

Good question.

There has been research. There would be more, but the FDA has been reluctant to approve clinical studies. Joel Rossen and I tried for eight years to get a Phase 1 study approved, but could not get approval. A large pharmaceutical company did get approval for a Phase 1 study, but it was shut down when the company MicroStim sued that the unit they were using was essentially the MicroStim 100 unit and violated the patent. Ed Alecks of the Macular Degeneration Foundation, inspired by his own recovery using microcurrent stimulation therapy used the considerable research money of his organization to do some basic science research. They too sought approval for a clinical trial, but again, they were simply using the MicroStim 100 unit packaged in a new case, and had to quit due to patent violations.

John Jarding and George O'Clock created their own unit. They had back engineered the MicroStim 100 unit, and they waited till the original patent expired. I believe their company became Acuity Medical and is related to the ScyFIX unit approved in Europe, but now out of production.

The study Grace Halloran, Ph.D. completed in 1985 was never accepted for publication, and the reasons given were that she was not an MD. She teamed up with a Neuro Ophthalmologist in San Francisco and they did a more tightly designed study which was completed in 1995. Again, despite showing visual improvement in almost 90% of the study participants, for diseases that are never known to see any improvement, the study was refused for publication by all of the major ophthalmology journals. The reason given for all of the submissions was that one of the authors was not an ophthalmologist.

Grace Halloran caught the attention of Bjorn Nordenstrom, MD, the head of the Karolinska institute and he arranged for her to speak at a European conference on retinal disease in the spring of 1986. She was the first non-physician to speak at this annual conference, which raised a number of eyebrows. Still, her work was received with great excitement, and led eventually to the approval of the use of microcurrent stimulation in the treatment of retinal disease first in Sweden and later in Europe.

I've attached two pdf's. One is a summary of the research mentioned above, with some other websites that might be of interest that reference more recent research.

I've also included an article that summarizes the research that was part of a submission by the company ScyFIX to the FDA, who did eventually get approval to begin a Phase 1 trial. Due to financial problems, their research has stalled.

The Foundation Fighting Blindness has never wanted to touch anything that they considered "alternative". I know, as I have talked with various members of their scientific advisory board. The hundreds of millions that they have spent on research has been entirely devoted to looking for a surgical or pharmaceutical solution.