

Cape Town doctor a cut above

JUNIOR BESTER

A CAPE Town doctor has won international medicine's top paediatric surgery award.

Professor Alistair Millar, 63, was awarded the Denis Browne Medal by the British Association for Paediatric Surgeons, which monitors paediatric surgery worldwide.

Millar is the Charles FM Saint professor of paediatric surgery at Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital

and the University of Cape Town.

He is the second South African doctor to have won the medal in its 58-year history, the first being the late Professor Jan Hendrick Louw, also of UCT, who won it in 1980.

The Denis Browne Gold Medal is named after the late Australian-born British surgeon considered the father of modern paediatric surgery.

Millar, who lives in Newlands, said he was happy to

have received the award. "It is a tremendous accolade for me personally.

"We regard the award as the highest honour in world paediatric surgery."

He said paediatric surgery at the Red Cross hospital had received "tremendous" recognition abroad.

Millar began working at the Red Cross hospital in 1974. In 2004 he was appointed head of paediatric transplantation at Birmingham Children's Hospi-

tal in England, a post he held until 2007 when he returned to South Africa as head of paediatric surgery. He became a member of the British Association of Paediatric Surgeons in 1996.

Millar is in Yokohama, Japan, where he is a guest lecturer at an international health conference.

Charles FM Saint was a British surgeon who established the first surgery school in South Africa in 1920.



ACCOLADE: Professor Alistair Millar was awarded the Denis Browne Gold Medal in Belfast. On his right is Mr Gordon McKinlay, president of the British Association for Paediatric Surgeons and Millar's wife, Sue.