

Title of project: **Upper Limb and Reconstructive Microsurgery Fellowship**

Primary Location of training: **Mater Misericordiae University Hospital**

Period of training to be funded: **12 months, commencing July 2021**

The Upper Limb and Reconstructive Microsurgery Fellowship is a formal 12-month fellowship with clearly defined clinical, educational and research components with one of Ireland's busiest upper limb services. The fellowship will provide the advanced training needed to create future leaders in the evolving, innovative area of Upper Limb and Reconstructive Microsurgery. The Upper Limb Surgery Service is recognised nationally for its excellence in a range of elective and emergency upper limb conditions. It provides state of the art diagnostics, specialist primary and reconstructive surgery and expert rehabilitation and therapy services. The specialty provides a comprehensive service for conditions such as congenital hand anomalies, rheumatoid and osteoarthritic joint replacements/reconstructions, wrist surgery for arthritis and instability, compression neuropathies, post-trauma reconstruction, as well of management of brachial plexus, spasticity and tetraplegia. The Mater Misericordiae University Hospital (MMUH) is the national centre for brachial plexus injuries and complex neuropathies. Further elective workload is carried out by the supervising consultants at sites such as Cappagh Orthopaedic Hospital, Temple Street Children's Hospital, Mater Private Hospital and Santry Sports Clinic. The fellow will be expected to attend all sites in order to gain exposure to all areas of upper limb surgery, from both a plastic surgery and orthopaedic surgery perspective. This fellowship is designed to equip the trainee with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to commence independent practice as an upper limb surgeon within a multidisciplinary team. With increasing experience there will be opportunities to undertake unsupervised operating lists and clinics. The department provides a wide range of additional specialist surgery including head and neck, craniofacial, breast reconstruction, skin cancer, and lower limb reconstruction, and has a busy microvascular workload; all of which the fellow will participate in according to their interest. Furthermore, the Mater Hospital has an NDTP sponsored microsurgery simulation facility and dedicated microsurgery teaching sessions, which the fellow will have access to. The fellow will work with all the Consultant Hand Surgeons, all of whom have completed fellowship in internationally renowned units worldwide. They will be encouraged to participate in the research, audit and teaching activity within the Hand Surgery Department. A Consultant Hand Surgeon will act as educational supervisor. The Fellow's educational supervisor will be available to discuss cases, debrief incidents and provide on-going support to the post-holder. Regular meetings between the post-holder and their educational supervisor are essential. The fellow will attend morbidity meetings, audit meetings, radiology meetings, as well as contribute to in-house Plastic Surgery and Orthopaedic Teaching Programme at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital. The post holder will have access to wet lab facilities at The Pillar Room in MMUH and will be encouraged to organise and deliver a teaching course for orthopaedic and plastic surgery NCHD's pertaining to hand surgery. Their efforts to undertake the FESSH European Board of Hand Surgery Diploma Examination will be encouraged and supported by supervision from the consultant staff and their assigned educational supervisor.