



MARY MCCLORY

Working with Disabilities or Long-Term Health Conditions – Sustainable Careers

Before my accident

- ▶ 22 years old
- ▶ Fit and healthy
- ▶ Youngest of 4 children
- ▶ Grew up on a farm
- ▶ Dental Student
- ▶ Worked part time in Tesco
- ▶ County Gaelic Football player
- ▶ Club camogie player
- ▶ Recently got back into cycling-1st event was a charity cycle of 86 miles

28th August 2011





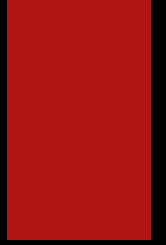
Prof Burden



Returning to the Dental school



What would
patients'
think?



Dental chairs





Extracting
teeth



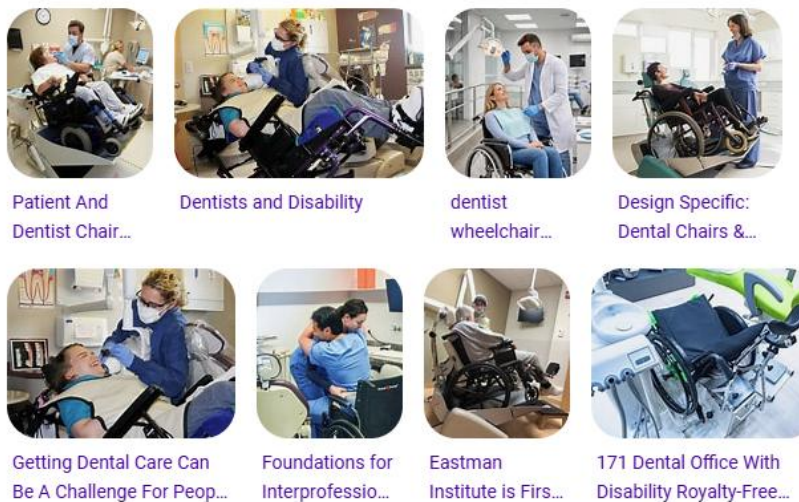


Planning for employment

Hospital vs General Dental Practice

- ▶ There were some difficulties in adapting the chair in the practice with the same design as those used in the SOD due to issues of indemnity. I found that indemnity in the hospital is very different to indemnity in practice.





Dont call them disabled; call them practicing hygienists!

The biggest professional problem these paraplegic hygienists faced was a hand control for the dental handpiece.

Jan. 1, 2000 • 15 min read

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The biggest professional problem these paraplegic hygienists faced was a hand control for the dental handpiece.

Cathy Hester Seckman, RDH

Walk out to the reception area to greet your first patient of the day. Seat her, reach for the X-ray head, take a set of bitewings, go to the darkroom, and develop them. Come back, roll out your stool, and step on the patient chair-adjusting control to raise the chair. During the prophylaxis, use one rheostat for the ultrasonic unit and another for the handpiece. Step on the chair control once more to lower the chair, release the patient, and walk him or her back out to the reception area.

Dr Google



Game changer

- ▶ I used a standard A-Dec 500 with a hand operated hand control when in practice. The hand control is supplied at no extra cost and is a small air driven hand control that is worn outside the glove and can be sanitised easily.
- ▶ Initially I found the new hand control very different but again before long realised the benefit of it. Its design was slightly different in that it was pressure activated and meant that the more pressure that was applied adjusted the speed of the hand-piece. This was of great benefit, and I found this an extremely useful addition.
- ▶ I thoroughly enjoyed my foundation dental year in that the team I was working with were extremely friendly and the patients were great. There were a few that tested my patience but overall, I learnt a lot of extremely valuable skills from my year in practice that I hope I will carry on to the future.

Dental Core training year 1 and 2

- ▶ Completed an Oral Surgery, Restorative and Orthodontics rotation for 2 years in the School of Dentistry
- ▶ People I knew
- ▶ Place I knew
- ▶ Equipment I knew
- ▶ Transfer of chair back was more difficult than expected



PIVOT

- ▶ While working as a DCT, I carried out a research project with Prof Ikhlas El-Karim

This building
was a
wheelchair
users
dream



Difficulties carrying out a lab-based PhD



TRANSPORTING SAMPLES



LEARNING NEW LAB SKILLS

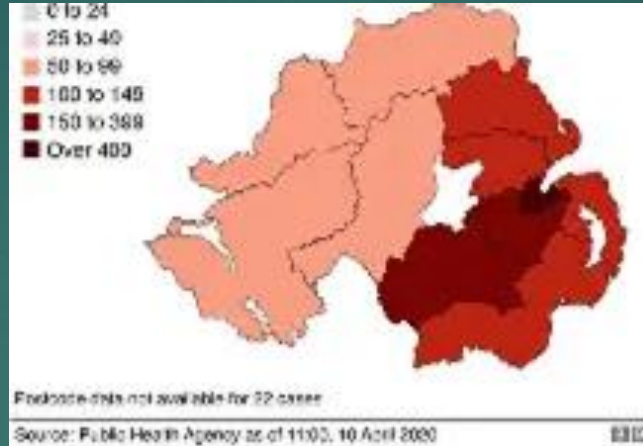


WORKING IN SOMETHING
COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TO
DENTISTRY



1st year PhD

HAD MY FIRST BABY

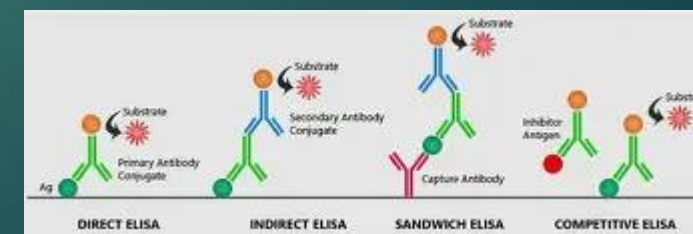
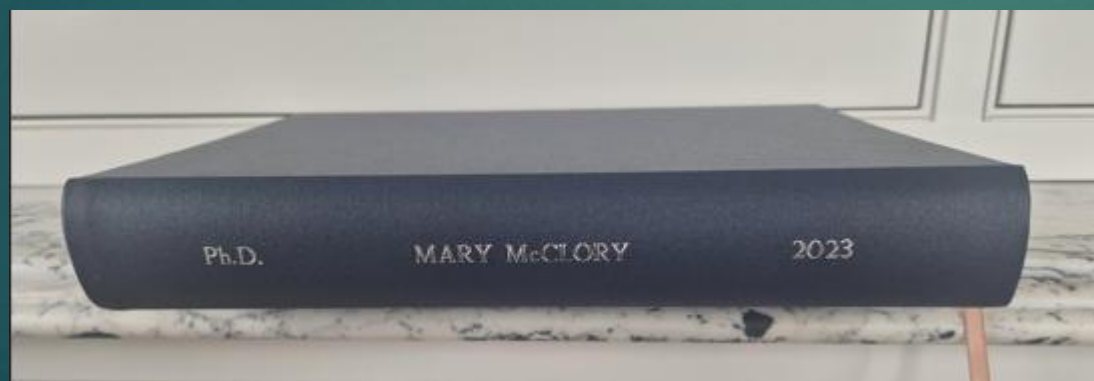
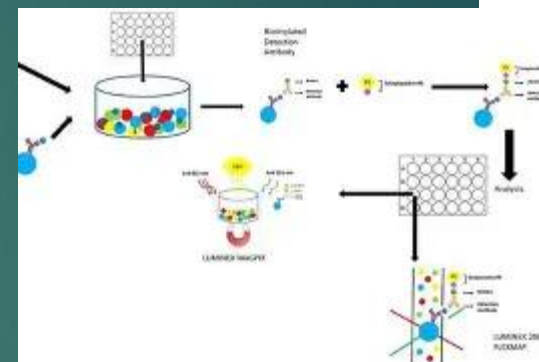


Returned
from
maternity
leave to
COVID



Completing PhD

- ▶ Radiographic examination of patients
- ▶ Completing experiments
- ▶ Writing, writing and more writing!





Dr
squared!

Worked as a locum StR

- ▶ School of dentistry
- ▶ Restorative department





Research
fellow for
RCSI Dublin



Mummy
again!!

Where am I now?



This is me!

Mum of 2
beautiful
children

Dentist

PhD
graduate

Wife

Wheelchair
basketball
player

Swimmer

In summary



WHAT MAKES THE
DIFFERENCE



WHAT MAKES THINGS
EASIER



WHAT MAKES THINGS
MORE DIFFICULT