

Targeted Muscle Reinnervation as a Treatment for Neuromas: From Bedside to Bench, and Back to Bedside

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ABSTRACT: Targeted Muscle Reinnervation (TMR) is a revolutionary strategy in which amputated nerve endings are transferred to otherwise functionless target muscles to create new “myoneuroses” that allow a person with an amputation to control a bionic prosthesis in an intuitive fashion. Clinical evidence has demonstrated that TMR is effective in preventing painful neuromas in patients who have undergone the procedure, which is the premise behind an upcoming Department of Defense-funded multicenter prospective clinical trial that Dr. Ko will help lead at the University of Washington. In addition, there are exciting areas of future research focused on the sensory recovery that occurs after TMR, and Dr. Ko is collaborating with members of the Center for Sensorimotor Neural Engineering to perform sensory mapping studies with people after TMR post-TMR amputees in an effort to develop a novel bioprosthetic device that can provide real-time sensory feedback, which many consider to be the “holy grail” of prostheses.

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Light refreshments will follow the presentation.

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