SHORT TERM TRAINING
IN
VITRECTOMY (Virtual)

ARAVIND - ALCON VITRECTOMY TRAINING CENTRE

Aravind Eye Hospital-Coimbatore
Aravind-Alcon Short Term Training in Vitrectomy

Aravind Eye Care System in collaboration with ALCON has established the ARAVIND - ALCON VITRECTOMY TRAINING CENTRE at Aravind Eye Hospital, Coimbatore. This academic training programme provides high quality training for Vitreo-Retinal surgeons.

The retina department at Aravind Eye Hospital, Coimbatore was started in 1997 under the leadership of Dr. V. Narendran. In the year 2019, it handled 1,26,299 outpatient visits, performed 11,377 laser procedures and 3,623 major vitreo-retinal surgeries. Focus is also given to develop trained human resource through long term fellowship programme. Every year 6 fellows complete their long term VR fellowship and become qualified to perform better in their subspeciality.

Need For This Training

Retinal diseases are likely to become a major cause of blindness in the developing world. The number of Diabetic Retinopathy patients is on the rise with increase in the diabetic population, and at the same time facing a severe resource scarcity. Ophthalmic education should prepare professionals not only for the challenges they will face today, but also for future developments.

Among 11,000 ophthalmologists in India, only 7-8% of them are trained in the management of Vitreo-Retinal diseases. According to the Vitreo Retinal society membership directory, only 375 retinal specialists are registered, among whom only around 150 are practicing VR surgeons. This means that we need more trained VR surgeons to treat the patients with Vitreo-Retinal diseases and also to train future generations of ophthalmologists. With this background, Aravind Eye care System offers this Short Term Training in Vitrectomy which is the first of its kind in Asia. The main objective of this training program is to finetune the candidates in basic and advanced pars plana vitrectomy surgery as well as the maintenance of the vitrectomy machine.

Training facilities

Aravind - Alcon Vitrectomy Training Centre has all the necessary infrastructure and a well established Retina - Vitreous centre with a high patient volume to provide excellent training in basic and advanced vitrectomy surgical techniques through EYESI Simulator.

EYESI Simulator

Training is given with the help of EYESI ophthalmosurgical simulator which gives a very realistic hands on surgical experience. One can manipulate different surgical instruments like in real time surgery. It has basic training modules for the beginner and advanced training modules in handling various pathological conditions for the experts. These include posterior vitreous detachment induction, epiretinal membrane peeling, internal limiting membrane peeling, endolaser training module apart from the basic modules like navigation training, forceps training, vitrector training and anti-tremor training modules. In addition, the simulator also has the BIOM with SDI so as to get the candidate experienced in wide field vitrectomy.

Wet Lab

- Instructor’s table with instrument sets
- Microscope with a camera connected to an LCD screen for viewing
- Trainee’s table with instrument sets
- Table mounted microscopes with side-viewing attachment
- Vitrectomy Simulator
- Vitrectomy Machine
Library
- Reference books on vitrectomy
- Videos, CD's and DVD's on vitrectomy surgeries will be provided to the candidates
- Audio Visuals on vitrectomy procedures

Teaching curriculum
The course is designed to ensure that the candidate gains proficiency in
- Training in basic technique of vitrectomy
- Training in performing in basic and advanced pars plana vitrectomy surgery
- Training in the maintenance of the vitrectomy machine.
- Didactic Lectures
A faculty member will be constantly available to demonstrate and assist the candidate at all stages.

Course Duration - 2 weeks

Course Schedule
This training programme is divided into two sections as follows:
- Morning session: Observation/Second Assistant in Retina Operation theater
- Afternoon session: Working with EYESI ophthalmosurgical vitrectomy simulator in Wet Lab and didactic lectures

Didactic lectures will be on the following
- Vitreoretinal surgical anatomy
- Instrumentation including vitrectomy machine & microsurgical instruments and sterilisation techniques
- Visualisation techniques during vitrectomy
- Basic Techniques in Vitrectomy
- Surgical Techniques in Diabetic Retinopathy
- Surgical Techniques in Proliferative Vitreoretinopathy
- Vitreoretinal surgery for idiopathic epiretinal membranes
- Surgical Treatment of Macular holes
- Subretinal Surgery Techniques
- Surgical techniques in Trauma
- Pediatric Vitreoretinal Surgery especially in retinopathy of prematurity
- Management of dislocated intraocular lens
- Management of Endophthalmitis

Eligibility Criteria
- Candidates who have undergone long-term training in Vitreo-Retinal Surgery to get trained in basic and advanced surgical techniques.
- Vitreo-Retinal surgeons who are not currently practicing but would like to set up a Vitreo-Retinal surgery unit and to refine their surgical skills.
- Candidates from other developing countries are also eligible. The candidates should apply in the prescribed application form and will be admitted after scrutinising their credentials and certificates.
- 2 candidates per month are selected
Course fee
For Indian & Nepal Candidates - INR 23,600/-
For International candidates - USD 590/-
(Inclusive of 18% GST to the course fee)

Accommodation fee
Rs.3000/- (for India & Nepal candidates)
US$ 120 (for International candidates)
Food and other expenses are extra

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