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Quote

The secret of contentment is knowing how to enjoy what you have, and to be able to lose all desire for things beyond your reach.
 - Lin Yutang

Editorial

Often times it is seen that along with medical treatment, other forms such as music therapy, therapeutic clowning are found to have a positive effect on the physical and mental well-being of a patient. Many health care service providers are now exploring the possibility of integrating this approach to the treatment with a view to ensuring the holistic development of each patient. Recently Aravind – Pondicherry had the team from Komali Medi Clown Academy visiting the hospital and interacting with various patients and entertaining them.

Reports reveal that people are increasingly opting for Lasik surgery as it provides a permanent alternative to eyeglasses or contact lenses. Aravind's tertiary centres have been offering this service for long and in the last month, the relatively new centre at Salem introduced this facility.

Aravind has always been conscious of the significance of being proactive about attracting patients instead of simply waiting for patients to arrive on their own. Continuing its journey of expansion of primary eye care facilities, Aravind opened its 47th vision centre at Parangipettai.

Eye care is very much dependent on the use of technical equipment and instruments. Most of these are very expensive. It natural that over time they are subjected to wear and tear and ultimately becomes dysfunctional. It is important to take good care of them and with this aim, Aravind's Instruments Maintenance department conducts a series of workshops, the latest one being held at Aravind – Salem.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

Aravind News Team

SPECIAL EVENTS

Inauguration of New Vision Centre - Parangipettai

Aravind- Pondicherry, June 11

Aravind - Pondicherry opened its 7th Vision Centre at Parangipettai. The centre was inaugurated by Dr. P.V.S. Prasad, Dean and Medical Superintendent, Rajah Muthiah Medical College, Annamalai University, Chidambaram. Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the gathering.

On the first day the vision center handled about 93 outpatient visits, among which 16 were advised for surgery and 9 glasses were prescribed. 26 patients were referred to Aravind – Pondicherry.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Workshop on Instruments Care and Maintenance

Aravind – Salem, June 2 - 4



Aravind – Salem conducted the third workshop on ophthalmic instruments care and maintenance with 11 participants from 7 different hospitals in and around Salem district. Resource persons included Mr. Poornachandran and Ms. Ganga from Aravind – Madurai. The team serviced more than 15 ophthalmic equipment brought by the participants to the workshop.



Team from Medi Clown Academy Visits Aravind – Pondicherry

Aravind – Pondicherry, June 6



Mr. Hamish Boyd and Mrs. Fif Fernandes from the Komali MeDi Clown Academy visited Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry on 6th June 2014. An interactive session was arranged wherein they presented their works. The whole session was shared with the staff across the Aravind centers through teleconference.

The MediClown Academy was started by a Canadian couple Fif and Hamish, who are medical trainers and certified laughter yoga teachers as well as medical clowns. They are on a mission to India to introduce the concept of therapeutic medical clowning after having had their medical practice at hospitals in their home country. They combined their resources in clowning to engage intimately with patients and their families and help them overcome painful, intimidating and overwhelming circumstances with compassion and humor. They tell stories, crack jokes, work puppets, play music, mimic, role-play and basically do whatever it takes to get a smile.

The KomaliMeDi Clown Academy integrates the joy of therapeutic clowning, laughter, and humor, with scientific research and indigenous clowning, as a holistic approach for the preventative and curative wellbeing of individuals and communities.



Talk on Typography

Aravind – Madurai, June 13

Aravind Communications arranged this session with Andy Jones, volunteer from USA specializing in media arts. He touched upon various ideas related to designing, style, font selection for both print and electronic media. A total of 10 participants attended the session.



Felicitating Tenth and Plus Two Passed Children

Aravind – Madurai, June 14



HR department organized a programme to felicitate the employees' children who passed Tenth and Plus Two examinations. Dr. G. Natchiar and Dr. Kowsalya delivered inspirational talks to the audience. Children also shared their varied experiences. Gifts were distributed to all.

Course on Community Outreach and Social Marketing for Eye Care Services

Aravind – Pondicherry, June 16 - July 7

Aravind – Pondicherry hosted the 35th batch of the Course on Community Outreach and Social Marketing for Eye Care Services. This batch had 12 participants from India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Guest Lecture on Managing Technical Risks in Hospital Equipment Maintenance

Aravind – Madurai, June 21



Mr. C R Pandian, CEO & Founder, Quality Improvement Consultants handled the session. Audience consisted of LAICO Faculty, all managers, staff from Instrument Maintenance Department, AMRF and Aurolab. Staff from other centres joined the programme via videoconference.

Installation of RO / Mineral Water Drinking System

Aravind – Madurai



RO / mineral drinking water system was installed in the Out-patient Department of Aravind – Madurai. This is expected to benefit the staff, Nurses Hostel and patients.

Installation of Lasik Machine

Aravind – Salem, June 29



Lasik facility was introduced at Aravind – Salem and the clinic was inaugurated by Dr. R. Revathi, along with a team of medical officers from the Cornea department. A CME on Refractive Surgery was held on the same day with 35 participants from various hospitals in Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and nearby districts.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Aravind Team at the Annual Meeting of Vision 2020

Angamaly, Cochin, July 5 - 6



A team of 11 managers and MLOPs were invited to speak at the Vision 2020 India Annual Meeting in Angamaly, Cochin.

Mr. R. Meenakshi Sundaram

- *Planning an outreach camp*
- *Vision center model of Aravind*
- *Need assessment for outreach*

He also moderated a session in the same track.

Mr. Ranjith gave a talk in same session on

- *Spectacle dispensing in outreach*

Ms. Priya spoke on

- *Dealing with the problem of refractive error in our communities*

Sr. Prema

- *Ensuring compliance for better outcome*

Sr. Arul Divya

- *OT sterilization protocols in a high volume set-up*

Sr. Arumuga Selvi

- *Quality assurance in high volume cataract surgery*

Ms. Ushalini

- *Incident reporting for a safe hospital*

Ms. Umapriya

- *Leadership development for paramedics*

Ms. Deepa

- *Using data to manage high volume OPD*

Ms. Gomathi

- *The role of refractionists in eliminating needless blindness*

Ms. Flora

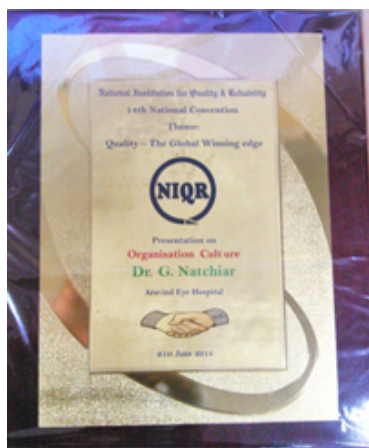
- *Role of vision centres in low vision care*



Dr. G. Natchiar at the National Convention of National Institution for Quality and Reliability

Chennai, June 21

Dr. G. Natchiar gave a talk on "Organisation Culture" at the 14th National Convention of National Institution for Quality and Reliability held at Chennai on June 21. The theme of the conference was Quality – The Global Winning Edge.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Mr. Sanil Joseph at the one day conference – Health Economics: Coming of Age

London, June 12



Mr. Sanil Joseph attended a one day conference – 'Health Economics: Coming of Age' organised at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine on June 12.

He also attended the Alumni meet of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) at Taj Vivanta Hotel, Bangalore on 19 June, 2014. The closing session was attended by the British Deputy High Commissioner in Bangalore and the Director External Affairs at LSHTM.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Training Programmes Enrollments for July 2014 at Aravind Eye Care System

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on June 2014	Enrollments for July 2014
Residency Courses			
M.S. in Ophthalmology	Madurai	125	5
Diploma in Ophthalmology	Madurai	224	2
Long Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Coimbatore	36	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Salem	-	1
	Madurai	17	1
Fellowship in Retina & Vitreous	Madurai	117	3
	Pondicherry	16	1
	Tirunelveli	8	1
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Coimbatore	33	1

Short Term Fellowships - For Ophthalmologists			
Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	13	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Madurai	124	1
	Coimbatore	128	1
	Pondicherry	6	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	296	2
	Coimbatore	299	2
	Pondicherry	9	1
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	24	1
ECCE / IOL Microsurgery	Madurai	722	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Coimbatore	152	1
	Pondicherry	36	1
Phacomulsification	Pondicherry	34	1
Fundus Fluorescein Angiography and Ultrasonography	Madurai	52	1
Training for Ocularist	Madurai	33	1
Training for Orthoptist	Madurai	43	2
Management Courses Non - Clinical Courses			
Eyexcel - Expanding Global Eye Care Workforce through Excellence in Training	LAICO	175	46



PUBLICATIONS

- Priya R, Mythili A, Singh YR, Sreekumar H, Manikandan P, Panneerselvam K, Shobana CS.
- *Virulence, speciation and antibiotic susceptibility of ocular coagulase negative staphylococci (CoNS).*
J Clin Diagn Res. 2014 May;8(5):DC33-7 [Article View](#)
- Shukla D, Singh J.
- *On the safety profile of ocublue plus (BBG 0.05%)*
Eye (Lond). 2014 May 30. [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Kavitha S, Zebardast N, Palaniswamy K, Wojciechowski R, Chan ES, Friedman DS, Venkatesh R, Ramulu PY.
- *Family history is a strong risk factor for prevalent angle closure in a south Indian population.*
Ophthalmology. 2014 Jun 25. [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Thulasiraj RD, Gnanasekaran C
- *Building the eye care team*
Community Eye HealthJ. 2014;27(86):26-27 [Article View](#)
- Karthikeyan RS, Vareechon C, Prajna NV, Dharmalingam K, Pearlman E, Lalitha P.
- *IL-17 expression in peripheral blood neutrophils from fungal keratitis patients and healthy cohorts in south India.*
J Infect Dis. 2014 Jul 7. [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Prabakar S, Porkumaran K, Parag K Shah, Narendran V
- *Retinopathy of prematurity vessel and ridge parameters measurement by unsupervised algorithm*
Research Journal of Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology 2014;7(17):3499-3513 [Article View](#)
- Renugadevi K, Mary JA, Vijayalakshmi P, Seshadri S, Jagadeesh S, Sundaresan P et al
- *Molecular genetic testing for carrier - prenatal diagnosis and computational analysis of oculocutaneous*

albinism type 1.

J Genet Disor Genet Rep 2014 3:2 [Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

Guest Lecture on Common Neurological Diseases and their Prevention

Aurolab, June 28



Dr. Durairaj-Neurologist from Ramya Neuro Hospital handled the lecture for the staff of Aurolab. The participants felt the session very useful to them.



Training Programme on Preventive Maintenance (PM) and its Advantages

Aurolab, June 14 - 18



HR Department organized this training programme for all the technicians in Aurolab. Following topics were covered such as Introduction to various Maintenance Systems, Definition of Preventive Maintenance (PM), Reasons for the increased need of PM, Risks of running a PM system, Importance of Cleaning / Lubrication / Inspection / Calibration etc., Checklist and Periodical reviews, Guide to a successful PM system, Execution process of PM, AMC / Warranty / Guarantee etc., Advantages of a PM system etc. The training was handled by Mr. Chinnamaruthu.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

June - 2014

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Total	
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS											
Paying (New & Review)	50,531	7,102	23,696	31,554	23,174	5,724	3,733	9,553	2,644	157,711	
Free (Direct walk-in)	15,854	1,794	6,371	10,159	7,161	12	503	-	690	42,544	
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS											
Regular Camps	Eye	9,637	1,565	4,181	5,213	6,671	-	443	950	-	28,660
Diabetic Retinopathy camps		524	107	265	756	719	-	-	-	-	2,371
Refraction Camps		1,021	89	790	464	253	-	-	-	-	2,671

Mobile Refraction Unit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	773	-	773
School Screening camps	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400	-	400
Paediatric Camps	274	-	59	-	242	-	-	-	-	-	575
Vision Centres	12,169	4,695	11,369	2,906	3,408	-	767	-	-	-	35,314
Community Eye Clinics	3,467	1,705	2,052	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,224
Total OP Examinations	93,477	17,057	48,783	51,052	41,628	5,736	5,446	11,676	3,334	278,189	

SURGERIES

Paying	3,234	376	1,082	1,411	1,085	191	136	455	118	8,088
Free (Direct)	3749	259	829	1,557	926	66	77	38	75	7,576
Camp	3,146	291	1,292	1,700	2,042	-	51	271	64	8,857
Total Surgeries	10,129	926	3,203	4,668	4,053	257	264	764	257	24,521

