



Inside

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
SPECIAL EVENTS
NEWS AND EVENTS
CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE
LAICO HAPPENINGS
ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
TRAINING PROGRAMMES
PUBLICATIONS
AUROLAB NEWS
MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

Aravind News Team Archives

Hit Counter 1

Quote

To establish order around oneself helps to bring order within oneself.
- The Mother

Editorial

There are over 10 million people with corneal blindness around the world and every year many new patients are added to this list. Analysing the trend, it is seen that the number of corneas collected per year is very meager when compared to the high demand for cornea. Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai hosted the annual conference of SightLife, the only non-profit global health organization solely focused on eliminating needless blindness. The conference provided an opportunity to discuss the emerging trends in the field of eye banking and to brainstorm on the various challenges in the field.

Aravind doctors came out in flying colours bagging several awards at the recently held All India Ophthalmological Society in Agra, New Delhi. Another recognition worth mentioning-Fundus pictures taken by Aravind staff have been accepted into the Ophthalmic Photographers' Society Exhibit which will be on display at the ASCRS/ASOA Annual Symposium and Congress to be held in Boston, MA this April. Aravind's senior librarian also has been recognized by the Medical Library Association, USA in appreciation of his outstanding contributions to the field.

Scientists working in the area of filamentous fungal infections were invited to share their expertise at three-day seminar sponsored by CEFIPRA (Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR) with financial support from the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of France.

News about these events and many more feature in this issue.

Aravind News Team

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

AIOS Awards

Agra, February 6-9



Aravind doctors came out in flying colours at the recently held Annual Conference of the All India Ophthalmological Society.

Dr. S. R. Rathinam, Chief, Uvea Services, Aravind - Madurai was awarded with Siva Reddy International Oration Award for her significant contributions in the research on Novel infectious uveitis etiologies.

Dr. Arijit Mitra, Glaucoma consultant, Aravind - Tirunelveli won the D B Chandra - Disha Award for the best paper in the Glaucoma session.

Dr. Sahil Bhandari, DNB Resident, Aravind - Pondicherry became the winner of the quiz competition held as part of the conference.

Dr. Chitaranjan Mishra, Senior resident, Aravind - Theni won the PremPrakash - Disha Award for Best paper in the Squint Session. He won the second prize in the quiz competition.



ASCRS – Ophthalmic Photographer’s Society (OPS) Recognition

Aravind – Madurai, February 10



Fundus images captured by Mr. John of Retina Clinic at Aravind – Madurai have been accepted into the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society Exhibit which will be on display at the ASCRS/ ASOA Annual Symposium and Congress to be held in Boston, MA, during April 25–29, 2014.



Global Innovation Summit Award for Aravind

San Jose, California, USA, February 17-19



Aravind Eye Care System has been declared Winner of the 2014 Rainforest Recognitions: Innovation Ecosystem Award instituted by the Global Innovation Summit. The award recognizes Aravind’s standing in the following criteria:

- **Connections:** does the organization connect people that are otherwise disconnected in meaningful, productive ways?
- **Platform:** does the organization lower the cost of doing business across an entire system?
- **Culture:** does the organization foster trust in the community, industry or society
- **Motivations:** does the organization demonstrate social responsibility or sustainable, systematic impact?
- **Team:** how does the organization collaborate with employees, advisors, suppliers, distributors and other partners?

Mr. David Green who has been associated with Aravind for many years, accepted the award on behalf of the organization.



T. Mark Hodges International Services Award, 2014

LAICO



Mr. Kirubanidhi, Senior Librarian, Aravind Eye Care System has been honored as the recipient of the T. Mark Hodges International Services Award, 2014 by the Medical Library Association, USA, towards his contributions in laying the foundation for MLA’s second century of excellence and achievement in the health information profession. The award will be presented to him at the 2014 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, USA in May 2014.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Aravind Hosts the Annual Meeting of SightLife

Aravind – Madurai, February 28- March 2



Aravind Eye Hospital at Madurai hosted the 4th Annual Conference of SightLife, the largest eye bank in North America. Its main focus is developing countries where the need is and currently works with 15 eye bank partners. The 3-day conference from February 28 - March 2 brought together close to 100 experts in the field to evolve ways to build capacities of partner eye banks thereby eliminating corneal blindness globally.

Fifteen eye banks from India and six from abroad participated. Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank won the poster competition organized as part of the conference.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Motivational Talk

Aravind – Madurai, February 5



Ms. Nagalakshmi Shanmugham delivered a motivational talk for the staff especially nurses in the first week of February. Ms. Nagalakshmi is a passionate and powerful transformational speaker who conducts workshops to various groups of people helping them to overcome their limitations and lead a happy and joyful life.



Awareness Programme on Low Vision and Paediatric Eye Diseases

Aravind – Tirunelveli, February 7-10



Low vision and Paediatric eye care awareness program under SSA (SarvaShikshaAbhiyan) project was conducted in St Florence deaf school, Tirunelveli. Staff from Aravind Eye Hospital Tirunelveli, Ms. Omshakthi and Ms. Ganga Devi gave talks. Ninety special school teachers and ninety five school teachers attended the awareness programme.



Aravind – Tirunelveli Celebrates its 26th Anniversary

Tirunelveli, February 15



On the occasion of the anniversary celebrations, Dr. Shivakumar, Medical Officer, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Fathima, Medical Officer presented the Annual Report for the year 2013. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer addressed the gathering. Dr. Krishnadas, HR Director offered felicitations. Service awards were distributed to the staff by Dr. Ramakrishnan, Dr. Krishnadas and Dr. Meenakshi.

anchored the whole show.

Cultural programmes performed by doctors, and MLOP staff were truly fantastic. The function came to an end with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Sherin, Medical Officer which was followed by dinner. Dr. Kaustubh



Aravind – Salem Initiates Lasik Surgery

Aravind - Salem, February 20



Aravind - Salem becomes the fifth of the Aravind centres to offer Lasik surgery. The first surgery was performed on February 20.



Inauguration of Auroville Vision Center

Aravind- Pondicherry, February 21



Aravind -Pondicherry's latest vision centre was opened at Auroville and was inaugurated by Mr. N. Bala Baskar, I.A.S. (Retd.), Secretary, Auroville Foundation. Dr.G. Natchiar, Emeritus - Director of Human Resources, and Dr. Aster Patel, GB Member, Auroville were present during the occasion. On the first day the vision center handled about 53 outpatients, of which 6 were advised for surgery and 17 glasses were prescribed.



11th Hospital Day Celebrations

Aravind - Pondicherry, February 22



The function started with prayer song followed by Chief Medical Officer, Dr. R. Venkatesh welcoming the gathering. Dr. Dayakar Yadalla presented the activity report for the year 2013. Dr. G.Natchiar, HR Director Emeritus and Mrs. Kannamma, Aravind-Madurai, Airtel Junior Super Singer fame Master L. Srikanth were invited as guests of honor for the hospital day celebrations. Dr. G.Natchiar gave an inspiring speech. As a mark of respect and recognition for the efforts, service awards were distributed by Dr. G.Natchiar and Dr. R. Venkatesh, to the staff members. Following this cultural programmes were also staged. Master Srikanth entertained everyone with his melodious songs. Dr. Fredrick, Paediatric Consultant

proposed the vote of thanks.



Fresher's Day

Aravind - Tirunelveli, January 20



The programme was organized for the first year DNB residents and Fellows of Aravind -Tirunelveli. Function started with invocation dance. Dr.Samyukta welcomed the gathering and introduced thebatch mates (both PGs and Fellows). Participants shared their talents through drama, dance and skit.



17th Hospital day Celebrations

Aravind - Coimbatore, January 25

The programme began with invocation to the Almighty. Dr. Rodney J Morris, Medical consultant, Retina clinic welcomed



the gathering. Dr. V. Narendran, Chief Medical Officer briefed on the major activities of the year 2013. Mr. G. Srinivasan, Director- Finance, Aravind Eye Care System and President, GOVEL Trust gave the felicitation address. In his speech, he highlighted the reasons behind the hospital's success as each employee's hard work, commitment, honesty, and teamwork. Chief Guest, Ms. J. Mohanasundari's speech was thoroughly inspiring. Service awards were distributed to the staff members. Dr. Ganesh V Raman, Chief, Glaucoma Clinic proposed a vote of thanks which was followed by cultural programmes.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

72nd Annual conference of All India Ophthalmological society (AIOS)

Agra, February 6-9



Dr. R. Venkatesh

Glaucoma instruction course: Trabeculectomy – changing trends and management of unexpected outcomes

- *Doing a safe trab – Moorfields system*

Dr. S. Balamurugan

Instruction course – Uvea

- *Challenging case in uveitis*

Dr. Prathmesh Mehta

- *Waterbed of liquefied cortical layer causing sudden visual decline*

Dr. Sahil Bandari

- *Analysis of polymerase chain reaction result in presumed ocular tuberculosis with treatment response*

Dr. Usha Kim

- *Preoperative planning for orbital surgery- look before you leap!*

- *Anterior and medial approaches to the orbit*

Dr. Bijnya Birajita Panda

- *Necrobiotic Xanthogranuloma of the eyelid and orbit – A clinico – pathology study:*

Dr. Namrata Gaikwad

- *Lacrimal Sac Masses: A clinicopathological case series*

- *Clinical profile, management and outcome of retinoblastoma in a tertiary eye care center in south India*

- *Retinoblastoma in twin sisters: Mystery unfolded (E-poster)*

Dr. Debarpita

- *Ocular morbidity in children with learning disabilities*

Dr. Kaustubh

- *Idiopathic hypertrophic pachymeningitis: An unusual masquerader of multiple cranial nerve palsy*

- *Pregnancy, poor teeth & panophthalmitis: A devastating combination*

- *Occupational profile of patients with central cerous chorioretinopathy*

Dr. Kowsalya

- *Double trouble masquerades*

E-Posters:

Dr. Chandra SekharSahoo

- *Quick photo assessment – An innovative way of school eye screening*

Dr. Swati Upadhaya

- *Lasik – Standard or wave front guided? Does it really matters? If Yes- Then to whom?*

Dr. MrunalKshirsagar

- *Randomized comparative study of corneal endothelial cells post cataract surgery using 2 types of OVDS*

Dr. Hitha Sara Sajeev

- *MSICS alone Vs. MSICS with vitreous tap in phacomorphicglaucoma – Randomized control trial*

Dr. MaithilThakkar

- *Clinical presentations, radiological findings, associated injuries in traumatic optic neuropathy*

Dr. Deepti P. Talelee

- *Unexpected link in axial proptosis*

Dr. P.Sundaresan

- *Genetics of glaucoma*

Dr. Usha R

- *Novel approach for retinoblastoma management iIn India : A beginning*

Dr. Namrata Gaikwad

- *Orbital angiomatoid fibrous histiocytoma: A pair of interesting cases*

Dr. Swapna Parekh

- *Correction Of complicated blepharoptosis with frontalis sling surgery: A single centre experience*

Dr. Nidhi Mittal

- *Wooden foreign body in orbit – Clinical features and management*

- *Medial orbital wall fracture With missing medial rectus muscle*

Dr. Arijit Mitra

- *An as OCT based study to note the progression of PACS patients to primary angle closure (PAC) and primary angle closure glaucoma (PACG) (Best paper award)*

- *An as OCT based study to review the result of PACS and PIS patients post iridoplasty*

- *Uveitic glaucoma - An incidence based study*

- *Rise of IOP post HFA*

- *Video on inferior sclerostomy*

Dr. V. Anitha

- *Our experience with therapeutic keratoplasty*

Dr. Rathnesh Kumar & Dr. Najam Haseeb

- *Visual outcome after suture descemetopexy in cases of DMD after cataract surgery*

Dr. Maneksha and Dr.Shalmali Raut

- *Clinical analysis of paediatric proptosis in a tertiary eye care centre*

Dr. Padmavathy

- *Idiopathic hypertrophic pachymeningitis : An unusual masquerader of multiple cranial nerve palsies*



Ophthalmic Genetics and Genetic Counseling for Clinicians and Basic Scientists-Conference and Workshop

Bengaluru, February 15-16



Organized by Narayana Nethralaya and Cardiff University, School of Medicine, UK jointly

Dr. P. Sundaresan

- *Genetics of albinism*

Dr. Vanniarajan

- *Genetic testing of retinoblastoma using next generation sequencing*



7th International Congress on Glaucoma Surgery-ICGS 2014

Singapore, February 20 – 22



Dr. R. Sharmila attended 7th International Congress on Glaucoma Surgery 2014 (ICGS) conference held at Singapore.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Management Priorities in Eye Care Delivery

LAICO, January 26 – February 1

Course on Management Priorities in Eye Care Delivery for heads of eye hospitals was held in LAICO with 27 participants from countries such as India, South Africa, Kenya, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Nigeria and Bangladesh. Dr. S. Aravind welcomed



the participants and Mr. S. Bangera, Managing Director, Hi-Tech Arai Ltd, Madurai delivered the key note address. Valedictory function for the course was held on February 1.



Vision Building and Strategic Planning Workshop

LAICO, February 28 – March 6



The week-long Vision Building and Strategic Planning Workshop was organized for Lions Eye Hospitals in Patran, Punjab and Primasana Eye Hospital, Jakarta, Indonesia. Each participating hospital group comprised of Ophthalmologists, Administrative staff and the Chairman. Dr. Krishnadas addressed a warm welcome to the participants. Mr. Suresh Kumar gave an overview of the workshop.



Programme Managers Course

LAICO, February 10-22



The 13th batch of Management Training for Eye Care Programme Managers Course held at LAICO from February 10-22, 2014. This batch had 37 participants from 14 different countries (Australia, Bangladesh, China, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao PDR, México, Nepal, Rwanda, UK and USA).



ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Indo-French Seminar on Filamentous Fungal Pathogens: Current Trends and Future Perspectives

AMRF, January 20-22

An Indo-French seminar was organized by Aravind Medical Research Foundation at Hotel Taj Gateway in Madurai. This event was sponsored by CEFIPRA (Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR) which receives financial support from the Department of Science Technology, Government of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of France. The mandate of CEFIPRA is the promotion of cooperation in fundamental and applied scientific research between India and France. This seminar was also held in keeping with this mandate which was to develop cooperation through identification of scientists and scientific institutions of the two countries likely to cooperate in a profitable way.

Scientists from both France and India working in this field were invited to participate. There were about 25 participants, with 12 scientists from France and 13 from India. The main theme of this seminar was fungal diseases and its impact on human health and the current research in understanding the pathogenesis of fungal infections with special emphasis on filamentous fungal organisms like *Aspergillus fumigatus* and *flavus*. Scientists working in the area of filamentous fungal infections were invited to share their research findings. Seminar consisted of lectures, round table discussions and recommendations. There was a lot of fruitful interaction and collaboration with scientists working in the field of fungal infections both from India and France.

**TRAINING PROGRAMMES**

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on February 2014	Enrollments for March 2014
Long Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	133	1
	Tirunelveli	23	0
	Coimbatore	31	0
	Pondicherry	16	0
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Madurai	75	1
	Tirunelveli	20	0
	Coimbatore	31	0
	Pondicherry	7	0
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Madurai	50	1
	Tirunelveli	22	0
	Coimbatore	33	0
	Pondicherry	9	0
Fellowship in Cornea	Madurai	79	1
	Tirunelveli	2	0
	Coimbatore	42	0
	Pondicherry	7	0
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	190	0
	Tirunelveli	124	1
	Coimbatore	151	1
	Pondicherry	35	0
Phacomulsification	Madurai	179	2
	Tirunelveli	94	0
	Coimbatore	133	0
	Pondicherry	34	0
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	289	0
	Coimbatore	291	2
	Pondicherry	9	0
Short Term Training in Vitrectomy	Madurai	21	1
	Coimbatore	10	0
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity & Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	21	1
Fundus Angiography and Ultrasonography	LAICO	49	1

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Jayasudha, R; Narendran, V; Manikandan, P; Prabakaran, S R.
Identification of polybacterial community from patients with post-operative, post-traumatic, and endogenous

endophthalmitis through 16S rRNA gene libraries.

J CLIN MICROBIOL. FEB. 2014 [Epub][Article View](#)

- Sommer, Alfred; Taylor, Hugh R; Thulasiraj, R D; West, Sheila; Lietman, Thomas M; Keenan, Jeremy D; Chiang, Michael F; Robin, Alan L; Mills, Richard P for the Council of the American Ophthalmological Society
Challenges of ophthalmic care in the developing world
JAMA OPHTHALMOL. MAR. 2014 p. E1-E5 [Article View](#)
- Siddharthan, K S; Anita, Raghavan; Revathi, R.
Clinical features and management of ocular lesions after stings by hymenopteran insects.
INDIAN J OPHTHALMOL. VOL: 62(2) FEB. 2014 p. 248-51 [Article View](#)
- Srinivasan, M; Jeena, Mascarenhas; Revathi, R; Meenakshi, R; Lalitha, Prajna; Ray, K J; Zegans, M E; Acharya, N R; Lietman, T M; Keenan, J D; Steroids for Corneal ulcers trial group.
Visual recovery in treated bacterial keratitis
OPHTHALMOLOGY MAR. 2014 [Epub][Article View](#)
- McClintic, S M; Prajna, N Venkatesh; Srinivasan, M; Jeena, Mascarenhas; Lalitha, Prajna; Revathi, R; Oldenburg, C E; O'Brien, K S; Ray, K J; Acharya, N R; Lietman, T M; Keenan, J D.
Visual outcomes in treated bacterial keratitis: four years of prospective follow-up.
INVEST OPHTHALMOL VIS SCI. MAR. 2014 [Epub] [Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

Aurolab day Celebrations

Aurolab, January 25



22nd Aurolab Day was celebrated with great grandeur in Aurolab Premises. Dr.M.Srinivasan was invited as chief guest for the function. Mr.Venkateshwaran welcomed the gathering. Annual Report was presented by Managing Director, Dr. P. Balakrishnan. The growth of Aurolab and future plans was shared by Director- Operations, Mr.R.D.Sriram. Various cultural activities added colour to the whole evening. Mr.Sundar Ganesh delivered a vote of thanks.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

February - 2014										
Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS										
Paying (New & Review)	42,385	6,018	22,192	27,619	19,398	5,114	3,291	8,227	1,956	136,200
Free (Direct walk-in)	11,468	1,818	5,691	8,807	6,558	11	342	-	638	35,333
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS										
Regular Eye Camps	11,413	2,287	3,793	7,861	6,487	-	368	120	-	32,329
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	-	314	216	1,657	453	-	-	-	-	2,640
Refraction Camps	2,038	-	1,123	230	2,286	-	-	-	-	5,677
Mobile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Refraction Unit										
School Screening camps	837	-	-	537	1,077	-	-	-	-	2,451
Paediatric Camps	-	380	180	-	-	-	-	-	-	560
Vision Centres	11,110	4,218	5,954	2,792	2,912	-	688	-	-	27,674
Community Eye Clinics	3,551	1,458	1,958	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,967
Total OP Examinations	82,802	16,493	41,107	49,503	39,171	5,125	4,689	8,347	2,594	249,831
SURGERIES										
Paying	2,492	306	1,054	1,215	959	114	94	326	77	6,637
Free (Direct)	1,995	265	748	1,400	726	40	59	25	93	5,351
Camp	2,934	225	880	1,817	1,487	-	27	165	33	7,568
Total Surgeries	7,421	796	2,682	4,432	3,172	154	180	516	203	19,556

