Editorial

July was a busy month with Aravind hosting the state level ophthalmologists’ conference, Vaigeye 2015 at Madurai. Thanks to the meticulous planning and preparations done by the organizing committee – everything went spick and span and the 1,100 delegates who attended the conference were all praise for the smooth conduct of the conference. At this point, we would also like to place on record our heartfelt gratitude to Madurai Ophthalmologists Association and TNOA office for their support without which, it would not have been a grand success.

Aravind Eye Hospital, Theni under the strong leadership of Dr. P. Namperumalsamy initiated a project to achieve the goal of WHO Universal Eye Health global action plan by reaching and serving all those in need of eye care. Supported by Topcon and Mehra Eye Tech, it aims to focus on reduction of prevalence of blindness due to diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, refractive errors and cataract. Infinite Vision, written by Pavitra Mehta and Suchitra Shenoy still receives widespread acclaim since its release three years ago. Recently, the book was translated into Tamil and the version was released at a special function organized at Madurai.

It was with a shock that people especially Indians all over the world received the news of the passing away of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. He had always been a strong supporter of Aravind and had kept close relations with Aravind’s senior team. Aravind deeply mourns the death of such an inspiring and outstanding personality.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

Aravind News Team

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

63rd Annual Conference of Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association

Madurai, July 24 – 26

**Lifetime Achievement Award**
- Dr. M. Srinivasan in appreciation of his contributions to the field of ophthalmology.

**Dr. M.N. Endowment Award**
- Dr. Haripriya Aravind

**Best Paper Award**
- Dr. R. Josephine Shyamala

Just a Minute Session
- Dr. P.S. Vivek won third place for his presentation on calibration of tonometers
Dr. Anubhuti Vyas and Dr. Sabyasachi won first prize in the Prof. E T Selvam Memorial Quiz Competition.

SPECIAL EVENTS

63rd Annual Conference of Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association

Madurai, July 24-26

Madurai Ophthalmologists Association and Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai jointly organized the 63rd Annual Conference of Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association at Velammmal Medical College, Madurai. Shri Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Mindtree, Bangalore was the chief guest who gave the inaugural address. Guests of honour included Sri Muthuramalingam, Chairman - Velammmal Medical College and Velammal Group of Educational Institutions and Dr. Revathi Kailairajan, Dean, Madurai Medical College and Govt. Rajaji Hospital. Dr. Nirmal Fredrick, Secretary – TNOA read the annual report of the association. Outgoing president, Dr. D. Ramamurthy distributed awards to the winners of the last year. Dr. K. Premraj, President – TNOA delivered the presidential address. Dr. Revathy Kailairajan and Sri Muthuramalingam offered felicitations. Dr. R. Kim proposed a vote of thanks. Around 1100 delegates attended the conference.

Launch of Infinite Vision (Tamil)

Aravind – Madurai, July 11

Aravind – Madurai hosted the release of Tamil version of Infinite Vision at a function organized in the research building. Eminent persons including Mr. Manohar Devadoss, Mr. Suryanarayanan, Madurai Readers Club and Ms. Premalatha Paneerselvam, Principal – Mahatma Schools shared their thoughts on the book and inspired the audience. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy and Mr. G. Srinivasan released the book presenting a copy to each of these dignitaries. The programme was shared via teleconference to all the satellite centres.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Excursion for Housekeepers

Aravind – Tirunelveli, July 2

Housekeepers at Aravind - Tirunelveli were taken on a one day tour to Courtallam, Spa of South India. They went to Old Courtallam, Main falls and Five falls. All had a wonderful time and it was a refreshing experience.

Officers from Institute of Secretariat Training and Management visit Aravind Eye Hospital

Aravind – Madurai, July 2-5

Government officers from ISTM visited Aravind in two batches. Each batch consisted of forty members. The teams visited the various facilities, vision centre and a camp.
Vision day  
July 7

Aravind observed Chief’s Memorial Day as Vision Day in all its centres and Aurolab. Senior doctors and staff shared their experiences of working with Dr. V. Special bhajans were organized. Staff observed a moment of silence, paying homage to the noble soul.

Family Screening Camp for Glaucoma  
Aravind – Madurai, July 12

Glaucoma department at Aravind – Madurai organized an exclusive glaucoma screening camp for the members of a family in Devakkottai. This is a family with more than a few members with glaucoma and on counselling for family screening, they have requested for this family screening to be conducted at Devakkottai since many of their family members were congregating for a function. About 125 members of this family reported for a comprehensive eye screening. The screening included testing blood for possible genetic analysis, if required. Those with any pathology other than refractive errors were referred to the base hospital.

Inauguration of Topcon Project, Vision for All  
Aravind – Theni, July 10

Aravind – Theni initiated the Vision for All project supported by Topcon and Mehra Eye Tech. The project aims to provide comprehensive eye care services to eliminate needless blindness in Theni District and develop it as the best eye care zone in the state of Tamil Nadu. Objectives include reduction of prevalence of avoidable vision impairment, major causes being diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma and uncorrected refractive errors. It also aims to work with government health facilities through a mode of public-private partnership for providing eye care services. The target areas include Aravind’s primary eye care centres, community eye clinics, eye hospitals, diabetes centres, NGOs, government primary health centres and private schools.

At the inauguration, Dr. P. Namperumalsamy gave a brief about the project. Dr. Kathirkanu, Dean, Theni Govt. Medical College, Dr. R. Thaigarajan, Secretary – IMA, offered felicitations. Dr. T. Kanchana, Deputy Director, Health Services, Theni delivered the special address. Dr. Ravi Mehra, Managing Director, Mehra Eye Tech, Pvt. Ltd flagged of the mobile van. Following the inauguration, a special CME was arranged on common eye diseases, which was attended by about 40 physicians and diabetologists in and around Theni.

Inauguration of Glaucoma Clinic  
Aravind - Pondicherry, July 10
Glaucoma clinic at Aravind - Pondicherry moved to renovated premises and the new clinic was inaugurated by Dr. Krishnadas in the presence of Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Dr. R. Venkatesh, Dr. K. Tiruvengada Krishnan, Dr. K. Veena, Mr. Kanagaraj, Manager - General, Mr. Poobalan, Manager - Administration and the entire Glaucoma Clinic staff.

Hospital Day Celebrations: Aravind – Udumalpet

Udumalpet, July 18

The hospital celebrated its 3rd hospital day with a variety of programmes. Dr. R. Sankarananthan welcomed the audience. Dr. Janani presented the annual report. Dr. R.D. Ravindran was the chief guest.

Inauguration of Ilayangudi Vision Centre

Ilayangudi, July 27

53rd vision centre was inaugurated at Ilayangudi on 27th July, Monday by Dr. V.P. Ravichandran - Consultant, Free Hospital, Aravind - Madurai in the presence of Dr Mohamed Faizal, Medical officer and various other community leaders. 131 patients were examined on the inaugural day.

Aravind Pays Homage to Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam

Aravind, July 28

Aravind centres paid homage to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, erstwhile President of India who passed away on July 27. Aravind had a longstanding association with him and his presence was always there on many momentous occasions. Video clips of him attending functions at Aravind were shown during the memorial prayer meet. Staff observed a moment of silence to pay their respect to the departed soul.

MLOP Graduation Ceremony

Aravind – Pondicherry, July 31

The function commenced with a prayer song. Ms. Selvarani and Ms. Subbulakshmi lighted the holy lamp. Florence Nightingale pledge was taken by all the trainees by holding lit candle. Dr. R. Venkatesh, Dr. K. Tiruvengada Krishnan,
Dr. K. Veena, Dr. S. Josephine Christy, Mr. P. Kanagaraj, Mr. P. Poobalan and Mr. V. Santhanam gave felicitation address. A few trainees shared their experiences during the training period.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

22nd Annual meeting of Indian Eye Research Group - ARVO - India Chapter
LV Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, July 25-26

**Paper presentation**

K. Thirumalai Raj
- Identification of novel indels and splice variants in retinoblastoma patients

K. Jhansi Rani
- Role of miR-203 in suppressing stemness in human corneal epithelial stem cells (CESCs) through ?Np63a inhibition

**Poster presentation**

B. Hemadevi
- Differentially expressed micro RNAs in human cornea with fungal keratitis

V. Nithya
- Comparative genome analysis of ocular methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus isolates

Roopesh R. Pai
- Quantitative proteomics of serum biomarkers for proliferative diabetic retinopathy

Sandhya Krishnan
- Glycoproteome analysis of tear from aspergillus flavus keratitis patients

63rd Annual Conference of Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association
Madurai, July 24-26

Dr. R. D. Ravindran
- Introduction and update on epidemiology of endophthalmitis in India

- Optimal outcome following cataract surgery

Dr. M. Srinivasan
- Medical and surgical management of infective keratitis

Dr. Lalitha Prajna
- Guidelines for sterilization, aseptic practices and microbiological surveillance of OT

- Microbiological and molecular techniques aiding the diagnosis of keratitis

Dr. Sashikant Shetty
- Management of heavy eye syndrome

Dr. Venugopal Reddy
- Classification of trauma

Dr. Manoranjan Das
- Corneal trauma

Dr. R. Kim
- Diabetic vitrectomies - indications, timing and classic techniques

Dr. Banusree
- Managing the diabetic patient

Dr. Padmavathy
- Visual field defects
  Dr. Mahesh Kumar
- The pale optic disc - how to work up
  Dr. Jayagayathri
- Evaluation of proptosis
  Dr. Maneksha
- Orbital infections
  Dr. Usha Km
- Orbital tumours
  Dr. George Varghese
- Drainage implants in the management of refractory glaucoma
  Dr. Ganesh Raman
- Trabeculectomy with mitomycin, trabeculectomy with oogen
  Dr. Mohideen
- Glaucoma drainage devices
  Dr. Manju R Pillai
- Paediatric glaucoma surgery
  Dr. Jyotirmayi Biswas
- TB or not TB - perplexing question
- Procedures in uveitis
  Dr. Balamurugan
- Mishaps and misses in the diagnosis and management of uveitis
  Dr. Manohar Babu
- Which investigation to choose - practical tips
  Dr. Anuradha
- Individualizing treatment - best medical management options
- Specific medical management of bacterial, fungi, and parasitic corneal infections
  Dr. George Manayath
- CRVO management - translating trials into practice
  Dr. Karthick Srinivasan
- ROP - clinical profile and management
  Dr. Manavi Sindal, Dr. Karan, D. Atheeswar, Dr. Manish Tandon
- Intravitreal injections - techniques and complications
  Dr. N. Radhika, Dr. Anand Rajendran, Dr. Manohar Babu, Dr. Sudha K Ganesh, Dr. Mahesh Kumar
- Pitfalls in diagnosis and management
  Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi
- Retinopathy of prematurity: a rising menace
- Paediatric ophthalmology in a nutshell
- Optics and low vision aid
  Dr. R. Venkatesh, Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Dr. Kalpana Narendran
- Video symposium of challenging phaco cases
  Dr. V. Narendran
- Retinal vascular disorders
  Dr. Tiruvenkatakrishnan
- Surgical options in managing VKC
  Dr. R. Krishnadas
- Epidemiology of glaucoma in India
  Dr. Namrata Umang
- How did I manage a senile ectropion?
  Dr. Haripriya Aravind
- Wound complications in SICS
- Live cataract surgery
  Dr. Madhu Shekar
- Small capsulorhexis or pupil in SICS
  Dr. A. Ravichandra
- Is aneathesis safe for young children?
  Dr. Rajesh Prabhu
- What power, which IOL posterior capsular management in paediatric cataract
  Dr. K. Veena
- Newer modalities in amblyopia management
  Dr. Anitha Raghavan
- Risk factors involved in graft rejection and their control
  Dr. Kowsalya
- Optic nerve head affections
  Dr. Shivakumar
- Hydro procedures and cortical aspiration
  Dr. Niraj Agarwal
- Phaco fluidics
  Dr. Rodney Morris
- How do we dye - FFA and ICG
  Dr. Kalpana
- Guidelines on prescribing spectacles
  Dr. Usha Km
- Refractive error management
  Dr. R. Revathi
- Ocular surface disorders
  Dr. Shashikant Shetty
- Selection of frames and spectacles - special situation
  Dr. Ilango
- Latest gadgets in low vision aids
  Dr. Meenakshi
- Selection of lenses and tints
  Dr. Jatinder Singh
- MacTel - clinical profile and management
  Dr. Anand Rajendran
- CSCR - the typical atypical and management
  Dr. Pankaja Dhoble
- Macular dystrophies demystified
  Dr. Saravanan
- Pharmacologic agents and adjuvants in vitrectomy
  Dr. Naresh Babu
- Complications of vitrectomy
  Dr. Mona Kurana
- Medical therapy for glaucoma - practical tips
  Dr. Ganesh Raman
- Surgical therapy for glaucoma – updates
  Dr. R. Kim
- Surgical retina
  Dr. R. Krishnadas, Dr. Ganesh V Raman
- Curbside consultations in glaucoma diagnosis and treatment
  Dr. Dayakar Yadella
- Secondary IOL: choosing the right procedure for the right patient (IC)
  Dr. Manasnath
- Incorporation of human nucleus in goat's eye for phaco beginners

LAICO HAPPENINGS

Eyexcel 2015

LAICO, July 21 - 24

The 8th batch of Eyexcel was held at LAICO with 16 teams from countries such as Peru, Bangladesh, Malawi, Nepal, China and India. Dr. Karl Golnik, Professor of Neuroophthalmology, Cincinnati Eye Institute, USA. Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman - AECS welcomed the gathering. Dr. Karl Golnik spoke on the changing paradigms in eye can training. Mr.
R.D. Thulasiraj and Dr. R. Pararajasegaram set the context for the workshop.

### Training Programmes

#### Training Programmes Enrollments for August 2015 at Aravind Eye Care System

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<th>Course title</th>
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<td><strong>Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists</strong></td>
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<td>Anterior Segment &amp; Intraocular Lens Surgery</td>
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<td><strong>Instrument Maintenance Course - Non Clinical Courses</strong></td>
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<td>Instrument Maintenance for Technicians</td>
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PUBLICATIONS

- Shah VM, Prabhu V.  
  - A rare case of glomus jugulare tumor presenting as papilledema.  

  - Retinopathy of prematurity and neurodevelopmental disabilities in premature infants.  

  - Topical 5% natamycin with oral ketoconazole in filamentous fungal keratitis: A randomized controlled trial.  

  - Knudson’s hypothesis revisited in Indian retinoblastoma patients  
  Asia-Pac J Clin Oncol 2015 E pub ahead of print. Article View

  - Whole-exome sequencing reveals a novel frameshift mutation in the FAM161A gene causing autosomal recessive retinitis pigmentosa in the Indian population.  

MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

July - 2015

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<th>Hospitals</th>
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<th>Theni</th>
<th>Tirunelveli</th>
<th>Coimbatore</th>
<th>Pondicherry</th>
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**Paediatric Camps**: Total 195 cases

**Vision Centres**: 15,256 cases

**Community Eye Clinics**: 4,111 cases

**Total OP Examinations**: 100,670 cases

**SURGERIES**

**Paying**: 3,400 cases

**Free (Direct)**: 3,852 cases

**Camp**: 3,044 cases

**Total Surgeries**: 10,296 cases

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*ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM*

*Admin*