



Inside

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
 SPECIAL EVENTS
 NEWS AND EVENTS
 CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE
 HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
 LAICO HAPPENINGS
 INTERNAL CAPACITY BUILDING
 TRAINING PROGRAMMES
 PUBLICATIONS
 AUROLAB NEWS
 MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS
 CASE STUDY

Aravind News Team
 Archives
 Hit Counter 4

Quote

Do not aim for success if you want it; just do what you love and believe in, and it will come naturally
 - David Frost

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Best Video Awards at American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery 2010 Film Festival



Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Pondicherry and Dr. Haripriya Aravind, Chief-Intraocular Lens and Cataract Clinic, Aravind-Madurai won the Best Video Awards at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS 2010) held at Boston.

Hilton Award Ceremony

Redwood City, April 20



Amidst much excitement, the senior leaders at Aravind left for California to attend the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Award ceremony. This year, the much-awaited award ceremony was held for the first time, as part of the Global Philanthropy Forum on 20th April, at Redwood City. Those at Aravind were not left out as they were fortunate to be able to see the whole ceremony through a live webcast.

A mixed group of staff gathered at the LAICO conference hall and watched eagerly as Ms. Judy Miller, Vice-President of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation introduced the ceremony followed by the president and CEO of the foundation, Steven M. Hilton, who introduced Aravind Eye Care System and explained why the organisation was considered worthy of this award. A short narrative video was played to describe the work of Dr. G. Venkataswamy that continues to define Aravind Eye Care System.

It was a moment of pride for the staff and employees of Aravind when Dr. Namperumalsamy and Dr. Natchiar received the award sculpture and the cheque for \$1.5 million amidst a standing ovation. Dr. Namperumalsamy expressed his gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of Aravind and went on to describe the work that goes on at Aravind – the evolution of the organisation and its different initiatives – for the benefit of the audience gathered there. He underlined the vision of Dr. Venkataswamy and his spirit of service.

The ceremony was concluded by a very witty keynote address by Dr. William H. Foege, a Senior Fellow at the Gates Foundation. In his engaging speech, he drew lessons from Aravind's work and called for more such compassionate initiatives to make this world a better place. He said that Aravind had its priorities right – given the context that it operates in, Aravind puts a high priority on equity and compassion. He also said that it was encouraging to see the power of ideas and how people across the globe can learn from one another – how Dr.V learnt from McDonald's. He invited those gathered there to honour the spirit of Aravind not just by simply honouring it but also by striving to emulate it in some way.



Tamil Kalaachara Sangam honored Dr. P. Sundaresan

France, April 16 – 18



Dr.P.Sundaresan – Senior Scientist, AMRF was honored for his contribution to Ocular Genetics by Tamil Kalaachara Sangam in France on the occasion of its fifth anniversary celebrations. He was also presented with a memento depicting the Eiffel Tower.



For the Sake of Honour Awards to Dr. P.N. and Dr. G.N

Madurai, April 13

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy and Dr. G. Natchiar, Chairman and Vice – Chairman, Aravind Eye Care System have been awarded the esteemed 'For the Sake of Honour' awards by the A & T Network Systems, Pvt, Ltd, one of the earliest and the most trusted providers of Internetworking solutions as well as internet related services in South India. The awards were given in recognition of the extensive humanitarian services channelised by them through several of Aravind's outlets spread across the country. These awards were presented at the ceremony held in Madurai on April 13.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Time Magazine Honours Dr. P. Namperumalsamy



The Chairman of Aravind Eye Care System, Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, has been recognised as one among the 100 people "who most affect our people" by the Time Magazine. It has classified the 100 people under four categories: Leaders, Heroes, Artists, and Thinkers and the Chairman is included under the Heroes category. Dr. Christine Melton, President-Friends of Aravind accompanied Dr.P. Namperumalsamy to the Award ceremony. [Read from Time](#)



NEWS AND EVENTS

Refresher Training on Eye Donation

Aravind - Madurai, April 4

The Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank conducted a refresher training on eye donation mainly for the existing eye collection Centres. 34 participants from Lions Club of Kariyapattinam, Karaikal, Thirunallar Temple City, Pugalur, Pondicherry, Kumbakonam, Tanjavur, Vedaraniyam, Pudukottai, Ayakarranpulam, Sivakasi, RAMCO Cements-Arupukkottai, Pattukottai, and Watrap-Madurai attended the programme.

Dr.M.Srinivasan, Medical director – RAIEB gave an orientation about corneal blindness and the significance of eye donation. There were video demos on corneal diseases, transplant surgeries etc. The eye bank manager presented statistics of the year 2009 and pinpointed the need to increase eye donations. The collection centres got an opportunity to get clarified their doubts on eye enucleation, storage, transportation, and transplants.

The instruments and medicines used for eye enucleation were displayed by the eye bank technicians on the occasion. They also showed the excised cornea stored in MK medium and Glycerin and the sclera stored in Glycerin. Some of the collection centres were oriented about Auro solutions and hand scrubs. New collection centres like RAMCO Cements showed much interest in eye donation.



Eye donation Awareness Programme

Viswanadhapuram, April 17

Eye donation awareness programme was conducted for the Medical officers of the Primary Health Centres during their monthly review meeting held on April 17, 2010 in the presence of the Deputy Director of Health and Additional Director of Health. Around 40 medical officers from various Public Health Centres participated in the programme. The Eye Bank Manager delivered the eye donation awareness message.



Eye Donation Lecture

Tirupuvanam, April 30

Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank was invited to deliver eye donation lecture among the Madurai Micro Finance Self Help Groups. The programme was conducted at Government elementary school, Tirupuvanam. A total of 500 members from 50 SHGs participated in the programme. Senior managers of Madura Coats and SHG organisers presided over the function.



Ophthalmic Instruments Maintenance course

Eritrea, March 22 – April 16



Prof. V. Srinivasan, Mr. S. Poornachandran, and Miss. J. Merlin Meena were at Eritrea, North Eastern Africa, for conducting Ophthalmic Instruments Maintenance courses for the technicians at Asmara, capital of Eritrea, and Keran, a regional head quarters. 18 technicians were trained during the period. The course was sponsored by Fred Hollows Foundation, Australia. This is the tenth overseas course run by the Instruments Maintenance Department and the first one involving a lady instructor.

Eritrea is a country with several old churches. In one of the old churches the bell is made of stone which, if hit by another stone, produces the metallic sound of a bell.



Kids' Zone

Aravind-Coimbatore, April 14

Kids' Zone – an optical shop exclusively for kids was opened at the Paediatric Clinic, Aravind – Coimbatore on April 14 by Dr. V. Narendran, Chief Medical Officer. The shop covering an area of 200 sq. ft has got a vast collection of all brand lens and frames at affordable cost. Provisions are also there for the immediate delivery of glasses.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery

April 9 – 13, Boston

Dr. R. Venkatesh

- *Safe and Effective Technique to Tackle Lens Induced Glaucoma in Developing World (Best Video Award)*

Dr. Haripriya Aravind

- *New Techniques-Iris fixation of Rigid IOLs (Best Video Award)*

Dr. K. Thiruvengadakrishnan

- *Poster - Dematiaceous versus Filamentous Fungal Keratitis at a Tertiary Eye care Center in South India: Incidence and Outcomes*



ARVO 2010 Annual Meeting

Florida, May 2 – 6

Dr. P. Sundaresan

- *Spectrum of candidate genes mutation associated with Indian familial Oculocutaneous Albinism patients*

P.Murugeswari

- *Angiogenesis induced by proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy and Eales' Disease vitreous is mediated by a common pro-inflammatory mechanism*

B.Hemadevi

- *Protein Profile of Autosomal Recessive Congenital Hereditary Endothelial Dystrophy (CHED2) and Fuchs Endothelial*



Corneal Dystrophy (FECD)

S. Ananthi

- *Proteomic Analysis of Tear and Cornea in Patients with Fungal Keratitis*

M.Valarnila

- *Evaluation of Haptoglobin and its Isoforms as Plasma/Serum Biomarker for Diabetic Retinopathy*

R.Siva Ganesha Karthikeyan

- *Innate Immunity in Aspergillus and Fusarium keratitis in Tamil Nadu, India*

Ashwini Shanker

- *EPHA2 Polymorphisms and Age Related Cataract in India-Findings from the INDEYE Genetics Study*



World Cornea Congress

Boston, April 7 - 9

Dr. K. Thiruvengadakrishnan

Poster:

- *Unusual Case Series of Postoperative Endophthalmitis Due to Mycobacterium Tuberculosis*



Annual Conference of Delhi Ophthalmological Society

Delhi, April 16 - 18

Dr.R.Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind - Tirunelveli was invited as guest faculty for the 61st Annual Conference of Delhi Ophthalmological Society.

He was the chairman for the sessions:

- *Glaucoma Management*

- *Glaucoma Medical and Practice Management*

He also gave a lecture on Blebless Surgery

- *Current and Future Prospects*

Dr.Dhananjay Shukla

- *Idiopathic Macular Telangiectesia*

Dr. Manish Tandon

- *Comparative Study between Surgical Outcomes of Primary Vitrectomy and Buckle Vitrectomy in the Management of Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment*

- *An Innovative Way of 23Gauge Silicon Oil Removal*

Dr. Kamal Preet

- *Congenital Naso Lacrimal Duct Obstruction*

Also the convener for session on Lacrimal diseases.

Dr. P.M.Aravind

- *Evaluation of contracted socket*

- *Free paper on Public Myths in Cataract Surgery.*

Dr. Vishal Nigam

- *Clinical Profile and Management of Secondary Orbital Squamous Cell Carcinoma*

Dr. Ankur Shrivastava

- *Facial palsy – Etiology, Evaluation and Investigations*

Dr. Subhashis Mukerjee

- *Clinical Profile of Orbital Infections in Tertiary Eye Care Center*



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

MLOP Staff Tour

Aravind - Pondicherry, May 9

A tour was arranged for the MLOP staff to Srirangam, Trichy, Mukkombu and some other famous temples on the way.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Near Vision Impairment and Presbyopia Data Review, and Analysis and Follow up Protocol Meeting

Geneva, April 27 – 29



Mr. R.D Thulasiraj and Mr. B. S. Ganesh Babu attended the meeting held at WHO. The main purposes were to:

- Review the prevalence and socio-economic burden of near vision impairment
- Conduct comparative data analyses
- Review and interpretation of composite findings
- Draft the longitudinal follow-up study protocol



Executive Director's Visit to US and UK

April 13 – May 7

Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj attended meetings of Acumen Fund, Lavelle Fund, Friends of Aravind and ORBIS at New York. In San Francisco, he gave a talk to the Stanford Business School students. He also attended the Hilton Award Ceremony.

In UK, he took class for the students of M.Sc - Community Eye Health at the International Center for Eye Health.



Workshop on Preferred Practices for Sustainable Primary Eye Care Services

LAICO, April 8 – 9



The objectives of the workshop were to study different models of primary eye care services (vision centres) and distil preferred practices. The representatives from eight implementing agencies of vision centres participated and presented their models. The representatives from INGOs and the eye hospitals interested in setting up such services also participated in this workshop. The outcome of the two day workshop is to come up with the preferred practices in terms of comprehensiveness of the services provided, demand generation strategies, infrastructure planning, human resources, programme sustainability, financial viability and its impact on the base

hospital for providing primary eye care services which will be released as a manual. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Dr. G. Natchiar, and Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj addressed the gathering at the inaugural function of the workshop. Dr. Pararajasekaram, former consultant, WHO facilitated this workshop.



Visit to L. V. Prasad Eye Institute

Hyderabad, April 13 – 14



Sanil Joseph, Faculty, LAICO visited International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye Care (ICARE), L.V Prasad Eye Institute, and Hyderabad to teach on the Master of Community Eye Health Programme.



Course on Management Training and Systems Development for Hospital Administrators

LAICO, April 14



The inaugural function of the 20th batch was held on April 14 at LAICO. The participants were from India, Kenya and Cameroon. Dr. S. Aravind, Administrator, Aravind Eye Care System was the Chief Guest for the function.



Visit to Fundacion Vision, Asuncion

Paraguay, February 18 – April 30



As part of the capacity building process, Mr. Shavoz Philip, Manager – Patient Care, Aravind – Madurai visited Fundacion Vision to provide on site support in administrative areas. His areas of assignment included preparing pricing policy of the services and its implementation, streamlining of the MRD and making necessary updations in existing software for better management of the clinic.



INTERNAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Dr. P.Sundaresan Visit USA

USA, April 3-14



Dr. P.Sundaresan, Senior Scientist, Aravind Medical Research Foundation visited Dr. Renier A.Veitia research laboratories to INSERM and Institute of Jacob and Monod, Paris under the Indo-French - ICMR-INSERM project entitled "Genetic and functional dissection of FOXL2 gene involved in the pathogenesis of the Blepharophimosis Syndrome (BPES)" from April 3-14, 2010. He discussed with Dr. Reiner on BPES - genetics and FOXL2 gene expression. Paris Tamil Kalachara Sangam felicitated him and he gave a special talk on Age related eye diseases and role of "Aravind eye care system to eliminate

needless blindness"

He got travel award from Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) for a two week visit to Prof. John W Crabb, laboratory Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland. During the two weeks period (April 15-30, 2010), he discussed with Dr. John Crabb and his lab members on the glaucoma biomarker study and learnt the technology for proteomic biomarker discovery and validation. Dr. P.Sundaresan also visited Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland and had discussions with the scientists there.

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



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on March 2010	Enrollments for April 2010
Long Term Fellowship Courses-For Ophthalmologists			

Fellowship in Anterior Segment/Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	95	1
	Tirunelveli	10	0
	Coimbatore	18	0
	Pondicherry	10	0
Fellowship in Orbit and Oculoplasty	Madurai	24	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Madurai	107	1
	Tirunelveli	97	1
	Coimbatore	75	2
IOL Microsurgery	Madurai	696	1
	Tirunelveli	264	1
	Coimbatore	201	2
	Pondicherry	7	1
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	112	1
	Tirunelveli	60	1
	Coimbatore	73	1
	Pondicherry	14	0
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	135	2
	Tirunelveli	96	1
	Coimbatore	112	0
	Pondicherry	13	0
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	231	1
	Coimbatore	216	2
Paediatric Councillors	Madurai	32	2
Paediatric Nurse	Madurai	50	2
Management Courses			
Management Training and Systems Development for Hospital Administrators	LAICO	193	9

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



PUBLICATIONS

- Svati Bansal; Usha Kim
Bilateral Isolated Orbital Neurofibroma
Ophthalmic Surgery Lasers & Imaging 2010 E- Pub
<http://www.osli.com/showabst.asp?thing=60781>
- London, Nikolas J.S.; Rathinam, Sivakumar R.; Cunningham, Emmett T.
The Epidemiology of Uveitis in Developing Countries
International Ophthalmology Clinics 50(2):1-17, Spring 2010
http://journals.lww.com/internat-ophthalmology/Citation/2010/05020/The_Epidemiology_of_Uveitis_in_Developing.3.aspx
- Rathinam, Sivakumar R.
Leprosy Uveitis in the Developing World
International Ophthalmology Clinics 50(2):99-111, Spring 2010
http://journals.lww.com/internat-ophthalmology/Citation/2010/05020/Leprosy_Uveitis_in_the_Developing_World.9.aspx
- Shukla, Dhananjay; Rathinam, Sivakumar R.; Cunningham, Emmett T. Jr
Leptospirosis Uveitis in the Developing World

International Ophthalmology Clinics 50(2):113-124, Spring 2010

[http://journals.lww.com/internat-](http://journals.lww.com/internat-ophthalmology/Citation/2010/05020/Leptospiral_Uveitis_in_the_Developing_World.10.aspx)

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- Rathinam, Sivakumar R.

Treating Uveitis in the Developing World Setting

International Ophthalmology Clinics 50(2):219-228, Spring 2010

[http://journals.lww.com/internat-](http://journals.lww.com/internat-ophthalmology/Citation/2010/05020/Treating_Uveitis_in_the_Developing_World_Setting.17.aspx)

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- London, Nikolas J.S.; Shukla, Dhananjay; Heiden, David; Rathinam, Sivakumar R.; Arevalo, J. Fernando; Cunningham, Emmett T. Jr

HIV/Aids in the Developing World

International Ophthalmology Clinics 50(2):201-218, Spring 2010

[http://journals.lww.com/internat-](http://journals.lww.com/internat-ophthalmology/Citation/2010/05020/HIV_AIDS_in_the_Developing_World.16.aspx)

[ophthalmology/Citation/2010/05020/HIV AIDS in the Developing World.16.aspx](http://journals.lww.com/internat-ophthalmology/Citation/2010/05020/HIV_AIDS_in_the_Developing_World.16.aspx)

- Jean-Marie Tiercy; Sivakumar R. Rathinam; Marianne Gex-Fabry; Edoardo Baglivo

A shared hla-drb1 epitope in the dr beta first domain is associated with vogt-koyanagi-harada syndrome in indian patients

Molecular Vision 2010; 16:353-358

<http://www.molvis.org/molvis/v16/a41/>



AUROLAB NEWS

Annual Conference of Delhi Ophthalmological Society

New Delhi, April 16 -18



At the 61th Annual Conference of Delhi Ophthalmological Society, Aurolab promoted its new products "Aurolac" – Lacrimal intubation set, "NanoCut" - superior technology blades, Auroprost - Latanoprost 0.005% w/v and also introduced the metal injector for Aurovue lens (Hydrophobic foldable lens) to the ophthalmic society. Mr. Sivanand, Mr. Sethu Madhavan, Mr. Padmanabhan, Mr. Praveen Raj, Area Development Manager - Delhi and neighbouring regions represented Aurolab in the trade show. Aurolab organized an annual meeting for Area Development Managers and Marketing Executives.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

April - 2010						
Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS						
Paying (New & Review)	38,633	5,955	19,140	25,826	17,942	107,496
Free (Direct walk-in)	12,581	1,631	5,327	8,380	5,347	33,266
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS						
Regular Eye Camps	7,920	2,033	3,384	6,282	5,099	24,718
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	-	-	-	1,181	380	1,561
Refraction Camps	1,810	150	690	1,106	181	3,937
School Screening	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paediatric Camps	114	-	-	-	-	114

Vision Centres	4,511	3,085	2,567	1,736	1,765	13,664
Community Eye Clinics	2,940	1,316	3,153	2,118	-	9,527
Total OP Examinations	68,509	14,170	34,261	46,629	30,714	194,283
SURGERIES						
Paying	2,637	523	1,006	5,625	768	10,559
Free (including the subsidized camp surgeries)	2,902	245	712	2,782	1,805	8,446
Camp	2,767	279	848	1,620	1,185	6,699
Total Surgeries	8,306	1,047	2,566	10,027	3,758	25,704



CASE STUDY

A youngster's "Jallikattu dream" Came true; but he lost his eye



A young man had a dream to participate in Jallikattu. One day it came true. But he had to lose one of his eyes in the valour - sport.

Narayanan (real name shielded), aged 22, belonging to a village in Dharmapuri district had an aspiration from boyhood to fight and subdue a bull in Jallikattu. He will be discussing often with his friends the thrill of the "Veera - Vizhaiyattu". At last came the dream-day. With great enthusiasm, he went to the place where the pongal - Jallikattu was being held. When one of the tough-bulls entered the arena, Narayanan swung in to action

and tried to hold the animal in his grip.

But it hit him on the face with horns which threw the youngster a few yards away. His Parents and friends who rushed to the scene found blood oozing from his left eye. He was immediately taken to a private eye hospital in Dharmapuri town. Doctors found the eye badly damaged. As it could not be repaired they advised enucleation.

Next day, Narayanan's left eye was removed. After regaining consciousness, he felt the bandage on his face and asked the reason from his parents who explained what had happened. As the eye without the eye-ball gave an ugly appearance, Narayanan became frustrated in life and even stopped to look at his face on the mirror. Sometime later, he was advised by a well-wisher to go to Aravind Eye Hospital at Coimbatore for fixing an artificial eye. In the orbit clinic a ready-made eye was implanted. As it did not satisfy him, he was referred to Madurai Aravind. With his parents he came to Madurai. At the Orbit and Oculoplasty clinic a customised prosthetic eye was specially fashioned for Narayanan. When it was implanted it restored his original appearance. The young man felt happy and returned home with satisfaction. Youngsters who want to demonstrate their valour in jallikattu should remember Narayanan's story.

Source: Deva Rani Aravind-Madurai

Script:K.V.S. Lakshmanan

