



Inside

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
SPECIAL EVENTS
NEWS AND EVENTS
CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE
LAICO HAPPENINGS
TRAINING PROGRAMMES
PUBLICATIONS
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

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 Velammal 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 – Velammal 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 Devakottai 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 off 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 methicilin 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 ologen*

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*

- *Refractive error management*

Dr. Usha Km

- *Learning the basics in oculoplasty - lid malpositions and ptosis*

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		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrollments for August 2015
Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists		
Cornea	Pondicherry	1
	Madurai	2
Anterior Segment & Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	1
	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	2
General Ophthalmology	Madurai	2
Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Pondicherry	1
Glaucoma	Coimbatore	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	1
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Tirunelveli	1
	Pondicherry	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	1
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity	Coimbatore	1
Short Term Courses - For Paramedicals		
Refraction Techniques	Madurai	8
Management Courses - Non Clinical Courses		
Management Training and Systems Development for Hospital Administrators / Managers	Madurai	10
Instrument Maintenance Course - Non Clinical Courses		
Instrument Maintenance for Technicians	Madurai	6



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- Beligere N, Vijayalakshmi P, Tandon M, Mittal A, Floora J, Vijayakumar B, Miller MT.
- *Retinopathy of prematurity and neurodevelopmental disabilities in premature infants.*
Semin Fetal Neonatal Med. 2015 Jul 30. [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Rajaraman R, Bhat P, Vaidee V, Maskibail S, Raghavan A, Sivasubramaniam S, Namperumalsamy VP.
- *Topical 5% natamycin with oral ketoconazole in filamentous fungal keratitis: A randomized controlled trial.*
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- Namrata G, Vanniarajan A, Akram Husain, Jeyaram I, Thirumalairaj K Santhi, R, Muthukkaruppan V, Usha Kim
- *Knudson's hypothesis revisited in Indian retinoblastoma patients*
Asia-Pac J Clin Oncol 2015 E pub ahead of print. [Article View](#)
- Zhou Y, Saikia BB, Jiang Z, Zhu X, Liu Y, Huang L, Kim R, Yang Y, Qu C, Hao F, Gong B, Tai Z, Niu L, Yang Z, Sundaresan P, Zhu X.
- *Whole-exome sequencing reveals a novel frameshift mutation in the FAM161A gene causing autosomal recessive retinitis pigmentosa in the Indian population.*
J Hum Genet. 2015 Aug 6. doi: 10.1038/jhg.2015.92. [Epub ahead of print]. [Article View](#)



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

July - 2015

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Tuticorin	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS											
Paying (New & Review)	54,181	7,640	25,583	32,978	25,179	6,144	4,181	10,164	2,853	5,265	174,168
Free (Direct walk-in)	17,343	2,153	7,291	11,174	9,553	13	598	505	1,038	793	50,461
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS											
Regular Eye Camps	8,050	1,352	3,325	9,033	8,081	-	-	1,361	-	173	31,375
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	460	81	-	1,061	510	-	-	-	-	-	2,112
Refraction Camps	601	517	112	1,045	756	-	-	-	-	-	3,031
Mobile Refraction Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	692	-	-	692
School Screening camps	668	-	-	1,910	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,578

Paediatric Camps	-	195	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	195
Vision Centres	15,256	4,842	8,229	3,090	4,222	-	893	-	995	-	-	37,527
Community Eye Clinics	4,111	1,672	2,504	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,287
Total OP Examinations	100,670	18,452	47,044	60,291	48,301	6,157	5,672	12,722	4,886	6,231	310,426	

SURGERIES

Paying	3,400	394	1,423	1,632	1,297	218	162	551	140	149	9,366
Free (Direct)	3,852	255	1,076	1,829	1,106	70	101	104	148	110	8,651
Camp	3,044	213	645	2,531	2,557	-	34	271	28	61	9,384
Total Surgeries	10,296	862	3,144	5,992	4,960	288	297	926	316	320	27,401

