The Quest for the Ideal Prosthetic Heart Valve: What have we Learned?

Heart valve ailments have affected mankind for centuries. While many ailments and treatments are present in the history of medicine to the 12th and 13th centuries, the ability to replace one of our own heart valves with a prosthetic device is new (mid 20th century). This presentation will take the listener on a historical journey and intersperse the difficulties with future development that is necessary to improve care in the 21st Century. We will discuss the complications of the two major types of prosthetic valves (mechanical and bioprosthetic) as well as outline some of the elegant engineering that has occurred to improve the current valves used compared to earlier models. At the end of the seminar, the attendee will have an understanding of the historical march through various prostheses, know the major complications associated with prosthetic valve replacement and be stimulated to create novel approaches to the treatment of valvular heart disease in humans.

Date • Time • Location:
Tuesday, October 24, 4:00pm
Ag Eng Bldg 105 • Refreshments