

**Micheal Vloeberghs**  
**MB ChN FRCS (surgical Neurology)**  
Professor of Paediatric Neurology

## QUALIFICATIONS

1985	MD – Degree in Hospital Medicine and Management Vrije Universiteit Brussel
1993	Neurosurgical Accreditation
2000	PhD – Neuroendoscopic Third Ventriculostomy in the Management of Childhood Hydrocephalus
2002	A.T.L.S. Nottingham
2003	ATLS Instructor Course, RCS London

## CURRENT POST

October 1995	Honorary Consultant Paediatric Neurosurgeon University Hospital  Clinical Associate Professor Academic Division of Child Health School of Human Development Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences University of Nottingham
--------------	---

## CURRENT PRACTICE

### CLINICAL PRACTICE

Current practice involves the running of a comprehensive paediatric neurosurgery practice offering the complete range of paediatric neurosurgical procedures. These include the management of hydrocephalus, head injury, dysraphism, neuro-oncology, craniofacial abnormalities, spasticity and both resective and non-resective epilepsy surgery. As is typical for paediatric neurosurgery, 50% of his practice lies with management of hydrocephalus. The remainder of the practice is fairly evenly distributed.

Special interest is neuroendoscopy. This has become the cornerstone for the treatment of hydrocephalus at QMC. Mr Vloebergh's other interests are neonatal and in-utero neurosurgery. The latter is performed in collaboration with Professor Nicolaides, Kings College, London.

### SPASTICITY SECONDARY TO CEREBRAL PALSY

From the start of appointment at QMC, he has laboured to promote the neurosurgical treatment of spasticity in children. The main focus of the treatment is the use of continuous intrathecal baclofen (ITB). The first implant was ultimately done in October 1998 and since then Mr Vloebergh does approximately two implants per month at QMC. The baclofen programme took a fair amount of negotiating with Local and out of area Health Authorities and has led to the SCHARR report on effectiveness of ITB, of which the expert is a co-

author. Clinical outcome studies are a main part of the programme, which is under constant review by both the Health Authorities and Mr Vloebergh.

## NEUROCYBERNETICS

Branching off from his experience with drug delivery systems, gained experience in the management of chronic pain via morphine or methadone infusion. In selected cases rhizotomy or dorsal column stimulators can be used. Further implants consist of vagus nerve stimulators (VNS) in the treatment of intractable epilepsy. The VNS have now been formally accepted as a treatment for non-lesional epilepsy in children and a VNS program under my initiative is starting at Queens Medical Centre. Deep brain stimulation for dystonia is to be forwarded in the near future and is to expand into the adult age range. All these programs are subject to permanent audit, update and are part of a clinical outcome study.

Future ambition is to create a Neurocybernetic unit at Queens Medical Centre, which will make use of the state of the art cybernetic technology to improve quality of life across the age range.

## TELEMEDICINE

As a further diversification of my interest in applications of technology in medicine, has started a telemedical program at QMC in collaboration with Nottingham Telephones and Tandberg Telecommunication. The network links our neurosurgical theatres to the neurosurgical library for supervision and teaching purposes.

A further link is now established between the operating theatres and the neuropathology department. This allows real time discussion of intraoperative sampling and in return direct view and discussion of a pathology specimen between neurosurgeon and pathologist. Further expansion of the teaching limb is expected in the near future to more remote sites.

## COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE

Has undertaken a training course in acupuncture to gain insight into complementary medicine. Regularly treats patients on a voluntary basis for the common indications of complementary therapy e.g. pain management, stress, substance abuse and various visceral indications.

## PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

Jul 1985-Jun 1988	General Internship, General Surgery Academisch Ziekenhuis Vrije Universiteit, Brussel
Jul 1988-Sep 1989	Neurosurgical Internship, General Neurosurgery Hopital Erasme Universite Libre de Bruxelles
Oct 1989-Sep 1992	Neurosurgical Internship, General Neurosurgery Academisch Ziekenhuis Vrije Universiteit, Brussel
Oct 1992-Jul 1993	Senior Registrar, Paediatric Neurosurgery Queens Medical Centre, Nottingham
Sep 1993-Jul 1995	Consultant, General and Paediatric Neurosurgery Academisch Ziekenhuis Vrije Universiteit, Brussel

## AWARDS

The British Medical Association Film Competition Certificate for Educational Merit BIMA

Award 1998

An Introduction to Neuroendoscopy CD-ROM

As 2nd Messenger Ltd with Hypertech Multimedia Ltd.

Stand Presentation at IPOT1997, Birmingham

Image Processing, Machine Vision, Microscopy

CD-ROM in Surgical Training

## SOCEITIES

- Society of British Neurological Surgeons
- Society of British Functional Neurosurgeons (Sub. SBNS)
- British Paediatric Neurosurgery Group
- UK Register of Expert Witnesses
- Biological Studies Committee, University of Nottingham
- MATMED: EPSRC thematic network on Biomaterials
- MEDILINK panel member
- World Wide Web Steering Group Member, University of Nottingham, 1997-2003
- British Medical Acupuncture Society, COC 2000
- Institute of Neurosciences, University of Nottingham
- Member of the European Advisory panel for Intrathecal Baclofen
- Mid-Trent Cancer Network, Central Nervous System Group
- Member of the Scientific Board of the International Study Group on Neuroendoscopy
- Founding member of the UK ITB steering group (2006)
- Founding member of the European ITB steering group (2007)