

**MONTEFIORE RESIDENTS TRAINING TO BE EYE DOCTORS URGED TO EXPLORE  
RESEARCH PROJECTS WITH SUPPORT FROM FIGHT FOR SIGHT FOUNDATION**

NEW YORK (July 25, 2013) -- The Fight for Sight Foundation's recent visit to [Montefiore Medical Center](#) was more than a chance to tour facilities and meet the clinical team. Arthur Makar, executive director of the foundation, came to Montefiore to speak to new ophthalmology residents about research opportunities that can be theirs with support from the Foundation.

Each year, the Fight for Sight Foundation awards \$250,000 in grants to ophthalmology residents who wish to pursue clinical or laboratory research aimed at advancing eye and vision care. Fight for Sight was founded in 1946 by Mildred Weisenfeld, who lost her vision to retinitis pigmentosa, and it was the first organization in the United States to promote eye research. Since its founding, Fight for Sight has granted over \$20 million and funded more than 3,000 research grants which have contributed directly or indirectly to major advances in ophthalmology and vision research, including development of gene therapies, the intraocular lens (IOL), donor cornea preservation, glaucoma therapies, various uses of ophthalmic lasers, and stem cell research.

Accompanying Mr. Makar during his visit to the medical center was Roy Chuck, M.D., Ph.D., chairman, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

"We are very pleased to introduce Arthur to our physicians-in-training, many of whom have great interest in exploring new treatment modalities for eye diseases and conditions," Dr. Chuck said. "Ophthalmology residents at Montefiore have the good fortune of being exposed to a very diverse patient population that presents with myriad eye problems, both common and uncommon. It is our hope that, with valuable support from Fight for Sight, some of our promising young physician researchers will be inspired to explore new ways to cure these ailments."

Montefiore and Einstein's ophthalmology training program is among the largest in the New York-metropolitan area. From basic scientific research laboratories at Albert Einstein College of Medicine to ophthalmic clinical trials conducted at Montefiore, the department emphasizes a "bench-to-bedside" approach to advanced medical care.

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