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Neil R. MacIntyre completed a medical degree at Cornell Medical College in New York, New York. His postdoctoral training included an internal medicine residency at Cornell-New York Hospital and a pulmonary disease fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. MacIntyre also served three years as a US Navy flight surgeon at the Naval Aerospace Medical Research Lab in Pensacola, Florida.

Dr. MacIntyre is Past President of the American Lung Association of North Carolina and the National Association of Medical Directors of Respiratory Care, and he is the current Vice-Chair of the American Respiratory Care Foundation. Among Dr. MacIntyre's honors include Alpha Omega Alpha, the Surgeon General's Award for Aviation Medicine, the Forrest Bird Award for lifetime scientific achievement, and the Jimmy Young Medal from the American Association for Respiratory Care. Additionally, Dr. MacIntyre is listed in both "Best Doctors in America" and "Who's Who in the World."

Dr. MacIntyre has published more than 200 articles and reviews in the peer-reviewed literature, he has served as editor for eight books, and he is on the editorial board of five important journals. Currently, Dr. MacIntyre is on the steering committee of two large National Institutes of Health multicenter trials: the Long Term Oxygen Trial (LOTT), and the Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome Network (ARDSnet). His research interests range from clinical pulmonary physiology to large scale randomized trials in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and acute respiratory failure.