

Irish College of Ophthalmologists *Eye Doctors of Ireland* Protecting your Vision

ICO ANNUAL REPORT 2020

'Sharing Our Vision for Eye Care'



ICO MISSION

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists is committed to the advancement and improvement of eye health and patient safety and works to protect, enhance and promote the highest standards in the delivery of eye care.

CONTENTS:

Pr	4	
Ch	6	
AŁ	7	
Di	8	
Οι	8	
Go	9	
Οι	11	
1.	Specialty Training in Ophthalmology	11
2.	Continuing Professional Development	13
3.	Professional Competence Scheme	15
4.	Advocacy	16
5.	Clinical Programme	19
6.	Bursary	20
Fii	22	
Reference and Administrative Details		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DR PATRICIA QUINLAN

2020 presented the most challenging of circumstances due to COVID-19 in a year in which we had to adapt both as a College and as a nation in ways we could not have previously imagined.

COVID-19 forced us to rethink our approach to so many aspects of "normal" everyday life.

Doctors, nurses, patients and frontline staff were put under tremendous strain. The initial weeks and months of the pandemic will be remembered as an intensely worrying time for so many.

As was the case for many organisations, 2020 was a difficult year for the ICO and for our members. We had to learn to adapt to new ways of working, communicating and operating under strict public health safety measures, while remaining focused on our commitment to the highest standards of eye care and the preservation of sight for our patients.

Our priority was therefore to maintain the principal activities of the College both as a post-graduate training body for ophthalmic specialists and a professional body and programme for continuing medical education for those in practice. The connection with colleagues through virtual meetings and online discussion forums were an essential part of understanding the experience and impact on the ground to eye care services. It was inspirational to hear from members about the innovations and practical systems they quickly put in place to deal with the emergency. We all learnt much from each other.

Ophthalmology has experienced rapid advances and innovations over the last two decades which now provide prevention and treatment for a significant proportion of sight threatening diseases. The anticipated five fold increase in the elderly population by 2040 coupled with advances in treatment has demanded a reconfiguration of eye services countrywide. We now have a standalone medical training programme producing high quality graduates who will be well equipped to deal with these challenges.

Over the past number of years the ICO and the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology have worked extensively with the HSE and with the Department of Health to ensure the expansion of the delivery of specialist ophthalmic care to patients outside of the traditional acute setting, through an integrated model of care between the acute and community setting.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, our focus on the continued momentum of this groundwork was prioritised throughout 2020. Significant progress was achieved.

Following the approval of a new consultant medical ophthalmologist grade by the Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) in 2019, three consultant medical ophthalmologists posts in three community healthcare organisations (CHOs) were appointed in 2020, with active applications for posts in other CHO areas underway. This is in addition to the ongoing recruitment of the extended integrated eye care teams in CHOs nationally. A Sláintecare temporary post was also filled.

In 2020 the ICO undertook a large review and reconfiguration of its governance structures in line with the legal requirements of the Charities Regulator. The ICO's commitment to our compliance with the requirements of the charity's Governance Code and formal establishment of governance structures, policies and procedures was a considerable focus and body of work for the College throughout the year.

The ICO Memorandum and Articles of Association were reviewed in 2020 and an updated Constitution in line with company law, was adopted.

The ICO Board undertook a sustained programme in 2020 to guide the College and its members through the Governance Code compliance work and to support greater understanding of our charitable status and obligations.

The committee structures of the College were reviewed and redesigned to reflect the core mission of the ICO as a training and educational body.

The committees going forward will now include:

Finance Committee

- Governance and Nominations Committee
- Service Development Committee
- Training, Regulations and Standards Committee

The College also developed a Governance Handbook which includes a range of clear policies on conflict, risk, diversity and inclusion together with the roles and responsibilities for those who act for and on behalf of the College.

It was my pleasure as President of the ICO to work with our Board and our members throughout the past year. While I acknowledge the considerable challenges, I know we have come together with great resilience as a community to strive for the expansion of eye care services through a sustainable model for our patients now and in the future. This change is very much underway and the benefits are being felt in the community by patients and our doctors.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank my fellow Board members as well as Siobhan and her team for their untiring dedication to the College. We achieved a lot in 2020 in spite of difficult circumstances. It would not have been possible without their extraordinary commitment.

I look forward to our reunion in person in the brighter days ahead.

Dr Patricia Quinlan President, Irish College of Ophthalmologists

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE SIOBHAN KELLY

The events of 2020 will long be recounted in the memories of the population at large and by healthcare professionals in particular. The Covid-19 pandemic and the ensuing restrictions, has had an enormous impact on our society and on our organisation.

The last 18 months have brought into sharp focus both the truly essential nature of healthcare and the need to be adaptable and flexible when it comes to ensuring that health services, and the training of those who are at the forefront of healthcare delivery, can continue even within the most extraordinary of circumstances.

Considerable adaption and reconfiguration occurred and valiant and ongoing efforts have been made, to continually re-shape around the necessary demands. It has not been without consequence however, and we know that our members and trainees have had to practice under very testing conditions.

Notwithstanding the speedy adaption of a range of technological solutions, we must acknowledge that there has been an impact on training and education. We must also acknowledge the impact of sustained stresses on our members and trainees from working at the frontline of the pandemic. A priority is to ensure that there is a continuous and open conversation in order that pressures experienced, can be more easily communicated.

A special word of thanks to all those inside the College and in the wider ICO family, for the adaptability shown in continuing with our important tasks under difficult circumstances. We will endeavour to build on the lessons learned during this exceptional time and we will help to provide support for those who need it.

Siobhan Kelly CEO, Irish College of Ophthalmologists

ABOUT THE ICO – who we are

Established in 1992, the Irish College of Ophthalmologists (ICO) is the recognised training and professional body for eye doctors in Ireland.

The ICO is committed to the advancement and improvement of eye health and patient safety and works to protect, enhance and promote the highest standards in the delivery of eye care and ophthalmic training.

OUR ROLE:

1. TRAINING

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists is responsible for postgraduate specialist medical education and training in the specialty of Ophthalmology. The ICO is the Medical Council accredited body, which delivers the National Training Programme in Medical Ophthalmology and in conjunction with the RCSI, Surgical Ophthalmology. The ICO provides the governance, structure and standards for postgraduate education, training and assessment.

The ICO is committed to the ongoing development and evolution of the training pathways to ensure we are producing specialists who can meet the current and future eye care needs in our population.

Our trainees are supported and guided, through the specialist-training pathway, to ensure the highest standards of essential clinical and non-clinical skills.

2. ONGOING EDUCATION OF OPHTHALMIC SPECIALISTS

Ongoing Medical Education and Continuing Professional Development are essential aspects of professional practice. Participation in a professional competence scheme is a requirement for all medical practitioners registered with the Medical Council in Ireland.

The ICO is committed to enhancing and promoting lifelong learning and providing on-going professional development supports to our members and members of the Integrated Eye Care Team (IECT).

The ICO continues to develop an extensive programme of professional development courses, educational meetings, workshops and conferences covering a wide range of clinical and non-clinical topics through the designated ICO Professional Competence Scheme.

3. ADVOCACY

The ICO acts as an advocate on behalf of patients and the specialty, to strive for the best eye healthcare system for patients and for doctors.

We do this through collaboration with patient support groups on our shared goals, leading on healthcare practice and patient focused policy decisions and educating the public to help increase awareness of good eye care practices.

Underpinning all ICO activity is a commitment to:

Integrity acting with openness, consideration and respect

Collegiality supporting trainees and members through all stages of their career

Innovating in the delivery of education & healthcare

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

DIRECTORS REPORT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Dr. Patricia Quinlan President and Chair of the Board
- Mr. Tim Fulcher President Elect
- Dr. Alison Blake
- Mr. Mark Cahill
- Dr. Maureen Hillery
- Dr. Grace O'Malley
- Ms. Pat Logan
- Ms. Kathryn McCreery
- Mr. John Doris
- Dr. Paul Connell
- Dr. Joanne Kearney
- Dr. Garry Treacy
- Dr. Mairide McGuire
- Ms. Caroline Baily

Dean of Postgraduate Education: Miss Yvonne Delaney

Clinical Lead for the National Clinical Programme in Ophthalmology: Prof. William Power

The Board of Directors met on 10 occasions in 2020 and held an AGM on July 8, 2020 and an EGM on December 19, 2020.

Principal activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

The principal activity of the College continues to be education, training, and the running of a professional body for ophthalmologists and ophthalmic surgeons. It is responsible for setting and maintaining standards in ophthalmic training for young ophthalmologists and for continuing medical education for those in practice. The College provides a range of skills courses for trainees and for continuing education.

GOVERNANCE

The ICO is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. The voluntary Board of Directors, who are elected from the membership, provides governance oversight.

As a registered charity, the ICO is committed to our compliance with the requirements of the Charities Governance Code and has established its governance structures, policies and procedures to comply with the Code.

Throughout 2020, the Board undertook a focused programme of work to guide the College through the Governance Code compliance work and to support greater understanding of our charitable status and obligations.

The College engaged with a governance expert to develop and update our governance structures, policies and procedures. The governance expert worked closely with the Board, the Chair and the CEO. This included a series of governance induction workshops for our Board of Directors in September 2020. The workshops brought into focus corporate governance in practice, outlining key areas of importance notably Director duties and responsibilities, conflict of interest, conflict of loyalty, risk management and register, diversity and inclusion.

All Board members are now Directors of the Company. This resulted in a number of ICO Council members becoming Directors during 2020. All Board members are inducted regarding their role and responsibility. A Finance Committee and a Governance and Nominations Committee were established as Board Committees to assist in the oversight of College activities.

ICO Governance Handbook

To address the requirements of compliance with the Charities Regulator Governance Code, the College has developed a governance handbook, which includes a range of policies on conflict, risk, diversity and inclusion together with the roles and responsibilities of those who act for and on behalf of the College.

The handbook documents the legal obligations of the charity trustees as well as the processes that the charity has in place to meet good governance standards, including those set out in the Charities Governance Code.

The Governance Committee will review this handbook annually, with changes proposed at Board meetings and the handbook adapted accordingly. Any change that would affect the constitution of the charity must be ratified at an Annual General Meeting or Emergency General Meeting.

ICO Constitution

During 2020, the College's Memorandum and Articles of Association were reviewed with professional legal advice sought. An updated Constitution, to bring the College's governing documents into line with company law, was drafted and subsequently approved by the members.

ICO members were consulted throughout the process and invited to review the draft Constitution ahead of the official vote for approval of the updated document, which was passed at an ICO EGM, held on December 19, 2020.

Operational Structure and Funding

The ICO is a membership-based organisation with an annual subscription fee.

Our members and trainees are a very important resource for the College. We rely on this community to help shape our policy, inform our leadership and develop the future of medical education, practice and healthcare. Our goal is to develop, encourage and continually expand relationships within the College at all levels, from the innovative trainee perspective to the invaluable experience of life and senior members.

A voluntary Board of Directors is elected from the membership to provide governance oversight and policy guidance.

The Chairman of the Board (ICO President), along with the other directors, sets the policy direction for the ICO and oversees the administration of affairs. The Chairman and the Board of Directors are charged with setting the strategy and goals of the ICO. A number of voluntary committees of the Board, focus and advise on the specific areas of ICO activity. The executive team is comprised of a Chief Executive along with operational roles within the organisation: training programme manager, professional competence manager, communications and advocacy manager, and management services. The ICO staff are responsible for implementing the strategy and running the day-to-day activities of the company.

Sources of Funding and Reporting

The ICO holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM) where our annual accounts are presented to the members for approval. These accounts are also included in our Annual Report, which is published on our website.

The College has a number of income streams: members pay an annual subscription fee; the College runs educational events including an annual summer meeting for which there is a registration fee and a trade exhibition supported by pharmaceutical and instrument & device companies; the College has a service level agreement in place with the HSE for the delivery of specialist training and specialist support for the clinical programme and the College receives industry support to fund its annual bursaries and research.

Fair review of the business

The surplus for the year after providing for depreciation and accounting for increase in fair value of investments amounts to $\in 25,102$ (2019 - $\in 107,836$).

At the end of the year, the company has assets of \in 1,552,406 (2019 - \in 1,601,573) and liabilities of \in 109,878 (2019 - \in 184,147). The net assets of the company have increased by \in 25,102.

Principal risks and uncertainties

2020 was a challenging year for the College due to the Covid pandemic. The 2020 ICO Annual Conference did not take place which had an impact on revenue.

The College had to amend its operational strategy to conform to government measures in line with the public health recommendations in relation to "lockdown". In order to conform to the likes of social distancing, increased hygiene etc., the organisation has had to amend its strategy to allow its employees to adhere to these requirements.

Based on the Government advice about the COVID 19 pandemic, as instructed, the College had to temporarily close in March 2020 and the College staff members continue to work remotely. The College has had to review the way it runs its education programme and has been looking for and implementing technical solutions for the delivery of same.

Due to the uncertain outcome of when the pandemic is likely to pass, the organisation has no clear sight of when

these measures will be relieved. The directors will continue to monitor all public health and government updates to ensure that all information is available to make the best decisions for the organisation and its stakeholders.

The College is responsible for setting and maintaining standards in ophthalmic training and for the continuing medical education of those in practice which is of such vital importance to the health of the nation, that a risk to appropriate funding because of the pandemic cannot be allowed to disrupt the College's education programme.

On the basis of the above, the directors are satisfied the organisation can continue as a going concern as the College have sufficient funds in place for the next twelve months and believes that it can continue its business successfully for the next twelve months.

OUR PILLARS – ICO Core Activities

1. SPECIALTY TRAINING IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

The ICO is the accredited postgraduate training body responsible for the delivery of Specialist Training in Ophthalmology in Ireland.

The College delivers two training pathways: Specialist Training in Medical Ophthalmology and Specialist Training in Surgical Ophthalmology. Higher specialist training in ophthalmic surgery is delivered in collaboration with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

The ICO is recognised for this purpose by the Irish Medical Council (IMC) and the Health Service Executive (HSE).

The College sets the curriculum for basic and higher specialist medical and surgical ophthalmic training in Ireland, awards the Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training (CCST) for trainees who complete the ICO Higher Medical Training programme and makes recommendations to the Irish Surgical Postgraduate Training Committee for the award of CCST in Higher Surgical Training.

Ophthalmologists diagnose, medically treat and perform surgery to preserve vision and prevent sight loss in patients.

The specialty of ophthalmology offers a unique opportunity for a range of sub-specialisations including paediatrics, neuro-ophthalmology, glaucoma, oculo-plastics/orbit, vitreoretinal, cornea & anterior segment, refraction, ocular oncology, trauma, and medical retina.

Given the frequency of ocular involvement in many systemic diseases, ophthalmologists often work in close collaboration with other specialists including diabetologists, rheumatologists, neurologists, ENT and maxillo-facial surgeons as well as paediatricians and geneticists.

In the delivery of eye care, ophthalmologists also work as part of a multi-disciplinary team. Other eye health professionals including ophthalmic nurses, orthoptists, optometrists and ophthalmic technicians play an important role in the care of eye patients and teamwork is essential.

The medical ophthalmology specialty-training programme is a five-year competence-based curriculum consisting of three basic years followed by two years of subspecialty training in paediatrics, glaucoma and medical retina. Medical ophthalmology refers to the provision of specialist care in the areas of greatest demand including age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma. It is multiprocedural in its delivery utilising various techniques such as intravitreal injections, retinal and glaucoma laser treatments and minor operations as well as medications.

The surgical ophthalmology specialty-training programme is a seven-year competence-based curriculum consisting of three basic years followed by four years of subspecialty training. Surgical ophthalmology refers to ophthalmologists who perform microsurgical intraocular operations such as cataract extraction surgery or retinal detachment repair surgery. Surgical ophthalmologists nearly all perform cataract surgery as well as specialise in one of eight different surgical subspecialties.

Advances and Developments in Ophthalmology and Specialty Training

Ophthalmology is a fast-paced, innovative specialty that has experienced rapid advances in new treatments and technologies over the past two decades.

A significant proportion of sight threatening conditions which previously had a poor prognosis for patients are now largely preventable with early diagnosis and treatment, making it an extremely rewarding area of medicine for doctors to care for their patients in.

These innovations include the introduction of intraocular injections which has transformed the treatment of two of the most common sight-threatening eye conditions affecting patients in Ireland – Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) and Diabetic Maculopathy.

The advent of new therapies which are enabling greater prevention and management of eye diseases in tandem with evolving patient demographics have increased the demand for the skills and competencies of ophthalmologists.

Additionally, the anticipated fivefold increase in the elderly population by 2040, as well as the increase in individuals with chronic diseases such as diabetes, has resulted in significant demand for medical ophthalmologists which is now a priority for the College.

Within the context of this increasing demand for medical ophthalmology services, a dedicated standalone National Training Programme in Medical Ophthalmology was introduced by the ICO in 2018 with subspecialty expertise focused on the areas of greatest patient demand - paediatrics, glaucoma and medical retina. In 2020 twelve basic medical trainees and three higher medical trainees are on the scheme and successfully progressing through the programme.

SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENTS IN 2020

COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the National Training Programmes (NTP) in Ophthalmology. While redeployments of ophthalmic trainees have been low compared to other specialties, the data gathered by the College has shown an impact on training in both the Surgical and the Medical NTPs. Closure of theatres throughout the first and second lockdown has not surprisingly reduced the number of procedures undertaken by trainees with the greatest effect seen in phacoemulsification and strabismus surgeries. Year 3 trainees in the Basic Specialist Training Programme in particular have been impacted by COVID when comparing their procedural numbers to those completed by their Year 3 counterparts in the preceding years. Equally, reduced access to minor operations and laser lists has reduced the number of relevant procedures completed by medical trainees in both the basic and the higher programs.

The effect on clinical training has been less visible but equally noteworthy. Reduced total numbers of patients in the out-patient department has reduced the number of clinical interactions per trainee. Whilst this has been somewhat offset by a greater amount of time to discuss each case, the reduced number of clinical decisionmaking events remains impactful.

The efforts of all units to maintain training during the 2020 must be applauded and has very much softened what would otherwise have been a devastating blow to all training. The College wishes to thank all those who worked so valiantly to reschedule their clinics and relocate their theatre sessions whilst continuing to teach and maintain the morale of their trainees.

ANTERIOR VICTRECTOMY SIMULATION COURSE

The Anterior Vitrectomy Simulation Course is an important course in preparing trainees in year 3 of the Basic Surgical Training Programme for Higher Surgical Training. The course was delivered in Ireland for the second time in the RCSI simulation lab in January 2020. This is a skills and simulation based training course in the management of anterior vitrectomy in complicated phacoemulsification surgery and is aimed at instructing the basic principles of anterior vitrectomy management. The course is equipped with phacoemulsification machines and microsurgical instruments, providing a high-fidelity 'operating theatre' experience augmented with didactic teaching. Following the successful delivery of this course in 2019 and 2020 it will now be embedded as a key part of BST and HST training and will take place annually in January each year.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMME

International Medical Graduate Training Initiative (IMGTI)

The International Medical Graduate Training Initiative (IMGTI) is a structured postgraduate medical training programme in ophthalmology for non EU International medical graduates. The programme is co-ordinated by the HSE National Doctors Training and Planning division, the Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies and the Postgraduate Training Bodies who together have MoUs (Memorandum of Understanding) in place with overseas training bodies. Currently both the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Pakistan and the Sudanese Medical Specialisation Board participate in the Programme.

The purpose of the IMGTI is to enable overseas trainees to gain access to clinical experiences and training that they cannot get in their own country. The programme was developed in line with the WHO global code, with a view to enhancing and improving the individual's medical training and learning and in the medium to long term, the health services in their own countries.

This initiative facilitates participants to access a structured period of training and experience in ophthalmic training developed by the Irish College of Ophthalmologists, to specifically meet the clinical needs of participants as defined by their home country's health service.

The period of clinical training provided under the IMGTI is ordinarily 24 months, after which the overseas doctors will be expected to return to their country of origin.

The implementation of the IMGTI Training Initiative requires both the HSE and the Irish postgraduate training bodies to develop robust and collaborative working relationships with overseas educational partners and sponsoring agencies and states.

In 2020, two trainees commenced the two-year IMGTI programme with the ICO. There are currently six trainees in total on the programme in 2020.

International Medical Graduate Training Programme (IMGTP) - Sponsored Clinical Fellowship Programme

The IMGTP Clinical Fellowship Programme is aimed at International medical graduates who wish to develop ophthalmic sub-specialty surgical expertise. Joining the ICO ophthalmic community in Ireland through the bespoke Fellowship Programme offers a unique opportunity for international doctors to experience to the highest degree the delivery of complex healthcare in a broadened environment.

In October 2020, the College's first sponsored fellow arrived from Saudi Arabia and commenced his fellowship in November 2020.

This is a two-year, subspecialty clinical fellowship in Vitreoretinal Diseases and Surgery. The fellowship is delivered by the ICO in conjunction with the Mater University Hospital and is being led by Prof David Keegan, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and Mater Private Hospital.

MEDICAL CAREERS DAY 2020

The Medical Careers Day is an annual event and joint initiative of the HSE, Forum of Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies and the Medical Council aimed at providing guidance on career pathways in medical specialty training in Ireland to final year medical students and interns.

Due to COVID-19 public health restrictions, virtual individual careers sessions were hosted by the Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies for the 2020 event during the month of October.

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists hosted our online career session on specialty training in ophthalmology on Friday, October 16.

2. CONTINING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) – Continuing Medical Education

The delivery of healthcare requires a lifelong commitment to learning and the ICO's goal is to provide and support education and learning for ophthalmologists in training, in practice and those who work alongside them as they deliver care to patients.

CPD is a means of updating, developing and enhancing how doctors apply the knowledge, skills and attitudes required in their working lives. This includes CPD, professional (non-clinical) competencies, and all elements of good medical practice.

The CPD focus for the ICO during 2020 was on how the College could distil the clinical, practice and wellbeing learnings from the COVID-19 pandemic for our members and respond with relevant online learning opportunities. While the absence of in person meetings

has been limiting to the College's regular CPD activity, the following activities were planned and delivered in 2020 to specifically respond to the current challenges facing ophthalmologists:

Membership Consultation Survey

To develop relevant learning opportunities, it was vital to hear from our membership on COVID-19's impact on ophthalmology services and their own experience of living and working in a pandemic environment. In 2020, the College undertook a membership wide consultation process aimed at just that and will use the important feedback to drive our CPD programme in 2021.

Virtual Members Discussion Forum

During the initial lockdown period, weekly online discussions took place via Zoom between ICO members chaired by the ICO President, Dr. Patricia Quinlan. These discussions provided the opportunity to share the insights of our members on the ways in which COVID-19 has impacted in their various working environments and the lessons learned. There were broad topics of discussion, including PPE guidelines, public health restrictions in the clinic setting, re-starting elective procedures and surgeries, and a focus on paediatric services.

Sub-specialty Workshops

The ICO hosts virtual sub-specialty workshops for our members that put a spotlight on a key area of focus for discussion among specialists. The eye is not an isolated unit and has complicated relationships with numerous other bodily systems and functions including that of the brain and nervous system. Ophthalmologists liaise particularly with neurologists, rheumatologists, diabetologists and endocrinologists. This meeting series facilitates guest lectures and talks from medical specialist colleagues to discuss such cases and the relationship with the discipline of ophthalmology.

The sessions took place via Zoom during 2020 due to public health restrictions.

ICO Winter Meeting

Rounding out the year on December 11, the ICO Winter Meeting took place virtually with a panel discussion on important COVID-19 learnings. Discussions on COVID-19 learnings varied greatly in 2020 depending at what point of the year they took place and with the positioning of the Winter Meeting at the end of 2020, there were pandemic insights presented that had been formed and shaped over the course of the year. The panel of ophthalmologists ranged from different working environments, including those in public and private practice, or both and those in training. A group discussion followed, with audience participation via the webinar chat facility.

The **Annual Montgomery Lecture**, entitled 'Adjusting to COVID-19 in 2020 and Beyond - Development in Home Monitoring including Fluid Quantification in AMD' took place online immediately after the ICO Winter Meeting. The 2020 Lecture was presented by Prof. Anat Loewenstein, MD, Professor of Ophthalmology, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Sidney Fox Chair of Ophthalmology at the Sackler Faculty of Medicine at the Tel Aviv University, and the Chairman of the Division of Ophthalmology at the Tel Aviv Medical Center.

Prof. Loewenstein's has been an instrumental leader behind the development of novel technology for early detection of macular degeneration, as well as recently, home Ocular Coherence Tomography (OCT) and the development of automated technology for detection of retinal disease activity and the development of augmented virtual reality to replace the operating microscope.

Online Learning Resource Pages

The College utilised the ICO Members Portal to create a resource centre for CPD in 2020, a one-stop location for guidance and support for our members.

A number of resource pages were developed, many in response to the pandemic, to provide additional supports to doctors:

COVID-19

The COVID-19 learning resource page was created to support our members and provide helpful information on the latest clinical guidance on how to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. These included official guidelines from the Health Service Executive and Department of Health, guidelines for ophthalmologists from National Clinical Units and International Ophthalmological Societies, journal articles, tutorial videos and webinars.

Doctors Health & Wellbeing

This online learning page provides resources on how to build resilience and how to engage in extra self-care while demands on time and efforts are at an all-time high.

Communications Skills - The Clinical Consultation Remote & Telemedicine

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many doctors were carrying out telephone and remote clinical consultations, which required the use of particular communication skills. This resource page, informed by the HSE National Healthcare Communications Programme, outlines the Calgary-Cambridge Guide, a five-stage consultation model to help healthcare staff provide a structured and patient-centred approach.

GDPR and Clinical Practice

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into effect across the EU on 25 May 2018. The College received regular queries from members on GDPR. This resource page was created to provide clarity around GDPR in a clinical setting and links to official guidance documents from the Data Protection Commissioner and the HSE.

Open Disclosure

At a time when the health service is under particular strain, the creation of a resource page for Open Disclosure was extremely important. The online page outlines the tools to assist staff in preparing for and engaging in open disclosure conversations with patients and their families / carers. The tools and advice are informed by the HSE Open Disclosure Policy and National QI Team Guidance.

Professional Conduct and Ethics

This resource page steps through the main recommendations of the Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners in Ireland. The aim of the module is to give doctors principles-based guidance to help them navigate the various scenarios they will likely experience in their workplace.

Online Journal Club

To further support members with online learning opportunities, the first round of the ICO Online Journal Club took place in 2020. Five journal articles of particular relevance were chosen by College faculty and committee members for the first round. Members were invited to recommend journal articles of particular interest for future rounds. A template was developed by the ICO so that participants can record the details of the activity and upload it to their PCS online accounts.

Ophthalmology Meetings and Lecture Recordings

A selection of lecture and meeting recordings and presentations from national and international ophthalmology institutes are available to view online through the ICO membership portal. New content is added regularly to our portal throughout the year.

3. ICO PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE SCHEME (PCS)

The Medical Practitioners Act 2007 places a statutory obligation on all registered Medical Practitioners to maintain their professional competence by participating in recognised Professional Competence Schemes. The Irish College of Ophthalmologists facilitates a Professional Competence Scheme for medical and surgical eye specialists, in accordance with Irish Medical Council guidelines, to provide participants with a way of formally documenting their participation in professional development activities.

The Scheme is designed to promote self-directed and practice-based learning activities rather than supervised training. As well as promoting personal professional development, the Scheme aims to maintain and develop the competencies, e.g. professionalism, knowledge skills and attitudes of the individual practitioner, which are essential for meeting the changing needs of patients and the healthcare delivery system. The Scheme will also encourage participants to plan, record and reflect on professional development needs as part of their pursuit for lifelong learning.

CPD in 2020 – COVID-19 Impact

Communication between the ICO and the Irish Medical Council (IMC) on how the COVID-19 pandemic was impacting doctors' ability to participate in the Professional Competence Scheme (PCS) during 2020 was ongoing throughout the year.

The ICO PCS Action Plan 2020/21 was completed based on the IMC themes around improving compliance and was submitted to the IMC in January 2020.

Compliance data for the 2019/20 PCS year was prepared and submitted to the IMC in May 2020.

The ICO disseminated updates to members from the IMC on changes to the PCS requirements due to the pandemic, throughout 2020.

Advice and Support to Members

Pandemic Support: The ICO developed a dedicated Professional Competence page on the Member's Portal to highlight important information and resources. Resource pages were added to support doctors during the pandemic, including COVID-19 learning modules, Doctor's Wellbeing and Communications Skills for Remote Consultations.

How to find and choose learning opportunities: Further information and updates were made to the ICO Guide to PCS, the PCS page on the ICO website, and a tip sheet to help doctors find and choose learning activities. **How to make recording points easier:** The ICO developed templates for recording Internal, Personal Learning and Research/Training points.

Running of ICO Continuing Professional Development Support Scheme (CPD-SS) programme 2020 for NCHDs

The HSE provides the Continuing Professional Development - Support Scheme (CPD-SS) for Non-Consultant Hospital Doctors (NCHDs), working in the public health service, who are not on a formal training programme or who are not on the specialist register. The aim of the scheme is to help doctors continue to maintain and enhance their clinical knowledge and skills and to maintain their professional competence in line with Medical Council requirements.

The scheme only provides for educational/training activities undertaken in any of the Irish Training Bodies.

ICO CPD SS 2020

There was ongoing communication and support offered to doctors on the ICO CPD-SS, along with the creation of learning opportunities from the College. Throughout 2020, CPD-SS doctors were informed of various learning opportunities through the ICO Member's Portal. Participation in the programme was tracked and the recording process was completed for the National Doctor's Training Programme (NDTP).

Recognition of CPD for External Meetings and Promotion on eyedoctors.ie

The College continued to review applications from external event organisers for CPD recognition. CPD advice and certificates were issued after point allocations were agreed by the CPD Committee. All CPD recognised events were promoted on the College website www.eyedoctors.ie dedicated events page.

Participation in Forum PCS Subcommittee

There was attendance by ICO representatives at all Forum PCS Subcommittee meetings at which the main focus of discussion and action were the requirements and supports during the pandemic and the recommendations arising from the working group meetings on a new framework for PCS.

4. ADVOCACY

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists represents the profession of ophthalmology in Ireland. The College advocates for excellence of practice and sets the highest possible standards for postgraduate education and patient care for the preservation of vision and the restoration of sight.

We are focused on nurturing key external relationships, influencing and supporting policy decisions, which are based on best patient outcome and the highest standards of patient safety.

We provide and inform, educate and encourage positive health behaviours for the preservation of sight in our population.

Our activities aim to engage our target audiences in order to achieve positive outcomes, impart learning and address barriers to equitable access to eye health care.

HSE Living Well Programme

The HSE launched their new Living Well programme in September 2020, a free, evidence based, selfmanagement programme for adults with long-term health conditions.

The ICO was delighted to partner and support a dedicated programme for eye patients and invited Caroline Peppard, Self-Management Support Coordinator for Long Term Health Conditions, to give an overview of the Living Well Programme to attendees at a virtual meeting for the Integrated Eye Care Team hosted by the ICO on November 19, 2020.

COVID-19 has placed additional challenges and complexities around care for many patients living with a chronic illness. The ICO recognise the significant support programmes such as Living Well are providing to patients, their carers and families at this time.

Self-management aims to empower patients to manage their long-term health condition, and provide information and guidance on ways to improve their health and wellbeing through modifiable factors.

It may also include more complex tasks such as taking medication, monitoring of symptoms, coping with the emotional aspects of the condition and communicating with healthcare professionals.

As an official member of the Healthy Ireland Network, the ICO is committed to supporting this Government led initiative to increase the health and wellbeing of our population and as an essential element of the Sláintecare strategy. We are mindful that every effort to support and increase awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle is beneficial to us all.

Eye Health Awareness

Education of the public on eye health and empowerment of patients is a priority for the ICO.

The eye is not an isolated unit and has complicated relationships with numerous other bodily systems and function, including that of the brain and nervous system. Many eye diseases are associated with general medical conditions and many general systemic conditions affect eye health.

Often when an eye problem presents, it can be an indicator of another underlying medical condition.

The ICO is committed to providing information and guidance to the public about eye diseases and treatments, eye health news and advice for a lifetime of good eye health.

We endeavor through our communication to encourage people to take positive steps to protect their sight, an action aimed at ultimately improving the nation's eye health and contributing towards a reduction in avoidable sight loss.

ICO website – www.eyedoctors.ie

The ICO website www.eyedoctors.ie is an important resource for the public to access trusted and reliable eye health information. A dedicated 'Patient Support' section houses patient information leaflets, support group contacts, 'Looking after Your Eye Health' advice, refractive (laser) surgery guidelines and national screening programme information (Diabetic RetinaScreen and children's vision screening).

The website hosts a directory of ICO members, facilitating the public or patients to browse the directory for an eye doctor by name, location and area of subspecialty. The directory is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure all members of the ICO are included.

ICO position papers, statements, press releases and reports are published on the website under the News and Health Policy sections.

Patient Information Leaflets

A series of patient information leaflets developed by the Irish College of Ophthalmologists are available for the public and patients to download on the ICO website. The leaflets cover a range of ophthalmic procedures aimed at providing patients with clear and accessible information in advance of a proposed ophthalmic procedure. The content outlines the nature, purpose, risks and benefits of a proposed intervention for the following: cataract, wet age-related Macular degeneration (AMD), diabetic macular oedema, retinal vein occlusion, strabismus and glaucoma. In order to ensure the information is accessible to all, the documents have been produced in audio and clear print format, in collaboration with the NCBI, Ireland's National Sight Loss Agency.

In light of the added challenges in medical consultations as a result of COVID-19 health and safety measures, including the use of PPE and reduced clinic capacity, the ICO highlighted the helpful communication support the leaflets may provide to patients at this time and signposted the leaflets on our ICO webpage for patients.

Eye Health Awareness Campaigns

The ICO is involved in a number of national eye health awareness campaigns throughout the calendar year with patient advocacy and support groups, including AMD Awareness Week, Glaucoma Awareness Week and World Sight Day.

The aim is to encourage the public to remember eye health as part of their overall good health & well-being management, particularly as people age and for those in the higher risk categories.

6/6/2020

The calendar date 6/6/2020 was of considerable significance to the specialty of ophthalmology in 2020 and the College used the occasion to raise the profile of eye care on the health agenda.

The date was marked with an appeal by the ICO to the Minister for Health to prioritise the continued roll out of the Integrated Eye Care Team model, in line Sláintecare objectives, and the key recommendations contained in the national policy approved Model of Eye Care.

The term "6/6 or 20/20 vision" is familiar to many as the measurement that describes a standard of best vision or eyesight.

The year 2020 also marked the target goal date set by the World Health Organisation (WHO) global initiative "VISION 2020", launched in 1999, to achieve their overarching objective to eliminate avoidable blindness. The Irish Government pledged their commitment to the objectives of Vision 2020 in 2003.

Highlighting a need for investment in sustainable eye care services, Dr. Patricia Quinlan, President of the ICO, called for the utilisation of all resources and expertise available to ensure cases of preventable blindness are avoided.

The ICO reminded the public and patients of the importance of continuing to look after and prioritise their eye health as the country navigates the ongoing impact of the pandemic and to attend appointments as directed by their eye health care professional.

AMD Awareness Week

September marks Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) Awareness Week in Ireland each year but unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the campaign in 2020 in its normal format was impacted. For the past 10 years the College has partnered with NCBI, Fighting Blindness, the Association of Optometrists and Novartis to place a spotlight on AMD, which is the leading cause of sight loss in Ireland, affecting 1 in 10 people over 50.

While we could not undertake the usual public outreach and engagement programme this week would entail in 2020, throughout September the ICO placed AMD information on our website and communicated key messages through our social media channels. The activity aimed to signpost AMD educational content and videos to help inform and encourage awareness of the condition and the proactive steps people can take to look after their eye health.

World Sight Day – Eye Health in the time of COVID

World Sight Day (WSD) is an annual day of awareness held on the second Thursday of October, to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment and to advocate for eye health preservation. WSD is coordinated by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB).

World Sight Day 2020 fell on October 8, 2020.

The ICO used the WSD platform to urge patients not to put their eye health at risk by ignoring any worrying changes to their vision or postponing appointments with their eye care specialist due to COVID-19 concerns.

A press release highlighted findings from the ICO membership consultation survey, which showed that over a third (38%) of eye doctors said they had had experienced a higher than usual volume of Did Not Attend (DNA) in their outpatient clinics during the phased resumption of services stage.

Decrease in GP Referrals

Over two-fifths (44%) surveyed also reported a noticeable decrease in the number of GP referrals from normal levels indicating that patients may not be seeking medical advice about eye concerns during the pandemic health emergency.



Impact on Clinic Capacity and Day-to-Day Operations

One of the key questions asked in the survey was the impact on capacity in outpatients and theatre, and on average, the percentage by which capacity reduced by during the phased resumption of services period (June to September)







A primary message from the ICO was to reassure the public and eye care patients that whilst the process may be adjusted now due to COVID-19 measures, patients' safety continues to be a priority and all hospitals and healthcare professionals are taking the necessary precautions as outlined by the HSE.

The ICO also highlighted in the World Sight day 2020 communication that more than two-thirds (68%) of respondents in the survey agreed there had been positive changes and new ways of working in their

practice implemented during the pandemic that they would like to see continued. These measures included enhanced triage systems and improved patient appointment structures, along with an increase in virtual clinics and telemedicine use.

The survey provided feedback that a third (33%) of ICO members said they are using telemedicine regularly for suitable consultations, of which 63% agreed it has been of significant benefit during COVID emergency measures.



President of the ICO, Dr Patricia Quinlan used the ophthalmology calendar date to stress the importance of a sustainable and cost effective eye care model, accessible to all patients, especially at this time as the healthcare service deals with further impacted waiting lists.

The ICO and Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology confirmed our support for the continued roll out of the Integrated Eye Care Team model, in line with Sláintecare objectives, and the key recommendations contained in the national policy approved Model of Eye Care in our WSD communication.

Eye Health During COVID-19 – Key messages from Eye Doctors on World Sight Day 2020

- Please keep and attend your eye appointments in the knowledge that the clinic has taken all necessary health & safety measures to provide a safe environment for examination or treatment. The ongoing review of your eye health and treatment plan is vital to protect your vision.
- If you are over 50 or have a family history of eye disease, regular eye checks are very important. Early detection and treatment will help prevent long-term loss of visual acuity.

Lifestyle can have a big impact on your eye health. Eating a diet rich in antioxidant foods can help protect your eyes as you age, as can taking regular exercise to control your blood pressure, and not smoking.

ICO Newsletter

The ICO newsletter provides updates to our membership and stakeholders on news and developments taking place in the specialty and is an important means to capture our key activities, including our advocacy outreach

It is circulated directly to our members by post and available electronically on our website for all stakeholders and public to access. It is emailed separately to a list of key external stakeholders and policy decision makers to promote greater understanding of the role and function of the College in line with our charitable purpose, advancing eye health in Ireland.

Social Media @eyedoctorsirl

The ICO is actively engaged on social media with key health care partners, patient advocacy groups and decision makers for eye health promotion and public awareness.

All platforms continue to be an important means of communicating the ICO's commitment to our advocacy role for doctors and patients.

5. CLINICAL PROGRAMME

The National Clinical Programmes, which were jointly convened by the HSE and the Post Graduate Training Bodies, have provided a foundation of valuable learning of the need to maintain and enhance clinical leadership and develop clinical pathways that are truly patientcentred. The programmes' success is due to the close collaboration between the HSE and the medical Colleges, and working in partnership with other stakeholders.

The HSE describes the programmes on its website as:

"one of the most significant, positive developments in the Irish health service. They have changed, and continue to change, how care is delivered using evidence-based approaches to system reform."

The National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology has worked extensively with the HSE and with the Department of Health to develop a plan to expand services and is now supporting the implementation of the new Integrated Eye Care Teams (IECT) which will extend the delivery of specialist ophthalmic care in the non acute setting.

The ICO supports the role out of the integrated eye care team model in line with government Sláintecare policy for increased patient care in the community, with clear referral pathways to acute hospital care.

Priorities for the IECT include the management of children referred from the screening programme, collaborating with screeners to improve the accuracy of the referrals and managing adult patients with a focus on medical retina, glaucoma and the delivery of pre & post op cataract care. The teams will provide ongoing care for patients diagnosed in the community or ongoing care for patients transferred from the acute hospital.

Integrated Eye Care Team Meeting 2020

Following the success of the inaugural Integrated Eye Care Team (IECT) meeting in autumn 2019, the ICO in collaboration with the Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology and HSE hosted its second IECT meeting via webinar on November 19, 2020.

The online meeting provided an opportunity for the team to hear from clinicians and managers in CHO 6, 7 and 9 on the progress the integrated eye care teams are making in addressing waiting lists.

Prof. William Power, National Clinical Lead for Ophthalmology and Consultant Ophthalmologist, Royal Victoria Eye & Ear Hospital, Dublin, gave an overview of the Clinical Programme developments during the twelve months preceding.

Despite the challenges of the past year, significant progress has been achieved in the specialty. Three Consultant Medical Ophthalmologists posts in three CHO's were appointed in 2020, with active applications for posts in other CHO areas underway; in addition to the ongoing recruitment of the extended eye care team members nationally. A Sláintecare temporary post was also filled.

The IECT consists of a consultant medical ophthalmologist, orthoptist, optometrist, nurse and administration support staff.

The active work by the new integrated eye care teams in place in the Dublin CHO's are demonstrating excellent results, in addition to the significantly improved surgical waiting times for patients achieved (pre COVID lockdown) with the opening of dedicated cataract theatres in the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and in Nenagh in the past two to three years.

Plans for dedicated ophthalmology and cataract units are underway in the Mater Hospital and in Cork.

The longer-term solution to managing ophthalmology waiting lists is the continued reconfiguration of services to include the integrated team.

6. BURSARY PROGRAMME 2020

ICO / Novartis Eye Research Bursary

Dr. Emily Greenan, PhD and Clinical Tutor in Ophthalmology at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and Dr. Aisling Naylor, Research Fellow at Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, were named joint recipients of the ICO/Novartis Eye Research Bursary 2019/2020.

The annual ICO/Novartis Eye Research Bursary is an unrestricted educational grant awarded to a doctor who wishes to undertake a research project.

Dr. Greenan's project is aimed at establishing a two and three-dimensional model of inflammatory dry eye disease to test novel therapeutics using primary human conjunctival epithelial cells. Dr. Greenan was the recipient of the Bursary in 2018 for her research in the area of targeting ocular inflammation in dry eye disease with novel microRNA-based therapeutics.

The research is being carried out between the facilities at the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, under the supervision of Prof. Conor Murphy, Professor of Ophthalmology, RVEEH and Dr. Joan Ní Gabhann-Dromgoole, Lecturer in Ophthalmology and Immunology, RCSI.

The project forms the basis of Dr. Greenan's PhD thesis to demonstrate that modulation of the microRNA profile can reduce pro-inflammatory cytokines and restore homeostasis to the ocular surface in a variety of dry eye disease disorders beyond primary Sjogren's syndrome, which has been the focus of the research to date.

The focus is to address the unmet needs in dry eye disease, and specifically to identify novel biomarkers and develop diagnostics.

Joint recipient, Dr. Aisling Naylor, is undertaking the Irish Retinal Circadian Project entitled "Circadian regulation of the retinal vasculature: A paradigm for geographic atrophy development". The study is investigating Dry Age-related Macular Degeneration, one of the leading causes of vision loss in Ireland.

Dr. Naylor's research is being carried out between the facilities of the Neurovascular Genetics Laboratory, Smurfit Institute, Trinity College Dublin, the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and Progressive Vision in Beacon Court, under the supervision of Mr. Mark Cahill, Consultant Vitreoretinal Surgeon, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital.

Dr. Naylor will be central to the continuation of an ongoing clinical research project which has identified that the inner blood retina barrier (iBRB) is highly dynamic and may play an early role in AMD pathobiology. Specifically related to Dr. Naylor's project is the goal to now assess circadian iBRB regulation in patients with dry age-related macular denegation (AMD) and agematched controls.

In gaining an understanding of circadian regulation of the iBRB in a clinical setting in human subjects, the goal is to make profound conclusions on its role in AMD pathophysiology, aiding the understanding of GA pathophysiology and potentially, in the future, development of therapeutic strategies to treat the condition.

ICO / Bayer Clinical Fellowship

Dr. Emily Hughes was awarded the ICO/Bayer Clinical Fellowship in Ophthalmology 2020, marking the fifth consecutive year of support from Bayer for this annual bursary.

Dr. Hughes began her one-year clinical fellowship in glaucoma from September 2020 at the Department of Ophthalmology in the School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh (UPMC), USA, which involves comprehensive training in glaucoma surgery in order to prepare for a future career in this subspecialty.

Dr. Hughes was awarded her Certificate for the Completion of Specialist Training (CCST) in 2020 having completed Higher Surgical Training in Ophthalmology with the Irish College of Ophthalmologists.

The opportunity at the Department of Ophthalmology at UPMC offers a competitive and rigorous fellowship in glaucoma. The UPMC medical school is currently ranked 14th in the USA for research output and this extends to the ophthalmology department.

Treatment of glaucoma has seen significant development in the last two decades and beyond. This includes 'MIGS' (minimally invasive glaucoma surgery), as well as the more well-established techniques of trabeculectomy and tube shunts. UPMC is the largest health care provider in Western Pennsylvania. The glaucoma department has an excellent reputation for trialing novel glaucoma treatments.

The ICO acknowledge the tremendous benefit this clinical fellowship bursary has to our ophthalmic specialists training experience and in turn to the Irish health service, and thank Bayer for their continued support.

Financial Overview 2020

AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR 2020

The 2020 Accounts of the ICO have been audited and the report, which will be published separately, has been circulated to all members.

The surplus for the year after providing for depreciation and accounting for increase in fair value of investments amounts to **€25,102 (2019 - €107,836)**.

At the end of the year, the College has assets of €1,552,406 (2019 - €1,601,573) and liabilities of €109,878 (2019 - €184,147). The net assets of the College have increased by €25,102.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Due to the Global pandemic the Year 2020 was a difficult year for the College and the next twelve months are uncertain as the world copes with Covid 19 and the global vaccination programme. This places many pressures on the organisation such as financial and governance risk. While funding is agreed for 2021, no such assurances are in place for the period beyond 2021. This poses a material risk for the organisation.

To comply fully with the public health recommendations in relation to "lockdown" and social distancing, the organisation will continue to allow employees to work from home and provide as many online courses as possible to endeavour to maintain the scheduled educational programme.

The directors will continue to monitor all public and governance updates to ensure that all information is available to make the best decisions for the organisation and its stakeholders. On the basis of the above the directors are satisfied the College can continue as a going concern.

Directors

As part of the corporate governance structures to ensure full compliance with the Charities Governance Code and the transition to SORP, the previous College Council members have been appointed as Directors. All Board members are volunteers and receive no pay or benefit from their position.

Income

The income for 2020 was \in 468,841 (2019 \in 606,086). The pandemic restrictions and the resulting cancellation of events, had a significant impact on income. Expenses and costs of \in 460,835 were a decrease on the previous year (2019 \in 498,250).

ICO Income Statement Summary

From: 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020

Income	2020	2019
	€468,841	€606,086
Expenses & Costs	2020	2019
	€460,835	€498,250
Operating Surplus	2020	2019
	€8,006	€107,836

ICO Balance Sheet Summary

Assets	2020	2019
	€1,552,406	€1,601,573
Liabilities	2020	2019
	€109,878	€184,147
Net Assets	2020	2019
	€1,442,528	€1,417,426

Including depreciation & increase in investment value, the net assets of the College have increased by **€25,102**

Reference and Administrative Details

Name:	Irish College of Ophthalmologists
Registered Office:	121, St Stephen's Green
Registration Numbers:	
Company Registration number	CRO 151473
Registered Charity Number	20028039
Revenue Charity Number	CHY10781
Tax Reference Number	IE6548873V
Auditor:	UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited
	Unit 4A
	Fingal Bay Business Park
	Balbriggan
	Co. Dublin
Business address:	121 St Stephens Green
	Dublin 2
	Ireland
Bankers:	Bank of Ireland
	39 St. Stephens Green East
	Dublin 2
	Ireland
Solicitors:	Arthur Cox
Solicitors:	
	10 Earlsfort Terrace
	Dublin 2



Irish College of Ophthalmologists 121 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Tel: 01 402 2777 e: info@eyedoctors.ie • w: www.eyedoctors.ie E: @eyedoctorsirl