

Professor Maheshan Nirmalan

Professor Maheshan Nirmalan hails from the village of Karainagar in Jaffna, Sri Lanka. He received his early education in Jaffna and Bandarawela before entering the Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, where he graduated in 1990 with Second Class Honours (Upper Division) and distinctions in Physiology, Obstetrics, and Gynaecology. He pursued postgraduate studies at the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM), University of Colombo, earning his MD (Anaesthesiology) in 1994 and receiving the prestigious Laddie Fernando Memorial Gold Medal.

In 1996, Prof. Nirmalan obtained his Fellowship of the Royal College of Anaesthetists (FRCA) in London. He then pursued a PhD in Physiology at the University of Manchester, conducting research as a Research Associate at the Medical Research Council's Trauma Group, and was awarded his doctorate in 2001.

Since 2002, he has served as a Consultant in Intensive Care Medicine at the Manchester Royal Infirmary and has been a Professor of Medical Education and Training at the University of Manchester since 2015. From 2016 to 2024, he also held the position of Vice Dean for Social Responsibility and Public Engagement at the University.

Prof. Nirmalan holds honorary professorships at the University of Cairo (Critical Care Medicine) and the University of Gulu, Uganda (Post-Conflict Studies). He serves as a member of the International Scientific Advisory Board of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

In addition to his academic and clinical contributions, Prof. Nirmalan is a past president of the Sri Lanka Medical and Dental Association (UK) and a trustee of the Meththa Foundation UK, a charity supporting post-conflict rehabilitation in Sri Lanka.

His current research interests focus on Global Health and the application of complex systems theory to biological systems.