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# WHCC Affordable Health Awards Bestowed to Three Breakthrough Developments

***In launch of WHCC Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative, Diagnostics For All, Safe Water Today, University of California at Berkeley honoured***

**April 26, 2010 - Woburn, MA**– Diagnostics for All took top honours at this year's World Health Care Congress (WHCC) Affordable Health Innovation Awards Program, which featured 50 participants in this, its second year. Diagnostics for all was recognized for developing a remarkably practical and inexpensive paper-based microfluidics platform that gives health workers in developing countries the power of a laboratory.

The program, held in April in Washington D.C., is part of the WHCC Affordable Health Innovation Global Initiative www.whcchealthinnovations.com.

It costs just $0.0003 to make one of the postage stamp-sized devices, and a single commercially available printer can make more than 70 million of them per year.

"This device exemplifies that type of breakthroughs we are celebrating at this one-of-a kind event," says Vidar Jorgensen, Chairman of the WHCC.

Patrick Beattie, a staff scientist at Diagnostics for All, accepted the award from 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Muhammad Yunus on the second morning of the seventh annual World Health Care Congress, held in Washington D.C. Yunus is founder and managing director of Grameen Bank and Grameen Health.

Two groups received honorable mentions at the awards presentation. Harry Poliak accepted the award for Safe Water Today, which was recognized for the Tulip Siphon Filter. Clean water is unavailable to many of the world's poor. Safe Water's filter acts as a home-water treatment system, eliminating harmful contaminants from drinking water. About 70,000 of these filters are in use around the world. Tests have shown that they remove 99.99% of e-coli from water as well as other harmful organisms. The filter is small, easy to use and maintain, and requires no electricity to operate. During a recent Cholera epidemic in Zimbabwe, 8800 Siphon filters were disseminated in conjunction with hygiene education. None of the families using this filter reported cases of cholera.

Erik Douglas, a post-doctoral scholar at the University of California Berkeley, took home an honorable mention for CellScope. A microscope merged with a cell phone, CellScope allows for high-quality cellular images to be captured and transmitted. This clever gadget can be used for remote evaluation and epidemiological surveillance of diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria.

The Affordable Health Innovations program features tools, services, and programs from around the globe that provide sustainable health solutions to populations that often lack access to even the most basic care. While some of the innovations use cutting-edge technologies, others are non-technical community-based programs or services that have big health impacts. The program includes an exhibit during which participants show posters that detail their innovations. It also runs concurrently with WHCC's International Health speaker track.

**About the WHCC Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative**

Organized by the World Health Care Congress, The WHCC Affordable Health Innovations Global Initiative is designed to showcase global innovations that are providing affordable and sustainable health solutions to global populations that do not have ready access to traditional care. In addition to the year-round Web site, the program includes poster presentations at the World Health Care Congress U.S., the World Health Care Congress Europe in Brussels, and the World Health Care Congress Middle East in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. For more information visit, www.whcchealthinnovations.com