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Editorial

Four decades have gone since the establishment of the very first Aravind Eye Hospital. Since then, Aravind has been slowly expanding to different cities; serving millions of people. Aravind centres in Tirunelveli and Pondicherry celebrated their 31st and 16th annual days respectively with a grand function.

Vision centres have proved to be an excellent model of reaching the rural masses. Aravind is ever grateful to Aravind Eye Foundation for its continuing support in setting up these centres. Recently, Aravind opened its 74th vision centre in Thuvrankurichi and the team Aravind Eye Foundation graced the occasion with their presence.

LAICO has been engaging with several hospitals in the sub-saharan region in an effort to improve their cataract surgical rate. The service continues and the second phase of the project was started last year. As part of this, onsite visit was made by the Aravind team to provide necessary inputs.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

Quote

Let your faith be bigger
 than your fear!

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Best Paper Award

Vellore, February 01 & 02



Mr. Vengadesan, Manager, Quality Assurance, Aravind-Pondicherry won Best Paper Award for the paper titled "Patient Engagement Approach to Improve Patient safety and Quality in High Volume Ophthalmic Care" in SHOQ- CON 2019 held at Christian Medical College, Vellore.

Awards at Annual Conference of All India Ophthalmological Society

Indore, February 14-17



Dr. Haripriya Aravind won Sante Vision Award for the best paper in cataract.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Doctors' Freshers' Day

Aravind-Tirunelveli, February 01



Fresher's Day for the newly joined postgraduates was celebrated at Aravind-Tirunelveli. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan and Dr. Meenakshi were invited as the chief guests. Dr. Divya welcomed the gathering, followed by self-introduction of the post graduates. Cultural programmes like skit and dance were staged. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan and Dr. Meenakshi gave an inspiring speech and explained the importance of freshers' day. Dr. Divya proposed a vote of thanks.



Eye Donation Awareness Programme

Dindigul, January 29



Rotary Queen City, Dindigul organised an awareness programme on eye donation for its members. Mr. D. Saravanan, Manager, Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank, Madurai handled the session and over 80 participants attended.



Awareness Session on Thyroid

Aravind-Madurai, February 08

Dr. Pandiyan, Diabetologist from Shenbagam Hospital handled the session very lively. He explained about the symptoms of thyroid and treatment options. Over 130 participants attended the session which was very interactive and informative.



Moments of Relaxation

Aravind-Tuticorin, February 17



As part of employee welfare activity, the staff were taken on a one day tour to Thalaianai (Rayagiri Hills), Srivilliputtur Andal temple and Irukkangudi Mariamman Temple.



Training Programme for Staff of Opticals

Aravind-Tirunelveli, February 14-15



A session on Customer satisfaction was conducted in two batches by Ms N Ananthalakshmi, AGM – Education & Professional services, Essilor India Private Ltd for the staff of Opticals department.

Using practical examples, Ms. Ananthalakshmi made the training sessions very interesting and informative.



Certificate Course in Evidence Based Management of Diabetic Retinopathy (CCDR) Programme

Aravind-Tirunelveli, February 24



The IVth Module of CCDR programme was inaugurated at Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli. Dr. R. Meenakshi, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the participants and gave a brief note on the evolution of Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment at Aravind in the past 2 decades. Mr. Hariesh Kumar, Project Manager-DR gave a brief overview on the ongoing QEDJT-DR Project in Tirunelveli District. Mr. Manoj Joshi, Programme Manager- PHFI, Gurgaon gave a brief talk on CCDR and the significance of the IVth Module. Dr. Syed Mohamed, Senior Consultant, Aravind-Tirunelveli proposed the vote of thanks. Lakshmi R, Manager HR, co-ordinated the inauguration ceremony.

12 Medical Officers from Department of Public Health and PHCs and 3 Private practitioners were enrolled for the programme. QEDJT-DR Project in Tirunelveli is facilitating this programme for the Medical Officers in Government PHCs. Dr. Syed Mohamed, Senior Consultant, Aravind-Tirunelveli and Dr. Sivan Arul Selvan, Endocrinologist, Tirunelveli were the faculty. The

CCDR Program is conducted once a month and is week-end contact course. Certificate will be awarded to the participants jointly by Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Centre for Chronic Diseases Control (CCDC), Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Education Academy (DMDEA) and Aravind Eye Care System (AECS).



Opening of Aravind's 74th Vision Centre

Thuvankurichi, February 22



Sponsored by Aravind Eye Foundation, Aravind's 74th Vision Centre was opened at Thuvankurichi. Dr. Christine Melton, President, Aravind Eye Foundation inaugurated the centre. AEF Board members - Donna Campbell, Sriram Viswanathan and Meena Roberts, Dr. Richard Hirschman, Dr. Suzanne Gilbert from Seva Foundation, Dr. Alan Richards From Louisiana State University and Mr.Thulasiraj R.D, Executive Director-LAICO graced the occasion. Dr.Kowsalya, In charge-Vision centre, Dr. Leenu Jeris, Medical Officer; Vision Centre Managers-Mr. Mohammed Gowth and Ms. Jhansi Sunitha, Sr. Pitchaimeena and senior staff attended the ceremony. The team examined 126 patients on the inaugural day. Field workers Mr.Rajapandian, Mr Nagalingam and Mr. Raman coordinated the publicity, awareness creation, fixing of community boards and also supported in inviting key people from the community for inauguration.



Guest lecture on Updates and Controversies in ROP Management

Aravind-Madurai, February 21



Dr. Alan B Richards from Louisiana State University, USA gave a lecture on "Updates and Controversies in ROP Management" at Aravind-Madurai, and all other Aravind Centres were connected through tele conferencing.



Training on MiLoop Technique

Aravind-Madurai, February 25&26



Dr. Barbara C. Erny, MD, ASCRS Foundation Medical Liaison for International Programs visited Aravind-Madurai to train IOL doctors on "MiLoop technique". Dr. Madhu Shekhar, Dr. Aruna Pai and Dr. Gomathi Ramya got personalized hands-on training on this technique both in the wetlab and operation theatre. She gave a lecture on "MiLoop technique" to IOL staff in other centres through teleconference.



Hospital Day

Aravind



Aravind-Tirunelveli, February 9

Dr Bradford Shingleton, MD, Ophthalmic Consultants from Boston, USA was invited as Chief Guest for the 31st annual day celebrations of Aravind-Tirunelveli. Dr. R.D Ravindran, Chairman-Aravind Eye Care System, and Mr. R.D Sriram, Managing Director-AuroLab, and Mr. Nagoor Meeran were the guests of honor. Dr. Meenakshi, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Tirunelveli welcomed the gathering. Dr. Shivkumar, Senior Medical Officer presented the annual report. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Dr. RD Ravindran, Mr. RD Sriram offered felicitations. Dr. Bradford Shingleton gave an inspirational speech and congratulated the staff for their selfless service. As a mark of respect and recognition of the efforts put in, cash awards and certificates were distributed to the staff members. Following this, various cultural programmes like Bharathanatyam, folk dance, and singing, Tamil poem recitation were performed by doctors, MLOPs and other staff. Dr. Padmavathy, Chief, Neuro-ophthalmology clinic proposed a vote of thanks.

Aravind-Pondicherry, February 23

Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry completed 16 years of its glorious service. Hospital day was celebrated in a grand manner with Dr. Brahmanand Mohanty, Visiting Faculty, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok as the Guest of Honour.

The function started with prayer song. Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the gathering. Dr. Rajesh, Cornea Consultant presented the achievement report for the year 2018. Research and Service awards were distributed by Dr. Brahmanand Mohanty, Dr. Barbara Erny, ASCRS Foundation, USA and Dr. R. Venkatesh. Various cultural programmes were also staged.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

7th Asian Invitational Conference on Family Business

Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, February 01-03

Dr. Aravind

- Sustaining and Growing Social Entrepreneurship



Annual Meeting of Indian Society of Human Genetics

Kalyani, West Bengal, January 30-February 01



Dr. A. Vanniarajan, Scientist, AMRF attended the meeting and got an opportunity to interact with national and international delegates. He also visited the Core Genomics Facility at National Institute of BioMedical Genomics, Kolkata.



All India Ophthalmic Society (AIOS) Conference

Indore, February 14-17

**Dr. Usha Kim**

- Management of Ptosis
- Frontalis Sling in severe Ptosis - Best option: Silastic Sling, Facia Lata
- What works surgically for Orbital tumors?
- Physical Poster - Clinical Profile of pigmented Lid Tumors in a Tertiary Eye Care in India by Dr. Meghana Tanwar, Dr. Usha. R, Dr. Sabyasachi. C

Free posters

- Searching Beyond Nevi - Rare case of Neurocutaneous Ocular Syndrome - Dr. Pooja Kulkarni, Dr. Usha Kim
- Spectrum of orbital tumors in children and adolescents in tertiary Eye care system in South India-Dr. Gunja Chowdhury, Dr. Usha Kim
- Searching Beyond Nevi - Rare case of Neurocutaneous Ocular Syndrome - Dr. Pooja Kulkarni, Dr. Usha Kim
- A Rare case of spontaneous Globe Luxation in Luckenschadel (Lacunar) Skull Dr. Rekha Sreedhar, Dr. Usha. R
- Free Poster A Rare case of Paediatric Choroidal Melanoma in a 10 year old girl - Dr. Vigneshwar. R, Dr. Usha. R
- A Rare Association - Waardenburg syndrome & Retinoblastoma - Dr. Harini Krishna. B, Dr. Usha. R
- Orbital Schwannoma- A Case Report -Presenting author – Dr. Piyush Bajaj
- Significance of information to patients before cataract surgery:
A prospective study - Presenting author – Dr. Piyush Baja

Chaired the sessions

- My Problem Resident
- Debates & Controversies - Oculoplasty
- Who works in Oculoplasty
- Ocular Pathology/Ocular Oncology & Tumors

As a Judge for Physical posters

Dr. Haripriya

- Instruction course: Compromised corneal endothelium, high myopes, Post VR surgery eyes
- Instruction course: Repositioning malpositioned IOLs with Iris fixation techniques
- Instruction course: What to do if it sinks? Role of a cataract surgeon in a drop

- Symposium: Active fluidics and balanced energy to deal with challenging cataracts
- Great Debate: Intracameral antibiotics- YES
- Cataract Paper: Pseudoexfoliation Study: 5 year post-operative results

Dr. Kim

- Co-Instructor: IC310-Newer vistas in imaging of diabetic retinopathy
- Gp48-Novel approach to reach the doorstep for DR Screening : Smart India study interim results
- GP98-Top innovation of 2018
- GP44-Real Life Experience with AI for DR screening

Dr. Naresh Babu

- IC354-Surgical Management of submacular haemorrhage
- 3D surgery in macular Drusens-symptoms
- Judge: PG thesis & and Physical posters
- Chief instructor: Trauma 10FVB

Dr. Vignesh

- Paper: Subthreshold micropulse yellow laser for the treatment of central serous chorio retinopathy

Dr. Shah Pratik

- Instruction course: On macular surgery

Dr. P. Sundarean, Scientist-AMRF delivered an invited talk on "Update on Molecular Genetics of Eye Diseases" at the Global Eye Genetics Consortium session.

Dr. Rathinam

Early Immuno Modulatory treatment in Acute VKH-NO Debate
IC- Uveitis: Scleritis, Episcleritis: Active, Sequelae, Atrophic

Dr. Jyoti

Effect of amblyopia on visual function and vep response (Free paper)

Dr. Anwesha Manna

A case of bilateral SO palsy following VP shunt for obstructive hydrocephalus of tubercular origin (poster)

Dr. Chanchal Gadodiya

Posture with smart phone app compared A study of measurement of abnormal head with CROM (Free paper)

Aurolab introduced 2 step slit lamp with beam splitter camera and imaging software for the first time in the market.

Focus Products and New updates:

- e-see Autorefractor with stand
- Aurovue Dfine- Promoted with Stand-alone Angle Kappa device for multifocal patient selection and Visual disturbance software
- Humming bird - Phaco Machine upgraded with variable sound notification
- X-Nit for haptic exteriorization in scleral fixation surgery
- Aurolase workstation with touch screen display
- iScope (Retinoscope and Ophthalmoscope) with Keeler optics

Aurolab also organised Aravind Alumni doctors meet at Wow Hotel, Indore and around 80 Alumni attended the meeting.



International Conference on Advances in Healthcare Management Services

IIM, Ahmedabad, February 16-17

Dr. Aravind

- *Decoding a purpose driven organization*



CII Entrepreneur Conclave

Chennai, February 14



Dr. Aravind addressed the audience at the CII entrepreneur Conclave on New Age Entrepreneurship.

Aqua-Terr Golden Jubilee International conference on Genome Biology and Host Defence: Bacteria to Mammals

Madurai Kamaraj University, February 27 to March 1, 2019



Prof. VR. Muthukkaruppan

Was invited to introduce the guest of honour, Max D.Cooper from the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University School of Medicine; Emory University, Atlanta, USA.

Invited talks

Prof. K. Dharmalingam

Proteofoms in Eye Diseases

Dr. P.Sundaresan

Update on the Molecular Genetics of Eye Diseases

Poster presentations

R.Karthikeyan

Expression profiling of serum miRNA in Diabetic Retinopathy patients

O.Ruthra

Surface proteome and surface morphology of melanised and non-melanised conidiophores of *Aspergillus flavus*

Mr.Jeyaprakash, Ms.Swathi and Dr.O.G. Ramprasad were attended the meeting.



International Digital Health Symposium

New Delhi, February 27

Dr. R. Kim participated and shared his inputs at the symposium.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

ACCESS Phase II – Onsite Support

Kisii, Kenya, February 16-March 3



As part of the phase two of ACCESS project, Aravind team consisting of Dr. K. Tiruvengadakrishnan, Mr. Mohammed Gowth, Ms. Mariammal, Aravind-Tirunelveli and Ms. Mari selvi, Aravind- Tuticorin visited Kisii Eye Hospital, Kisii, Kenya to provide support in the areas of OPD and operation theatre management, refraction, counselling and outreach. Recommendations were given to improve the care delivery process, promoting the services and efficiency of the system.



Training of Ophthalmologists at Bugando Medical Centre

Mwanza, Tanzania, February 18-25, 2019



Dr. V.R. Vivekanadan was at Bugando Medical Centre, Mwanza, Tanzania from February 18-25, 2019 to train the ophthalmologists there.



ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Conference on Advances in Clinical Genomics

AMRF, February 09



As a part of the DBT Centre of Excellence project on "Translational Genomics of Paediatric Eye Diseases", AMRF organised this one day conference under the able guidance of Dr. P. Sundaresan, Dr. D. Bharanidharan and Dr. A. Vanniarajan at Aravind Medical Research Foundation. Dr. P. Sundaresan welcomed the delegates and introduced the speakers. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, President, AMRF delivered the presidential address and emphasized the need for clinician and researcher interaction for better management of genetic diseases. Prof. K. Dharmalingam gave the inaugural address and described the human genome projects in India.

The conference included talks by four speakers from leading institutes of Bangalore and Chennai along with five speakers from AMRF and Aravind Eye Hospital. A wide spectrum of topics in clinical genomics including gene discovery, gene therapy, data analysis, functional validation, clinical management were discussed in detail. There was a clear emphasis on the involvement of both clinicians and researchers for the interpretation of the genetic data towards better patient care.

60 participants including faculty, research scholars and post graduate students from different institutions attended the meeting. Certificates were distributed to all the participants.

Session concluded with a special note by Dr. Dharmalingam to students on the importance of learning newer techniques. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Vanniarajan.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for February 2019 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for February 2019
Long Term Fellowship Programs - For Ophthalmologists		
Fellowship in IOL & Anterior Segment	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Salem	1
Fellowship in Cornea	Pondicherry	1
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Madurai	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
	Pondicherry	1
Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Retina Vitreous	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	2

Short Term Clinical courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	1
	Tirunelveli	1
	Coimbatore	2
Phacoemulsification	Pondicherry	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	1
Small incision cataract surgery	Madurai	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Paramedical Courses		
Refraction techniques	Madurai	1
Ocularist	Madurai	1
Instrument maintenance courses		
Instrument maintenance course for technicians	LAICO	4



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AUROLAB NEWS

Medical Fair 2019

Pragathi Maidan, New Delhi, February 21-23

Aurolab participated in 25th International exhibition of Medical Fair, organised by Messe Dusseldorf.



ANVISA Brazil Audit

Aurolab, February 18-21



ANVISA inspection was conducted to ensure the Brazilian GMP compliance in Aurolab. Aurolab has applied ANVISA certificate for medical devices such as IOLs, HPMC, Dyes, Suture needles and Blades. The inspection was completed successfully with very few recommendations.



Guest Lecture on Hypertension

Aurolab, February 27



Dr. Manoj, Consultant Physician from Vadamalayan Hospital handled the session. He explained about the condition and its risk factors. The staff felt the session highly informative.



Lecture on Premium IOL Characterization and Performance

Aurolab, February 19

Dr. Krishna Kumar Venkateswaran, Founder of Tatvum Research Corp., Irvine, USA visited Aurolab and gave a lecture on "Premium IOL characterization and performance" to Aravind's IOL doctors via tele conferencing.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

February - 2019

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondi cherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumal pet	Tuti corin	CBE CC	Chennai	Total
Paying (New & Review)	52,166	7,800	26,714	28,726	21,671	5,994	4,001	10,744	3,354	4,986	2,955	14,195	1,83,306

HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS

Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	14,931	2,017	6,889	9,520	7,984	NA	1,186	1,830	1,548	899	NA	3,190	49,994
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OUTREACH OUT PATIENT

Comprehensive Eye Camps	8,265	2,357	3,561	6,691	5,521	NA	248	1,462	NA	320	NA	1,433	29,858
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	698	221	21	1,661	266	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,867
Glaucoma Camps	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Refraction Camps	569	1,011	1,180	2,168	706	NA	259	189	NA	NA	NA	NA	6,082
Mobile Refraction Unit	NA	NA	NA	516	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	516
School Screening camps	179	NA	508	150	NA	NA	1,036	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1873
Paediatric Camps	NA	400	NA	230	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	630
Vision Centres	23,506	5,770	12,447	4,496	7,364	NA	1,111	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	54,694
Community Centres / City Centres	9,079	1,922	2,550	NA	2,656	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	16,207

Total OP Examinations	1,09,393	21,498	53,870	54,158	46,168	5,994	7,841	14,225	4,902	6,205	2,955	18,818	3,46,027
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Total Number of Camps	38	11	24	33	28	NA	2	7	NA	3	NA	7	153
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SURGERIES

Service Proportion of Cataract Surgeries

Paying	2,912	325	1,243	1,330	1,226	226	186	511	195	197	114	705	9,170
Free (Direct)	2,362	222	663	1,449	907	142	189	256	303	136	14	225	6,868
Camp	2,747	293	739	1,751	1,377	NA	89	244	45	27	NA	120	7,432
Total Cataract Surgeries	8,021	840	2,645	4,530	3,510	368	464	1,011	543	360	128	1,050	23,470

Note: NA - Not Applicable



ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Admin