



## Sunnybrook receives national award for adopting innovative disinfection technology

### **Case study shows significant improvements to operations and cost savings**

Sunnybrook received an award recently for innovation in technology with its case study on the hospital's new highly automated washing and disinfection system.

The upgrade improved productivity and cleaning quality, decreased annual operating costs by almost \$350,000, reduced water consumption by 7.7 million litres annually, decreased electricity consumption by 9.5 kW per cycle, reduced overall chemical use, improved worker safety and morale, and decreased overtime.

"This award represents national recognition from our peers on how the adoption of an innovative and effective use of a technology in a hospital setting can significantly improve operations while resulting in a significant cost-saving measure for the Canadian health care system," says lead author Abdool Z. Karim, Manager of the Regional Processing Centre at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. "The award validates the time and effort we expend in moving reprocessing technology to the next level of innovation and the shifting paradigm of science."

The study, entitled Innovative Technology Conserves Resources and Generates Savings: A Case Study from the Sunnybrook Regional Processing Centre was published in Healthcare Quarterly in 2009, and was voted Best Overall Poster by delegates attending the 2010 Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) Symposium in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

CADTH is a national body that provides Canada's federal, provincial and territorial health care decision makers with credible, impartial advice and evidence-based information about the effectiveness and efficiency of drugs and other health technologies.

The 2010 CADTH Symposium, which commemorated CADTH's 20th anniversary, attracted more than 400 participants from all sectors of the health care system - policymakers, researchers, administrators, manufacturers, patient representatives and students.

Delegates selected the Sunnybrook poster from more than 50 scientific posters exhibited at the Symposium, based on criteria such as originality and significance to decision makers.