



International Symposium  
Institut de la Main

# PERIPHERAL NERVE RECONSTRUCTION :

## NEWS AND FAKE NEWS

Chairman : Alain Gilbert

## Scientific Program



April 12-13, 2019

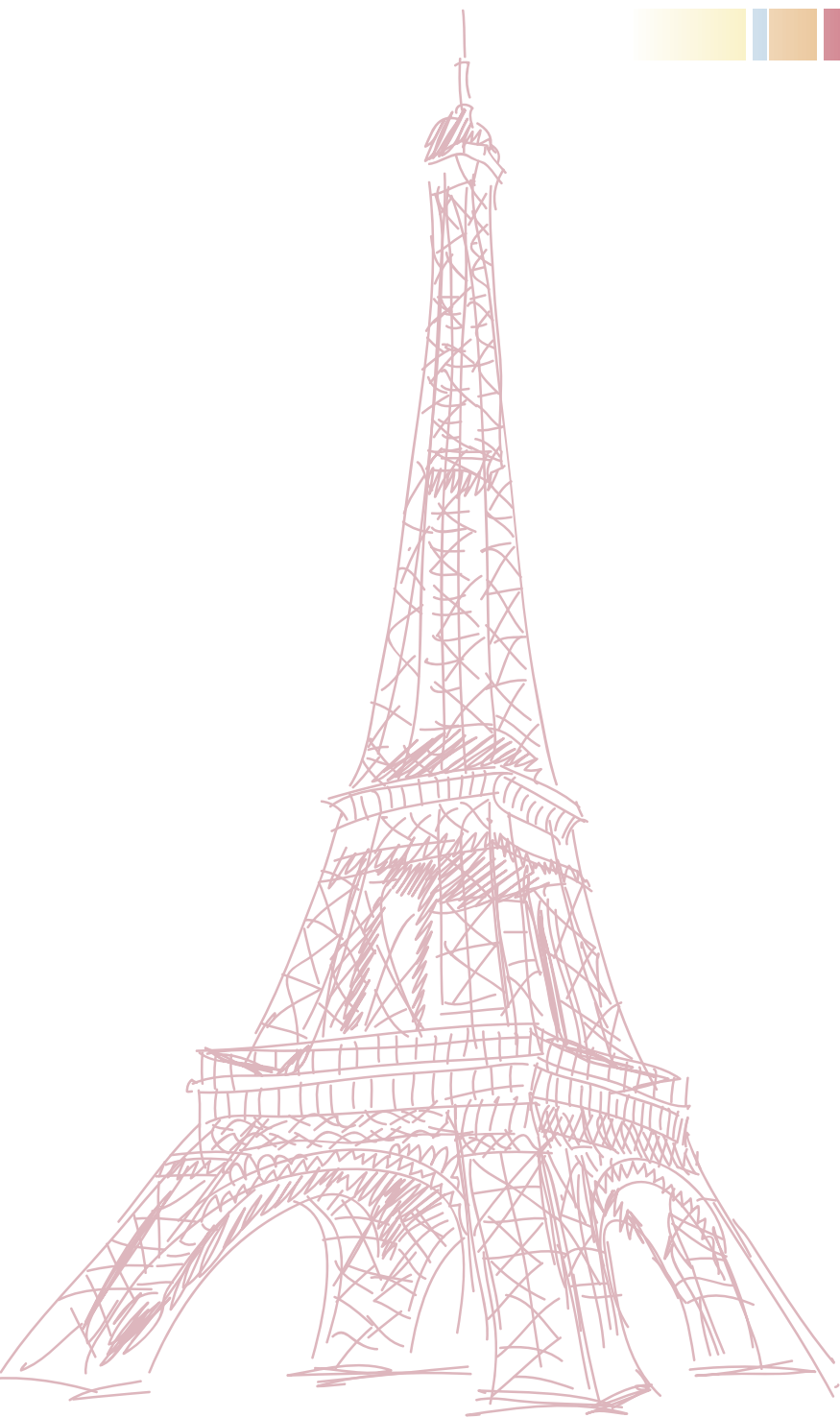
PARIS • FRANCE

> **VENUE**

87 Boulevard de Grenelle  
75015 Paris



[www.symposium-institutdelamain.com](http://www.symposium-institutdelamain.com)



# FOREWORD

International Symposium  
Institut de la Main

## **PERIPHERAL NERVE RECONSTRUCTION :** NEWS AND FAKE NEWS

### > Chairman

Pr Alain Gilbert

### > Members of « Institut de la Main »

- Alain Gilbert
- Caroline Leclercq
- Christophe Mathoulin
- Francesco Brunelli
- Philippe Valenti
- Mathilde Gras
- Anne Vidil
- Stephane Guero
- Alain Iserin
- Choukri Dib
- Jean-David Werthel
- Alham Arnaout

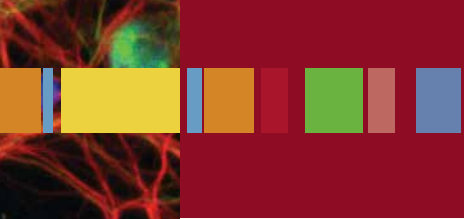
After 40 years of Peripheral Nerves repair, the global perception is that we have seen many promises and expectations, many exciting research advances, many new technologies but alas to few major improvements either in technique or strategy .

This is due to several factors :

- The growing discrepancy between animal research and clinical applications, aggravated by the increasingly complex regulatory and ethics environments.
- The significant commercial interests having more impact on Journals and meetings.
- The multiplication of non-significant publications, amongst which the real progress is difficult to identify.

It is time to separate the real progress from the fake news which has become so common in the past years. This is the aim of this Symposium where some of the most experienced and renowned nerve surgeons will debate these subjects.

**Pr Alain GILBERT**  
Chairman Institut de la Main  
[agilbert@wanadoo.fr](mailto:agilbert@wanadoo.fr)



7.30am **WELCOME**

8.00am **INTRODUCTION** // A. Gilbert (Paris, France)

8.05am **EXPECTATIONS**

- An overture to basic science aspects of nerve injuries // T. Carlstedt (Stockholm, Sweden)

8.15am **ANIMAL MODELS IN NERVE AND REPAIR: ARE THEY VALID?**

- Of mice and men: understanding the limitations of animal research // S. Tuffaha (Baltimore, USA)

8.25am **FAKE NEWS IN NERVE RESEARCH?**

- Fake news in research publications: the case for «innovative» peripheral nerve guides // S. Geuna (Milano, Italy)

8.35am **CAN PROGRESS COME FROM LITTERATURE?**

- Evidence based medicine: How to destroy creativity // M. Merle (Luxemburg, Luxemburg)
- None of this would have happened... // A. Gilbert (Paris, France)
- Discussion // Activator: A. Gilbert (Paris, France)

9.20am **WHAT ABOUT NERVE APPROXIMATION?**

9.20am • **The glues**

- Activator: M. Bagot d'Arc (Paris, France)
- Are all glues suitable for nerves? What NOT to use! // M. Bagot d'Arc (Paris, France)
- Fibrin Glue Nerve Repairs - Does it live up to the hype? // J. Isaacs (Richmond, USA)
- Synthetic glue
- The making of a glue // S. Amine (Cairo, Egypt)
- Discussion

10.10am

• **Robots and endoscopy: any use?**

- Activator: M. Merle (Luxemburg, Luxemburg)
- Endoscopic harvesting of Intercostal nerves and CLC7 // Ph. Liverneaux (Strasbourg, France)
- Micro robotic repair // T. Van Mulken (Maastricht, Netherlands)
- A new robotic platform designed for microsurgery // M. Innocenti (Florence, Italy)
- Endoscopic neurolysis of the infraclavicular plexus // T. Lafosse (Aix les Bains, France)
- Discussion

**10.50-11.10am • Coffee Break**

11.10am

• **Other concepts**

- Activator: J. Bertelli (Florianopolis, Brazil)
- Histologic assessment of nerve stump // J. Bahm (Aachen, Germany)
- OBPL - where is the lesion? // W. Pondaag (Leyden, Netherlands)
- Direct sutures in BP? // J. Bahm (Aachen, Germany)
- Long non vascularised nerve grafts - (around 25cm) - How do they work? // R. Sabapathy (Coimbatore, India)
- Timing in nerve repair: does it matter? // M. Wiberg (Umea, Sweden)
- Choosing the right stimulator // M. Qattan (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia)
- A comparative study of stimulators // M. Gras, C. Leclercq (Paris, France)
- Is bypass nerve repair an issue? // J. Grossman (Miami, USA)
- How do proximal repairs work? // R. Sabapathy (Coimbatore, India)
- Partial nerve injuries: to do or not to do // Z. Dailana (Larissa, Greece)
- Longitudinal division of a motor nerve: can two different functions be obtained? // A. Lim (Singapore)

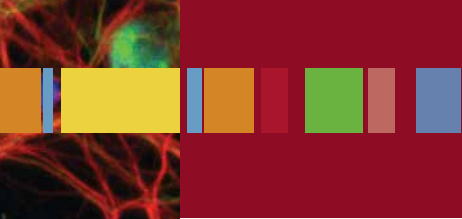
12.20

• **Aids to suture**

- Activator: J. Bertelli (Florianopolis, Brazil)
- Boosting nerve repair // R. Zuker (Toronto, Canada)
- Supercharging with NT // A. Moore (Saint Louis, USA)
- Discussion

**1.00-2.00pm • Lunch Break**





8.30am

## NERVE TRANSFERS: THE SOLUTION?

Activator: P. Raimondi (Legnano, Italy)

- Is contralateral C7 useful in brachial plexus injury? // S. Wang (Beijing, China)
- My experience with CLC7 // A. Bathia (Pune, India)
- Use of Phrenic nerve in BP: is it safe? // N. Felici (Rome, Italy)
- Experience with the phrenic to posterior division of lower trunk transfer // A. Bathia (Pune, India)
- Pitfalls in using the phrenic nerve // M. Socolovsky (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- SA nerve to SS: a prospective study // N. Kerfant (Rennes, France), A. Gilbert (Paris, France)
- Accessory nerve repair: are the results so good? // S. Ferraresi (Rovigo, Italy)
- Nerve transfers for fingers extension: advantages // R. Ferreira (Recife, Brazil)
- Nerve transfer supplants the results of tendon transfer in radial nerve palsy: an evolution of the method // J. Bertelli (Florianopolis, Brazil)
- Nerve transfer and reconstruction for shoulder in adult brachial plexus injury // S. Leechavengvongs (Bangkok, Thailand)
- Axillary nerve repair - Critical review of the triceps branch-axillary nerve transfer (Somsak procedure) // S. Ferraresi (Rovigo, Italy)
- Nerve transfer options for Axillary nerve and its branches // J. Clifton (Guadalajara, Mexico)
- 100% results! Is that reasonable? // P. Raimondi (Legnano, Italy)
- Is sensory reinnervation of the hand by nerve transfers worth the effort? // E. Basso (Rovigo, Italy)
- Nerve transfers in Tetraplegia // E. Conce (Santiago de Chile, Chile)
- Treatment with Nerve Transfers of Acute Flaccid Myelitis // D. Zlotolow, S. Kozin (Philadelphia, USA)
- Discussion

10.30am

## IS IT POSSIBLE TO ENHANCE REGENERATION?

Activator: P.L. TOS (Milano, Italy)

- Growth Hormone Therapy for Peripheral Nerve Injury: Preclinical Data and Level I Clinical Trial // S. Tuffaha (Baltimore, USA)
- Drug and growth factor delivery // G. Borschel (Toronto, Canada)
- Use of stem cells in nerve repair: dream or reality? // M. Wiberg (Umea, Sweden)
- Clinical use of stem cells: a long term review // R. Ferreira (Recife, Brazil)
- Discussion

11.10-11.30am • Coffee Break

11.30am

## DIFFICULT BUT POSSIBLE: REAL NEWS

Activator: J. Bertelli (Florianopolis, Brazil)

- The diagnosis and treatment of lumbar-sacral plexus injury // S. Wang (Beijing, China)
- Bionic limbs with direct nerve stimulation // M. Bumbasirevic (Belgrade, Serbia)
- Neural Enabled Prosthetic Hand System: Restoring hand sensation for transradial amputees // A. Berger (Miami, USA)
- Controversies on compressions // M. Socolovsky (Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- The significance of gliding tissue flaps in severe neuropathic pain syndromes // R. Schmidhammer, S. Tsolakidis, H. Millesi † (Vienna, Austria)
- Corneal Reinnervation: Sight Saving Microsurgery // R. Zucker, G. Borschel (Toronto, Canada)
- Understanding muscle and soft tissue contractures after palsy // J. Bahm (Leuven, Belgium)
- A little medicine to prevent a lot of surgery: can contractures in NBPI actually be cured? // R. Cornwall (Cincinnati, USA)
- Iatrogenic nerve lesions around the shoulder // Ph. Valenti (Paris, France)
- Hyperselective neurectomies in spasticity: how come there is no recurrence? // C. Leclercq (Paris, France)
- Discussion

1.00-2.00pm • Lunch Break

2.00pm

## ARE LATE REPAIRS POSSIBLE?

Activator: M. Malessy (Leiden, Netherlands)

- The value of electrical stimulation // G. Borschel (Toronto, Canada)
- Results of late repairs // P. Raimondi (Legnano, Italy), A. Gilbert (Paris, France)
- Discussion

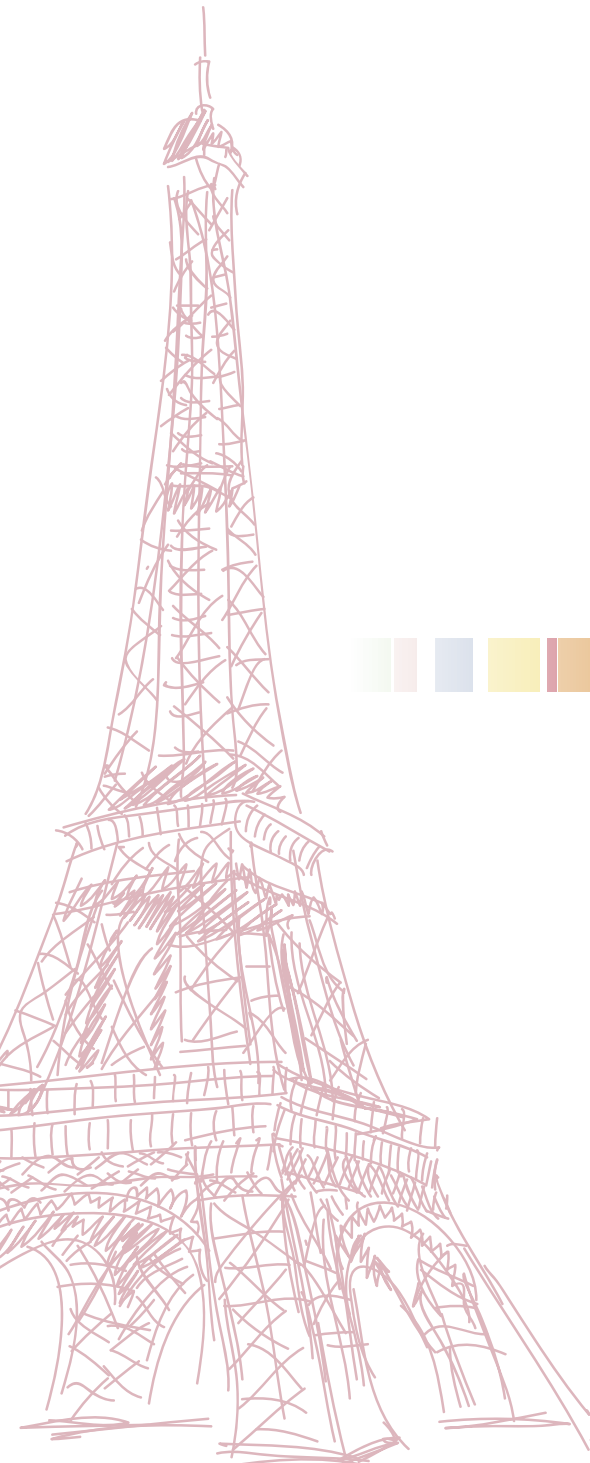
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## END TO SIDE: A SERIOUS PROPOSITION?

Activator: M. Malessy (Leiden, Netherlands)

- End to side a limited experience in OBP // W. Pondaag (Leiden, Netherlands)
- End to side in adults BP // M. Del Bene (Milano, Italy), P. Raimondi (Legnano, Italy)
- Experience with End to side // B. Battiston (Torino, Italy)
- Use of end to side in new clinical situations // G. Borschel (Toronto, Canada)
- Functional upgrade and change of control by end-to-side neuroorrhaphies // M. Frey (Vienna, Austria)





## SYMPOSIUM VENUE

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- Subway:  
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