



ICO Strategic Plan

2014-2017

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists three year strategic plan sets out the direction and goals of the College.

ICO Mission Statement

To advance developments and improvements in eye health and patient safety by

Providing the highest standards of excellence in the training and on-going education of Eye Doctors and other Medical Practitioners,

Advocating on behalf of patients through policy guidance to Government, Health Care Providers and State Agencies,

Collaborating with patient support groups and others on our shared goals

Educating the public to help increase awareness of good health and eye care practices.

Our goal, in line with the WHO objectives of Vision 2020, is to work towards eliminating the 75% of cases which result in preventable blindness by 2020.

Underpinning all ICO's activity is a commitment to:

Education and training: providing the highest standards in education, training and continuing professional development

Evidence based decision making: using research to underpin improvements in education, training and eye health care

Collaboration: working with others involved in the delivery of eye health care nationally and internationally

Collegiality: supporting trainees and Fellows through all stages of their career

Advocacy: Supporting policy decisions based on best patient outcome and the highest standards of patient safety

Over the next 3 years the College will build on our existing strengths to ensure impact on eye care in Ireland. The key areas outlined in the strategic plan are as follows:

1. EDUCATION AND FUTURE EDUCATION OBJECTIVES

Ensure quality through:

- Robust selection process of trainees
- Rigorous accreditation of training posts
- Review of ophthalmology training pathways
- Regular curriculum review and development

Support trainees through:

- Mentoring, training and leadership development

Expand training capabilities by:

- Educating and training of other Medical Practitioners

2. MEMBERSHIP & STANDARDS

Continuing Professional Development

- Develop appropriate CPD standards and resources for the maintenance of professional competence

Membership Services

- Expand Services to members
- Ensure appropriate membership structure and application process

Quality & Standards

- Set professional standards & develop Code of Ethics
- Uphold Professional Code of Conduct
- Develop and communicate coordinated message and branding

3. RELATIONSHIPS

National

- Build external relationships and influence eye health policy
- General public education and empowerment
- Broaden social media to facilitate information feed and transparency, promote accessibility and understanding
- Engage with patient groups, most at at-risk groups and generate eye health awareness through on-going public information sessions

International

- Nurture international relationships and partnerships with peers and continue to develop strong bonds with other organisations.

4. ADVOCACY

- Ensure medical oversight of the Irish public's eye-care needs
- Support the development & implementation of an integrated eye-care model, under medical supervision
- Develop ICO policies to facilitate and strengthen capacity to affect public policy through interaction with the government, key stakeholders and the media
- Lobby government for sight loss prevention and early intervention as a health priority, increased funding and greater resources
- Educate the public to aim for greater understanding of eye health care and the primary risk factors associated with the most common causes of sight loss
- Re balance the focus on prevention and early intervention.



Irish College of
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Protecting your Vision

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