

Curriculum Vitae 2020

Professor Conor C Murphy

MB BCh BAO (Hons), MMedSc (Hons), PGCert (TLCP), FRCSI, FRCOphth, PhD

Irish Medical Council Registration number 20332



Professor Conor Murphy is the Chair and Professor of Ophthalmology at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and a consultant ophthalmic surgeon at the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital in Dublin. He specialises in cornea/external eye disease and uveitis, providing a national referral service in these areas. He has a particular surgical interest in corneal transplantation and cataract surgery. He heads the Ocular Immunology Research Group at RCSI, which focuses on research into corneal transplantation, Sjogren's syndrome, graft versus host disease and spondyloarthropathy-associated uveitis. As post-graduate Professor of Ophthalmology, Professor Murphy is also the Chief Examiner of the postgraduate MRCSI and FRCSI examinations in ophthalmology in Ireland.

Current position

Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland 2009 -
Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin 2009 -

Education and qualifications

- 1996 MB BCh BAO (Hons), University College Dublin, Ireland
- 1998 MMedSc in Physiology (Hons), University College Dublin, Ireland
- 2000 FRCSI (Ophthalmology)
- 2001 MRCOphth (UK)
- 2005 PhD in Ocular Immunology, University College Dublin, Ireland
- 2007 FRCOphth (UK)
- 2008 Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Clinical Practice, University of Chester and Edge Hill University, United Kingdom
- 2008 Certificate of Completion of Training UK (CCT, awarded 8th April 2008)

Summary of key clinical, academic and governance roles

Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital 2018-2020
Member of the Board of Beaumont Hospital, Dublin 2017-2020
Chairman of the Governance and Risk Committee of Beaumont Hospital 2017-2020
Medical Director of the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital 2013-2016
Director of Education and Research of the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital 2010-2013
Member of the Board of the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation 2009-
Undergraduate and postgraduate Professor of Ophthalmology, RCSI 2009-
Co-chair of the Learning Environment Development Committee RCSI 2019-
Member of the Medical and Health Sciences Board, RCSI, 2015-2018
Member of the Academic Council, RCSI 2009-
Principle Investigator, Department of Molecular and Cellular Therapeutics, RCSI 2009-
Irish representative of the European University Professors of Ophthalmology Council 2018-
Chief examiner of the MRCSI (Ophth) and FRCSI (Ophth) examinations 2009-
Academic member of Irish College of Ophthalmologists Manpower and Training Committee 2009-
Founding committee member of the Irish Regional Ophthalmic Anaesthesia Society 2009-
Member of the Opticians Board of Ireland 2010-2015
Member of the European Cornea Conference, Bowman Club, American Academy of Ophthalmology, Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), International Society for Eye Research (ISER) and Irish College of Ophthalmologists

Description of research interests

Primary Sjögren's syndrome and graft versus host disease research

This work focusses on immune responses and microRNA expression at the ocular surface and in the systemic circulation in patients with primary Sjögren's syndrome, graft versus host disease and other inflammatory dry eye disorders. We are investigating the development of microRNA-based biomarkers and therapeutics for patients with dry eye disease and ocular surface inflammation. This work is being undertaken in collaboration with the Department of Haematology at St James' Hospital, Dublin.

Corneal transplantation research (VISICORT)

VISICORT is a multi-disciplinary research project involving 12 partners from across the EU with expertise in corneal transplantation, cell therapy, immunology, bio-sampling, systems biology/immune profiling and bioinformatics. The project will complete the first ever systematic immune profiling of human corneal transplant recipients. Clinical data and bio-specimens from over 2000 corneal transplant recipients at 5 leading transplant centres, including the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and RCSI, are being centrally collated and distributed to cutting-edge laboratories for multi-platform profiling and integrated bioinformatics analyses. Profiling data will generate a better understanding of corneal transplant rejection and failure. This knowledge will be used to develop novel biomarker-based surveillance strategies and, coupled with SME-based expertise in cell product development, will also inform the design and initiation of an optimised clinical trial strategy of immunomodulatory stromal stem cell therapy in high-risk human corneal transplant recipients. Benefitting from a €6 million award from the European Commission, the project launched in May 2014 and will continue until September 2020. See www.visicort.eu.

Acute anterior uveitis (AAU)

In collaboration with the Department of Rheumatology at St Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin, we have defined in an Irish Cohort the clinical characteristics of AAU and have established a simple algorithm called DUET for the rapid detection of spondyloarthritis in patients with AAU. We are also investigating the molecular mechanisms of this disease, in particular the role of dendritic cells and microRNA in the pathogenesis of this disease.

National Uveitis Registry

Prof Murphy has recently received funding support to set up a national registry of patients with uveitis. With the help of this registry, we hope to identify epidemiological trends, audit treatment outcomes and deliver effective laboratory, clinical and health service research with the overarching aim of improving outcomes for patients.

National Corneal Transplantation Registry

Prof Murphy and colleagues set up this registry in 2011 to help audit outcomes of corneal transplantation in Ireland and to identify health service needs in the area of complex corneal disease.

Higher research degrees supervised

Dr David Shahnazaryan, The Role of Viral Regulatory Protein ICPO in Herpes Simplex Type I Keratitis, MD, RCSI 2019.

Ni Mhealoid Aine, Vision-Related and Health-Related Quality of Life in Patients with Giant Cell Arteritis, MCh by Module, RCSI 2018.

Goodchild Christine, Impact of Anterior Uveitis on patients: 5 year prognosis from the DUET study. MCh by Module, RCSI 2018.

O'Rourke Micheal, Clinical characteristics and molecular mechanisms in non-infectious anterior uveitis. PhD, UCD & NUI 2016.

Pilson Qistina, Profiling microRNA in primary Sjogren's syndrome: a quantitative and qualitative analysis of an Irish cohort. MD, RCSI & NUI 2016.

Ramasamy Pathma, Quantitative proteomic analysis and gene expression profiling microarray re-analysis of uveal melanoma. MD, RCSI & NUI 2015.

Al Arrayedh Hamed. Outcomes of corneal transplantation in Irish patients with Congenital Hereditary Endothelial Dystrophy (CHED). Masters of Medicine (Ophthalmic Science), University of Sydney 2015.

De Chaumont Ciaran. Investigating the effect of corneal Herpes Simplex Virus infection on Toll like receptor expression in human Peripheral Blood mononuclear cells. MSc RCSI & NUI 2013

Grant awards

- 2019 Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation. “Multiomic profiling of ocular inflammation in dry eye disease” (Dr Emily Greenan, Clinical Research Fellow/ Clinical Tutor, RCSI; €15,000)
- 2018 Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation. “Targeting ocular inflammation in dry eye disease with novel microRNA-based therapeutics” (Dr Emily Greenan, Clinical Research Fellow/ Clinical Tutor, RCSI; €15,000)
- 2018 AbbVie. “Development and implementation of a National Uveitis Registry”. (Prof Conor Murphy, €84,000)
- 2018 Santen. “Effect of Ikervis on cytokine and microRNA profile at th ocular surface in severe keratitis due to dry eye disease” (Prof Conor Murphy; €45,000)
- 2018 Irish College of Ophthalmologists/Novartis annual research award. “Targeting ocular inflammation in dry eye disease with novel microRNA-based therapeutics” (Dr Emily Greenan, Clinical Research Fellow/ Clinical Tutor, RCSI; €35,000)
- 2017 Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation. “Profiling miRNA expression in acute anterior uveitis” (Dr Christine Goodchild, Clinical Research Fellow, RCSI; €15,000)
- 2016 Irish College of Ophthalmologists/Novartis annual research award. “Utilising microRNA-based therapeutics for the development of novel targeted drug delivery device for patients with dry eye disease” (Dr Sinead Connolly, MCh candidate; €17,500)
- 2015 Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation. “Utilising microRNA-based therapeutics for the development of novel targeted drug delivery device for patients with dry eye disease” (Dr Sinead Connolly, MCh candidate; €15,000)
- 2014 Private donor. “Targeting inflammation in Sjögren’s syndrome—novel microRNAs as potential therapeutics”. (€27,000)
- 2014 Health Research Board/ Medical Research Charities Group “Restoring immune balance in patients with primary Sjögren’s syndrome by modulating microRNA expression” (€40,000)
- 2014 RCSI Seed funding call “Modulating microRNA expression as a means to restore immune function in patients with primary Sjogrens Syndrome” (€30,000)
- 2013 ICO/Pfizer Research Fellowship “Acute anterior uveitis in an Irish Cohort: clinical characteristics and molecular mechanisms” (Dr Micheal O’Rourke, €35,000)
- 2013 EU FP7 grant Award. Partner in VISICORT: Adverse Immune Signatures and their Prevention in Corneal Transplantation (Prof Conor Murphy €400,000; total consortium: €6 million)
- 2012 Health Research Board/ Medical Research Charities Group: “Profiling Toll-like receptor responses in patients with primary Sjögren’s syndrome” (€50,000)
- 2011 Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation: “Acute anterior uveitis in an Irish Cohort: clinical characteristics and molecular mechanisms” (Dr Micheal O’Rourke, €30,000)

2011 Irish College of Ophthalmologists/Pfizer Research Fellowship: “Targeting toll-like receptor pathways in the treatment of HSV-1 keratitis” (€35,000)

2010 RVEEH Research Foundation: “Evasion of the innate immune response by HSV-1 in the cornea: molecular mechanisms mediating interferon downregulation and virus survival” (€20,000)

(Total research grant income 2010 - present €908,500)

Peer reviewed publications

BOOKS

Mark Batterbury & Conor Murphy. Ophthalmology: An Illustrated Colour Text (4th Ed. 2018). Elsevier, Edinburgh.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Quill B, **Murphy CC**. A pharmacokinetic review of antibiotics used in the treatment and prophylaxis of endophthalmitis. Book chapter in: Endophthalmitis. Nova Publishers 2015.

O’Rourke M, Haroon M, **Murphy CC**, FitzGerald O. Anterior Uveitis in Spondyloarthropathy: The ophthalmologist’s role in earlier recognition. Book chapter in Ankylosing spondylitis; symptoms, treatment and complications. Nova Publishers. 2013, ISBN: 978-1-62618-362-9

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

McSwiney, T., Power, B., Murphy, C. C., Brosnahan, D., & Power, W. (2020). Reply. *Cornea*, 39(2), e5. doi:[10.1097/ICO.0000000000002188](https://doi.org/10.1097/ICO.0000000000002188)

Ní Mhéalóid, Á., Conway, R., O’Neill, L., Clyne, B., Molloy, E., & Murphy, C. C. (2020). Vision-related and health-related quality of life in patients with giant cell arteritis. *European Journal of Ophthalmology*. doi:[10.1177/1120672120901693](https://doi.org/10.1177/1120672120901693)

Greenan, E., Vandenberghe, E., & Murphy, C. C. (2019). Refractory recurrent ocular graft versus host disease. *BMJ Case Reports*, 12(12). doi:[10.1136/bcr-2019-232579](https://doi.org/10.1136/bcr-2019-232579)

Armitage, W. J., Goodchild, C., Griffin, M. D., Gunn, D. J., Hjortdal, J., Lohan, P., . . . Vabres, B. (2019). High-risk Corneal Transplantation: Recent Developments and Future Possibilities. *Transplantation*, 103(12), 2468-2478. doi:[10.1097/TP.0000000000002938](https://doi.org/10.1097/TP.0000000000002938)

McSwiney, T. J., Power, B., Murphy, C. C., Brosnahan, D., & Power, W. (2019). Safety and Efficacy of Supratarsal Triamcinolone for Treatment of Vernal Keratoconjunctivitis in Ireland. *Cornea*, 38(8), 955-958. doi:[10.1097/ICO.0000000000001963](https://doi.org/10.1097/ICO.0000000000001963)

Fennelly, E., Greenan, E., & Murphy, C. C. (2019). Corneal melt secondary to eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis. *BMJ Case Reports*, 12(6). doi:[10.1136/bcr-2019-229859](https://doi.org/10.1136/bcr-2019-229859)

- O'Rourke, M., Trenkmann, M., Connolly, M., Fearon, U., & Murphy, C. C. (2019). Novel gene targets for miRNA146a and miRNA155 in anterior uveitis. *British Journal of Ophthalmology*, *103*(2), 279-285. doi:[10.1136/bjophthalmol-2018-312885](https://doi.org/10.1136/bjophthalmol-2018-312885)
- Conway, R., O'Neill, L., McCarthy, G. M., Murphy, C. C., Veale, D. J., Fearon, U., . . . Molloy, E. S. (2019). Performance characteristics and predictors of temporal artery ultrasound for the diagnosis of giant cell arteritis in routine clinical practice in a prospective cohort. *Clinical and experimental rheumatology*, *37*(2), 72-78.
- Gabhann-Dromgoole, J. N., De Chaumont, C., Shahnazaryan, D., Smith, S., Malone, C., Hassan, J., . . . Murphy, C. C. (2019). Systemic IL-1 β production as a consequence of corneal HSV-1 infection-contribution to the development of herpes simplex keratitis. *International Journal of Ophthalmology*, *12*(9), 1493-1497. doi:[10.18240/ijo.2019.09.19](https://doi.org/10.18240/ijo.2019.09.19)
- Ramasamy, P., Larkin, A. M., Linge, A., Tiernan, D., McAree, F., Horgan, N., . . . Meleady, P. (2019). PRDX3 is associated with metastasis and poor survival in uveal melanoma. *Journal of Clinical Pathology*. doi:[10.1136/jclinpath-2019-206173](https://doi.org/10.1136/jclinpath-2019-206173)
- Mcsweeney, T. J., Knowles, S. J., & Murphy, C. C. (2019). Clinical and microbiological characteristics of Moraxella keratitis. *British Journal of Ophthalmology*, *103*(12), 1704-1709. doi:[10.1136/bjophthalmol-2018-313557](https://doi.org/10.1136/bjophthalmol-2018-313557)
- Batterbury, M., & Murphy, C. (2018). *Ophthalmology an illustrated colour text*.
- McElnea, E., Power, B., & Murphy, C. (2018). Interface Fungal Keratitis After Descemet Stripping Automated Endothelial Keratoplasty: A Review of the Literature With a Focus on Outcomes. *Cornea*, *37*(9), 1204-1211. doi:[10.1097/ICO.0000000000001636](https://doi.org/10.1097/ICO.0000000000001636)
- Smith, S., Wu, P. W., Seo, J. J., Fernando, T., Jin, M., Contreras, J., . . . Jefferies, C. A. (2018). IL-16/miR-125a axis controls neutrophil recruitment in pristane-induced lung inflammation. *JCI insight*, *3*(15). doi:[10.1172/jci.insight.120798](https://doi.org/10.1172/jci.insight.120798)
- O'Rourke, M., Fearon, U., Sweeney, C. M., Basdeo, S. A., Fletcher, J. M., Murphy, C. C., & Canavan, M. (2018). The pathogenic role of dendritic cells in non-infectious anterior uveitis. *Experimental Eye Research*, *173*, 121-128. doi:[10.1016/j.exer.2018.05.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.exer.2018.05.008)
- Dick, A. D., Rosenbaum, J. T., Al-Dhibi, H. A., Belfort, R., Brézin, A. P., Chee, S. P., . . . Pleyer, U. (2018). Guidance on Noncorticosteroid Systemic Immunomodulatory Therapy in Noninfectious Uveitis: Fundamentals Of Care for Uveitis (FOCUS) Initiative. *Ophthalmology*, *125*(5), 757-773. doi:[10.1016/j.ophtha.2017.11.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ophtha.2017.11.017)
- Conway, R., O'Neill, L., Gallagher, P., McCarthy, G. M., Murphy, C. C., Veale, D. J., . . . Molloy, E. S. (2018). Ustekinumab for refractory giant cell arteritis: A prospective 52-week trial. *Seminars in Arthritis and Rheumatism*, *48*(3), 523-528. doi:[10.1016/j.semarthrit.2018.04.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.semarthrit.2018.04.004)
- Conway, R., O'Neill, L., McCarthy, G. M., Murphy, C. C., Fabre, A., Kennedy, S., . . . Molloy, E. S. (2018). Interleukin 12 and interleukin 23 play key pathogenic roles in inflammatory and proliferative pathways in giant cell arteritis. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*, *77*(12), 1-10. doi:[10.1136/annrheumdis-2018-213488](https://doi.org/10.1136/annrheumdis-2018-213488)
- Ní Mhéalóid, Á., Lukasik, T., Power, W., & Murphy, C. C. (2018). Alcohol delamination of the corneal epithelium for recurrent corneal erosion syndrome. *International Journal of Ophthalmology*, *11*(7), 1129-1131. doi:[10.18240/ijo.2018.07.09](https://doi.org/10.18240/ijo.2018.07.09)

- Farrell, S., McElnea, E., Moran, S., Knowles, S., & Murphy, C. C. (2017). Fungal keratitis in the Republic of Ireland. *Eye (Basingstoke)*, 31(10), 1427-1434. doi:[10.1038/eye.2017.82](https://doi.org/10.1038/eye.2017.82)
- O'Rourke, M., Haroon, M., Alfarasy, S., Ramasamy, P., FitzGerald, O., & Murphy, C. C. (2017). The effect of anterior uveitis and previously undiagnosed spondyloarthritis: Results from the DUET cohort. *Journal of Rheumatology*, 44(9), 1347-1354. doi:[10.3899/jrheum.170115](https://doi.org/10.3899/jrheum.170115)
- AlArrayedh, H., Collum, L., & Murphy, C. C. (2017). Outcomes of penetrating keratoplasty in congenital hereditary endothelial dystrophy. *British Journal of Ophthalmology*. doi:[10.1136/bjophthalmol-2016-309565](https://doi.org/10.1136/bjophthalmol-2016-309565)
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- Conway, R., O'Neill, L., O'Flynn, E., Gallagher, P., McCarthy, G. M., Murphy, C. C., . . . Molloy, E. S. (2016). Ustekinumab for the treatment of refractory giant cell arteritis. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*, 75(8), 1578-1579. doi:[10.1136/annrheumdis-2016-209351](https://doi.org/10.1136/annrheumdis-2016-209351)
- Duignan, E. S., Farrell, S., Treacy, M. P., Fulcher, T., O'Brien, P., Power, W., & Murphy, C. C. (2016). Corneal inlay implantation complicated by infectious keratitis. *British Journal of Ophthalmology*, 100(2), 269-273. doi:[10.1136/bjophthalmol-2015-306641](https://doi.org/10.1136/bjophthalmol-2015-306641)
- O'Rourke, M., FitzGerald, O., & Murphy, C. (2015). Histopathology of rheumatoid associated keratolysis. *Int J Ophthal Pathol*.
- O'Rourke, M., Haroon, M., Murphy, C. C., & FitzGerald, O. (2015). Anterior Uveitis in Spondyloarthropathy: The ophthalmologist's role in earlier recognition. *Unknown Journal, Book chapter in Ankylosing spondylitis; symptoms; treatment and complications. Nova Publishers. 2013; ISBN: 978-1-62618-362-9.*
- Quill, B., & Murphy, C. C. (2015). A pharmacokinetic review of antibiotics used in the treatment and prophylaxis of endophthalmitis.. *Unknown Journal, Book chapter in: Endophthalmitis..*
- Haroon, M., O'Rourke, M., Ramasamy, P., Murphy, C. C., & FitzGerald, O. (2015). A novel evidence-based detection of undiagnosed spondyloarthritis in patients presenting with acute anterior uveitis: The DUET (Dublin Uveitis Evaluation Tool). *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*, 74(11), 1990-1995. doi:[10.1136/annrheumdis-2014-205358](https://doi.org/10.1136/annrheumdis-2014-205358)
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- Igras, E., & Murphy, C. (2015). Use of multiple immunosuppressive agents in recalcitrant acanthamoeba scleritis. *BMJ Case Reports*, 2015. doi:[10.1136/bcr-2014-208536](https://doi.org/10.1136/bcr-2014-208536)
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- Quill, B., & Murphy, C. (2015). A pharmacokinetic review of antibiotics used in the treatment and prophylaxis of endophthalmitis. In *Endophthalmitis* (pp. 85-100).
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- O'Rourke, M., Haroon, M., Murphy, C. C., & FitzGerald, O. (2013). Anterior uveitis in spondyloarthritis: The ophthalmologist's role in earlier recognition. In *Ankylosing Spondylitis: Symptoms, Treatment and Potential Complications* (pp. 53-66).
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- Murphy, C. C., Nicholson, S., Quah, S. A., Batterbury, M., Neal, T., & Kaye, S. B. (2007). Pharmacokinetics of vancomycin following intracameral bolus injection in patients undergoing phacoemulsification cataract surgery. *British Journal of Ophthalmology*, 91(10), 1350-1353. doi:[10.1136/bjo.2006.112060](https://doi.org/10.1136/bjo.2006.112060)
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