



Natalia Ziemkiewicz

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ADVISOR/MENTOR: Dr. Garg
SPONSOR/GRANT: Department of Defense
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BIOGRAPHY

Natalia received her B.S. in Biomedical Engineering (BME) from Saint Louis University (SLU) in Spring 2018. She decided to continue her education at SLU and is currently pursuing her doctorate degree in BME. She spends most of her free time entertaining her dog, listening to crime podcasts, and exploring new places in St. Louis. After her doctorate program, she plans on continuing researching as a post-doctoral fellow and then to attend medical school, hoping to integrate her BME background with the practice of medicine.

RESEARCH

Natalia is a second-year PhD student working in the Skeletal Muscle Tissue Engineering Laboratory. She began working in this lab as an undergraduate student in the Spring of 2016, where she worked with Dr. Koyal Garg and Dr. Silviya Zustiak to develop a PEGylated Laminin hydrogel for skeletal muscle regeneration. Her current research focuses on developing a novel therapeutic approach to aid regeneration and to rehabilitate skeletal muscle injuries, specifically volumetric muscle loss (VML). She is currently working on implanting fibrin-enriched hydrogels into an established rodent model of VML while also incorporating an electrical stimulation regime to facilitate functional recovery.



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