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Quote

Heroism is to be able to stand for the Truth in all circumstances, to declare it amidst opposition and to fight for it whenever necessary.

– *The Mother*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Rare Distinction for Instruments Maintenance Department by the IAPB



The Instruments Maintenance Department at Aravind is accorded a rare distinction by International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness that it is selected as "Eye Health Hero" whose work is really making a difference in aiding vision and restoring sight all over the World.

Editorial

Taking one more step closer to its goal of 100 vision centres by 2020, a new vision centre was opened at Vedachandur.

Aravind's innovative eye care services continue to be recognized by diverse forums and most recently the organisation received the Hermes Award 2012 instituted by The European Institute for Creative Strategies and Innovation. Aravind's erstwhile chairman Dr P. Namperumalsamy has been selected for the "Outstanding Humanitarian Award" by the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Not many hospitals has an in-house Instruments Maintenance Department taking care of the damaged machines and equipment. What began as a support service for Aravind has now become an integral part of the entire organisation and now its extraordinary service has been acknowledged by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. The department also conducted a workshop at the newly-opened Aravind Eye Hospital, Salem.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

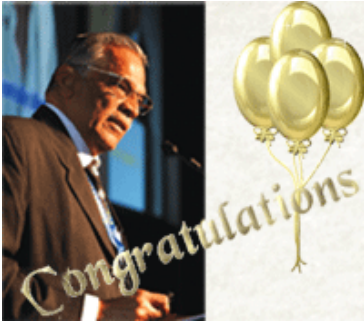
We wish you all a happy reading.

Aravind News Team



AAO Outstanding Humanitarian Service Award for Dr. P. Namperumalsamy

Chicago



Dr.P.Namperumalsamy has been selected for Outstanding Humanitarian Service Award by the American Academy of Ophthalmology. The award will be presented during the Academy's Joint Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois in November 2012. This award was created to recognize individuals involved in humanitarian projects including participation in charitable activities, care to the indigent and community service.



Hermes Award for Aravind Eye Care System

Paris, France, May 10



Aravind Eye Care System received the Hermes Award 2012 instituted by The European Institute for Creative Strategies and Innovation at the National Meeting for Chief Innovation Officers held at Paris. Aravind became winner of the category Improvement of the human condition for its different programs, its business models and process of improvement of the life and health of millions of patients. Dr. R. Pararajasegaram received the award on behalf of Aravind.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Inauguration of Vedachandur Vision Centre

May 17



Aravind's new vision centre was inaugurated at Vedachandur by Dr. K. Ilango, Camp Medical Officer, Aravind – Madurai. Various community leaders and staff from Aravind attended the opening ceremony.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Workshop on Care, Maintenance and Elementary Repair of Instruments in a Eye Hospital

Aravind – Salem, May 28 - 30

This three day workshop was led by Instruments Maintenance team from Madurai consisting of Prof. V. Sreenivasan, Mr.Poornachandran, Mrs. Ganga, and Ms. Kanagalakshmi and coordinated by Ms. Kalaiselvi, Instruments Maintenance Department, Aravind - Salem. A total of nine participants were benefitted from this workshop. Over hundred defective instruments brought by the participants were fixed during the workshop.



Here we share with you excerpts from a letter written by Prof. Nat Irvin to Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind – Pondicherry on his reflections on Aravind. Prof. Irvin is a faculty of Management University of Louisville College of Business. He had been introduced to Aravind through the "Infinite Vision" video in 2006 and was deeply inspired by Aravind's service in restoring sight. He along with his Chandra got an opportunity to have a firsthand experience of Aravind when they visited the centres at Madurai, Pondicherry and also LAICO during the last week of May. After his return to the United States, he wrote a long letter to Dr. R. Venkatesh excerpts of which are shared here:

"The Aravind model is built upon the premise—a belief that "everyone has something to contribute whether they pay you or not..."

Wednesday, June 13, 2012 Dear Venkatesh,

It was such a great pleasure to be with you and the entire Aravind Team. Chandra and I already miss the warm and wonderful hospitality of everyone who made us feel so welcomed.

May everyone at Aravind continue to be blessed with continued good health and strength to continue the work of eliminating the world of needless blindness. As you know, prior to my visit to Aravind I was familiar with the story of Aravind and its founder Dr. V, having been first introduced to "Infinite Vision" in 2006 at TED by our mutual friend Mr. Larry Brilliant. I immediately began incorporating "Infinite Vision" into the syllabus of my MBA course, "Managing In the Future", first while teaching at the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University and subsequently at the College of Business, University of Louisville where I have been teaching since 2007.

I consider the Aravind story to be an essential part of a successful MBA education. Our class discussions have been rich, always centering of course on the transferability of the Aravind model to other health care systems around the world. Can it be duplicated? Why and why not?

Now that I've had a chance to see Aravind first hand, and thanks to the work of Pavithra Metha and Suchitra Shenoy, authors of "Infinite Vision", I am confident that future class discussions will be even richer than before.

[To see the complete letter please click here](#)



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Workshop on Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis

Vellore, May 7 - 9

Dr. Rathinam Sivakumar participated in workshop held at Christian Medical College, Vellore.



Annual Conference of US Association for Vision and Research in Ophthalmology

Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, May 6 - 12

Dr.P.Namperumalsamy led a group of young Scientists to attend US ARVO meeting held in Fort Lauderdale during the



second week of May and presented the Aravind research activities at the Indo-US collaborative vision research program. Posters presented by doctors, scientists and research scholars are as follows:

Dr. R. Venkatesh

- *Indian Family Angle Closure Evaluation (IFACE) study*
- *Aravind Pseudoexfoliation (APEX) study - Intraoperative results*

Dr. P. Sundaresan

- *Genetic carrier screening for Oculocutaneous Albinism in India*
- *MIER1 polymorphisms and age-related cataract in India*
- *Association of ARHGAP22, PLXDC2 genes polymorphisms with Type-*

2 Diabetic Retinopathy in Indian population

Dr. S. Senthilkumari

- *Elucidating the correlation between the levels of Macular Xanthophylls and A2E in normal Indian donor eyes*

Lalan Kumar Arya

- *Molecular Based-Identification of Procerovum Varium (Trematode: Heterophyidae) in human eye causing granulomatous uveitis in children of South India*

K. Renugadevi

- *Prenatal molecular diagnosis of fetal sample*

Lakshmi Priya

- *Characterization of Pseudomonas Aeruginosa Type Three Secretory System (TTSS) Effector Molecules (Exo U/S/T) from human corneal ulcer*

N. Prasanthi

- *Evaluating the role of Myocilin and Optineurin Genes in familial Primary Open Angle Glaucoma*

P. Murugeswari

- *Secretion of vascular growth factors / inflammatory cytokines by Rpe is inhibited by Ranibizumab*



Salem Ophthalmic Association Meeting

Salem, May 13

Dr. Manohar Babu

- *Polymerase chain reaction in uveitis*



Evidence 2012

Hyderabad, May 31 – June 3

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy was invited as guest faculty for Evidence 2012 conducted by L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad and he delivered lectures and contributed to different panel discussions.



Visit to Queens University

Belfast, UK, May 3-27



Dr. P. Sundaresan visited Centre for Vision Sciences, Royal Victoria Hospital, Queens University, Belfast where he worked on molecular genetics of Primary Open Angle Glaucoma and interacted with Dr. Colin E Willoughby and Dr. David Simpson.



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Valedictory Function of Summer Camp

Aravind – Madurai, May 16



Summer camp arranged by Janakiamma Child Care Centre at Aravind - Madurai came to an end with an exciting valedictory function energetically compered by the children. The children staged an engaging skit which amused the audience thoroughly. Gymnastic performance by the kids was the highlight of the whole show.

Summer camp provided an opportunity for the kids to learn about various crafts and other creative hobbies. Special swimming sessions and meditation were organized at Aurofarm which were really thrilling at the same time rejuvenating to the little ones. Around 30 of the staff children attended the camp.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Summer Trip for LAICO Staff

May 19 – 20



For the first time LAICO staff took time out this summer to enjoy the beauty of Thenmala, the first planned eco-tourism destination in India. Boating on the lake, trekking, rope bridge, and the musical fountain were real feast to the eyes. Spa at the famous Shenbagadevi Waterfalls at Courtallam was rejuvenating and at the same time adventurous. The team also visited Kaasi Vishwanathar Temple at Courtallam and Srivilliputhur Aandal Temple.



Eye Care Programme Management Training for FHF and Partner Organisations

Dhaka, Bangladesh, May 19-24



Aravind team consisting of Mr. Sanil Joseph, Dhivya Ramasamy and Dr Dayakar Yadella organised a workshop for The Fred Hollows Foundation in Bangladesh. The "Eye Care Programme Management Training for FHF and Partner Organisations" was held at Bengal Inn, Dhaka, Bangladesh. The course was designed to instruct the participants about the basics of eye care service delivery and eye care programme design and implementation. Seventeen participants from FHF Bangladesh and Ispahani Islamia Eye Hospitals attended this workshop.



Executive Directors' Visit to Paraguay and United States

Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj, Executive Director - LAICO visited Fundacion Vision, Paraguay as faculty at the Community Eye Health workshop. He handled the "Management module" covering the core strategic processes – marketing, production and quality.

In the United States, he attended the Seva board meeting and held discussions with the key people of Pacific Vision Foundation and IDEO on prospects of collaboration with Aravind.



FHF – LAICO Outreach Management Workshop for Hospitals in China

April 23 – May 1

Mr. R. Meenakshi Sundaram conducted Outreach Management Workshop for a public eye hospital in Taihe, Jianxi



Province, China. He also conducted a workshop for community workers at Bright Eye Hospital, Chengdu, Sichuan Province. The entire workshop was facilitated by Fred Hollows Foundation, China.



INTERNAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Internal Capacity Building

Florida, USA, May 12 – 21



After the ARVO 2012 conference, Mr. Lalan Kumar Arya, Senior Research Fellow, AMRF visited University of Miami, Florida, USA where he worked on Granuloma histopathology at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute with Dr. Sander R. Dubovy, Associate Professor of Pathology. He got an opportunity to work on Granuloma immunohistochemistry, cell cytology and cell blocking at Jackson Memorial Hospital under the guidance of Dr. Nadji Mehrdad, Director, Immunohistochemistry Laboratory.

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



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on April 2012	Enrollments for May 2012
Residency Programmes - Clinical Courses			
Diploma In Ophthalmology	Madurai	200	5
Master Of Surgery In Ophthalmology	Madurai	76	8
Long Term Fellowship Courses			
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Madurai	58	1
	Coimbatore	21	0
	Tirunelveli	2	0
	Pondicherry	2	0
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	106	1
	Coimbatore	25	0
	Tirunelveli	13	0
	Pondicherry	11	0
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Madurai	31	1
	Coimbatore	18	0
	Tirunelveli	9	0
	Pondicherry	3	0
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Madurai	110	1

	Tirunelveli	133	0
	Coimbatore	104	0
	Pondicherry	2	0
IOL Microsurgery	Madurai	712	1
	Tirunelveli	277	0
	Coimbatore	216	0
	Pondicherry	12	0
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	171	1
	Tirunelveli	115	0
	Coimbatore	133	1
	Pondicherry	23	0
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	263	2
	Coimbatore	261	0
	Pondicherry	6	0
Phacomulsification	Madurai	148	1
	Tirunelveli	85	1
	Coimbatore	102	1
	Pondicherry	20	0

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



PUBLICATIONS

- **INDIAN J OPHTHALMOL**

2012 May;60(3):235-9

Kothari A, Narendran V, Saravanan VR.

- *In vivo sectional imaging of the retinal periphery using conventional optical coherence tomography systems.*

[article view](#)

- **INDIAN J OPHTHALMOL**

2012 May;60(3):223-5

Haripriya A, Syeda TS.

- *A case of endophthalmitis associated with limbal relaxing incision.* [article view](#)

- **OPHTHALMIC EPIDEMIOLOG**

2012 JUN

Krishnadas, R and Ramakrishnan, R

- *A Study of Initial Therapy for Glaucoma in Southern India: India Glaucoma Outcomes and Treatment (INGOT) Study* [article view](#)

- **BR J OPHTHALMOL**

2012 MAY

Dhananjay Shukla, Abhishek Sharan

- *Epimacular Membrane Secondary to an Optic Nerve Head Lesion* [article view](#)

- **INT OPHTHALMOL**

2012 MAY [E-Pub]

Moster SJ, Fakhraie G, Venketesh R, Moster ML, Zhao Y, Moster MR.

- *Relationship of central corneal thickness to postural IOP changes in patients with and without glaucoma in southern India.* [article view](#)

- **Arch Ophthalmol**

2012;130(5):656-658.

Dhananjay Shukla, Abhishek Sharan, Ramesh Venkatesh

- *Optical Coherence Tomography and Autofluorescence Findings in Photoc Maculopathy Secondary to Distant Lightning Strike* [article view](#)

**MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS**

May - 2012									
Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS									
Paying (New & Review)	49,155	6,644	23,516	32,682	22,368	5,357	3,401	7,173	150,296
Free (Direct walk-in)	14,361	1,848	5,643	10,168	6,393	7	-	-	38,420
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS									
Regular Eye Camps	9,383	1,645	5,388	7,184	5,156	-	-	-	28,756
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	-	58	-	1,245	136	-	-	-	1,439
Refraction Camps	548	477	512	2,246	456	-	-	-	4,239
Mobile Refraction Unit	-	505	-	-	-	-	-	-	505
School Screening camps	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ICDS Children	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paediatric Camps	-	-	-	-	331	-	-	-	331
Vision Centres	7,848	3,730	4,057	2,245	2,179	-	472	-	20,531
Community Eye Clinics	3,521	1,676	1,571	-	-	-	-	-	6,768
Total OP Examinations	84,816	16,583	40,687	55,770	37,019	5,364	3,873	7,173	251,285
SURGERIES									
Paying	3,477	449	1,355	1,816	1,234	182	136	357	9,006
Free (Direct)	4,129	256	908	1,839	903	33	54	34	8,156
Camp	3,342	271	1,496	1,801	1,581	-	-	57	8,548
Total Surgeries	10,948	976	3,759	5,456	3,718	215	190	448	25,710

