



RCSI

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

COLÁISTE RÍOGA NA MÁINLEÁ IN ÉIRINN

Grant/Fellowship Report Form

Fellowship/Grant Holder Name	Mark Broe
Brief biography, including qualification and year of graduation (no more than 100 words)	BComm International with French 2006. Graduate Entry Medicine qualify RCSI 2012. Masters in Surgery (MCh) 2015. Fellowship examination FRCS Urol 2019. European Association of Urology Robotic Section (ERUS) Fellow St. Vincent's University Hospital 2020/21. CCST Urology 2021. Appointed to Beaumont Hospital starting 2023 as Consultant Urologist with specialist interest in pelvic uro-oncology and robotic surgery.
Title of Project/Fellowship	Robotic Research Postgraduate Fellow (Urology)
Year of Award: Commencement Date: Conclusion Date:	2021 10/08/2021 06/08/2022

Summary (no more than 250 words)

The Fellowship was carried out in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH) in Sydney. It had both a research and clinical component in the field of robotic urological surgery. The clinical component involved performing robotic urological procedures as well as peri-operative management of patients undergoing robotic surgery mainly for the treatment of urological malignancy. There was also some training in robotic reconstruction procedures and benign urology. RPAH has a well-established high volume multi-specialty robotic programme. The research component of the Fellowship was run through the Institute of Academic Surgery (IAS) of RPAH. The IAS oversees education and surgical training at RPAH as well as surgical outcomes and research. There are many well-designed surgical trials in progress in RPAH and these are supported by the IAS. There was also a teaching component to the role through the University of Sydney.

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

Objectives of Project/Fellowship:

The goals of my fellowship year in Sydney fell into three main categories: surgical experience, research and training/education. I wanted to finesse what I had learned already in my robotic training in Ireland and hopefully incorporate points of technique as well as new procedures such as robotic radical cystectomy. My plan leaving Ireland was to use the fellowship towards working as a consultant urologist with an interest in robotic surgery. The other aim was to help me to build my

research portfolio with both presentations and publications. I hoped to bring home the experience gained there in leading research projects, co-ordinating with a broader research team, writing grant proposals etc. Thirdly, I have always been involved in medical education and training junior surgeons so I hoped to build on that through the link with the University of Sydney.

Did you achieve these objectives?

I believe I have broadly achieved the goals outlined above. I am confident in both robotic assisted procedures and have encountered a broad range of difficulty of cases. I have completed and contributed to a number of publications in peer review journals. I have presented at international meetings such as the Pan Pacific Continence Society. I contributed to organising and presented at the Sydney Robotics & Innovation Symposium. I was successful in two grant applications for the Institute of Academic Surgery (IAS) in RPAH – an Intuitive Surgical Clinical Research Grant and Chris O’ Brien Surfebruary Research Grant. I contributed to the co-ordination of 3 different randomised controlled trials and helped to introduce the robotic cystectomy programme to RPAH. I have engaged in teaching medical students and enjoyed training the junior Australian residents, in particular teaching the steps of robotic procedures in a modular approach.

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

(a) Yourself

The award is a prestigious one which is highly sought after by Irish trainees as they complete their training. Awards such as these boosted my curriculum vitae and contributed to successful appointment to a Consultant Urologist post in a university teaching hospital in Ireland. Secondly there is a huge financial burden to heading abroad on Fellowship. The bursary helped to alleviate some of that cost. It also meant we could spend some of our income instead on family holidays such as to The Whitsunday Islands, memories we will cherish for a lifetime.

(b) The institution in which you worked

Hopefully the institution benefited from my time there in that I was an independent robotic surgeon from early on, they could rely upon my experience and training already gained in Ireland. Finally I worked closely with the IAS, my consultant trainers and junior colleagues to bring about funding for research, publications and presentations for the institution.

(c) In the future for Irish patients

The journey of surgical training is an extremely rewarding and enjoyable one but it is long, onerous and, in particular, Fellowship comes at significant cost to the surgeon and his/her family. Such an award gives inspiration to keep striving to meet the high standards we set. Excellence in care for Irish patients when we return home is always at the core of why we go abroad on Fellowship.