



Biography

Professor Manju Kurian is a Professor of Neurogenetics at UCL-Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health. She is also a Consultant Paediatric Neurologist at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

After graduating from Cambridge University, she trained in Paediatrics before subspecialising in Paediatric Neurology. At the end of her clinical training, she undertook a PhD (University of Birmingham) investigating the molecular genetic basis of childhood neurological disorders (2007-2011). She moved to UCL after her PhD, and is now an independent Principal Investigator at the Institute of Child Health.

She has been awarded a Wellcome Intermediate Fellowship (2012-2017), L’Oreal For Women in Science Award (2017), NIHR Professorship (2017-2022), ICNA Jon Stobo Award (2018) and the The Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research (2019-2025). Her grant income exceeds £10 million and she has >200 peer reviewed publications including works in *Nature Genetics*, *Science*, *Science Translational Medicine* and *Lancet Neurology*.

Scientific Focus

Her current research encompasses gene discovery for childhood neurological disorders, including early onset epilepsy, neurodegeneration and movement disorders. Her lab uses mainly cell models to investigate the underlying pathological basis of disease. She works closely with UCL Gene Therapy groups to develop novel therapeutic strategies for children with pharmacoresistant movement disorders. Her long-term goal is to translate her research for patient benefit, through improved clinical diagnosis and precision medicine approaches.