



## Cleveland Clinic, Ireland's Royal College of Surgeons team up on research, technology

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Tracy Boulian/The Plain Dealer

Cleveland Clinic will team with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland on research, testing and development of medical devices.

The [Cleveland Clinic](#) has signed a "memorandum of understanding" with the [Royal College of Surgeons](#) in Ireland Thursday to work together to research, develop, test and eventually sell medical devices throughout Europe.

"The RCSI is networked into other parts of the world and that has implications into the global reach of the Clinic," said Sean McEllin, a vice president for Enterprise Ireland, a national economic development group that has 13 offices across Europe.

Details of the Clinic's partnership with RCSI were not disclosed.

Executives say there is no concrete financial contract, rather they expect to collaborate on new companies that will eventually make money.

The Clinic's agreement with RCSI is expected to develop medical devices companies that focus on general surgery, orthopedic and software technology.

Together, the institutions will be able to run clinical trials for sales approval from both the European Union and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.



Plain DealerChris Coburn

"They're the old pros in navigating an international system," said Chris Coburn, director of [Cleveland Clinic Innovations](#) said of the RCSI agreement. "We can use their leverage, their experience and their network. That global reach comes back to benefit Cleveland."

In return, RCSI, which is a medical school with undergraduate and post-graduate studies, created a business development center last year. It will reap the benefits of the Clinic's expertise in developing start-up businesses.

Cleveland Clinic Innovations has already spun-off more than two dozen companies with technologies ranging from heart pumps to wireless patient monitors.