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Editorial

The month of December was special for Aravind as three of its senior most leaders won prestigious awards at various forums. Several doctors also participated in different conferences and brought laurels to the organization.

Retreats for the staff of Glaucoma and Cataract Clinics across Aravind Eye Hospitals were organized to come up with a roadmap and action plan to improve the services at Aravind. Various practical aspects of patient care, research and training were discussed and debated.

Outreach eye camps still remain to be the mainstay of Aravind's high-volume patient care. To a great extent this is possible because of the wholehearted support from the sponsors. To acknowledge this, every two year Aravind brings in sponsors on a common platform to felicitate them and to have them share their inputs. Last month, Aravind-Salem organised Sponsors Day to congratulate its camp sponsors.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

Quote

Steady efforts always bring great results - the Mother

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Naanayam Vikatan's – Business Star Award for Dr. P. Namperumalsamy

Chennai, December 22, 2017



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System was honoured with Naanayam Vikatan's – Business Star Award under the Category - Social Consciousness at the function held Hyatt Regency, Chennai. During the function, it was highlighted that Aravind Eye Hospital provides high quality of eye care service to all the people in the community and handled over 52 million outpatients and performed 5.9 million sight-restoring surgeries in which 60 percent of them either free or highly subsidized.



Lifetime Achievement Award for Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi

New Delhi, December 2017



Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi, Chief, Paediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus Services, AravindMadurai received Lifetime Achievement Award and gold medal during the annual SPOSI conference held at New Delhi in December 2017.



Keracon Awards

Hyderabad, December 15-17, 2017



Three of Aravind's Cornea specialists won awards at the Keracon meeting held in Hyderabad. Dr. Prajapati Kishan Anil Kumar won award for the Best Video. Dr. Ashish Kumar and Dr. Lumbini Devi got the first and second prize respectively in the Clinical Photography session.



Awards at the Comprehensive Cataract Conference

Chennai, December 1-2, 2017



Dr. G. Natchiar , Director Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Pondicherry and team won the Best Video Award and the Best Entertainer Award at the Ophthalmic Premier League.

Dr. Prabhu Bhaskaran, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Pondicherry won the award for the Best Innovation Vide for the video titled, Simple Silicone Stopper for SFIOL.

Dr. Sanjeev Srinivas, Primary DNB Resident, Aravind-Salem won award for the Best Paper titled, Drug-induced Bilateral Angle Closure Following Cataract Surgery with Complete Reversal Following Drug Withdrawal.

Dr. K. Karthikeyan, General Ophthalmology, Aravind-Salem won award for the second best paper for the paper titled, Visual Outcome Scleral Fixation of Posterior Chamber Intra Ocular Lens with Inadequate Capsular Support in Complicated Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery.



Pearl Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award for Dr. P. Namperumalsamy

Chennai, December 10

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy was awarded Lifetime Achievement Award by the Pearl Foundation in recognition of his outstanding contributions and achievements in the field of medical sciences.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Glaucoma Retreat 2017

Aravind - Pondicherry, December 15-16



Glaucoma Retreat was organised to analyse Patient care, Research and Fellowship training programme at Aravind Eye Hospitals. Dr. David Friedman visited Madurai, Tirunelveli and Pondicherry Aravind Glaucoma services to analyse the work pattern at each centre before the retreat program. Miss. Aleks Mihailovic Senior Biostatistician Wilmer Eye Institute accompanied and helped Dr. Friedman in the entire process. The retreat was organised at Pondicherry in the Aurobindo Society's office on 15th and in the Pegasus campus on 16th December 2017. There were 33 participants from all Aravind centres, including senior leaders, glaucoma consultants, managers, MLOPs and coordinators.

Outbound training and task solving was organised, which involved team work. During the concluding session, action plans were developed and in-charge persons were allocated by Dr. David Friedman. Dr. Ha Tran from Vietnam who was here to observe the Aravind Eye Care model also attended.



Christmas Celebrations

Arvind, December 20



Arvind-Tirunelveli

Christmas was celebrated at Tirunelveli with great joy and enthusiasm for the eighth consecutive year. The evening was marked with glittering lights, stars, sweets and cultural programmes like dance, skit, choir, playing Keyboard by Master Sam and an innovative dance by Santa Claus. It was a perfect evening of joy, sharing and happiness. The special chill evening was a brilliant display of lights, joy and bright glowing stars.

Aravind-Chennai, December 21, 2017

The celebrations consisted of events such as songs, dance, and video which depicted the spirit of Christmas. Santa Claus's visit was a pleasant surprise to all the audience.

Aravind Madurai, December 14

All the staff members had fun and enjoyment at the Christmas celebrations held at Madurai. Celebrations included choir songs and dance. Santa Claus' entry was packed with great fun and happiness.

Aravind-Coimbatore, December 22

The celebration started with a prayer song followed by welcome speech and Bible reading. Group dance and Group song showered the place with more joy. The audience had fun during the entertainment programme and a short Christmas message was also shared. Skit by MLOP sisters made the audience realise that we should plan and prioritise our daily to lead a better life. Santa Claus' dance made the audience happy.



2nd World Conference on MSICS

Aravind-Chennai, December 1-3

Comprehensive Cataract Conference 2017 was held from December 1-3, 2017 at Chennai. Preconference workshop was held at Aravind Eye hospital on 01st December 2017 and the scientific sessions on December 02nd and 03rd were held at ITC Grand Chola. The pre-conference session which saw participation of 275 ophthalmologists from across the world, started with the inauguration followed by sessions on sterilization and quality assurance. The free paper and video sessions were also conducted on the preconference day. Live surgeries were performed by 10-experienced faculty using different surgical techniques. There

were 9 wetlab stations including SICS, phacoemulsification, anterior vitrectomy and intravitreal injections and around 80 doctors received hands on training. The participants also had the opportunity to try the new M-SICS simulator made by HelpMeSee.



Freshers Day

Aravind-Tirunelveli, December 22, 2017



Fresher's Day for the newly joined Post graduates was celebrated at Aravind-Tirunelveli. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer was the Chief guest for the function. Various programmes like Skit, Mime, Dance and singing followed the Welcome address by Dr. Nandhini. All the newly joined Post graduates introduced themselves. At the end Dr. R. Ramakrishnan gave an inspiring speech and said that Fresher's Day is a great opportunity to strengthen the bond between the juniors and seniors and also make them acquainted with the other staff members of the Institution.

At the Freshers' Day for MLOPs held on December 19, Sr Ananthi welcomed the gathering. MLOP new recruits exhibited their talents through singing, folk Dance, and a very informative skit about NABH. The programmes were well coordinated and were a feast to the audience. At the end, Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer congratulated the team for the excellent show and gave an inspiring speech to show the same kind of enthusiasm in their day today work. The program came to an end with vote of thanks by Sr Udhaya Lakshmi.



Sponsors' Day

Aravind-Salem, December 17, 2017



Sponsor's Day was organized in the hospital premises in which close to 30 clubs/associations took part. Dr.Manohar Babu, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the audience and presented the latest trends in outreach eye care. Mr.Elangovan (Chairman - Sight First - District 324B2); Ln.Mani (Past District Governor); Mr.Narasimmaiyaer (President - Sowrashttra Welfare Association); Ln.Chandran (President - Attur Aadhavan Lions club) and Mr.Jeichand of (Jain Youth Society) inaugurated the event. "Healing the eyes of the world" video was screened. Sr.Gomathi (Counseling) and Sr.Iganci (OT) organised a Quiz program which was very interactive. Sponsors shared their views and concerns at the interactive session. Mr. Jeyaram, Camp organiser proposed the vote of thanks.



Visual Arts CPE

Aravind-Madurai, December 1-2



Aravind Communications team consisting of DTP, Audiovisual and HR staff from all centres and Aurolab were brought together for a training programme. The CPE included a visit to Srinivas Fine Arts, Sivakasi followed by technical sessions on the second day. Close to thirty participants attended.



Meeting for In-Charge Medical Officers of Vision Centres

Aravind-Madurai, December 1



An interaction programme for the doctors who are in-charge of vision centres was held at LAICO. The objectives of the programme were to help them understand the importance of monthly visit to vision centres and its benefits; the key areas to observe during the visit and the scope of research in vision centres. Mr. R.D Thulasiraj explained about the importance of vision centres, its genesis and how it helps in ensuring universal coverage of eye care to the service area population. Dr. kowsalya and Mr. Gowth explained the importance of monthly visit and the role of Medical officers in ensuring the quality of work, staff morale and productivity.



Cataract Retreat

Aravind-Madurai, December 6



A one day retreat was at LAICO to revisit Aravind's purpose in terms of cataract service delivery, take stock/understand where we are, deliberate on existing protocols and to find areas for standardization to best suit the emerging needs and trends. Dr Alan Crandall, Dr R.D. Ravindran and Dr Haripriya facilitated the discussions. Thirty one participants, including CMOs, SMOs and medical officers from various Aravind Eye Hospitals attended the retreat and deliberated on pre-operative, intra-operative and post-operative aspects of service delivery. Discussions on improving the effectiveness of training programmes, developing new materials and identifying research priorities for the future, were also held. Dr Eric Hansen presented on 'Cataract Practices' at the Moran Eye Centre.



MoU between Moran Eye Center and Aravind Eye Care System

Aravind – Madurai, December 6



A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Global Outreach Division of the John A. Moran Eye Center (JMEC) and the Aravind Eye Care System (Aravind) to partner in training and skills transfer, educational development, basic science and clinical research, patient care practices and protocols and product and material innovation. Dr Alan Crandall and Dr. R.D. Ravindran signed the MoU on behalf of their respective institutions.



Angaadi 2017

Aravind-Madurai, December 10



Angaadi, the great charity fest was a great success, thanks to the whole-hearted dedication of the staff. The fest was inaugurated by Dr. P. Namperumalsamy. All the senior leaders visited the stall and extended their warm support. An amount close to one and a half lakh was collected from the sales of materials which was donated to charity.



Awareness Session on Heart Problems

Aravind-Madurai, December 13

Dr. R. Ramesh, Cardiologist, Rams Clinic, Madurai handled the session in which he highlighted the importance of following a healthy lifestyle to prevent cardiac issues.



Programme for Aravind Staff Support – PASS

Aravind-Tirunelveli,, December 17



As part of Employee Engagement Initiatives, Aravind –Tirunelveli conducted a programme for the staff members of all the twelve Vision Centres along with their family members attended the programme with great enthusiasm and zeal. The programme started with prayer song, followed by Lakshmi, Manager-HR welcoming all to the programme. Dr R Ramakrishnan gave an update on Aravind and its successful journey till date. Sr Chidambaram, Nursing Superintendent shared the feedback given by the patients

and also highlighted the areas for improvement. Mr R Ganesh, Founder - Life Improvement through Mind Engineering (LIME) was invited as the Chief Guest and he gave an inspiring talk. By citing appropriate and practical examples, he made the session very interesting and useful. All the participants found this session very motivating and highly useful for their day today life. A questionnaire was prepared and given to the family members to fill in and all gave their open and true feedback. Games and quiz programme were arranged for the children of the Staff members and gifts were distributed. Mr Balakrishnan, Free Hospital Manager proposed a vote of thanks.



Hospital Day Celebrations

Aravind-Tirupur, December 17



Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirupur celebrated its seventh Hospital day. Dr. Mahesh Pathak, Medical Consultant welcomed the gathering and presented the annual report. Chief Guest Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman - Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System was the chief guest and Dr. G. Natchiar, Vice Chairman Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System, delivered special address. Dr. V. Narendran and Dr. Kalpana Narendran distributed Service Awards and prizes to the winners of various competitions held as part of the anniversary celebrations. Dr. Mayur proposed a vote of thanks which was followed by cultural programme and dinner.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Annual Conference of Vitreo Retinal Society of India

November 29, 2017, Bhubaneswar

Dr. Jayanth kumar

- "VS24" - "Surgical Management of Macular Fold Following Retinal Detachment Surgery"

Dr. Amit

- Pars plana insertion of aurolab aqueous trainage implant (AADI) tube in cases with refractory glaucoma - a retrospective analysis

Dr. Piyush Koli

- Effect of Prophylactic laser of peripheral breaks in preventing RRD in patients with FEVR", Comparative study of inverted internal limiting membrane (ILM) flap Vs conventional standard technique in large macular holes"

Dr. Prerana Shah

- Raising the barrier for 25 G lens sparing vitrectomy for infants with retinopathy of prematurity

Dr. Chitaranjan Mishra

- PP158" - "Incidence of Endophthalmitis after Intravitreal Injections: Risk Factors, Microbiology Profile and Clinical Outcomes from a tertiary centre."

Dr. Sonali Iomte

- E-poster -Anatomical and functional outcomes of macular hole surgery inpatients with high myopia.

Dr. Mahima Jhingan

- Idiopathic macular teleangiectasias and co existent diabetic retinopathy"

Dr. Kim

- Newer visualization techniques for VR surgery



APVRS-2017

December 8 – 10, 2017, Malaysia

Dr. Karthikumar

- Poster - Incidence of retinal detachment after laser photocoagulation in patient with FEVR

Dr. Renu P Rajan

- Poster - Anatomical and functional outcomes of vitrectomy surgery in myopic macular holes

Dr. Haemoglobin

- An unusual presentation of retinal sheen- Muller cell sheen dyetrophy



PANIIM World Management Conference

Lucknow, December 14



Mr. R.D.Thulasiraj was a panelist for the session Digital Healthcare: Challenges & Opportunities.



Seva-Canada Board Meeting

Toronto, Canada, November 28-December 6

Ms. K.M. Sashipriya participated in the Seva –Canada's Fall Board Meeting.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Follow up Visits

Mr. Mohammed Gowth visited City Eye Hospital, Nairobi Kenya and provided inputs for improved performance of the hospital as part of ACCESS Phase 2 project from December 4 to 14.

Mr. R. Suresh Kumar and Dr. Dipankar Datta visited Netaji Eye Hospital & Rotary Hoogly Eye Hospital, Kolkata from December 7 to 14

Mr. B.S. Ganesh Babu visited Reiyukai Eiko Hospital, Kathmandu, Nepal from December 13 to 21.

Dr. V. Balaji and Mr. C. Gnanasekaran made follow up visit to BNSB Hospital, Mymensingh, Bangladesh from December 29-January 5. The team also made needs assessment visit to Kumudini Hospital, Mirzapur, Bangladesh along the same time.



Eyexcel Planning Meet for Latin America

Guatemala, December 11-14



Ms. Dhivya Ramasamy visited Visualiza Eye Centre for the planning meet for launching Eyexcel for Latin America. Eyexcel is LAICO and Seva Foundation's joint initiative for building the training capacity of eye hospitals that want to begin or strengthen existing training programmes, especially for Allied Ophthalmic Personnel. This course is offered in collaboration with the International Council of Ophthalmology. Over 200 teams have participated in this course. Now this course is going to be offered to the Latin American region which is predominantly Spanish-speaking. Eyexcel alumni teams from Visualiza Eye Centre, Guatemala and Divino Nino Jesus Eye Hospital, Peru are jointly developing and offering this course. In December 2017, a meeting of these two teams along with the Seva team was organised, in order to plan for the launch of the Latin America Eyexcel that is scheduled to be in June 2018 in Guatemala.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for December 2017 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for December 2017
Long Term Fellowship Programs - For Ophthalmologists		
Fellowship in IOL & Anterior Segment	Pondicherry	1
	Madurai	1
General Ophthalmology	Theni	1
Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
Retina Vitreous	Coimbatore	3
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Madurai	2
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Clinical Observership Program In Diagnosis and Management Of Glaucoma	Madurai	1
	Tirunelveli	1
	Coimbatore	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	2
Phacoemulsification	Coimbatore	1
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	1
Training in Vitrectomy (Virtual)	Madurai	1
Small incision cataract surgery	Pondicherry	1
Paramedical courses		
FFA & USG	Madurai	1
Ocularist	Madurai	1
Non-Clinical courses		
Instrument Maintenance - For Technicians	LAICO	7
Training in Eye Bank Techniques	LAICO	1



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AUROLAB NEWS

Guest Lecture on Thyroid related Awareness

Aurolab, December 27, 2017



Aurolab HR dept arranged a guest lecture on Thyroid related problems to the staff members. Dr. Reena Asirwatham, Endocrinologist from Asirwatham Multispeciality Hospital handled the session. In her session, she explained about Thyroid gland, its functions and the signs and symptoms of thyroid disease and its preventive measures. Staff members felt the session highly useful to them.



Awareness Talk about Blood Donation

Aurolab, December 23

An awareness talk on Blood Donation was given by Ln. Uyirthuli Jeevan – Lions Club of Sangamam-Madurai for the benefit of Aurolab staff.



Moments of Relaxation

Aurolab, December 9-24



Production Staff and sanitary staff were taken on a tour in different batches to Amaravathi Dam, Crocodile Farm, Maruthamalai Murugan Temple, Monkey Falls, Then Tirupathi, Kovai Kutralam etc during December 9-24.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

December - 2017

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Tuticorin	RS Puram	Chennai	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS													
Paying (New & Review)	57,918	8,459	25,968	34,008	24,508	6,474	4,581	11,663	3,580	4,773	4,972	5,770	1,92,674
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	15,519	2,132	5,820	10,306	7,668	NA	827	1,971	1,379	782	NA	1,861	48,265
OUTREACH OUT PATIENT													
Comprehensive Eye Camps	9,816	1,858	3,036	8,376	3,698	NA	NA	1,241	NA	NA	NA	NA	28,025
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	1,514	246	NA	907	621	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,288
Refraction Camps	1,726	249	626	1,415	612	NA	NA	2	200	NA	NA	NA	4,830
Mobile Refraction Unit	NA	NA	NA	74	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74
School Screening camps	NA	228	NA	920	473	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1621
Paediatric Camps	NA	NA	NA	570	186	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	756
Vision Centres	21,327	5,597	10,034	NA	5,513	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	42,471
Community Centres / City Centres	9,741	1,820	2,874	NA	2,743	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17,178
Total OP Examinations	1,17,561	20,589	48,358	56,576	46,022	6,474	5,408	14,877	5,159	5,555	4,972	7,631	3,46,813
Total Number of Camps	41	12	22	35	18	NA	NA	10	NA	NA	NA	NA	138
SURGERIES													
Service Proportion of Cataract Surgeries													
Paying	3,089	350	1,060	1,590	1,175	337	184	691	175	135	134	211	9,131
Free (Direct)	1,987	245	585	1,364	699	NA	103	233	205	69	NA	91	5,581
Camp	1,926	232	508	1,294	569	NA	45	219	85	1	NA	NA	4,879
Total Cataract Surgeries	7,002	827	2,153	4,248	2,443	337	332	1,143	465	205	134	302	19,591

Note: NA - Not Applicable

