



Micro/Nanofabrication for Retinal Implants

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

For a long time, many people have dreamed of restoring sight to blind individuals. For those blinded by outer retinal degenerative diseases (e.g., age-related macular degeneration and retinitis pigmentosa), retinal implants can evoke visual percepts by stimulating the inner retinal neurons that survive the diseases. Indeed, when microelectronic retinal prosthetic devices demonstrated promising clinical outcomes, it seemed like the dream had been realized. Unfortunately, the best visual performance restored by the prostheses is still far removed from the normal vision. For a significantly enhanced quality of restored vision, retinal implants require breakthroughs in their electrode designs, dimensions, materials, and so on, which would heavily rely on micro-/nano-fabrication technologies. Also, because of the nature of biomedical devices aiming for physiological function restoration, multidisciplinary endeavors are crucial; for example, a physiological and/or anatomical rationale would be ideal for new designs.





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