



Inside

NEWS AND EVENTS
LAICO HAPPENINGS
TRAINING PROGRAMMES
PUBLICATIONS
AUROLAB NEWS
MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

Aravind News Team

Archives

Hit Counter 1

Quote

Man needs his difficulties because they are necessary to enjoy success – Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

Editorial

Aravind was founded with a mission to eliminate needless blindness and for that, it had to be proactive in the way it delivered the services. Rather than waiting for patients to come on their own to the hospital, Aravind ventured into the community, delivery eye care at the doorsteps of people. Outreach eye camps contribute 30% of the patient volume at Aravind. And most of these run successful because of the whole-hearted support of the sponsors. It was a proud moment as Aravind conducted its 25th annual camp at Thirukailayapuram, which received overwhelming response.

Aravind's Low Vision Clinic in Madurai launched two products - Dignify that reads out texts for the visually impaired and Visual Intervention Kit with Analytics for children with Special needs (VIKAS) - in collaboration with Mindtree Foundation. These android-based mobile applications will significantly improve the quality of life of these people.

Elaborate programmes were arranged on the occasion of World Glaucoma Week to sensitise the public on the seriousness of the condition and the importance of proper follow-up.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Eye Care Awareness Programme by Vision Centre

Natham, March 3, 2018



Vision Centre at Natham organised an awareness programme for the students and their parents of NPR College of Science and Technology. The session focused on various eye diseases and conditions. Around 120 persons attended.



Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) Screening Camp

Aravind-Chennai, March 4



The camp was inaugurated by Dr.P.Namperumalsamy. An awareness exhibition was arranged in the hospital premises to educate the patients about Diabetes and how it affects the vision. Ms.Meg Leuker, longtime friend of AECS inaugurated the exhibition. About 250 patients from nearby areas attended the camp and benefited. Of the 250 patients visited, 144 were Diabetic patients of which 13 patients were identified (newly) as having DR and 10 patients were already under treatment for DR. 20 Patients were referred for other specialty consultation and 37 patients referred to cataract Clinic and 58 were referred for refraction.



Tour for Housekeeping Staff

Aravind-Tirunelveli, March 6



Housekeeping staff were taken on a one day tour to Vivekananda Kendra and Bay Watch. The team visited Ramayan Dharshan which was recently inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.



Women's Day Celebrations

Aravind-Tirunelveli, March 9



Smt Balasaraswathi, a retired Tamil teacher, orator and poet was invited to deliver a talk on Women Development and Empowerment. Her talk was very interesting, informative and inspiring which was attended by MLOPs and lady admin staff members.



World Glaucoma Week – 2018

Aravind, March 11- March 18



Madurai



Pondicherry



Chennai



Tirunelveli



Aravind-Madurai, March 11- March 18

At the special screening camps arranged for retired Government employees, a total of 380 persons were screened. 40 persons were newly identified with glaucoma. Dr. R. Sharmila gave an awareness talk on Madurai FM. Glaucoma awareness programme for the public was organised at Anna Nagar and Kalavasal.

Aravind-Pondicherry

Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry and Puducherry Municipality jointly organised a novel 3D exhibition on March 9 Near Gandhi Statue, Beach Road which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Puducherry – Dr. Kiran Bedi, in the presence of Mr. S. Ganessin, Commissioner, Pondicherry Municipality, Mr.U. Niranjana, IRS Commissioner, GST & Central Excise Department of Pondicherry, Rtn. P. Perumal Barathi, President, Rotary Club of Pondicherry Elite. On March 11, Glaucoma awareness walk was conducted from which started from Gandhi Statue at beach road to Bharathi Park, Pondicherry.

Glaucoma screening was done at Beach Road for the public including tourists using I-Care tonometer and Optomed fundus camera from March 9-17. On March 14, an awareness programme was conducted in Suriyan FM by Dr. Annamalai, Medical Officer, Glaucoma Clinic. Glaucoma awareness exhibition was arranged in the hospital premises. Senior Citizens camp was conducted at City Centre of Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry at Bussy Street from March 12-17. Glaucoma screening camps were conducted in all vision Centre.

Aravind-Chennai

World Glaucoma Awareness week (March 11th - 18th) was celebrated with enthusiasm by the small team at Chennai. Models, posters, videos and spectacles that simulate visual field defects were kept on display at the awareness exhibition. Patients took a keen interest in viewing these exhibits. A family screening drive was organized and messages sent to all patients with primary glaucoma.

Aravind-Tirunelveli, March 11-17

The world glaucoma week was observed in Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli from 11th to 17th March 2018. As a part of this, various awareness programmes were organized. An exhibition for the public was arranged from 11th till 17th March in the hospital campus. Glaucoma Screening Camp was Conducted on March 16 at M S University Constituent College of Arts &

Science for Women, Sathankulam. Total of 360 patients were screened out of which 16 patients were newly identified. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan gave a talk on Glaucoma in Hello FM on March 14. Glaucoma Awareness walk was organized From Tirunelveli Railway station till Aravind Eye hospital and the walk was flagged by Dr. Adam Ali, IMA President – Tirunelveli. Around 200 staff including Doctors, MLOPs and admin staff participated. Awareness notices were distributed to the general public during the walk.

Congenital glaucoma awareness programme was conducted for the Congenital glaucoma patients and their family members. Around 26 patients and their family members (80 members in total) attended the programme. Puppet show was organised emphasizing the need for regular follow up in children with Congenital glaucoma. Dr. Madhavi gave an informative talk on "Treat early, Save Vision" followed by an awareness Talk by Dr. R. Ramakrishnan. Dr.Meenakshi stressed on the need for Post - Op follow up and Vision therapy for better vision. There was an open discussion and feedback session. Street Play was organized and the play by "Sri Sakkarathalvar kalaikulu" was staged in VOC ground, Palayamkottai on March 17 for creating awareness on Glaucoma among the public.



Observing Dr. V's Centenary: Library Week Celebrations

Aravind-Madurai, March 12-17



In commemoration of Dr. V's birth Centenary, Aravind Library and Information Centre observed Library Week which was a unique programme where, for the first time, all the Libraries of Aravind Eye Care System together formed one hand, one force, with the sole aim of reaching out, imparting, teaching, learning & spreading knowledge to all. During the week, several programmes and competitions like photo quiz on clinical images, poster display, special lecture, quiz and book exhibition were conducted for the users. Winners of the competitions were honored with trophies and certificates at the valedictory function. The function also witnessed the launch of an Editorial style guide developed by the Aravind Communications team with support from a volunteer.



Team Building Session

Aravind-Salem, March 15

Sessions were organized for all the employees to develop the spirit of teamwork. There were 6 group games in which the employees participated as four teams and there was one event combining all the employees. All the employees enjoyed a lot and involved themselves in to it. The reflection session in the middle of the games was very interactive getting inputs from all the doctors and MLOPs.



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy Honored at the Doyens – Guardians of Health Programme

Chennai, March 16



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy was felicitated and honored at the programme organized by The Hindu to highlight the exemplary work done by healthcare professionals in Tamil Nadu who have endeavoured to make healthcare inclusive, affordable and accessible while ensuring world class standards of eye care. Dr. Karthik Srinivasan received the award on behalf of Dr. Namperumalsamy.



Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Medical Camp for Aravind Employees

Aravind-Madurai, March 16



HR department arranged the ESI Medical Camp for Aravind staff in the hospital premises. About 525 staff were screened. Specialists from Gynecology, Dentistry, ENT, Orthopaedics, Dermatology as well as Siddha, Homeo and Ayurvedha doctors from ESI came forward to screen the employees of Aravind Hospital. It was an opportunity for the employees to have their complete health checkup under one roof.



Eye Donation Awareness Program for Primary Health Centre Staff

Samayanallur, March 20



Mr. D. Saravanan, Eye Bank Manager – RAIEB handled a session for the staff of primary health centre at Samayanallur on the importance of eye banking and eye donation, hospital cornea retrieval programme and cornea transplant surgeries. Close to 80 members including Chief Medical officer, Health Inspectors, paramedics and trainees attended.



ReLOAD Phacoemulsification (Review Learning on Advancement and Development) Workshop

Aravind-Tirunelveli, March 24-25



The workshop was organized in association with Alcon. 20 Medical Officers from Madurai, Coimbatore, Theni, Salem and Puducherry attended the workshop.



Launch of Mobile Apps

Aravind-Madurai, March 22



Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai in collaboration with Mindtree Foundation developed and launched two mobile applications, Dignify that reads out texts for the visually impaired and Visual Intervention Kit with Analytics (VIKAS) for children with special needs.

Dignify is an android based application which is installed in the users android mobile. The mobile is placed on a portable, foldable gantry positioned above the book or any reading material. The application takes a screen shot of the page and starts reading out the content in the book. Aravind Eye Hospital joined hands with Mindtree to develop VIKAS. This was developed based on the assessment protocol used for these children at Aravind Eye Hospital. VIKAS helps in improving the cognitive vision of children with special needs, which further aids in shaping a better future.

At the function held in LAICO, Mindtree CEO&Managing Director, Mr. Rostow Ramanan handed over these applications to the Vision Rehabilitation team.



Graduation Ceremony of Crèche Children

Aravind-Madurai, March 25



Tiny tots of Janakiamma Child Care Centre celebrated their graduation day with great fun. A total of 13 children graduated this year. Certificates were handed over to the kids. There was a special demo of Taekwondo performance by the older kids in the crèche. Almost all the senior members of Aravind attended the function.



Inauguration of Muthukulathur Vision Centre

Muthukulathur, March 26



Aravind's 66th Vision Centre was inaugurated at Mudhukulathur by Dr.P.Sundaresan, Senior Scientist, Department of Molecular Genetics, Aravind Medical Research Foundation. Mrs. Elavarasi, Town Panchayat Executive officer, Mudhukulathur; Mr.Ravi, Block Development Officer, Kamuthi; Dr.Paneerselvam, PC Hospital, Muthukulathur., Mr.Deivanthiran Ex BDO. Mudhukulathur, Mr. Balakrishnan, CBCID SI, Mudhukulathur, Mr. Duraipandi, Teacher Govt Hr.Sec.School Mudhukulathur and Jamaath Leader, Mudhukulathur; Mr.Ramesh, camp Organiser were present during the occasion. The VC team screened 131 patients on the inaugural day. Field workers Mr. Nagalingam and Mr. Raman were involved in the propaganda.



Inauguration of Reading and Grading Centre for Diabetic Retinopathy

Tirunelveli, March 28



The centre was formally inaugurated by Dr.M.Kannan MS MCh , Dean of Tirunelveli Medical College Hospital, Tirunelveli. Dr.Syed Mohideen, Retina Consultant, AEH, Tirunelveli gave a live demo of the real time grading of the images through telemedicine platform with the help of ADRES Software. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer, AEH-TVL, Dr.Ramalakshmi, DPM & HOD(Ophthal), Dr.Ravichandran, Medical Superintendent, TVMCH, Dr.Mohan, HOD-Medicine TVMCH, Dr.Anandhi, Dr.Harihara Subramanian, Dr.Reeta, of TVMVH, Dr.Syed Mohideen , Retina Consultant, AEH, TVL, PGs, PMOAs from CHCs, Staff and Coordinators from Aravind Eye Hospital and TVMCH were present during the occasion.



Thirukailayapuram Silver Jubilee Camp

Aravind-Coimbatore, March 31



Aravind has been conducting free eye camps in Thirukailayapuram since 1994 which have always been highly successful. Over the past two decades, over 21,000 patients have been screened and over 12,000 underwent surgery through this camp. Aravind-Madurai used to conduct this camp which was subsequently taken over by Coimbatore in 2014. The silver jubilee camp was held on March 31, 2018 which screened 1463 people and brought in 1098 patients for surgery.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Needs Assessment Visits



Dr. Devendra, Mr. Meenakshi Sundaram, and Mr. Mohammad Gowth made a visit to Sri Vishnu Dental College, Bhimavaram from February 20 to 23, to see firsthand the systems and practices and also to see if principles from Aravind model of eye care delivery can be used to build capacity of the dental college in outreach area.

Mr. Sanil Joseph and Dr. Divya Karthik visited Jyoti Eye Hospital, Mastichak, Bihar to get an idea about the operational practices there and also to see how Aravind/LAICO can be of support in increasing the hospital's performance.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for March 2018 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for March 2018
Long Term Fellowship Programs - For Ophthalmologists		
Fellowship in IOL & Anterior Segment	Madurai	2
Fellowship in Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Theni	2
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
Fellowship In Glaucoma	Chennai	1
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Pondicherry	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Clinical Observership Program In Diagnosis and Management Of Glaucoma	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	2
	Pondicherry	1
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	1
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	2
	Pondicherry	1
Small incision cataract surgery	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Paramedical courses		
Ocularist	Madurai	1



PUBLICATIONS

- Sanil Joseph, Tiruvengada Krishnan, Ravindran RD, Maraini G, Camparini M, Chakravarthy U, Thulasiraj RD, Hutchings A, Fletcher AE. **Prevalence and risk factors for myopia and other refractive errors in an adult population in southern India.** Ophthalmic Physiol Opt. 2018 Mar 25. [Epub]
[Article View](#)
- Grantz KH, Chabaari W, Samuel RK, Gershom B, Blum L, Worden L, Ackley S, Liu F, Lietman TM, Galvani AP, Prajna L, Porco TC. **Spatial distribution of leprosy in India: an ecological study.** Infect Dis Poverty. 2018 Mar 27;7(1):20.
[Article View](#)
- Chidambaram JD, Prajna NV, Srikanthi P, Lanjewar S, Manisha Shah, Elakkiya S, Lalitha P, Burton MJ. **Epidemiology, risk factors, and clinical outcomes in severe microbial keratitis in South India.** Ophthalmic Epidemiol. 2018 Mar 26:1-9. [Epub]
[Article View](#)
- Wei X, Sonoda S, Mishra C, Khandelwal N, Kim R, Sakamoto T, Agrawal R. **Comparison of Choroidal Vascularity Markers on Optical Coherence Tomography Using Two-Image Binarization Techniques.** Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2018 Mar 1;59(3):1206-1211.
[Article View](#)
- Sadasivan KS, Neelam Pawar, Meenakshi R, Ramakrishnan R. **Optic nerve aplasia: A case series.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2018 May;66(5):717-719.
[Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

International Women's Day

Aurolab, March 8



Aurolab contacted a debate competition for the staff members on the title, "Pennai Valarthu Edupathu Veeda / Naada". Prof. Chandra from Meenakshi College was the judge for the debate. Staff members actively participated in the debate.



Guest Lecture on Oral Health

Aurolab, March 13

World Oral Health Day is celebrated every year on March 20. It is an international day to celebrate the benefits of a healthy mouth and to promote worldwide awareness of the issues around oral health and the importance of oral hygiene.

On account of World Oral Health Day, Aurolab arranged a guest lecture on "Oral Health" for the staff members. Dr.S.Suraj; MDS; Dentist & Facio Maxillary Surgeon handled the session. In this session he narrated about oral hygiene and its importance. The staff members felt the session very useful and informative.

**MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS****March - 2018**

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondi cherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumal pet	Tuti corin	CBE CC	Chennai	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS													
Paying (New & Review)	59,899	8,667	28,827	32,988	27,393	7,153	4,840	11,857	3,641	5,415	3,286	9,158	2,03,124
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	17,950	2,270	7,197	10,920	9,693	NA	1,336	2,037	1,733	961	NA	3,279	57,376
OUTREACH OUT PATIENT													
Comprehensive Eye Camps	10,790	1,758	3,341	9,422	7,603	NA	124	1,025	NA	176	NA	788	35,027
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	582	312	485	625	182	NA	NA	86	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,272
Glaucoma Camps	NA	626	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	626
Refraction Camps	1,125	453	2,339	645	658	NA	2103	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	7,423
Mobile Refraction Unit	NA	NA	NA	1,626	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,626
School Screening camps	414	NA	60	NA	NA	NA	120	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	594
Paediatric Camps	NA	NA	286	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	286
Vision Centres	23,760	2,189	12,248	4,813	7,541	NA	1,095	NA	1,182	NA	NA	NA	52,828
Community Centres / City Centres	9,637	2,189	3,017	NA	3,082	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17,925
Total OP Examinations	1,24,157	18,464	57,800	61,039	56,152	7,153	9,618	15,005	6,656	6,552	3,286	13,225	3,79,107
Total Number of Camps	38	10	20	32	32	NA	1	8	NA	1	NA	2	144
SURGERIES													
Service Proportion of Cataract Surgeries													
Paying	3,791	463	1,366	1,853	1,805	480	231	736	231	160	137	417	11,670
Free (Direct)	3,369	283	871	1,623	1,270	41	211	280	362	124	NA	220	8,654
Camp	3,260	292	832	1,997	2,153	NA	46	292	68	55	NA	22	9,017
Total Cataract Surgeries	10,420	1,038	3,069	5,473	5,228	521	488	1,308	661	339	137	659	29,341
Note: NA - Not Applicable													



