

WINTER 2014

The Current

The official e-newsletter of Neurotech Network

Featured Real Stories

Meet the Bionic Pioneers featured in the book of the same title. These brave individuals blaze the trail to new therapies.



In honor of Retinitis Pigments Awareness Month in February, meet Kim O'Shea. At age 12, Kim was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa with a macular edema. Kim later became one of the first recipients of the Argus® II, an implanted retinal prosthesis, offered by [Second Sight](#). [Read more of her story under Vision Restoration.](#)



In honor of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month in March, meet Dawn Gast. 'It just isn't fair,' she thought, when the progress of Multiple

Advocating for Access

Our mission is not only education but advocating for access. At a meeting in November, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) hosted a Public Workshop focused on Brain Computer Interfaces for Persons with Paralysis and Amputation.

Neurotech Network delivered a message about understanding the Consumer Perspective directed to the regulatory and research communities. The message was simple; learn about our priorities and needs, include the user in the process and identify the problem and build the technology around it.

A copy of the presentation is available on SlideShare. [Consumer Perspective: Understanding the End User.](#)

We also launched the [Advocacy section](#) of our website. This includes resources for self-advocacy

Sclerosis (MS) was interfering with her life as a mother of 7 children. Dawn later became an active user of the drop foot stimulation system, the L300 offered by [Bioness](#). [Read more of Dawn's story under Drop Foot Stimulation.](#)



Brave Neurotech Users Blaze the Trail to New Therapies

All profits from this book will go toward advancing awareness of new therapies for people with neurological disorders.

www.BionicPioneers.org

[read more about the book →](#)

and consumer rights.

[Email us](#) to let us know what else you would like to see on this section of our site.

Helping people regain life thru neurotechnology

Education & Outreach

We educate through featured presentations, continuing education courses & online webinars. Learn about the latest in neurotechnology by attending a session or reviewing the archives.

Consumer & Caregiver Focused:

- [Getting a Handle: Technology for the Restoration of hand & arm function](#): Webinar with

News in Products & Industry

- The National Health Service of the UK provides a description of Drop Foot Syndrome and treatments, including stimulation. [Read it here.](#)

- Cyberonics: VNS Therapy for epilepsy is strong, Reimbursement Woes Stay. [Read the full article here.](#)

- Neuormetrix released a wearable pain treatment device, Quell, at the Consumer

News In Research

- Researchers at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam reported using an implanted stimulator on the vagus nerve to treat arthritis pain. [Read more here.](#)

- Stimware begins clinical trial of a wireless neuromodulation device for the treatment of lower back pain. [Learn more here.](#)

- Ohio State University researchers have begun

partners United Spinal Association/NSCIA & The Miami Project, January 21, 2015

- [Pain and Spasticity Management without Pills:](#)

Webinar with partners United Spinal Association/NSCIA & The Miami Project, March 18, 2015

- [Archived Consumer & Caregiver Session can be found here.](#)

Clinician & Industry Focused:

- [Brain Injury Summit](#), Vail, CO, January 11-15, 2015

- [Deep Brain Stimulation Symposium](#), Gainesville, FL, March 19-20, 2015

- [International Neuromodulation Society Meeting](#), Montreal, QB, June 6-11, 2015

[read more](#) →

Electronics Show in January. [Read more here.](#) [Here is a second story in the Boston Globe.](#)

- Watch the video of how a drop foot stimulation impacts this mother of a young child. [Watch the channel here.](#)

- Brainways gains FDA approval to test their deep transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) therapy for PTSD. [Announcement is here.](#)

- This video describes the Saebo Glove for upper extremity rehabilitation for stroke survivors. [Watch it here.](#)

- The Fisher Wallace Stimulator was approved for use in New York City Health & Hospital system.

- The FDA gave clearance to Stemwave's injectible microchip for the treatment of pain. [Read more here.](#)

- Neuromod Devices based in Ireland gains CE Mark approval for the multi-sensory device for the treatment of tinnitus. [Read the release here.](#)

- We have reached 50 years for the cochlear implant restoring hearing to those who are deaf or have hearing loss. [View the article here.](#)

- The FDA approved the Maestro Rechargeable System by EnteroMedics that uses electrical signals to treat severe obesity. [Read more here.](#)

- Medtronic gained FDA approval for the Enterra II neurostimulation device for the treating the

studying the use of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) for stroke rehabilitation. [Learn more here.](#) There was also a feature article in the [Washington Post.](#)

- A recent study reported in the scientific journal, Brain, the impact of tDCS for stroke rehabilitation. [Learn more here.](#)

- Results from a pivotal trial using the Vivistim therapy from MicroTransponder for stroke rehabilitation. [Watch one of the participant interviews here.](#)

- Researchers at Case Western Reserve University have developed the stimulation device to restore independent breathing. They are now showing that respiratory paralysis can be reversed. [Read more here.](#)

- The Conquer Paralysis Now is a novel challenge to push research to find a cure for paralysis. Incentives are provided in the form of funding prizes. [Learn more here.](#)

- A new e-Dura implant developed by EPFL scientists in Switzerland may revolutionize neuroprosthetics for paralysis with a new implant on the spinal cord. [Read more about this research.](#)

- Prometra II, the MRI compatible implantable drug delivery pump was approved by the FDA. [Read more here.](#)

- A new study out of Australia calls into question the dramatic claims made by transcranial brain stimulation. [Full article here.](#)

stomach disorder gastroparesis.

[Learn more here.](#)

- The MRI-safe cochlear implant from MED-EL, Synchrony, gained FDA approval. [Read more here.](#)

- Neuros Medical to begin pivotal trials for the device Altius for the treatment of intractable limb pain. [The announcement is here.](#)

- Researchers in Sweden are developing a non-invasive vestibular stimulation to help control balance in people with Parkinson's disease. [Learn more.](#)

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