



RCSI

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

COLÁISTE RÍOGA NA MÁINLEÁ IN ÉIRINN

Ethicon Grant/Fellowship Report Form

Grant Holder Name	David Eoin O'Briain
Brief biography, including qualification and year of graduation (no more than 100 words)	I studied medicine in UCD and graduated in 2004. After intern year in Vincents and a year working in australia, I completed BST in Galway followed by a year of research for an MCh in NUIG. I completed HST in orthopaedics in July 2016.
Title of Project/Fellowship	Shoulder and elbow fellowship with the Sydney Shoulder Research Institute
Year of Award: Commencement Date: Conclusion Date:	2016 18/07/2016 14/07/2017

Summary (no more than 250 words)

I undertook a year long SSRI shoulder and elbow fellowship in Sydney, Australia. I travelled there with my wife and 3 children and we all had a wonderful experience there. The fellowship included research and clinical components. I operated under the supervision of three surgeons, managing trauma, instability and arthropathy. I was exposed to several techniques for shoulder stabilisation and rotator cuff repair, including open surgical techniques in an era when these skills are in danger of being lost. All three of the surgeons had been involved in the prosthesis design process with different major international companies. As such, they all had detailed understanding of the rapidly developing field of shoulder arthroplasty, and all were enthusiastic to transfer their knowledge. I attended several major orthopaedic meetings, sponsored by the fellowship programme, including the biennial Shoulder and Elbow Society of Australia meeting in Darwin in August 2016. I had the opportunity to present my Irish research on shoulder instability imaging and injury patterns in professional rugby players at that meeting. From an academic standpoint, I was able to undertake biomechanical research into the effects of pump pressures and the role of dilator knots in shoulder surgery. I also participated in clinical research into instability surgery in collision athletes and the role of arthroscopic stabilisations and Latarjet procedures. We have now moved to Florida for a second year of fellowship training and I am undertaking a sports and upper limb fellowship in the University of South Florida in Tampa on the gulf coast.

Grant Report (in the region of but no more than 500 words)

Objectives of Project/Fellowship:

To learn techniques for shoulder stabilisation, rotator cuff repairs and shoulder arthroplasty.
To learn anatomic (stemmed and stemless) and reverse geometry shoulder arthroplasty techniques
To learn primary and revision elbow arthroplasty techniques as well as joint preserving techniques.
To undertake a clinical and a basic science research project.

Did you achieve these objectives?

Yes

In your opinion, what is the value of your award to:

(a) Yourself

I received excellent exposure to complex upper limb elective and trauma cases and as a result, developed appropriate strategies for managing them.
I have had the good fortune to establish an international network of excellent surgical mentors for case discussions and research collaborations in the future.

(b) The institution in which you worked

During my time in Sydney, I was able to contribute to the efficiency of the unit and increase their productivity in surgery. Without a fellow, the caseload would have to be slightly lower. My research into instability has led to a change in practice of one of the surgeons, increasing the use of the Latarjet procedure in contact athletes, even in those with minimal bone loss.

(c) In the future for Irish patients

I will return to a consultant post in Waterford and I will bring my experience in shoulder arthroplasty and joint preservation techniques, including superior capsular reconstruction. My exposure to complex elbow trauma and arthroplasty, including primary, revision and complex reconstructive cases will also benefit my patients in future.