

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hotel Dieu Hospital eye specialist lands in international Top Ten

(Kingston, ON, April 6, 2011) A pediatric ophthalmologist at Hotel Dieu Hospital and Queen's University has taken top honours at an international ophthalmology conference for his research presentation on utilizing new technology for mass vision screening.

In a field of more than 100 poster presentations at the 37th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (AAPOS), Dr. Brian Arthur scored a Top Ten ranking for his work on the value of using digital photo-screening technology to detect strabismus (eye misalignment) in children.

The study demonstrated the accuracy and precision of a special photo-screening camera, making a strong argument for utilizing the technology as a effective method for mass vision screening programs in our schools.

The findings build on previous research, also conducted with Kingston-area school-age children, in which Arthur proved the camera's accuracy in pinpointing cases of childhood amblyopia, or lazy eye, which can be corrected if caught early enough.

With close to 900 registrants this year, the five-day AAPOS meeting is the largest annual gathering of pediatric eye specialists in the world. Poster presentations earn Top Ten ranking based on their exemplary scientific value, documentation and visual quality.

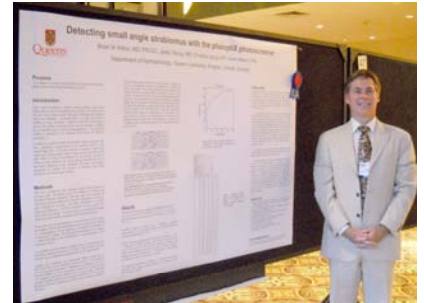
"I was totally surprised and pleased to make the 'best of show' category," says Arthur. "The AAPOS event attracts world-class clinicians and researchers in the field of pediatric eye care, so it was an honour to have my research included and even more so when I was invited to make a special presentation as a Top Ten winner.

"The Awarding Committee advised me that my poster was chosen on the basis of the scientific rigor of the study, as well as adding novel information in the area of vision screening. From my perspective, amblyopia remains the No. 1 cause of preventable vision loss in children and medical advances in this area could have important societal benefits."

Arthur's co-authors on the presentation were Hotel Dieu ophthalmology residents Drs. Jacky Yeung and Christine Leung, and Dr. Karim Rahim from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Queen's.

Hotel Dieu Hospital is the ambulatory care teaching and research hospital for Kingston and Southeastern Ontario, affiliated with Queen's University. We provide expert care to more than 500,000 people in the region through specialized programs including pediatrics, medicine, cardiology, surgery, mental health, oncology and urgent care. We deliver quality, safe health care, while advancing innovative research and educating the health care professionals of the future.

Leading the transformation of ambulatory care



Hotel Dieu Hospital ophthalmologist Dr. Brian Arthur scored an international Top Ten ranking for research related to vision screening in children.