

Dr Ronan O'Leary PhD FRCA FFICM MA

Consultant in Anaesthesia and Neuro-Trauma Critical Care

Medicolegal CV

Expert opinion in critical care, anaesthesia, and serious medical treatment decisions.

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Professional Summary

I am a Consultant in Neuro-Trauma Critical Care and Anaesthesia, appointed to Cambridge University Hospitals in 2013. My primary clinical focus lies in Neurosciences and Trauma Critical Care and Anaesthesia. I have worked across hospitals throughout the UK and completed a fellowship in Melbourne, Australia before taking up my consultant post at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

I am an Associate Professor affiliated with the Clinical School at the University of Cambridge, and I serve as a member of NHS England's Clinical Reference Group for Adult Critical Care.

I have held leadership and governance roles at Trust, regional, and national levels, and am regularly consulted by hospitals across the UK and Australia for second opinions on cases of the utmost clinical gravity.

My medicolegal practice spans cases involving prolonged disorders of consciousness, complex trauma, emergency and elective anaesthesia, and healthcare systems with a particular emphasis on trauma and critical care networks. My Court of Protection work includes, for example, an application to the Court of Protection (as Doctor A) in a serious medical treatment case involving a patient with a prolonged disorder of consciousness due to neurological complications of Covid, *Re A (Serious Medical Treatment) [2021] EWCOP 51*, where Hayden J described my evidence as "extremely impressive."

I also have specialist expertise in electronic patient records, digital governance, and clinical informatics. I established and directed the Cambridge Healthcare Data Programme and have contributed to national working groups focused on integrating data-driven approaches into critical care and wider health system decision-making.

I was awarded a National Clinical Impact Award in 2023.

Current Roles

Consultant in Neuro-Trauma Critical Care and Anaesthesia, Cambridge University Hospitals.

Associate Professor, Affiliated to the Clinical School at the University of Cambridge.

Senior Clinical Tutor, University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education.

National Clinical Reference Group Member, Adult Critical Care, NHS England.

Scope of Expert Opinion

Critical care, major trauma, severe brain injury, Coronial inquests.

Anaesthesia and perioperative care.

Prolonged disorders of consciousness and best interests decision making within critical care.

Electronic patient records, data standards, and digital transformation in healthcare.

Selected Qualifications

MA, University of Cambridge (2021).

FFICM, Fellowship by Assessment (2014).

FRCA, Fellowship by Examination (2009).

MB ChB, University of Leeds Medical School (2004).

PhD, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Leeds (1998).

Selected Publications

Wolverson A, Kerslake D, O'Leary R (2025) Major Trauma. Guidelines For The Provision Of Intensive Care Services v 3, the Intensive Care Society, London.

O'Leary, R., Coles, J.P. & Prisco, L. (2024) Pressure for change: can we continue to ignore the lack of evidence for blood pressure augmentation to treat delayed neurological deficit following subarachnoid haemorrhage?. *Ann. Intensive Care* doi.org/10.1186/s13613-024-01273-7.

Carrothers A, O'Leary R, *et al.* (2024). AceFIT Trial in older patients with acetabular fractures. *Bone Joint Journal*, 106(4):401-11.

D'Sa A, O'Leary R. (2019) And whatsoever I shall see or hear ... I will never divulge. Confidentiality and disclosure for intensivists. *Journal of the Intensive Care Society*, 22: 158-64.

Thomas E, O'Leary R, (2022) Neurological Support. Guidelines For The Provision Of Intensive Care Services v 2.2, the Intensive Care Society, London.

Plummer M, O'Leary R, (2018). Spinal Cord Injury, in Gupta and Gelb's Essentials of Neuroanesthesia and Neurointensive Care, 231-8. Cambridge University Press. doi.org/10.1017/9781316556801.032.

E Cole, S Gillespie, P Vulliamy, K Brohi, *et al.*, on behalf of the Organ Dysfunction in Trauma (ORDIT) study collaborators, Multiple organ dysfunction after trauma, *British Journal of Surgery*, Volume 107, Issue 4, March 2020, Pages 402-12, <https://doi.org/10.1002/bjs.11361>.

Terms and Availability

Available for instruction across the UK and Ireland.

Turnaround time for reports: 2-4 weeks from instruction.

Full terms and conditions available on request.