

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Professor Mohamed A. Imam

MD, MSc(Hons), D.SportMed, ELP (Oxon), PhD, FRCS (Tr & Orth)

Director of Research and Development

Ashford and St Peter's NHS Foundation Trust

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Professor Mohamed A. Imam, MD, MSc(Hons), PhD, FRCS (Tr & Orth), is an internationally recognised orthopaedic surgeon, academic leader, and innovator with over 150 peer-reviewed publications and five edited academic textbooks. As Director of Research and Development at Ashford and St Peter's NHS Foundation Trust, he brings a distinctive blend of frontline clinical excellence, translational research expertise, and strategic vision shaped by executive leadership training at Oxford University and AI certification from Stanford University. His work spans trauma, upper limb surgery, AI-enabled healthcare, and digital transformation — always anchored in improving patient outcomes and building a research culture that benefits staff, partners, and the communities the Trust serves.

150+

Peer-reviewed publications

5

Edited academic Reference and textbooks

8+

Awards

4

Collaborative initiatives

RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

Trauma & Orthopaedics

Upper Limb Surgery

AI & Machine Learning

Digital Health

Sports Medicine

Translational Research

BIOGRAPHY

Professor Mohamed A. Imam is an internationally recognised orthopaedic surgeon, academic, and research leader with a distinguished record across clinical practice, scholarship, and innovation. He was appointed Director of Research and Development at Ashford and St Peter's NHS Foundation Trust to lead and strengthen the Trust's research strategy, innovation culture, and academic partnerships.

Professor Imam holds concurrent appointments as Consultant Upper Limb and Complex Trauma Surgeon and Clinical Lead for Trauma Surgery at the Rowley Bristow Orthopaedic Centre, and as Professor and Medical Director at the Smart Health Centre, University of East London — a combination that places him at the intersection of frontline NHS care and applied academic research. His executive leadership training at Oxford University and AI certification from Stanford University further equip him to lead a modern, innovation-driven research directorate.

His research spans trauma and orthopaedics, shoulder and elbow surgery, sports medicine, digital health, and the application of artificial intelligence and machine learning in clinical practice. With more than 150 peer-reviewed publications in leading international journals and five edited academic textbooks, he has developed a substantial body of work that is both scientifically rigorous and grounded in improving patient outcomes.

He is the founder of the OrthoGlobe Collaborative, a network dedicated to advancing musculoskeletal research on an international scale, and co-founder of the FRCS Mentor Initiative, reflecting a sustained commitment to developing the next generation of surgical and academic leaders. He has cofounded other research initiatives in the UK and overseas. At Ashford and St Peter's, he is building a research environment where clinical teams are empowered to engage with evidence, where innovation is embedded

in everyday practice, and where the Trust's work is visible and valued by partners across the NHS, academia, and industry.

"Our ambition is to create a Trust where every clinician feels connected to research, every patient benefits from evidence, and every partnership we build moves care forward."

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

As Director of Research and Development, Professor Imam's agenda is organised around six interconnected priorities that reflect both the Trust's ambitions and the needs of the patients and communities it serves.

Translational research

Accelerating the pathway from research insight to clinical application, ensuring new evidence reaches patients as quickly and safely as possible.

Clinical-academic partnerships

Deepening relationships with universities, research institutions, and industry to connect frontline NHS care with world-class expertise.

Innovation culture

Fostering an environment where new ideas are welcomed across all staff groups, tested rigorously, and scaled where evidence supports their value.

Equity of access

Ensuring that research opportunities and the benefits of innovation reach all patients and communities served by the Trust.

Talent development

Investing in researchers, clinicians, and leaders at every career stage through mentorship, training, and sustainable research infrastructure.

Research visibility

Raising the profile of the Trust's research activity locally, nationally, and internationally to strengthen reputation and attract collaboration.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Executive Leadership Diploma

University of Oxford
Saïd Business School

Machine Learning Specialization

Stanford University
School of Medicine

PhD

Doctoral Research
Orthopaedic Surgery & Innovation

MD (Doctor of Medicine)

Medical Research Degree

MSc (Hons)

Postgraduate Studies
With Distinction

D.SportMed

Sports Medicine Diploma

FRCS (Trauma & Orthopaedics)

Fellowship of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons, England

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2025

SICOT Pioneer Award

International Society of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology

2023

ISAKOS Innovation Grant

International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine

2017–18

ISAKOS Upper Extremity Award

Recognising contributions to orthopaedic research and innovation

2017

NHS Leadership Award

For leadership excellence within the NHS

2017

Arthroscopy Association of North America (AANA) Award

2017

AAOS International Scholar

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

2015

EFORT Foundation Award

European Federation of National Associations of Orthopaedics and Traumatology

2011

AO Travelling Fellowship

AO Foundation, Davos, Switzerland

SELECTED ROLES AND AFFILIATIONS**Director of Research and Development**

Ashford and St Peter's NHS Foundation Trust

Consultant Upper Limb & Complex Trauma Surgeon

Rowley Bristow Orthopaedic Centre, Ashford and St Peter's

Clinical Lead for Trauma Surgery

Rowley Bristow Orthopaedic Centre

Professor and Medical Director

Smart Health Centre, University of East London

Founder

OrthoGlobe Collaborative

Co-founder

FRCS Mentor Initiative

Research & Development Enquiries For collaboration, partnership, or further information about the Trust's R&D directorate, please contact the Research and Development office via the Trust website contact directory.