

## Summary 2014 OI Foundation Science Meeting

The Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation held the 14th OIF Scientific Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. The meeting titled, "New Treatments for Osteogenesis Imperfecta," was chaired by Dr. Frank Rauch of Shriners Hospitals for Children, Montreal. Dr. Rauch serves on the OI Foundation's Medical Advisory Council.

Dr. Rauch began the meeting by reminding attendees that treatment of OI lies in many domains including providing the right medication, using surgical interventions and providing the person with OI with the most appropriate rehabilitation. He noted that, from a clinical perspective, scientists and physicians need to convert new basic information into improved therapeutic approaches. The meeting included presentations by leading scientists from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. Presenters provided an update on bone drugs currently used to treat OI drugs that are emerging and potential drugs on the horizon. Another section of the meeting examined existing and new surgical treatments for both children and adults with OI. Techniques for minimizing complications and for solving difficult surgical questions such as severely bowed arms, scoliosis and elbow or shoulder fractures were discussed. The last section presented information on the new technologies that are being applied to rehabilitation. These technologies have great potential for increasing mobility in people with OI of all ages.

An interesting theme arising across the presentations was the increased awareness that many factors can affect how a person will respond to a specific drug or rehabilitation treatment. These include age, sex and OI Type. Learning more about these variables will be important for future research. The OI Foundation's website links to the abstracts of each presentation.

The abstracts of the Young Investigator Poster Session are also included. This year five young investigators were invited to the meeting. Their presentations covered research on pain in OI; vibration and resistive exercises in Type I OI; and a mouse model that examines the sclerostin antibody. The OI Foundation continues to be committed to finding new scientists passionate about finding new treatments for people living with OI. The OI Foundation thanks the Buchbinder Family Foundation for their continued and generous support of this important meeting.

This article appeared in the Summer 2014 issue of *Breakthrough* the OI Foundation newsletter.