This talk will provide an overview of the anatomy of the peripheral nervous system and explain how injury to the peripheral nervous system leads to neuropathy. The discussion will then turn to a review of the global diabetes epidemic and how diabetes is the most common cause of neuropathy in the Western world. A review will then be presented of the clinical trials and our own preclinical research that informs us of the pathogenesis of diabetic neuropathy. The discussion will end with an example of how a clinical intervention, based on our research, provides a new treatment of diabetic neuropathy.