Mr Kurt Spiteri Cornish

MD MRCOphthFRCOphth MSc

Medico Legal Curriculum Vitae

Consultant Ophthalmologist and Vitreo-Retinal Specialist

Professional Profile

Consultant ophthalmologist at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, with specialist training in the UK and Australia and a clinical background spanning complex retinal surgery, cataract surgery, general ophthalmology and medical retina. Provides medico-legal opinions for solicitors and instructing agencies acting for claimants and defendants, drawing on active consultant practice, clinical governance responsibilities and expert-witness experience since 2017.

Medico-Legal Expertise

Report practice

Reports on breach of duty, causation, condition and prognosis, together with supplementary opinions and conferences. Experience also includes personal injury, GMC fitness-to-practise and fitness-to-drive reports.

Regulatory and oral evidence experience

General Medical Council expert witness since 2017, with experience giving oral expert evidence at GMC tribunals.

Training and professional development

Maintains dedicated annual medico-legal CPD, including expert-witness conferences and training. Member of The Academy of Experts, with MDU medico-legal indemnity.

Areas of Ophthalmic Expertise

Vitreo-retinal practice and surgery

Retinal detachment, macular hole and complex retinal surgery. Experience includes surgical outcome audit and contribution to the national BEAVRS database.

Cataract surgery

Routine and complex cataract surgery, lens surgeries, management of surgical complications and complex cases referred from other hospitals.

Medical retina and wider ophthalmic practice

Medical retina experience, including age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy; ocular trauma and general ophthalmology.

Clinical Background

2015 — Vitreo-Retinal Fellow, Sydney Eye Hospital, Australia.

2014 — Consultant Ophthalmologist with an interest in medical retina and vitreo-retinal surgery, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

2012–2013 — Trainee Selected Component Fellowship in Vitreo-Retinal Surgery, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

Current Clinical and Professional Roles

Consultant Ophthalmologist and Vitreo-Retinal Specialist, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Clinical Governance Lead for Ophthalmology, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Honorary Senior Lecturer, University of Sheffield (since 2016); FRCOphth Examiner, Royal College of Ophthalmologists (since 2018), including international examining.

Qualifications and Expert Witness Training

Medical and specialist qualifications

2014 — MSc Clinical Visual Science with Distinction, University of Ulster.

2013 — Certificate of Completion of Training in Ophthalmology.

2011 — FRCOphth; 2008 — MRCOphth, Royal College of Ophthalmologists.

2004 — MD, University of Malta Medical School.

Expert-witness qualifications and training

2021 — Bond Solon / Cardiff University Civil Expert Witness Certificate.

2023 — Bond Solon Criminal Expert Witness training and certificate.

Selected Professional and Academic Credentials

Clinical and educational supervisor with experience training vitreo-retinal fellows and senior trainees. Established and led a Basic Surgical Retina Course at the Alcon Academy in Barcelona; former Royal College of Ophthalmologists Microsurgical Skills Course trainer (2016–2018).

Author of peer-reviewed ophthalmic publications and book chapters; journal reviewer for BMJ, Ophthalmology and JAMA Ophthalmology. Clinical trial principal investigator experience includes VOYAGER, VIKING and COMBAT.

Clinical governance experience includes chairing departmental governance and morbidity and mortality meetings.

Professional Memberships

The Academy of Experts; Royal College of Ophthalmologists (Fellow); BEAVRS; EURETINA; British Medical Association; Yorkshire Retina Society; Northern England Ophthalmological Society.

GMC: 6159708 (Full registration). Malta Medical Council: 2964 (Full registration).

Medico Legal Enquiries

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