

SAAFP/Schering Plough Award

JM Mugambe wins award for best original article by a registrar

A research article on pain relief for women during labour has earned Dr JM Mugambe, at the time a postgraduate student of the Free State University, special honours at the 12th National Family Practitioner Congress that was held in Rustenburg in August 2008. As principal author of the article "Knowledge of and Attitude Towards Pain Relief During Labour of Women Attending Cecilia Makiwane Hospital's Antenatal Clinic, South Africa", Mugambe received the award for the best original research article by a South African registrar/ MMed student in family medicine, published in South African Family Practice in 2007. His co-authors were M Nel, LA Hiemstra, and WJ Steinberg. The award comprises R5,000 donated by Schering Plough, South Africa. Mugambe is the first recipient of this award.

Mugambe was born in Uganda and did his primary, secondary and undergraduate university education there. He graduated with an MBChB from Makerere University, Uganda in 1990. After his internship in Uganda he worked as a medical officer in a district hospital in Uganda for three years. He came to South Africa and started working as a medical officer at Cecilia Makiwane Hospital in early 1994. During his rotations in obstetrics both in Uganda and South Africa he noticed the pain and anguish that mothers had during labour. He wanted to know more about the subject of pain relief in labour and wanted to find out what the mothers thought about the situation. When he did his MFamMed programme at Free State University he chose this topic for his master's dissertation.

The winning article can be read on the web address: SA Fam Pract 2007;49(4):16. http://www.safpj.co.za/index.php/safpj/article/view/622/726.