



RCSI

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

COLÁISTE RÍOGA NA MÁINLEÁ IN ÉIRINN

Grant/Fellowship Report Form

Fellowship/Grant Holder Name	Ms Sarah Moran
Brief biography, including qualification and year of graduation (no more than 100 words)	Sarah graduated from Medicine in University College Cork with a First Class Honours Degree in 2006. Sarah completed Higher Surgical Training in Ophthalmic Surgery in 2018 through the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, and has previously been awarded a Masters qualification in Cataract and Refractive Surgery with the University of Ulster. Sarah is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland (FRSCI), as well as a Fellow of the European Board of Ophthalmologists (FEBO) She has also completed a fellowship in cataract and refractive surgery at the Mater Private Hospital in Dublin. She has authored multiple international peer-reviewed publications.
Title of Project/Fellowship	Fellow in Anterior Segment and Refractive Surgery

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

Objectives of Project/Fellowship:

The main objectives of the fellowship were as follows:

- To gain surgical experience in techniques of lamellar corneal grafting, as well as other complex anterior segment cases.
- To attend high volume corneal clinics to provide a wide exposure to complex corneal pathology.
- To independently manage corneal and ocular surface disorders, including trauma, infections, and keratoconus
- To actively engage in clinical research in the areas of corneal and refractive surgery.
- To work in a different health system and observe the functioning of a different health service.

Did you achieve these objectives?

The above objectives were achieved during the fellowship. I gained a wealth of clinical experience in specialised high volume clinics. Surgically, I became skilled in lamellar corneal graft techniques, refractive laser surgery as well as other complex anterior segment procedures which I was able to

perform independently by the end of the fellowship. I authored multiple publications during my fellowship.

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

- (a) Yourself: Enabled me to go a highly specialised centre to acquire new skills, and have the clinical confidence to apply this new skill set to patients in need in Ireland. Gained experience of working in a different health system which is motivating and inspiring.
- (b) The institution in which you worked: There was a constant exchange of ideas and techniques, and I was instrumental in publishing several research papers for this department. I also partook in regular teaching and training sessions at the department.
- (c) In the future for Irish patients: I am now proficient in the latest corneal transplant techniques which have been proven to give superior outcomes compared to older methods. Patients in Ireland now have more access to these highly specialised techniques which up until recently were rarely performed in Ireland. These newer techniques improves vision with lower complication rates, reduced graft rejection, and faster visual recovery than full-thickness transplantation.

Corneal transplantation is a sight-restoring surgery, for patients suffering vision loss from corneal damage or disease. It is one of the few ocular surgeries that can truly restore vision, thus has the ability to impact significantly on patient well-being and quality of life.