



Irish College of
Ophthalmologists
Eye Doctors of Ireland
Protecting your Vision

ICO Winter Meeting and Annual Montgomery Lecture 2025

**Albert Lecture Theatre,
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland**

FRIDAY, 21st NOVEMBER 2025

About the ICO

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 is a registered Irish charity. We are committed to the advancement and improvement of eye health and patient safety and work to protect, enhance and promote the highest standards in the delivery of eye care.

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.



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Irish College of Ophthalmologists

121 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.

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Programme

2.00pm **WELCOME:**

Mr Gerry Fahy
*President, Irish College of
Ophthalmologists*

Co-chairs:

Ms Lisa McAnena
*Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon,
Beaumont Hospital and Mater
Misericordiae University
Hospital, Dublin*

Ms Áine Ní Mhéalóid
*Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon,
Royal Victoria Eye and Ear
Hospital, Dublin*

2.05pm **Optic Neuritis**

Dr Tasanee Braithwaite
*Consultant Ophthalmologist in
Neuro-ophthalmology and
Uveitis, The Medical Eye Unit,
Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital,
London*

2.45pm **An Approach to Optic Neuropathies**

Miss Ruchika Batra
*Consultant in Neuro-
ophthalmology, Queen Elizabeth
Hospital Birmingham, NHS
Foundation Trust*

3.30pm **Break**

4.00pm **Ocular Imaging and Electrophysiology**

Ms Lisa McAnena
*Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon,
Beaumont Hospital and Mater
Misericordiae University
Hospital, Dublin*

4.45pm **Neuro-Imaging of the Optic Pathway**

Dr Patrick Nicholson
*Consultant Neurointerventional
Radiologist, Beaumont Hospital
and Beacon Hospital, Dublin*

Annual Montgomery Lecture 2025

5.30pm **Drinks & Canapes Reception**

6.30pm **Welcome & Introduction**

Mr Gerry Fahy,
President, ICO

Montgomery Lecture 2025

"Journey of an Accidental Academic"

Professor Anthony King
MB BCh, MD, MMedSci, FRCOph
*Consultant Ophthalmologist,
Nottingham University Hospital
NHS Trust, UK*

Speaker Biographies



Dr Tasanee Braithwaite

Dr Tasanee Braithwaite

Consultant Ophthalmologist, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London

Dr Tasanee Braithwaite is a Consultant Ophthalmologist specialising in the diagnosis and management of inflammatory eye disease (uveitis and scleritis) and neuro-ophthalmic disorders.

Dr Braithwaite takes a particular interest in the holistic care of patients who have vision problems and eye symptoms resulting from autoimmune, autoinflammatory, infectious and neuro-ophthalmic diseases, and she manages patients requiring systemic therapy including immunosuppression and biologic therapy. She worked as a locum consultant at Moorfields Eye Hospital, King's College Hospital and The National Hospital of Neurology and Neurosurgery, before joining the medical eye unit at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in 2020.

Dr Braithwaite aims to deliver predictive, preventive, personalised and participatory medicine to her patients, and to inform evidence-based practice internationally. Working with a network of global collaborators, her research programme focuses on developing tools to better quantify the impacts of eye disease on quality of life, and understanding the epidemiology of eye diseases and associated risk factors.

She holds a dual appointment as senior clinical lecturer in the School of Lifecourse and Population Science and the School of Immunology and Microbial Sciences at King's College London, and is a King's Health Partners Centre for Translational Medicine Clinical Research Excellence Fellow.

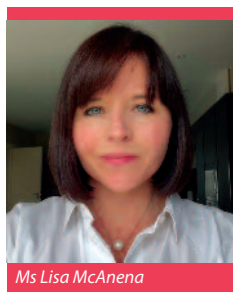


Miss Ruchika Batra

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Consultant in Neuro-ophthalmology, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, NHS Foundation Trust

Miss Ruchika Batra is a Neuro-ophthalmology consultant, at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham. As a member of the skull base and pituitary teams, she believes in multidisciplinary care. Ruchika is dedicated to education and training and her roles include Training Programme Director for Medical Ophthalmology and College Tutor for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. She organises the annual Birmingham Neuro-ophthalmology Afferent and Efferent Courses. Ruchika has a passion for lifestyle medicine and the holistic care of both patients and colleagues, reflected by her role as Well-being Lead for the West Midlands Ophthalmology Training Programme.



Ms Lisa McAnena

Ms Lisa McAnena

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Beaumont Hospital and Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin

Ms Lisa McAnena is a Consultant Ophthalmologist at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and Beaumont Hospital.

Ms McAnena completed subspecialty fellowship training in paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus at the Royal London Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital in 2018/19 and in neuro-ophthalmology at Moorfields Eye Hospital London in 2020/21.

She delivers medical and surgical ophthalmology services in her clinical practice, including cataract surgery and sub specialises in neuro-ophthalmology and adult strabismus.

Ms McAnena is an honorary clinical lecturer with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. She is a member of the Irish College of Ophthalmologists (ICO), the UK Neuro-ophthalmic Society (UKNOS) and the British Isles Neuro-ophthalmology Club (BINOC).



Ms Áine Ní Mhéalóid

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin

Ms Áine Ní Mhéalóid is a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon and neuro-Ophthalmologist at the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin. She earned her medical degree from University College Dublin (UCD) in 2010 and completed her postgraduate training with the Irish College of Ophthalmologists in 2021. She holds a Diploma from the European Board of Ophthalmology, a Postgraduate Certificate in Healthcare Management Practice from the UCD Smurfit School of Business, as well as a Master of Surgery and a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Professions' Education from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI).

Ms Ní Mhéalóid completed a prestigious fellowship in neuro-ophthalmology and adult strabismus at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham - the largest neuro-ophthalmic unit in Europe - and undertook an observership at the Anschutz University of Colorado Health Hospital in Denver, USA.

Passionate about medical education, she has served as an ophthalmology lecturer, research supervisor, and examiner for medical and physician associate students at RCSI and the National University of Ireland, Galway, as well as a thesis examiner with Trinity College Dublin. She actively contributes to training through journal clubs for ophthalmology trainees and has been an invited speaker at many national and international conferences. In addition to authoring numerous peer-reviewed papers, she is a reviewer for the journals Eye and BMC Ophthalmology.



Dr Patrick Nicholson

Dr Patrick Nicholson

Consultant Neurointerventional Radiologist, Beaumont Hospital and Beacon Hospital, Dublin

Dr Patrick Nicholson is a Consultant Neurointerventional Radiologist at Beaumont Hospital, Dublin and an Honorary Clinical Associate Professor of Radiology at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

He trained in Ireland before completing subsequent fellowships in both diagnostic and interventional neuroradiology in Toronto Western Hospital. After his training he was recruited to the team there, where he worked as a staff neurointerventional radiologist, and was a member of a team that performed several 'world first' surgeries and procedures.

Dr Nicholson works as part of a research group focusing on emerging applications of neurointerventional techniques. Special interests in endovascular treatment of neurovascular diseases, robotic endovascular surgery and investigation and treatment of disorders of CSF circulation (including CSF leaks/SIH and idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH)).

Montgomery Lecture 2025



Professor Anthony King

Professor Anthony King

MB BCh, MD, MMedSci, FRCOphth

Consultant Ophthalmologist, Nottingham University Hospital NHS Trust, UK

Professor Anthony King is a Consultant Ophthalmologist with a subspecialist interest in glaucoma at Nottingham University Hospital and an Honorary Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at the University of Nottingham. He completed fellowship training in glaucoma surgery and anterior segment and cornea before taking up his consultant post in 2000.

Professor King's primary research interest is in the clinical management of glaucoma, particularly advanced glaucoma and patient centred delivery of care

He is currently the Chief Investigator of the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) funded Treatment of Advanced Glaucoma Study (TAGS) and Clinical Research Network Lead for Ophthalmology. He is a past President of the UK & Eire Glaucoma Society and was the Royal College of Ophthalmologist glaucoma lead for the development of a national ophthalmic database for trabeculectomy. He is the current Chairman of Glaucoma UK, a not-for-profit organisation supporting people living with glaucoma and funding glaucoma research.

In his Montgomery Lecture "Journey of an Accidental Academic" Professor King will chart his experience along this pathway from rookie researcher to a RCT - and be informative about glaucoma, the realities of undertaking research and look to encourage young ophthalmologists to embark on this journey.

About the Montgomery Lecture

The establishment of the Montgomery Lecture in 1916 was of great significance to the specialty of ophthalmology in Ireland.

Dr Robert Montgomery served as an Ophthalmic Surgeon to St Mark's Hospital and the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital until his passing in 1912.

The Montgomery Lecture was the first medical lecture to be founded in Trinity College Dublin. Robert Montgomery established the prize with £5000 pounds, a large sum but with few conditions bar insertion of the name "Mary Louisa Prentice" (his mother's name) in its title and that it should rotate between Trinity College Dublin and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Initially the lecture was given as a research lecture by early career ophthalmologists but since the second war the Annual Montgomery Lecture has been delivered by the leading figures in ophthalmology both from Ireland and abroad, and including neurologists, behavioural scientists and molecular ophthalmologists.

Through this lectureship, the small Montgomery family have retained their influence in ophthalmology and the name of Robert Montgomery has become widely known, particularly in contemporary ophthalmology, alongside other ophthalmological luminaries such as Dr Sir Arthur Jacob and Dr Sir William Wilde.

Notes

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