



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



Eye Care in Focus

CONFERENCE 2025

*Clinical Education Conference for the
Extended Eye Care Team*

**Wednesday, October 1, 2025
The Gibson Hotel, Dublin**

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#EyeCareInFocus25

SPONSORS



PROGRAMME

8.00am Check In and Refreshments

8.30am Welcome Address

MR GERRY FAHY

President, Irish College of Ophthalmologists

8.35am CLINICAL SESSION: MYOPIA

Professor Ian Flitcroft, Ophthalmologist and a leading authority on the aetiology and management of Myopia, will discuss the latest clinical and scientific updates alongside Dr Michael Moore, School of Physics and Clinical and Optometric Sciences, Technological University Dublin.

DISCUSSION:

Low Dose Atropine - approved by the European Medicines Agency - now what?

PROFESSOR IAN FLITCROFT

Ophthalmologist, Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Temple Street, Dublin

Care Pathway for Myopia Control in the Community

DR MICHAEL MOORE

Lecturer, School of Physics, Clinical and Optometric Sciences, Technological University Dublin

What Myopia Cases should be Referred for Hospital-based Care

PROFESSOR IAN FLITCROFT and

DR MICHAEL MOORE

Q & A

10.00am Language Barriers in Eye Care

DR EMILY GREENAN

Surgical Trainee, Irish College of Ophthalmologists; PhD in Ocular Immunology, RCSI

In her talk, Dr Emily Greenan will explore the impact of language and communication barriers in ophthalmology, the role of professional and ad hoc interpreters, and how these factors shape patient care, safety, and equitable access to services.

Q&A

10.30am Refreshments

11.00am UPDATE ON THE NATIONAL CLINICAL PROGRAMME IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

Training, Recruitment and Retention of Orthoptists in the Irish Health Care Services and the Way Forward

SARAH SPAIN

Senior Orthoptist, Roscommon Primary Care Centre; Health & Social Care Professions (HSCP) Lead for the National Clinical Programme in Ophthalmology.

Cataract Referral via Healthlink

MS AOIFE DOYLE

Ophthalmologist, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and St James's Hospital, Dublin
National Clinical Lead for Ophthalmology

HSE HSCP Deliver – How we are Doing and What is Next?

DEIRDRE KENNY

HSCP Assistant National Lead, National Health & Social Care Professions Office

Q&A

12.00pm WHY WRITE A BOOK ABOUT EYE HEALTHCARE

Mr Patrick Condon, pioneering Irish Cataract and Refractive Surgeon, will reflect on the changing landscape of ophthalmology and major advances

PROGRAMME

in the specialty over the past 90 years. Mr Condon recently launched his book 'Eye Healthcare - A 90 Year History of Progress' charting the training and careers of Irish ophthalmic surgeons from the 1930's to the present day.

Patrick was a forerunner in bringing the phacoemulsification technique to Ireland in the 1980s. His father, Mr Richard Condon, a contemporary of Sir Harold Ridley - the inventor of the Intraocular Lens (IOL) and a pioneer of its use in cataract surgery - performed Ireland's first IOL implantation in a patient in 1959.

12.10pm EYES ON TOMORROW PODCAST

Eyes on Tomorrow podcast hosts Mr John Ferris, Ophthalmologist, and Dermot Keogh, Optometrist will chat to Mr Patrick Condon about his influential career and his insights on how ophthalmic healthcare is organised and delivered for an episode recording.

We look forward to an engaging conversation, plenty of audience participation and lively discussion throughout the podcast!

Q&A

1.00pm Lunch

2.00pm EXPANDING THE ROLE OF THE MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM

Panel discussion which will highlight examples of team delivered care and the opportunities for further development.

Broadening the Field- Expanding Roles in Modern Glaucoma Care

MISS ANGELA KNOX

Ophthalmologist, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

Advancing the Orthoptic Role Within the Multi-Disciplinary Team

KENDAL HINDS

Senior Orthoptist, Community Eye Clinic, Grangegorman Primary Care Centre, Dublin

Transforming Ophthalmic Services Together: The Role of the Advanced Nurse Practitioner as part of the Multidisciplinary Team

MARY O'MAHONY

Advanced Nurse Practitioner, South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital, Cork

The Role of the Optometrist in the MDT

OLIVIA BURKE

Clinical Optometrist, Community Healthcare West, HSE CH02

3.30pm CASE BASED DISCUSSION

DR KAREN CURTIN

Ophthalmologist, South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital and Ballincollig Primary Care Centre, Cork.

Dr Curtin will present on a range of real life patient cases and discuss the best treatment and management option, with audience participation encouraged

4.00pm Meeting Close

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Professor Ian Flitcroft

Professor Ian Flitcroft

Ophthalmologist, Children's Health Ireland, Temple Street Dublin.

Mr Ian Flitcroft is a Consultant Ophthalmologist at CHI Temple Street, Dublin, Adjunct Professor of Vision Science at TU Dublin and Principal Investigator at Centre for Eye Research Ireland (CERI).

As a Founder of Ocumetra, a pioneering digital health company revolutionising how we talk about and manage myopia, Ian combines a lifelong passion for eye health with cutting-edge technology to shape the future of vision care. His work as a Consultant Ophthalmologist and Vision Scientist reflects his deep belief in the power of innovative science and personalised care to change lives.

With over 25 years of experience, he has dedicated his career to advancing paediatric vision health and tackling myopia. From pioneering clinical trials to advocating for global public health solutions, Ian is committed to improving outcomes for children and their families.

As a clinician-scientist, he has collaborated with world-renowned institutions working on pharmacological and device-based interventions for myopia control. He has chaired key committees for the International Myopia Institute and contributed to the European Society of Ophthalmology's Myopia Treatment Algorithm, shaping global standards and policy frameworks that prioritise eye health.

An Oxford-educated ophthalmologist, Prof Flitcroft holds a D.Phil. in visual neurophysiology and was recognised as a "Top Global Myopia Influencer" in 2021.

His talk at the Eye Care in Focus Conference will discuss the advancement of myopia care, exploring innovative approaches to vision science, and how we can harness technology to improve outcomes.



Dr Michael Moore

Dr Michael Moore

Lecturer, School of Physics, Clinical and Optometric Sciences, Technological University Dublin

Dr Michael Moore is a lecturer, researcher and clinical supervisor in the School of Physics, Clinical and Optometric Sciences in Technological University Dublin. Michael is also part of the research team in the Centre for Eye Research Ireland (CERI) where his main research interests are refractive error, myopia and myopia control.

As a clinician, Michael specialises in complex contact lenses and sees patients in the National Optometry Centre. Michael is also involved in optometric regulation having sat for five years on CORU's preliminary proceedings committee as part of the fitness to practice process and currently sits as an elected member of the Optical Registration Board.



Dr Emily Greenan

Surgical Trainee, Irish College of Ophthalmologists

Dr Emily Greenan is a surgical trainee with the Irish College of Ophthalmologists and recently completed her PhD with the Ocular Immunology Research Group at RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences. Her doctoral research focused on ocular surface inflammation in autoimmune conditions such as Graft-versus-Host Disease and Sjögren's Syndrome, with particular emphasis on microRNA profiling and the impact of these diseases on patient-reported outcomes and quality of life.

Alongside her research in ocular immunology, Emily has a strong interest in equity of access to eye care and public and patient involvement in research. Most recently, her work has expanded to explore the role of communication in equitable care delivery.



Sarah Spain

Senior Orthoptist, Roscommon Primary Care Centre; Health & Social Care Professions (HSCP) Lead for the National Clinical Programme in Ophthalmology.

Sarah Spain is the Health & Social Care Professions Lead for the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology. She is currently working as a Senior Orthoptist in Roscommon.

Sarah graduated from The University of Liverpool in 2013.

She completed a Professional Certificate in Glaucoma from Aston University, Birmingham in 2016. She was appointed the Acute Services Lead for the Orthoptic Department in Bradford Royal Infirmary in 2018. She worked in specialist roles in glaucoma monitoring clinics, low visual aid clinics, and set-up and led the stroke-vision service whilst working at Bradford Royal Infirmary.

Sarah completed her Master's degree (MMedSci) in Vision Science and Strabismus from The University of Sheffield in 2021.



Ms Aoife Doyle

Ms Aoife Doyle

Ophthalmologist, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and St James's Hospital, Dublin; National Clinical Lead for Ophthalmology.

Ms Aoife Doyle graduated from UCD in 1994 and obtained her Masters of Medical Science (Physiology) in 1996. She underwent Fellowship training at The Glaucoma Institute, Foundation Hospital St Joseph, Paris between 2004 and 2005. She has held the position of Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon at Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and St. James's Hospital since 2005. She is a Glaucoma Specialist at RVEEH specialising in all forms of glaucoma laser and surgery.

She has developed the glaucoma service at RVEEH to include involvement of nursing and other health care professionals in conjunction with the medical and surgical teams at RVEEH and with the consultant ophthalmologists in the integrated eye care teams, to deliver a comprehensive and accessible glaucoma service for the Dublin South East and Midland regions.

She was Medical Director at RVEEH from 2011-2014 and is currently the National Clinical Lead for Ophthalmology.



Deirdre Kenny

Deirdre Kenny

HSCP Assistant National Lead, National Health & Social Care Professions Office.

Deirdre Kenny works in the HSE National Health and Social Care Professions Office as HSCP Assistant National Lead.

She qualified from Trinity College Dublin as a Speech and Language Therapist and worked as a Speech and Language Therapist Manager for over 25 years before taking up a role in the National HSCP Office. She sat on the committee of the Irish Association of Speech and Language Therapists in a number of roles, including a term as Chairperson.

She has completed a Masters in Health Services Management in TCD and a leadership programme with HSE Leadership Academy.

Deirdre is passionate about championing the value HSCP brings to service delivery and the impact they have on the lives of service users.



Mr Patrick Condon

Mr Patrick Condon

Mr Patrick Condon studied medicine at the National University of Ireland, Dublin and completed his residency ophthalmic training at the Royal Eye/St Thomas Hospitals in London.

He returned to Ireland and was appointed Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon at University Hospital Waterford.

During his long career, Patrick has acquired Fellowships from the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of Ireland, England and Scotland, a Mastership in Surgery (National University of Ireland), is currently a life fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine (London), an emeritus member of the International Intraocular Implant Club, and is an active member of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland and the Irish College of Ophthalmologists.

Major awards received: Montgomery Lecture University College Dublin 1998, ESCRS Grand Order of Merit Medal 1999, Choyce Medal Lecture UKISCRS 2003, Ridley Medal Lecture ESCRS 2005, ASCRS Honoured Guest Education Award 2009, Lifetime Achievement Award Lecture UKISCRS, 2018.



Mr John Ferris

Consultant Ophthalmologist, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Trust

Mr John Ferris is a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon with specialist interest in paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus at Gloucestershire Eye Unit, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Trust.

He carried out his ophthalmology training at the Western Eye Hospital London, Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, Great Ormond Street Hospital London and Moorfields Eye Hospital London.

He is the Head of Ophthalmology Training in the Severn Deanery and a member of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists Training Committee since 2010.

He is involved in promoting safer surgical training using simulation and broader ophthalmic education via the Eyes on Tomorrow podcast.



Dermot Keogh

Specialist Optometrist and Managing Director of the Keith Holland Clinic, Cheltenham

Dermot Keogh is a Specialist Optometrist and Managing Director of the Keith Holland Clinic, with over 30 years of experience in both NHS hospitals and private practice across Gloucestershire.

While skilled in all areas of eyecare, Dermot has a particular interest in treating dry and uncomfortable eyes. He leads the clinic's Dry Eye Service, which combines state-of-the-art diagnostic technology with personalised treatment plans designed to relieve symptoms and improve quality of life.

Since acquiring the practice in 2016, Dermot has built a team of eye care professionals who share his commitment to excellence and patient-centred care. He remains at the forefront of his field by attending global conferences and co-hosts a monthly podcast Eyes on Tomorrow with Ophthalmologist John Ferris, where he interviews influential figures shaping the future of eyecare.



Miss Angela Knox

Ophthalmologist, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

Miss Angela Knox is a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon in the Belfast Trust. She graduated from Queens University in 1997, underwent ophthalmology training in Royal Victoria Hospital and undertook a glaucoma fellowship period in the Mater Hospital Dublin.

She has worked to establish new models of glaucoma care within the Belfast Trust and is the Clinical Lead for Glaucoma Services.



Kendal Hinds

Senior Orthoptist, Community Eye Clinic, Grangegorman Primary Care Centre

Ms Kendal Hinds qualified from Glasgow Caledonian University and is currently working as Senior Orthoptist in CHO9 Grangegorman Primary Care Centre and Mater Hospital. She specialises in paediatric orthoptics, glaucoma and student/new graduate training.



Mary O'Mahony

Advanced Nurse Practitioner, South Infirmar Victoria University Hospital, Cork

Mary O'Mahony is a Registered Advanced Nurse Practitioner and works in the ophthalmology department of the South Infirmar Victoria University Hospital, Cork.

Mary trained as a general nurse in the Mater hospital, Dublin and undertook ophthalmic nurse training in Moorfields eye hospital, London in 1996.

Mary has a keen interest in education and the promotion of Ophthalmic nursing as a career pathway. She has completed an MSc in Advanced Practice Nursing and is a Registered Nurse Prescriber.



Olivia Burke

Clinical Optometrist, HSE Community Healthcare West, CHO2

Olivia Burke qualified as an Optometrist from Dublin Institute of Technology, Kevin St in 2000.

She moved to Manchester in the UK where she gained clinical experience working as an optometrist in a range of clinical settings including high street practice, diabetic retinopathy screening and grading and cataract pre and post op assessment. She also opened and ran her own optometry practice based just outside Liverpool. She supervised the clinical placement of pre-reg Optometrists and dispensing Opticians.

Olivia returned to Ireland in 2014 and completed the Professional Certificate in Medical Retina, awarded by the University of Ulster. She locumed in private practice before she started working in Roscommon Primary Care Centre in 2022 alongside Dr Mairide McGuire and Senior Orthoptist, Sarah Spain, mainly involved in rolling out the paediatric eyecare pathway.

In July 2023, she transferred to Castlebar Primary Care Centre. Initially her role was primarily in the rollout of the paediatric eyecare pathway. In the last 12 months she has been involved in setting up pre and post op cataract clinics. Earlier this year she completed the theoretical component of the Higher Certificate in Medical Retina 2 through Moorfields Eye Hospital, London. She is currently in the process of setting up an optometrist led medical retina clinic.

Olivia is a member of Optometry Ireland, CORU and sits on a HSCP regional forum which has been tasked with ensuring that HSCP's have influence and input into regional clinical service design, planning, provision and review.



Dr Karen Curtin

Dr Karen Curtin

Ophthalmologist, South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital and Ballincollig Primary Care Centre, Centre

Dr Karen Curtin is a Consultant Medical Ophthalmologist with subspecialty interest in uveitis and medical retina. Her fellowship training was in Bristol Eye Hospital. She was the first to complete the new National Training Programme in Medical Ophthalmology and took up post in South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital and Ballincollig Primary Care Centre, Cork in 2024.

About the College of Ophthalmologists

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

The delivery of healthcare requires a lifelong commitment to learning with ongoing medical education and continuing professional development as essential aspects of professional practice. The ICO's goal is to provide and support education and learning for ophthalmologists in training, in practice and those who work alongside them in the extended allied health professional team as they deliver care to patients.

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.

The ICO is a registered Irish charity. Our focus is on the advancement and improvement of eye health and patient safety and to protect, enhance and promote the highest standards in the delivery of eye care.



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