



Grant Holder Name	Conall Fitzgerald
Brief biography, including qualification and year of graduation (no more than 100 words)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- MB BCh BAO BA, Trinity College Dublin, 2011- MCh (Surgery), RCSI, 2014- MSc (Medical Education), RCSI, 2016- DOHNS, RCSI, 2014- FRCSI, RCSI, 2020
Title of Project/Fellowship	Advanced Head and Neck Surgical Oncology, MSKCC, NYC, USA
Year of Award	2020
Commencement Date	1st July 2020
Conclusion Date	30th June 2022

SUMMARY (no more than 250 words)

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), New York, USA, is the oldest and largest private medical center in the world with a long history in surgical innovation, scientific research, leadership and development. The Head and Neck Surgery Service at MSKCC was established in 1914 and remains one of the foremost head and neck surgery departments in the world.

The Head and Neck Service at MSKCC cares for more than 3,200 new patients per annum, performs approximately 1,768 surgical procedures, and manages more than 14,500 outpatient visits each year. As one of the largest referral centers in the world, MSK receives patients from the greater New York area, the United States, and around the globe.

I undertook a two-year fellowship at MSKCC working in a large multi-disciplinary team managing the entire spectrum of head and neck malignancies. During my fellowship I gained exposure to advanced, complex surgical techniques including major, multi-team ablative surgeries (thyroid, oral cavity, parotid, skull base), trans-oral robotic surgery (TORS) for HPV-mediated oropharyngeal cancers, transoral laser microsurgery (TLM) for laryngeal cancers and endoscopic sinonasal/skull base surgery. In addition to my surgical training, I completed one year as a fellow in the laboratory of Dr Luc Morris, MD FACS, in the MSKCC Immunogenomics and Precision Oncology Platform, studying how genetic factors affect outcome in head and neck cancer.

GRANT REPORT (in the region of but no more than 500 words)

Objectives of Project/Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gain exposure to a large volume and range of complex head and neck cancer pathologies.- Work with the world-renowned multi-disciplinary team at MSKCC.- Gain intensive hands-on surgical experience with complex surgical techniques, including innovative approaches to cancer treatment.- Conduct research through the large network of researchers at MSKCC.- Present at national and international surgical meetings.- Gain skills that can be applied to benefit patients in Ireland.
Did you achieve these objectives?	<p>Yes, at MSKCC I was able to achieve these objectives including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- High-volume experience of complex head and neck pathologies- Advanced surgical techniques, incl. TORS, TLM, endoscopic surgery- Key clinical roles, including rotating as Chief Fellow for the service- Multiple research projects culminating in peer-reviewed publications- Oral presentations at academic meetings incl. American Head & Neck Society (AHNS) & North American Skull Base Society (NASBS) meetings- Knowledge in integration of precision medicine techniques incl. next-generation sequencing and how these relate to clinical practice- Training courses incl. a Certificate in Clinical Research Methodology (Cornell University) and Pittsburgh endoscopic skull base course
In your opinion, what is the value of your award to yourself?	<p>Receiving the Ethicon Foundation Travel Grant was a great honour for me professionally. The award assisted with the cost of relocating to New York together with my family to undertake the two-year fellowship.</p>
In your opinion, what is the value of your award to the institution in which you worked?	<p>As a consequence of receiving the Ethicon Foundation Travel Grant I was able to complete my surgical fellowship at MSKCC and contribute to the clinical and research activity taking place there. It is my hope that this will strengthen the links between Ireland and New York and afford other trainees in future the opportunity to work at MSKCC.</p>
In your opinion, what is the value of your award to the future of Irish patients?	<p>The two years of fellowship I completed at MSKCC provided me not only with excellent surgical and clinical skills, but also an additional perspective on how we can innovate to provide excellent care to patients in Ireland. We are fortunate to have many highly-skilled specialists working in the area of Head & Neck Oncology in Ireland and I look forward to working alongside them using the skills gained at MSKCC.</p>



Please send this completed form to Ms Ger Conroy (gconroy@rcsi.ie) together with a **photograph representative of your Project/Fellowship.**