

CURRICULUM VITAE

James Francis Kirwan MA(Oxon) MBBS FRCOphth

Personal Details

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	(Hospital)	Department of Ophthalmology, Portsmouth NHS Trust Queen Alexandra Hospital Southwick Hill Road, Cosham PO6 3LY Tel 02392 286000 ext 6933
Date of Birth		26th August 1966
G.M.C. Number		3468634
CCST		Awarded 1 st July 1999 No. 8537

Qualifications

1987	BA (Oxon) Physiological Sciences (2:1)
1990	MBBS
1994	FRCOphth

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Portsmouth NHS Trust

Feb 2003 to date

Previous Posts

Research / Clinical Fellow, Institute of Ophthalmology / Moorfields Eye Hospital

Senior Registrar: South West Thames Rotation

Fellow: Glaucoma Service Moorfields Eye Hospital

Registrar Ophthalmology St George's Hospital / South West Thames Rotation

Clinical Role

I lead a high-volume glaucoma service, serving a population of almost 900,000. I have worked in this service for 20 years. In recent years, I have run this service single-handed on occasions needed. I have developed service models to enable a highly efficient service, focused on the key

clinical outcomes; reduction of visual loss and delivering a service based on need. This is very important to me. I have performed over 1500 major glaucoma surgical procedures and am recognized as a leading glaucoma specialist in the UK (I give regular lectures nationally and internationally). My teaching, advisory and research work are based on my role as a busy clinician providing an efficient, high quality service for my population. I also do high volume cataract surgery and provide a general ophthalmology service.

Teaching

Wessex Regional Programme Director for Ophthalmology, 2006 to 2013. Responsible for postgraduate training.

I have led on training for optometrists to develop their clinical skills in glaucoma care, mentoring 6 optometrists to higher qualifications.

I have taught on courses at the following meetings:

European Glaucoma Society (EGS) 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024

European Cataract and refractive Surgery Meeting 2021

RCOphth glaucoma surgery course 2016, 2019, 2025

RCOphth Glaucoma subspecialty day, co- organizer and speaker 2016, 2020 and 2023

UK and Eire Glaucoma Society (UKEGS) 2017, 2020 and 2023-25.

Lecturing

I regularly lecture at local, national and regional meetings. I teach on glaucoma surgery management, referral refinement, epidemiology and a general overview of glaucoma.

I also chaired the subspecialty day Royal College of Ophthalmologists meeting.

I have given lectures and short presentations at the Moorfields International Glaucoma meeting, at the Royal College in London, the European Glaucoma Society and the European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ESCRS). I have lectured at the Swiss Glaucoma Society, the Scottish Glaucoma Club and the Danish Ophthalmology Society.

Audit

I have published a high impact audit of glaucoma surgery which is now used as a benchmarking study worldwide. This study is one of the most cited studies on glaucoma surgery.

I have studied the role of risk stratification and how to deal with issues like regression to the mean. This is likely to be more important with increasing public access to surgical results. My experience in clinical trials, biostatistics and epidemiology is relevant to improving sampling strategies, appropriate analysis and clear presentation of data.

Management

I was Portsmouth Clinical Director for ophthalmology 2008-2012. I am developing glaucoma services particularly in the areas of multidisciplinary clinics and shared care. As glaucoma lead, I have developed a highly successful scheme referral refinement scheme and published the outcome data in the peer reviewed literature. I developed an in-house referral refinement service and a virtual clinic model, enabling the 'geared consultant time' model to deliver efficient outcomes with efficient resource use.

Academic Experience

I have 30 years research experience. Particular areas of interest are glaucoma epidemiology, outcomes and glaucoma surgery. I have acted as CI for a multicenter RCT in glaucoma surgery. I have experience in MIGS and in trials for medical devices I have been PI in over 15 glaucoma studies. I am up to date with GCP. I have previously had statistical training. I act as a peer reviewer for 5 Ophthalmic journals and previously as a section editor for the British Journal of Ophthalmology. I am research lead for ophthalmology in our Trust, for commercial and Portfolio studies.

Selected publications and contributorships

1. [Effects of socioeconomic status on baseline values and outcomes at 24 months in the Treatment of Advanced Glaucoma Study randomised controlled Trial.](#)
King AJ, Hudson J, Azuara-Blanco A, Kirwan JF, Goyal S, Lim KS, MacLennan G; TAGS research group. Br J Ophthalmol. 2023 Jan 3;bjophthalmol-2022-321922. doi: 10.1136/bjo-2022-321922. Online ahead of print. PMID: 36596663
2. [Primary trabeculectomy for advanced glaucoma: pragmatic multicentre randomised controlled trial \(TAGS\).](#)
King AJ, Hudson J, Fernie G, Kernohan A, Azuara-Blanco A, Burr J, Homer T, Shabaninejad H, Sparrow JM, Garway-Heath D, Barton K, Norrie J, McDonald A, Vale L, MacLennan G; TAGS Study Group. BMJ. 2021 May 12;373:n1014. doi: 10.1136/bmj.n1014. PMID: 33980505
3. [Effect of COVID-19 pandemic on glaucoma surgical practices in the UK.](#)
Holland LJ, Kirwan JF, Mercieca KJ. Br J Ophthalmol. 2022 Oct;106(10):1406-1410. doi: 10.1136/bjophthalmol-2021-319062. Epub 2021 Apr 30. PMID: 33931388
4. [How do different lighting conditions affect the vision and quality of life of people with glaucoma? A systematic review.](#)
Enoch J, Jones L, Taylor DJ, Bronze C, Kirwan JF, Jones PR, Crabb DP. Eye (Lond). 2020 Jan;34(1):138-154. doi: 10.1038/s41433-019-0679-5. Epub 2019 Dec 10. PMID: 31822854
5. [Trabeculectomy training in England: are we safe at training? Two year surgical outcomes.](#)
Walkden A, Huxtable J, Senior M, Lee H, Naylor S, Turner S, Ivanova K, Koppens J, Todd B, Macleod A, Sii F, Anand N, Shah P, King A, Broadway DC, Kirwan JF, McNaught A, Bhan-Bhargava A. Eye (Lond). 2018 Jul;32(7):1253-1258. doi: 10.1038/s41433-018-0059-6. Epub 2018 Mar 12. PMID: 29527013
6. [Frequency of visual field testing when monitoring patients newly diagnosed with glaucoma: mixed methods and modelling.](#)
Crabb DP, Russell RA, Malik R, Anand N, Baker H, Boodhna T, Bronze C, Fung SSM, Garway-Heath DF, Glen FC, Hernández R, Kirwan JF, Lemer C, McNaught AI, Viswanathan AC. Southampton (UK): NIHR Journals Library; 2014 Aug. PMID: 25642569
7. [Portsmouth visual field database: an audit of glaucoma progression.](#)
Kirwan JF, Hustler A, Bobat H, Toms L, Crabb DP, McNaught AI. Eye (Lond). 2014 Aug;28(8):974-9. doi: 10.1038/eye.2013.294. Epub 2014 May 30. PMID: 24875227
8. [Examining visual field loss in patients in glaucoma clinics during their predicted remaining lifetime.](#)
Saunders LJ, Russell RA, Kirwan JF, McNaught AI, Crabb DP. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2014 Jan 7;55(1):102-9. doi: 10.1167/iovs.13-13006. PMID: 24282228
9. [Trabeculectomy in the 21st century: a multicenter analysis.](#)

- Kirwan JF, Lockwood AJ, Shah P, Macleod A, Broadway DC, King AJ, McNaught AI, Agrawal P; Trabeculectomy Outcomes Group Audit Study Group.
Ophthalmology. 2013 Dec;120(12):2532-2539. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2013.07.049. Epub 2013 Sep 23.
PMID: 24070811
10. [Shorter axial length and increased astigmatic refractive error are associated With socio-economic deprivation in an adult UK cohort.](#)
Goverdhan S, Fogarty AW, Osmond C, Lockwood A, Anderson L, Kirwan JF.
Ophthalmic Epidemiol. 2011 Feb;18(1):44-7. doi: 10.3109/09286586.2010.528853. Epub 2010 Nov 22.
PMID: 21091202
 11. [Optometrists referrals for glaucoma assessment: a prospective survey of clinical data and outcomes.](#)
Lockwood AJ, Kirwan JF, Ashleigh Z.
Eye (Lond). 2010 Sep;24(9):1515-9. doi: 10.1038/eye.2010.77. Epub 2010 Jun 18.
PMID: 20559331
 12. [Effect of beta radiation on success of glaucoma drainage surgery in South Africa: randomised controlled trial.](#)
Kirwan JF, Cousens S, Venter L, Cook C, Stulting A, Roux P, Murdoch I.
BMJ. 2006 Nov 4;333(7575):942. doi: 10.1136/bmj.38971.395301.7C. Epub 2006 Oct 5.
PMID: 17023435
 13. [Do selective topical beta antagonists for glaucoma have respiratory side effects?](#)
Kirwan JF, Nightingale JA, Bunce C, Wormald R.
Br J Ophthalmol. 2004 Feb;88(2):196-8. doi: 10.1136/bjo.2003.017715.
PMID: 14736772
 14. [Exfoliation syndrome in black South Africans.](#)
Rotchford AP, Kirwan JF, Johnson GJ, Roux P.
Arch Ophthalmol. 2003 Jun;121(6):863-70. doi: 10.1001/archophth.121.6.863.
PMID: 12796260
 15. [Beta blockers for glaucoma and excess risk of airways obstruction: population based cohort study.](#)
Kirwan JF, Nightingale JA, Bunce C, Wormald R.
BMJ. 2002 Dec 14;325(7377):1396-7. doi: 10.1136/bmj.325.7377.1396.
PMID: 12480856

ResearchGate Score 33.94: 71 publications.

Clinical trials

I was CI for a large multicentre RCT based in three centres in South Africa. We recruited over 300 subjects across the three centres. This was the first CONSORT standard randomised controlled trial in ophthalmology to be based in Africa. From this work, I have gained considerable practical experience in managing the potential issues and problems in performing and analysing a major clinical trial and am developing further experience in the analysis of clinical data. I was part of the EAGLE and TAGs trials (leading recruiter for both), and am part of the NAMinG trial of neuroprotection in glaucoma.

Epidemiology

I have worked in epidemiological surveys in South Africa. This has given me experience in managing epidemiological research in the field, and dealing with how to ensure quality whilst maintaining practicality. I have also gained experience in pharmaco-epidemiology using a large General Practice based database. This work has direct applicability to current clinical practice and is widely quoted. I have also used UK database information to explore the effects of social deprivation in glaucoma and cataract, as well as the natural history of treated glaucoma in UK practice.

Evidence Based Medicine

I am a member of the Cochrane Eyes and Vision Group and have completed a systematic review on the effectiveness of beta radiation for the control of postoperative scarring following glaucoma surgery. I have experience in the assessment of clinical trials, meta-analysis and implications for clinical practice.

Editorial Work

I have been a section editor for the British Journal of Ophthalmology and act as a peer reviewer for 5 international Ophthalmology journals.

Professional Societies

I was the president of the UK & Eire Glaucoma Society in 2020. I led the organization of the 2020 UKEGS meeting with over 500 delegates. I worked with the college, advising on COVID19 recovery strategies and setting up and leading the working group to produce guidelines on surgery and a recovery strategy.

I am part of the European Glaucoma Society working group on developing clinical fellowships. I co-wrote two chapters on the new EGS guidelines on reporting glaucoma surgery outcomes. I am a member of two current EGS working parties.

I have advised the Royal College of Ophthalmologists on service development in my role as UKEGS Chair and have acted as an adviser on specific quality assurance issues and on individual clinical practice.

I am a Clinical Trustee of the main glaucoma charity in the UK (Glaucoma UK).

Medico Legal

I have 20-year medicolegal experience of both clinical negligence and personal injury work. I am one of relatively few ophthalmologists that are both a recognized national expert in my own subspecialty area but also continue to see general patients, both in my NHS and private practice. I have worked for plaintiff and defendant's solicitors (80% plaintiff). I have had Report Writing and Expert Witness training with Inspire Medilaw.

Referees

Mr Adam Booth
Consultant Ophthalmologist & Clinical Director
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Mr Sarith Makulowuwe
Consultant Ophthalmologist & Clinical Director
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