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Quote

Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it
 Albert Einstein

Editorial

Diabetic retinopathy is a leading cause of vision loss and blindness. Mostly asymptomatic in the beginning, patients often do not seek eye care at an early stage. Vision loss and blindness from diabetes can often be prevented through early detection and timely treatment. Patients with diabetes approach their physicians for guidance in managing all aspects of the disease. Recently, on the occasion of World Diabetes Week, programmes were arranged by Aravind - Theni to create awareness about the disease.

It is very difficult to come across artists who pursue art for the sake of art and not for any monetary benefits or fame. Perumalda was such a talented artist who never got into limelight. He was trained in Shantiniketan, university founded by the Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Perumalda was closely associated with Aravind and had donated many of his rare sketches to the organization. To commemorate his birth centenary, Aravind - Madurai hosted a three-day exhibition of his paintings, which was well-received by the public.

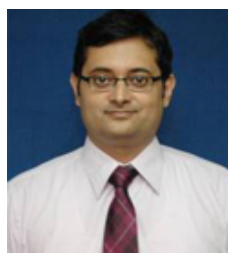
Auroutsav, the biennial event to bring out staff talents was conducted with great fervor across the Aravind centres. As usual, this time too, the programme left the audience as well as the participants with unforgettable and fun-filled memories. The entire event paved way for a better understanding and team work amongst the employees.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Young Achievers Award

Aravind - Pondicherry, November 21



Dr. Sabyasachi Sengupta, Vitreoretinal consultant, Aravind - Pondicherry received Young Achievers Award by at the 40th Annual Conference of Vidharbha Ophthalmic Society held at Chandrapur. Dr. Sengupta also presented a lecture titled Current and Future Concepts in Screening for Diabetic Retinopathy.

The award recognizes substantial contribution to Indian Ophthalmology by an Ophthalmologist under the age of 40. Academic excellence during post-graduation studies and publications in scientific literature are the main criteria for selecting a young ophthalmologist for this award.



NEWS AND EVENTS

World Diabetes Day Celebrations

Aravind – Theni, November 14

On the occasion of the World Diabetes Day, Aravind Eye Hospital, Theni in collaboration with Nalam Hospital, Theni and local physicians in Cumbum conducted a mega diabetes detection and diabetic retinopathy screening camp. The camp was inaugurated by Mr.N.Ramakrishnan M.A., M.L.A Cumbum in the presence of Dr.P.Namperumalsamy Chairman - Emeritus, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai and Lion Mr.Gopalakrishna Raja, Past District Governor 324 - B.The camp saw an outpatient turnout of 398. Of these, 200 were diabetics and 16 were found to have DR.



Orthoptics Decoded: A Symposium on Basics and Advances in Strabismus and Nystagmus - Evaluation and Management

Aravind – Madurai, October 31-November 1



The science of Orthoptics and recent advances in the realm of binocular vision and strabismus presents a formidable challenge to ophthalmologists and orthoptists. A sound knowledge of systematic orthoptic work-up and non- surgical intervention is required to fill the lacunae in the practise of Strabismology.

Paediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus clinic at Aravind - Madurai organized the symposium that aimed at exploring advancing research, providing up-to-date content in the field of orthoptics, giving the delegates an opportunity to share ideas and experiences as well as assimilating new scientific skills. It also emphasized on advancements in the diagnosis and management of Nystagmus.

Faculty included Daisy Godts, Chief Orthoptist, Antwerp University Hospital, Belgium; Zoran Pejic, Orthoptist and Vision Deficiency Specialist, Orthovision Pvt Ltd, Singapore; Matt J Dunn, Deputy Director & Optometrist, Research Unit for Nystagmus, Cardiff University, UK; Leen Staelens, Optometrist, Eye Clinic Deurne, Belgium; Rizwana, Optometrist, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai; Arnab Banerjee, Orthoptist, Sankara Nethralaya, Kolkata; and Premkumar Singh, HOD, Optometry, Dr.Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, Delhi. Close to 240 participants attended.



CME on Instruments Care and Maintenance

Salem, October 31 – November 1



Hosted by Aravind – Salem, the CME was meant for all the technicians of Aravind Eye Care System. A total of 20 participants from attended. Participants found the sessions extremely useful.



Auro Utsav 2015

Aravind, November



Every two year Aravind organizes cultural-sports-literary competitions across its centres for its staff and employees. Staff belonging to different cadres right from the Chairman to the last grade worker were divided into 5 groups that represented different landscapes - Mullai, Marudham, Neidhal, Paalai and Kurinji. Close to 30 events were conducted for the staff to showcase their talents.

AuroUtsav paved the way for the staff to come together plan, prepare and proceed through ground breaking ideas to present their talents. Winners were awarded prizes.



Moments of Relaxation

Aravind – Tirunelveli, October 31- November 1



MLOP and Admin staff members with more than 10 years of experience were taken on a two day tour to Tirupathi, Vellore Golden temple and Tiruvannamalai temple. Staff enjoyed a good darshan of the deities.



CPE for Audiovisual and DTP Staff

Aravind – Madurai, November 20-21



A continuing professional education programme was organized for the staff of audiovisual and DTP departments across the centres. A total of 15 participants attended. Mr. Mike Myers facilitated the programme. The sessions focused on product/portrait photography as well as the use of Illustrator software.



Inauguration of Sedapatti Vision Centre

Sedapatti, November 27



Aravind - Madurai opened its latest vision centre at Sedapatti. Dr. M. Srinivasan inaugurated the centre. Senior government officials and community leaders were also present. On the inaugural day, the centre saw 104 patients.



Exhibition of Artworks of Perumalda

Aravind - Madurai, November 27-29



Artist Perumalda was an admirer of Aravind and had a long association with the organization as a patient of Dr. G. Natchiar. When he passed away he left the bulk of his art collection to Aravind!! This year marks his birth centenary

and Aravind-Madurai organised an exhibition along with other forms of art immersion. Perumal Da's art exhibition attracted thousands of students and admirers, from the city. Eminent artists like Trotsky Maruthu, M.G.Raffic Ahamed, Manohar Devadas, Babu, Ramanan, Ravi Baskar, Ravikumar (Sri Rasaa) were invited for the art discussions and they involved in demonstration sessions, also. M.G.Raffic did a beautiful demo and presented that painting to the Aravind Eye Hospital. Drawing competitions were held for school children and staff of Aravind. At the art competition held for the staff members, Mr.S.Nagarajan, Polymer Division of Aurolab won 3rd prize.



Hospital Day Celebrations

Aravind – Salem, November 28



Aravind - Salem celebrated its 4th Hospital day with a host of programmes. The event was presided over by Dr.Kim, Chief Medical Officer, AEH-Madurai, Ln.Mr.Sekar, Chairman - Sight First Scheme Dt. 324B2, Dr.Suresh, Senior Neurologist, Neuro Foundation Hospital, Salem & Dr.B.Manohar Babu, Chief Medical Officer, AEH-Salem.



Opening of New Block Room

Aravind – Tirunelveli, November 30



At Aravind - Tirunelveli, new block room was inaugurated by Dr.R.Ramakrishnan.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

MANCH Summit

Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, November 14



MANCH is a social enterprise summit organized by the UP government since 2014 with the aim of identifying and supporting innovative solutions that will address social problems. These solutions will be provided support from UP government to scale across UP. This time Aravind's vision centre model was selected along with 25 institutions that can address social problems. Out of 26, 7 organizations were selected to present their innovations in the presence of Chief Minister, Shri Akilesh Yadhav, Chief Secretary and other senior government officials on November 14. Mr.A.Mohammed Gowth – Faculty, LAICO represented Aravind Eye Care System and made a presentation on vision centres. The meeting was also attended by local corporates who were interested to support the cause as part of corporate social responsibility. Aravind's vision centre model has already been selected by UP Government to implement in 5 districts namely Agra, GB Nagar, Kanpur, Gorakhpur and Allahabad.



Annual Conference of Kerala Society of Ophthalmic Surgeons

Trivandrum, November 28

Dr.Usha Kim
- Cosmetic lid surgeries.



14th FAOBMA Congress & 84th Annual meeting of SBC (I) Current Excitements in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology for Agriculture and Medicine

Hyderabad, November 27-30



Dr.P.Sundaresan
- *Ocular diseases gene discovery*



CME programme - Advances in Ophthalmic Clinical & Surgical Practices

Govt.Rajaji hospital, Madurai, November 28

Dr.P.Vijayalakshmi
- *Prevention of blindness due to ROP*



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Needs Assessment Visits to Hospitals in Chattisgarh

Chattisgarh, November 22-30



Dr.V.Rahul and Mr.Mohammed Gowth made a needs assessment visit to Christian Fellowship Hospital, Rajnandgaon and BIRDS Eye Hospital, Jagdalpur.



Training Programme for Province wise Directors and Ophthalmologists

Lao PDR, November 24-26



Mr.R.Meenakshi Sundaram and Ms.Ushalini Rasiah were invited as faculty for training programme for Province-wise Directors and Ophthalmologists in Lao PDR. Trainees from seven provinces attended the programme arranged by Fred Hollows Foundation. Aravind team handled sessions on Organizational Sustainability, Service Marketing, Demand Generation and Quality assurance. The team also visited National Ophthalmic Centre.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

| Enrolments for November 2015 at Aravind Eye Care System | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Course title | Training Centre | Enrolments for September 2015 |
| Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists | | |
| General Ophthalmology | Madurai | 2 |
| | Coimbatore | 1 |
| Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery | Madurai | 1 |
| Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists | | |
| Phacoemulsification | Madurai | 2 |
| | Coimbatore | 1 |
| | Pondicherry | 2 |
| | Tirunelveli | 1 |
| Small Incision Cataract Surgery | Madurai | 1 |
| | Tirunelveli | 1 |
| Neuro Ophthalmology | Madurai | 1 |
| Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy | Madurai | 2 |
| | Coimbatore | 2 |
| Short Term Courses - For Paramedicals | | |
| Training for Ocularist | Madurai | 2 |
| Management Courses - Non Clinical Courses | | |
| Community Outreach and Social Marketing of Eye Care Services 38th Batch | Pondicherry | 6 |
| Microbiology Courses - Non Clinical Courses | | |
| Workshop on Mycology & Ocular Microbiology | Madurai | 19 |



PUBLICATIONS

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Risk factors for low vision related functioning in the Mycotic Ulcer Treatment Trial: a randomised trial comparing natamycin with voriconazole.
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- Venkatesh R, van Landingham SW, Khodifad AM, Haripriya A, Thiel CL, Ramulu P, Robin AL.
Carbon footprint and cost-effectiveness of cataract surgery.
Current Opin Ophthalmol. 2015 Nov 13. [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Chakrabarty L, Joshi GD, Chakravarty A, Raman GV, Krishnadas SR, Sivaswamy J. *Automated Detection of Glaucoma from Topographic Features of the Optic Nerve Head in Color Fundus Photographs.*
J Glaucoma. 2015 Nov 17. [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Usha, Kim R, Bhagwati W, Lalitha Prajna.
Primary canaliculitis: The incidence, clinical features, outcome and long-term epiphora after snip-punctoplasty and curettage.
Saudi J Ophthalmol. 2015 Oct-Dec;29(4):274-277 [Article View](#)
- Harshey KB, Karthik S, Ramakrishnan R, Kim R.
Unilateral Crystalline Vitreoretinopathy: A Rare Entry Associated with Intraocular Inflammation.
Case Rep Ophthalmol Med. 2015 Dec P-1-4 [Article View](#)



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

November - 2015

| Hospitals | Madurai | Theni | Tirunelveli | Coimbatore | Pondicherry | Dindigul | Tirupur | Salem | Udumalpet | Tuticorin | Total |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paying (New & Review) | 40,333 | 6,239 | 20,100 | 27,640 | 15,740 | 4,427 | 3,391 | 8,318 | 2,194 | 3,901 | 1,32,283 |
| Free (Direct walk-in) | 9,862 | 1,307 | 4,989 | 8,238 | 4,640 | 11 | 498 | 455 | 772 | 543 | 31,315 |
| OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Regular Eye Camps | 4,501 | 1,066 | 3,385 | 4,176 | 1,804 | NA | NA | 1,110 | NA | 436 | 16,478 |
| Diabetic Retinopathy camps | 527 | 87 | 478 | 1,300 | 647 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 3,039 |
| Refraction Camps | 74 | 66 | 883 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1,023 |
| Mobile Refraction Unit | NA | NA | NA | 1,458 | NA | NA | NA | 204 | NA | NA | 1,662 |
| School Screening camps | 1,465 | 214 | 1,032 | 2,719 | 4,490 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 9,920 |
| Paediatric Camps | NA | 223 | NA | 1,000 | 622 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 1,845 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Vision Centres | 12,868 | 4,466 | 6,764 | 2,704 | 3,357 | NA | NA | NA | 931 | NA | 31,900 |
| Community Eye Clinics | 3,388 | 1,596 | 2,132 | NA | NA | NA | 810 | NA | NA | NA | 7,116 |
| Total OP Examinations | 73,018 | 15,264 | 39,763 | 49,235 | 31,300 | 4,438 | 4,699 | 10,087 | 3,897 | 4,880 | 2,36,581 |

SURGERIES

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Paying | 1,679 | 249 | 1,161 | 960 | 420 | 83 | 96 | 289 | 65 | 90 | 5,092 |
| Free (Direct) | 1,296 | 139 | 789 | 1,011 | 295 | 35 | 88 | 59 | 90 | 57 | 3,859 |
| Camp | 821 | 151 | 548 | 1,209 | 292 | NA | 23 | 225 | NA | 27 | 3,296 |
| Total Surgeries | 3,796 | 539 | 2,498 | 3,180 | 1,007 | 118 | 207 | 573 | 155 | 174 | 12,247 |

Note: NA - Not Applicable

