

This abstract was submitted to the DTRF Research Workshop in September, 2018.

Focused Ultrasound: State of the Field and Potential for Treating Desmoid Tumors

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Focused ultrasound is an early-stage, noninvasive therapeutic technology with the potential to treat a wide range of serious medical disorders. Stemming from the 18 distinct bioeffects of focused ultrasound in tissue, it is now approved or under investigation to treat more than 100 conditions ranging from neurological disorders to benign and malignant tumors, to pain. Over the past several years, the field has experienced unparalleled progress, and recent research advances have brought us to the tipping point for the technology to transform from research to clinical use.

Recent FDA approvals for prostate and essential tremor have further validated the technology as a tool for noninvasive, precise ablation and have given patients new treatment options. Despite the significant progress and advancement to develop focused ultrasound therapies for a wide range of clinical applications, widespread clinical adoption remains a hurdle. To this end, the Focused Ultrasound Foundation was established in 2006 to accelerate the development and clinical adoption of focused ultrasound technology.

This presentation will highlight the current state of the field for focused ultrasound, with a particular emphasis on its potential role in treating desmoid tumors and other benign and malignant tumors, discuss the adoption and development landscape for the technology, and share the Foundation's strategy for advancing this field including funding, awareness building, workshops and other opportunities for collaboration.