

Specialist Connect
MEDIA RELEASE

EARLY DETECTION KEY TO GLAUCOMA PREVENTION

6th March 2011: **EARLY DETECTION KEY TO GLAUCOMA PREVENTION**

Raising Glaucoma awareness and encouraging all adults to be pro-active with their eye health are the key aims of the 2011 World Glaucoma Week (Mar 6-12) which commenced on Sunday.

Glaucoma is a leading cause of blindness world-wide. It is referred to as the 'silent eye disease' because there are few early warning signs and symptoms.

According to Glaucoma Australia, of the 300,000 Australians suffering from Glaucoma, 50 per cent remain undiagnosed.

Glaucoma is a group of eye conditions that damages the optic nerve cells that transmit information from the eye to the brain resulting in progressive visual loss.

Abnormally high fluid pressure, termed intraocular pressure, in the eye is the primary cause of optic nerve damage in Glaucoma.

Glaucoma Australia recommends that all adults over the age of 40 years have regular comprehensive eye examinations to check for early signs of the disease.

Dr Bill Glasson, a General Ophthalmologist at Specialist Connect in Woolloongabba, agrees. 'As with many eye conditions, early detection is the key to reducing your risk of damage from Glaucoma' he says.

'Every two years, routine eye checks should be undertaken with your General Practitioner or Optometrist who will then refer you on to an Ophthalmologist if required' says Dr Glasson.

People who have a family history of the disease must be especially pro-active as they have a four times greater likelihood of developing the disease themselves.

Specialist Connect is a specialist medical practice located in Woolloongabba. For more information on Specialist Connect, visit www.specialistconnect.com.au

For more information on Glaucoma, visit Glaucoma Australia at www.glaucoma.org.au

Specialist Connect Media Contacts:

Beth Sinclair or Emma Stone t. 07 3039 1323 marketing@specialistconnect.com.au