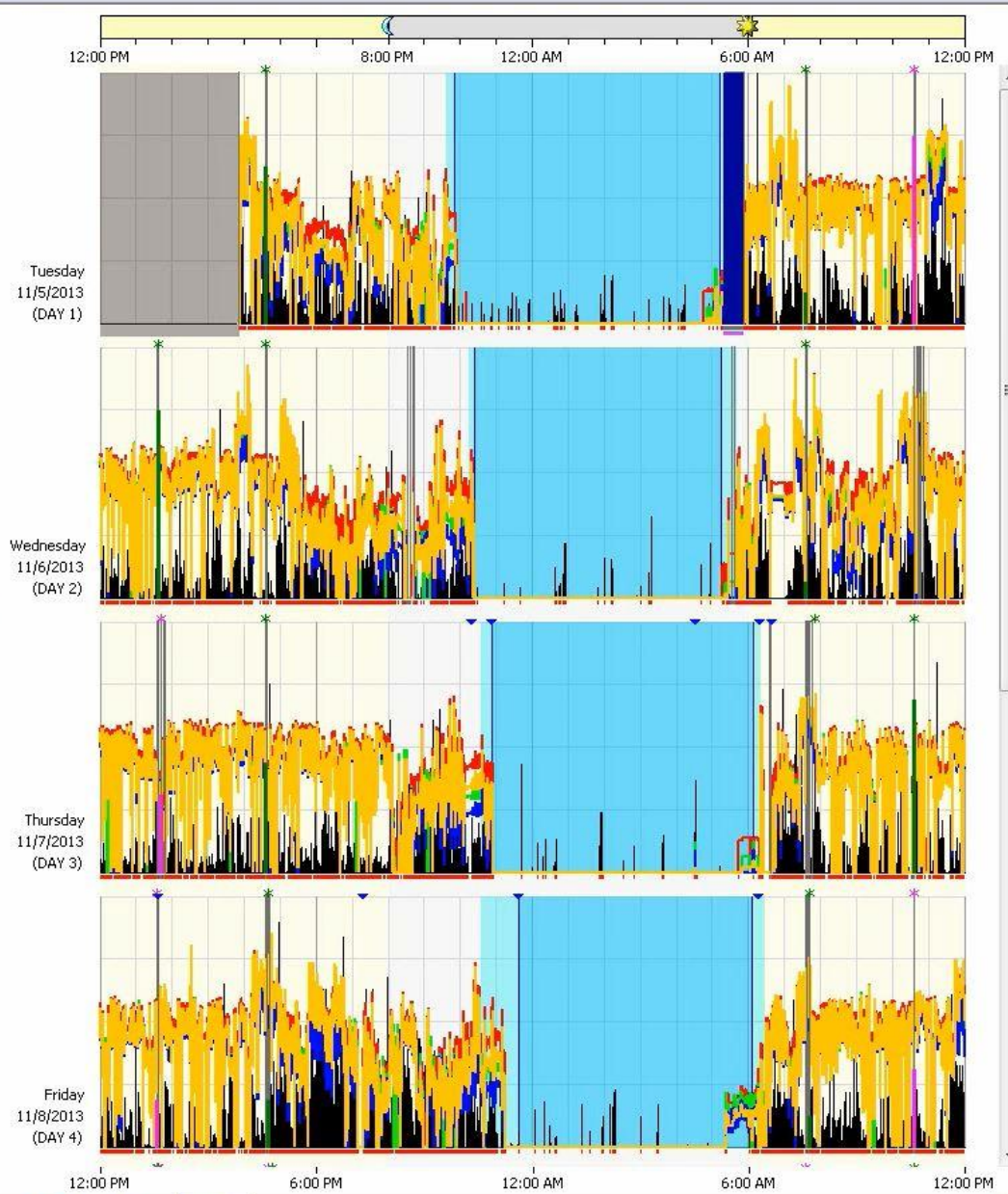
- Demo Database.AW5
  - Actiwatch 2 Sample
  - Actiwatch Spectrum PRO
    - 11/5/2013 3:51:00 PM
      - New Analysis
  - Actiwatch Spectrum Sample
  - Advanced Sleep Phase
  - Delayed Sleep Phase
  - Insomniac
  - Irregular Sleep Wake
  - Multiple Sleep Opportunities
  - Non-entrained Free Running
  - Normal Sleeper
  - Pediatric Overnight 2
  - Pediatric Overnight Only 1
  - Pediatrics 1
  - Pediatrics 2
  - Shift Work
  - Test

**Properties Viewer**

Subject: Actiwatch Data

Analysis

Analysis Name	New Analysis
Wake Threshold Selection	Medium
Wake Threshold Value	40.00 activity counts
Sleep Interval Detection Al	By minutes scored as immobile
Immobile Minutes for Sleep	10 minutes
Immobile Minutes for Sleep	10 minutes
Epochs for Sleep Onset	Not Used
Epochs for Sleep End	Not Used
Actogram Start Hour	12:00 PM
White Light Threshold	1000.0 lux
Red Light Threshold	1.000E+03 uW/cm <sup>2</sup>
Green Light Threshold	1.000E+03 uW/cm <sup>2</sup>
Blue Light Threshold	1.000E+03 uW/cm <sup>2</sup>
RGB Light Units	uW/cm <sup>2</sup>
Number of Intervals	8 intervals



**Actogram Length**  
4 Days

**Graph Width**

**Visibility**

**Activity Scale**  
Max: Auto (394)  
Min: Auto (0)

**White Light Scale**  
Max: Auto (26850.0)  
Min: Auto (0.1)

**Color Light Scale**  
Max: Auto (2.700E+04)  
Min: Auto (1.000E-02)

**Light/Dark Bar**  
On: 6:00 AM  
Off: 8:00 PM  
 All Light  
 All Dark

**Interval Legend**

- Rest (R)
- Custom (C)
- Excluded (E)
- Forced Wake (W)
- Forced Sleep (S)
- Sleep

To set an interval:  
1. Left click on an Actogram to place epoch label.  
2. Right-click or use keyboard controls to set intervals.

# Drawbacks of actigraphy

- Measures movement, not sleep
- Algorhythm
  - Population?
- Motor impairment
- Determining rest period

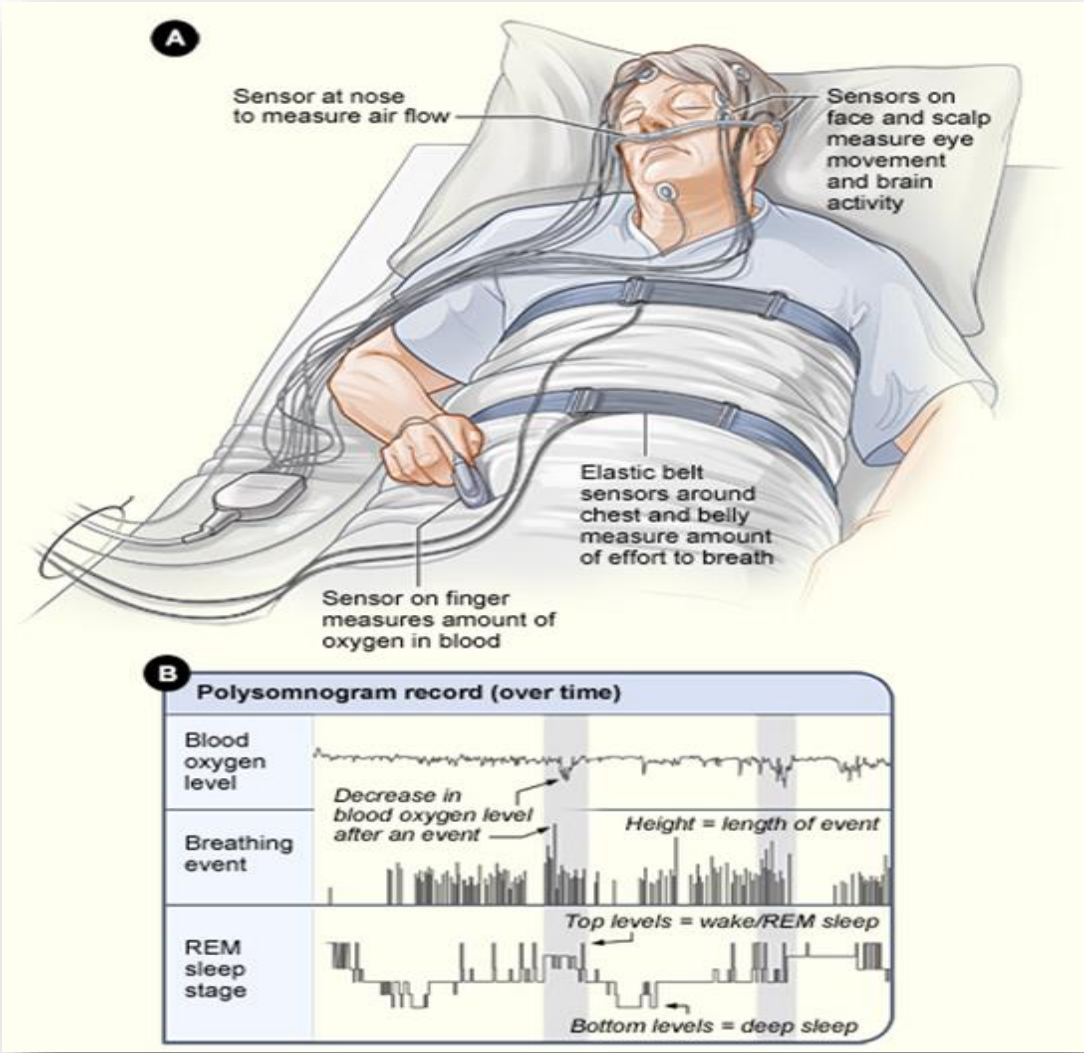
# Polysomnography

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- > **Gold standard**
- > **EEG, EOG, EMG, EKG, O2, Nasal flow, Respiratory Effort, PLM**
- > **Allows sleep staging, diagnosis of sleep related breathing disorders, other sleep disorders**

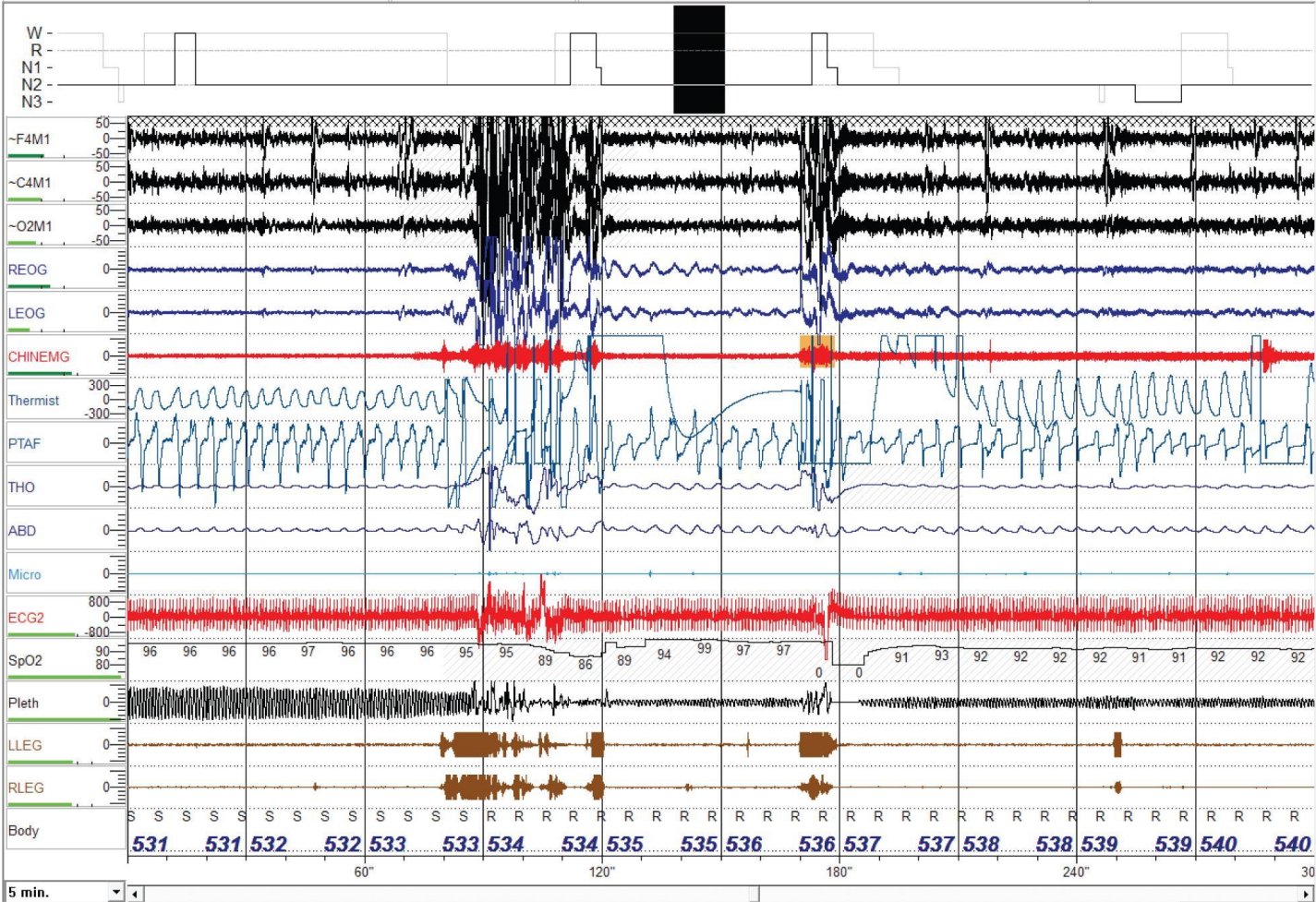


# Polysomnography





# Polysomnography



# SCI PSG Study

- 16 adults with SCI >1 year
- C5 and below
- 2 nights of in-home polysomnography
- 25 scored nights of PSG total

# Drawbacks of PSG

- Complex to set up
- Complex to score and interpret
- Participant acceptance
- Difficulty accessing sleep labs
- Unattended in-home PSG (sensors, environmental issues)



# Key Points

- Sleep is both complex and important
- Clinicians: have a conversation with your clients about sleep
- Researchers: consider adding sleep as a variable
- Importance of triangulation
- Consider mixed-methods

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