

Professor Mark Little was appointed as the Fottrell Professor of Nephrology, School of Medicine, Trinity Translational Medicine Institute, in January 2012. He is a Fellow of Trinity College Dublin and of the Royal College of Physicians (London), and a Consultant Nephrologist in Tallaght and Beaumont Hospitals. He is an international leader in translational autoimmune disease with a focus on the rare condition ANCA vasculitis. He has published and lectured widely on this topic, covering the spectrum from molecular science, in vivo technologies and clinical applications.

Professor Little was born in Doncaster, UK but grew up in Dublin, graduating with honours in Medicine from Trinity College in 1993. After general professional training in the Meath, Adelaide and Mater Hospitals, and attaining membership of the Royal College of Physicians (Ireland) in 1995, he began specialist Nephrology training in Beaumont Hospital and in the Hammersmith and Charing Cross Hospitals in London. He obtained his certificate of specialist training in 2006, and in the meantime was awarded a Wellcome Trust research training fellowship which allowed him to complete a PhD under the mentorship of Professor Charles Pusey in Imperial College London. Having obtained a HEFCE Lectureship, he then took up a Nephrology Senior Lecturer position in University of Birmingham to work alongside Professor Caroline Savage. In 2009, he moved back to London to take up a position as Senior Lecturer in University College London and Consultant Nephrologist in the Royal Free Hospital.

Professor Little returned to Dublin in 2012 to the newly created Chair in Nephrology in Trinity College. With support from his consultant colleagues, he established the Trinity Health Kidney Centre, an academic health science centre that links clinical, education and research endeavours in Nephrology across Trinity College, St James's Hospital and Tallaght Hospital. He was awarded the President of Ireland Young Researcher Award, which provided a five-year Science Foundation Ireland programme grant that allowed him to develop an independent research programme as a principal investigator in the Trinity Translational Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Institutes. His research interests include novel model systems for investigating the pathogenesis of ANCA vasculitis, biomarker development and application of data science techniques in the study of autoimmunity. He co-founded a UK and Ireland registry of patients with ANCA vasculitis which has grown into the largest of its kind in the world, and initiated the Irish Rare Kidney Disease Registry and Biobank which has supported many international studies into vasculitis. In 2015, he established the Chronic Disease Informatics Group which seeks to apply information science technologies to challenges in human disease, going on to establish the HELICAL European consortium which aims to ethically link patient and research data.

A passionate advocate for patients with rare disease (of which ANCA vasculitis is but one example), Professor Little is a co-founder and coordinator of ERN-RITA, the rare immune disorders European Reference Network. He is also lead of the European Vasculitis Society Registry initiative, chair of the Vasculitis Ireland Network and co-founder/chair of UKIVAS, the vasculitis society of UK and Ireland.

Professor Little lives in Rathgar with his wife Maria and their daughters, Sarah and Maggie.