"Underlying Mechanisms of Balance & Gait Impairments: A Focus on Two Special Populations: Autism and Low Vision"

Presented by:
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May 19, 2021
7:00am

Dr. Cham is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Bioengineering, Ophthalmology and Physical Therapy at the University of Pittsburgh. She received her BS and MS degrees in Physics from McGill University in Montréal (Canada) and her PhD degree in Bioengineering from the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh (PA). The overarching goal of Dr. Cham’s research is improving postural stability and reducing falls risk and related musculoskeletal injuries. The problem of falls is a growing public and occupational health concern. To achieve her goal, Dr. Cham focuses her research on understanding the underlying mechanisms of balance and gait impairments. Populations of interest include older adults and adults with a disability (sensory, central or cognitive impairment). Due to the need of understanding the multidimensional factors contributing to falls risk, Dr. Cham collaborates with researchers from a wide range of disciplines, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, psychology, psychiatry, geriatrics, neurology, neuroscience, radiology (brain imaging), bioengineering, robotics and statistics. Dr. Cham’s research has been supported by federal agencies, e.g. The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and The National Institutes of Health (NIH), industry and various foundations.