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## Quote

*The tragedy in life does not lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach.*

– Benjamin E Mays

## Editorial

Aravind model of eye care delivery continues to be a source of inspiration for many and throughout the year Aravind receives a steady stream of visitors from all over the world. It is really a matter of pride that Aravind for the fifth consecutive year could find place among the destinations of Jagriti Yatris, who set out on a two-week journey to explore the various scalable organisations across India.

Aravind latest tertiary care centre was opened in Salem in November 2011 and since then the hospital has been showing a steady growth. In the month of December 2012, the hospital celebrated its first annual day in the presence of Aravind's senior team with a variety of programmes.

Community outreach activities remain the mainstay of Aravind's mission of eliminating needless blindness. The success of these activities rests solely on the unconditional support given by the various community sponsors. Aravind is always keen on acknowledging their services and recently Aravind – Tirunelveli organized special programme to felicitate them.

SF1588 Project for enhancing the performance of Lions eye hospitals came to an end in the month of December. Altogether seven Vision building workshops were conducted at LAICO as part of this project and participants from 73 eye hospitals have undergone training.

*News about these and many more feature in this issue*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

### Special Recognitions by the Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University

Chennai, November 23



Dr. R. Kim and Dr. Haripriya Aravind was awarded the **Best Doctor Award** by the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University at the silver jubilee celebrations of the University held at Chennai.

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan received the **Best Teacher Award** at the same function.

### National Level JCI Outstanding Professional Award for Sanil Joseph

Trichur, December 28

**Mr. Sanil Joseph** was awarded the Outstanding Professional Award by the Junior Chamber International (Jaycees) at the





annual conference held at Trichur, Kerala. Starting from 2000, every year, JCI INDIA recognizes and honours three achievers at the national level as Outstanding Businessmen/Industrialists and Professionals. Mr. Sanil got the award in the category Outstanding Professional. He is the first person to receive this award from the Madurai chapter of the Jaycees.



### Distinguished Alumnus award for Dr. Aravind

Madurai



**Dr. Aravind Srinivasan** has been selected for the Distinguished Alumnus Award for the year 2013 by the PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research. The function is going to be held on January 25, 2013 at Coimbatore.



### CME HELD AT ARAVIND EYE HOSPITAL

#### Optocon 2012

Aravind – Tirunelveli, December

The field of Optometry, Contact Lens and Low vision has been witnessing revolutionary changes and immense growth in the last one decade. With the increase in awareness among public in general and patients in particular on eye care, it is important for professionals in Optometry, Contact Lens and Low Vision Aids to work together and meet the challenges in the current field. So this CME aimed to orient the participants in the new developments in this field. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Ms. Saradha Ramakrishnan, Dr. Meenakshi, Mr. Muthuramalingam and Sr. Arumugam lighted the lamp at the inaugural ceremony. This CME included a mix of practical and theoretical sessions. Certificates were distributed to all the participants.



#### CME on Diabetic Retinopathy

Aravind - Salem



Two sessions with 6 different topics were handled during the CME. Dr.Elanchezian- consultant physician- G.H and AEH Salem, Dr Manjunath - Retina Consultant- Aravind Eye Hospital - Salem, Dr. Saravanan Retina Consultant- Aravind Eye Hospital - Coimbatore, Dr. George Manayath Retina Consultant- Aravind Eye Hospital- Coimbatore Dr.Sarath - Retina Consultant- Aravind Eye Hospital - Coimbatore; Dr.P.Nazni. M.Sc, M.Phil, Ph. D. Reader and Head – Department of Food Science and Nutrition. Periyar University- Salem was the guest speakers.



### NEWS AND EVENTS

#### First Hospital Day of Aravind – Salem

Salem, December 8

At the first annual day celebrations of Aravind – Salem, Dr. B. Manohar Babu presented the annual report. Mr Sarathy, Narasus Coffee and Mr S Krishnamoorthy of SK Cars were the chief guest for the function. Dr. R.D. Ravindran and Dr. P.



Namperumalsamy gave special address. This was followed by entertainment programmes by the staff.

### Seminar on Diabetes

Aravind –Tirunelveli, December 9

A seminar on Diabetes was conducted for the general public at Aravind – Tirunelveli. Diabetes and how it affects various important organs in the body was stressed.

### Vision Technicians / Assistants Training Programme

Tripura, December 17-22



Ms. V.R. Rajeswari and Ms. N. J.Tamilarasi, Senior Refractionists from Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai visited Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Tripura to conduct theory, viva voce, and practical examination for 17 vision technicians and to evaluate their performance. This is a new initiative of Aravind and Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited (IL and FS) under the programme Skill development for Vision technicians.

### Jagriti Yatris at Aravind

Aravind – Madurai, December 28



Aravind – Madurai for the fourth consecutive year became one of the destinations for a group of highly motivated youths on their national 2-week odyssey, aimed to awaken the spirit of entrepreneurship. Dr.R.D Ravindran, R.D.Thulasiraj and Dr. S. Aravind addressed the group touching on various aspects of the Aravind model of eye care delivery. They were also taken a tour of the different facilities. Around 450 yatris visited Aravind.

### Valedictory Function of Instruments Maintenance Course

Aravind – Madurai, December 28



Mr. R D Thulasiraj, the Chief Guest for the valedictory day of the 80th Instruments Maintenance Course, gave away certificates and tools kit to the two trainees – one from Uganda and another from Andhra Pradesh, India. He recalled how as the Administrator of the Hospital in its very early days he used to do the various maintenance tasks before Mr. Poornachandran was appointed. He congratulated Prof. V. Srinivasan, who is retiring soon, for his association with the all the 80 courses held so far and expressed his confidence that the staff trained by him will be able to run the future courses well. Miss. Alagu Selvi was the chief instructor of this course.

### Sponsors Day 2012

Aravind – Tirunelveli, December 30



To felicitate the camp sponsors for the valuable service they render in the conduct of outreach camps, Aravind – Tirunelveli organized Sponsors Day at the end of December. Around 250 participants attended the function from various places like Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Kanyakumari, Virudhunagar and Kerala. The function started with prayer song. Dr.V.Maneksha, Camp Medical Officer welcomed the gathering and explained the objective of conducting free eye camps and sponsors day. Mr.P.Navaneetha Krishnan Manager, Outreach presented the achievements of the sponsors in all camps. He specifically pointed out the district wise Performance, top ten achievers and so on. Dr.R.Meenakshi, Medical Officer explained about childhood Blindness in detail. Dr.Sivakumar, Medical Officer and Mr.Vikky Kumar, Manager-IP Services conducted a quiz Programme and following that the winners were honored by Dr.R.Ramakrishnan, CMO, Aravind - Tirunelveli.

Mr.R.Meenakshi Sundaram, Senior Manager Outreach services, in his presentation explained about the origin of camp department and the achievements of all Aravind Hospitals. He also explained the volume of work and the dedicated service done by all the sponsors. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan in his felicitation address explained briefly about Dr.G.Venkataswamy, founder of AECS and then explained and appreciated the dedicated service of each and every sponsor. At the end of the function, Mr.R.Ganesh, Founder LIME (Life Improvement Mind Engineering and Clinical Hypothropist) Tuticorin, and the chief guest for the function addressed the audience and gave a motivational talk. Mr.V.Ramasubramanian Camp organizer proposed the vote of thanks.



### Training on eye banking

Aravind – Madurai, November 25

At the training session conducted for eye collection centres, Dr. M. Srinivasan handled a session on eye banking and contra indication Dr. Praveen briefed on enucleation and blood drawing procedure. Dr. Manoranjan Das explained the importance of sterilization and safe transportation of enucleated cornea.



### Awareness Programme on Eye Donation for Lions Club

Madurai, November 18

A special programme was arranged to motivate the members of Lions Club towards promoting eye donation and also to clear their doubts regarding the same. Forty zonal members participated. Mr.K.Saravanan. Coordinator, RAIEB handled the different sessions.



## CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

### ICT in Healthcare Forum - INFOCOM 2012

Calcutta, December 6-9



Dr. R. Kim was the invited speaker at the special ICT in Healthcare Forum at INFOCOM 2012. He delivered his talk at the session on *Innovation in Action: Taking Telemedicine to masses*.



### 28th Annual conference of Odisha State Ophthalmological society

Puri, Orissa, December 9

- Dr. Usha Kim
- Endonasal DCR: Endoscope aided
  - Entropion: Evaluation and management
  - Ectropion: A practical approach



### Annual Meet of the Indian Orthopaedic Association

Chennai, December 13

Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj was invited as 'President's orator' of the Indian Orthopaedic Association during their Annual meeting at Chennai.



### Margazhi Ophtha Fest-2012

Chennai, December 23

Dr. Haripriya performed live surgery (Pegasus and Aurovue) at Margazhi Ophtha Fest-2012 conducted by M.N. Eye hospital, Chennai.



### 3rd Deaf Expo

December 29-30, Mumbai

Mr. S. Poornachandran, senior technician, Instruments Maintenance Department, Aravind – Madurai attended the 3rd Deaf Expo 2012: A conference on Innovative Technologies, Sign language Awareness and Education for the prosperity of the Deaf held at Birla Mathushri, Bombay Hospital Trust, Mumbai.



## HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

### X'mas Celebrations



#### Aravind – Madurai, December 15

Staff and employees of Aravind – Madurai celebrated the joy of Christmas season with a variety of entertainment programmes which included skit, songs, prayer and dance. There was a special performance by the kids of Janakiamma Child Care Centre. Santa Claus came at the end of the function, blessed the audience and distributed sweets.

#### Aravind – Tirunelveli, December 21

The joyous evening was marked with glittering stars, cultural programmes and dinner. Celebrations started with prayer song. Welcome address was given by Sr. Petchi Piramachi. Dr. R Ramakrishnan, Chief medical officer and Dr. Varsha gave inspiring speech on this special occasion.



### Continuing Professional Education for the Staff of Audiovisual Department

Aravind – Coimbatore, December 13-15



To provide newer insights in the field of photography and videography, a session was arranged for the entire audiovisual team of Aravind at Coimbatore. Facilitated by Mike Myers, the sessions offered a thorough learning experience for all the participants. They also got an opportunity to visit the audiovisual department of P.S.G College of Arts and Science and interact with the faculty members.



## LAICO HAPPENINGS

### Visit to Innovation Eye Centre

Kisi, Kenya, December 1-7

Aravind team consisting of Ms. K M Sashipriya, Dr Tiruvengada Krishnan and A Mohammed Gowth visited Innovation Eye Care Centre to support them in laying out a development plan for the hospital. The team shared inputs on site plan and lay



out change. Vision building workshop for the staff was arranged which was facilitated by the Aravind team. The team also visited the different government hospitals in and around the area to get an understanding of health and eye care delivery system in the region. Detailed discussions were held HR practices, outreach, and the Aravind team shared the clinical and non clinical protocols and reviewed the development plans of the hospital.



### **SF 1588 Vision Building Workshop for Lions Eye Hospitals**

December 9-14



The seventh workshop in the series SF1588 – Enhancing eye care services at Lions Eye Hospitals was held at LAICO in the second week of December. Around 17 participants from eight eye hospitals participated. The project came to an end in December.



### **Follow up of Business Plan Workshop for the County Hospitals at Taihe, Pengze and Poyang, Jiangxi Province, China**

December 13-15



Aravind team consisting of Dr. Shivakumar, R. Suresh Kumar and R. Meenakshi Sundaram made follow –up visit to County hospitals at Taihe, Pengze and Poyang to assess the development made by these hospitals since the eye care services business plan workshop held in August 2011. The team also visited an outreach camp at Shandong village in Yuanxi town and observed the patient flow. Challenges in patient compliance and demand generation were discussed at length and necessary recommendations were given. The team also visited a paediatric screening camp.



### **Inaugural Function of the workshop on Collaborative for Achieving Excellence– Learning Session 1**

Aravind – Madurai, December 20-22

Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj set the context for the workshop at the inaugural ceremony. Mr. Suresh Kumar provided an overview. A total of 16 participants from India, China and Bangladesh participated in the event.



### **HOBNOB Project, Theni – Private: Public Partnership meeting**

Theni, October 19

Dr. Arons's HOBNOB Diabetic Retinopathy Project; Theni organised a Private Public Partnership meeting with Theni District Public Health Service department at Deputy Director of Health Services (DDHS) office, Theni. Dr. Kanchana, Deputy Director of Health Services, Theni, gave an overview on the future collaboration between The Public Health Department and Aravind Eye Hospital in the field of Ophthalmology. Dr. P.Namperumalsamy talked about the HOBNOB Project and how Aravind Public health department will work together to screen the known diabetics registered in Primary Health Centres. He also briefed about the magnitude of diabetes and diabetic retinopathy, risk factors, treatment schedule.

HOBNOB is a device to connect the base hospital and camp site through internet. This is a cost effective method of DR screening by an ophthalmic technician. The ophthalmic technician captures the fundus image and transfers it to the base hospital through HOBNOB device for the opinion Retina specialist. The Retina specialist grades the image sent the report back to the DR screening spot immediately.

**Internship at Kaiser Permanente**

California, USA, October 22-November 24

Mr. R. Suresh Kumar, faculty – LAICO was at Kaiser Permanente to understand the various issues in hospital management. He worked on the assignment on medication management and provided his recommendations to improving patient compliance. During the time, he also attended hospital management session at the American Public Health Association meeting. He also participated in the Seva board meet held in the second week of November.

[Click here to view Consultancy statistical report](#)

**TRAINING PROGRAMMES**

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on December 2012	Enrollments for January 2012
<b>Long term Fellowship Programmes for Ophthalmologists</b>			
<b>Fellowship in Glaucoma</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	44	2
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	13	0
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	26	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	8	1
<b>Fellowship in Cornea</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	64	1
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	35	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	8	0
<b>Fellowship in Retina - Vitreous</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	106	3
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	7	0
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	38	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	13	1
<b>Paediatric Ophthalmology &amp; Strabismus</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	71	0
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	4	0
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	26	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	5	1
<b>Short Term Fellowship Programmes for Ophthalmologists</b>			
<b>Short Term Fellowship in Orbit &amp; Oculoplasty</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	10	1
<b>Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists</b>			
<b>Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	116	1
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	147	0
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	112	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	4	0
<b>Small Incision Cataract Surgery</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	174	2
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	116	1
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	142	3
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	25	0
<b>Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	274	2
	<b>Coimbatore</b>	271	2
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	6	1
<b>Phacomulsification</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	158	1
	<b>Tirunelveli</b>	86	0

	<b>Coimbatore</b>	116	0
	<b>Pondicherry</b>	20	2
<b>Optical Dispensing</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	166	1
<b>Training for Orthoptist</b>	<b>Madurai</b>	37	1

[Click here to view Training Programme full statistics](#)



## PUBLICATIONS

- **Microscopy Research and Technique Dec. 2012 (E-Pub)**

Gowri Priya, C; Tilak Prasad; Prajna, N Venkatesh; Muthukkaruppan, V R

- *Identification of Human Corneal Epithelial Stem Cells on the Basis of High ABCG2 Expression Combined With a LargeN/C Ratio.* [article view](#)

- **Indian J Ophthalmol. 2013 Jan; 61(1):13-7**

Dhume KU, Paul KE.

- *Incidence of pupillary involvement, course of anisocoria and ophthalmoplegia in diabetic oculomotor nerve palsy.* [article view](#)



## AUROLAB NEWS

### Christmas Celebrations

December 22



Staff and employees of Aurolab celebrated the joy of Christmas season with a variety of entertainment programmes which included skit, songs, Bible reading, Christmas Message and dance. Santa Claus came at the end of the function, blessed the audience and distributed sweets.



## MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

December - 2012											
Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Total	
<b>HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS</b>											
Paying (New & Review)	46,082	7113	22,435	30,775	21,802	5,030	3424	8,582	2,558	147,801	
Free (Direct walk-in)	11,648	1,877	5,504	9,280	6,278	5	177	-	947	35,716	
<b>OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS</b>											
Regular Eye Camps	11,248	2,959	3,625	9,318	5,931	-	253	120	-	33,454	
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	1,003	155	558	2,287	165	-	-	-	-	4,168	
Refraction Camps	1,289	151	954	879	1,478	-	-	-	-	4,751	



Mobile Refraction Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
School Screening camps	3,650	579	-	4,007	630	-	-	-	-	8,866
Paediatric Camps	153	280	651	-	133	-	-	-	-	1,217
Vision Centres	10,249	4,508	4,882	3,047	2,749	-	444	-	-	25,879
Community Eye Clinics	3,772	1,631	1,813	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,216
<b>Total OP Examinations</b>	<b>89,094</b>	<b>19,253</b>	<b>40,422</b>	<b>59,593</b>	<b>39,166</b>	<b>5,035</b>	<b>4,298</b>	<b>8,702</b>	<b>3,505</b>	<b>269,068</b>
<b>SURGERIES</b>										
Paying	4,454	410	952	1,561	939	138	92	435	78	9,059
Free (Direct)	2,433	229	648	1,392	563	33	39	51	97	5,485
Camp	2,482	337	761	1,708	1,075	-	20	142	-	6,525
<b>Total Surgeries</b>	<b>9,369</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>2,361</b>	<b>4,661</b>	<b>2,577</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>21,069</b>

