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Quote

The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they do not have any.

– Alice Walker

Editorial

At Aravind roughly 1,500 surgeries are being performed a day by all the ten centres together. Recently, the centre at Coimbatore achieved a magnificent feat of performing 999 surgeries in just two days on patients brought in from outreach eye camp. This has been possible only with the unflinching support and dedication of staff members belonging to various departments. Hearty Congratulations to the entire team!!!

World Immunology Day was celebrated for the first time at Aravind Medical Research Foundation with a variety of programmes. Senior scientist Dr. P. Sundaresan was recognized for his contributions with the TANSa award by the Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology. Four senior nurses from Aravind - Tirunelveli were felicitated for their self-less by the Lions Club.

On the eye care consultancy front, LAICO associated with Vision in Practice group for the capacity building of eye hospitals in China and the first vision building workshop was held for a team from Aipu Eye Hospital in the second week of April.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

Aravind News Team

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

TANSa Award for Dr. P. Sundaresan

Chennai



Dr. P. Sundaresan has been selected for the Tamilnadu Scientist Award – TANSa (2013) under the discipline - Biological Sciences by the Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology.

Lions Award for Aravind's Senior Nurses

Tirunelveli, April 9

Nursing Superintendents, Ms. Chidambaram and Ms. Arumugam, Ms. Prema, IOL Clinic Co-ordinator, Ms. Jenny, Tutor - Counselling and Ms. Sankara Gomathy, Glaucoma Clinic Co-ordinator were appreciated for their humanitarian



service by Lions Club of Paalayamkottai Stars.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Opening of Janakiamma Child Care Centre

Aravind – Tirunelveli, April 1



Women constitute a great majority of staff at Aravind. As part of staff welfare activities to support the working women, Janakiamma Child Care Centre was inaugurated at Aravind – Tirunelveli by Dr R Meenakshi, Deputy Chief Medical Officer.



Essilor Product Training Session

Aravind – Tirunelveli, April 11

Product training class was conducted for staff of optical sales, technicians and refractionists by Essilor India Private Ltd. The session started with prayer song, followed by Lakshmi, Manager - HR welcoming the gathering. Mr Shankar Raman, Zonal Manager gave a brief introduction about the class and also shared a few tips to ensure customer satisfaction. Mr Krishna, Chief Manager - Varilux Agenda explained in detail various products of Essilor and its advantages. The training session was very interactive, informative and useful for the participants.



Unit II and Neuro-Ophthalmology Clinics Moved to New Premises


Aravind – Madurai, April 15



Unit II and the Neuro clinic at Aravind – Madurai moved to spacious premises in the ground floor of the main OP building. All the senior leaders of Aravind were present during the inauguration.



1000 Surgeries in 2 Days at Aravind - Coimbatore

 camp Aravind – Coimbatore, April 4

In association with Vetrivel Murugan Temple Committee in Thirukailayapuram, Aravind has been conducting comprehensive eye screening camp since 1994. For the Past two decades through this camp, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai has screened 21,382 patients and 12,154 patients were operated for cataract surgeries. Aravind Eye Hospital, Coimbatore took over this camp from 2014 and screened 1,726 patients and performed 1,159

cataract surgeries (including review camp). This year the camp screened 1,261 patients and brought 1006 patients for surgery. Aravind, Coimbatore was able to perform these 999 surgeries in just two days.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

American Association for Cancer Research Meeting

Pennsylvania, USA, April 18-22



Dr. A. Vanniarajan

- *Advanced paternal age as a possible risk factor for retinoblastoma*



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy at the Conference on Life Sciences and Health Care – A Life Time of Care

Noida, April 21

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy delivered a guest lecture on innovations in Aravind model at the conference on *Life Sciences and Health Care – A Life Time of Care* as part of Merck-HCL 10 year collaboration celebrations.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Vision Building and Strategic Planning Workshop for Aipu Eye Care Hospital

LAICO, April 5-12



Vision in Practice based in Shanghai, China has been functioning since 2012 with a goal to enhance eye care in the country by creating a successful model for eye care delivery and demonstrate to eye care providers in China. Towards this goal, they approached eye hospitals and Aipu Eye Hospital was one among them. LAICO is the technical partner for ViP in this particular initiative.

The baseline details about the hospital were collected to understand the clinical services, infrastructure, human resources and performance of for the recent past 2 years. Needs assessment visit was carried out from February 10-13, 2015. Following this, a team of nine members from Aipu Eye Hospital and ViP attended the vision building workshop.



Consultancy Visit to Bharatpur Eye Hospital

Nepal, April 23-27



Aravind team consisting of Mr R. Meenakshi Sundaram, Senior Manager, Community Outreach AECS; Mr Ganesh Babu, Senior Manager - IT and Systems and Dr. Rohan from Coimbatore City Centre visited Bharatpur Eye Hospital, Bharatpur, Nepal as part of LAICO's Capacity Building exercise.



Needs Assessment Visit to Lions Golden Jubilee Eye Hospital

Kadawatha, Sri Lanka, April 28-29



Mr. Sanil Joseph and Ln. Dr. Chandrasekhar Shetty visited Lions Hospital as part of the Manpower and Management Development Programme of Lions SightFirst towards capacity building of the Lions Eye Hospitals. The objectives of the visit were to gain an onsite understanding of the hospital and its functioning and to identify the issues and challenges.



ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

World Immunology Day - 2015

Aravind Medical Research Foundation, April 29



World Immunology Day is celebrated since 2007, with the purpose to establish a community of immunologists dedicated to improve the health of people around the world. Under the initiative of Indian Immunology Society, New Delhi, World Immunology day was celebrated in 20 institutes in India including AMRF. A seminar on "Immunology Today" was organized and a total of 76 participants attended the meeting including 45 postgraduate students/research scholars from five nearby colleges and 31 faculty and research scholars. Speakers included Dr. S. Vijaya, IISc, Bangalore, Dr. P. Rajaguru, Anna University, Trichy, Prof. VR. Muthukkaruppan, Advisor – Research, AMRF; Prof. K. Dharmalingam, Director – Research, AMRF; and Dr. S. R. Rathinam, Professor and Head, Uvea Clinic, Aravind – Madurai. The students and faculty had a good interaction with the invited speakers and staff at AMRF. All the participants were taken on a tour of the departments to showcase the basic research carried out at Aravind Medical Research Foundation and the facilities available.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

| Training Programmes Enrollments for May 2015 at Aravind Eye Care System | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Course title | Training Centre | Enrollments for May 2015 | Total number trained till April 2015 at AECS |
| Residency Programmes | | | |
| DNB | Pondicherry | 1 | 174 |
| Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists | | | |
| Fellowship in Cornea | Pondicherry | 1 | 128 |
| | Coimbatore | 1 | |
| Fellowship in Orbit and Oculoplasty | Madurai | 1 | 51 |
| Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus | Coimbatore | 1 | 131 |
| Fellowship in Retina & Vitreous | Madurai | 1 | 175 |
| Fellowship in Uvea | Madurai | 1 | 1 |
| Fellowship in Glaucoma | Madurai | 1 | 109 |
| Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists | | | |
| Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma | Tirunelveli | 1 | 443 |
| | Madurai | 1 | |

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|-------|
| | Coimbatore | 1 | |
| Phacoemulsification | Madurai | 1 | 480 |
| | Coimbatore | 1 | |
| Small Incision Cataract Surgery | Madurai | 1 | 536 |
| | Tirunelveli | 1 | |
| | Pondicherry | 1 | |
| Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy | Madurai | 2 | 632 |
| | Coimbatore | 1 | |
| ECCE - IOL Microsurgery | Coimbatore | 1 | 1,254 |
| Short Term Courses - For Paramedicals | | | |
| Training for Ocularists | Madurai | 1 | 40 |



PUBLICATIONS

- Sayali Pradhan, Manoranjan Das, Panigrahi AK, Prajna NV
- *Severe conjunctival reaction following attempted corneal tattooing*
JAMA Ophthalmol. 2015 Apr 30 [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Bharanidharan D, Logambiga P, Thirumalai Raj K, Aloysius A Abraham, Usha Kim, Muthukkaruppan V, Vanniarajan A
- *Targeted next generation sequencing of RB1 gene for the molecular diagnosis of Retinoblastoma.*
BMC Cancer. 2015;15(1):320 [Article View](#)
- Taraprasad Das, Rajiv Raman, Kim R, Padmaja Kumari Rani.
- *Telemedicine in diabetic retinopathy: current status and future directions.*
Middle East Afr J Ophthalmol. 2015 Jun;22(2):174–8 [Article View](#)
- Niraj Agrawal, Nimmi Rani, Haripriya A, Puja Bhuwania
- *Outcome of refractive IOL exchange in traumatic unilateral axial myopia*
J Clin Exp Ophthalmol 2014;5:6 [Epub] [Article View](#)
- Jayanthi Sivaswamy, Krishnadas SR, Arunava Chakravarty, Gopal Datt Joshi, Ujjwal, Tabish Abbas Syed
- *A comprehensive retinal image dataset for the assessment of glaucoma from the optic nerve head analysis*
JSM Biomed Imaging Data Pap 2(1):1004 [Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

Guest Lecture on Stress Leading to Hypertension

Aurolab, April 18



The session was handled by Dr. Ravikumar – Diabetologist, Mohan Diabetes Clinic. During the session, he pointed out practical tips to manage stress and the ill effects of getting over stressed. The participants felt the session highly useful and informative.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

April - 2015

| Hospitals | Madurai | Theni | Tirunelveli | Coimbatore | Pondicherry | Dindigul | Tirupur | Salem | Udumalpet | Tuticorin | Total |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paying (New & Review) | 51,,493 | 6,835 | 24,159 | 31,458 | 23,861 | 5,605 | 3,536 | 9,728 | 2,334 | 4,951 | 163,960 |
| Free (Direct walk-in) | 15,297 | 1,939 | 6,353 | 10,358 | 8,220 | 8 | 1,050 | 493 | 908 | 763 | 45,389 |
| OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Regular Eye Camps | 9,888 | 1,265 | 4,325 | 9,294 | 6,399 | - | - | 828 | - | 779 | 32,778 |
| Diabetic Retinopathy camps | 994 | 110 | - | 904 | 665 | - | - | - | - | - | 2,673 |
| Refraction Camps | 442 | 115 | 796 | 1,943 | 265 | - | - | - | - | - | 3,561 |
| Mobile Refraction Unit | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 400 | - | - | 400 |
| School Screening camps | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Paediatric Camps | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Vision Centres | 13,749 | 4,731 | 7182 | 2,556 | 3,711 | - | 705 | - | 838 | - | 33,472 |
| Community Eye Clinics | 3,695 | 1,644 | 2496 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7,835 |
| Total OP Examinations | 95,558 | 16,639 | 45,311 | 56,513 | 43,121 | 5,613 | 5,291 | 11,449 | 4,080 | 6,493 | 290,068 |
| SURGERIES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paying | 3,238 | 398 | 1,588 | 1,591 | 1,267 | 190 | 164 | 564 | 143 | 192 | 9,335 |
| Free (Direct) | 3,541 | 288 | 951 | 1,779 | 977 | 86 | 100 | 91 | 191 | 95 | 8,099 |
| Camp | 3,322 | 223 | 893 | 2,922 | 1,911 | - | 67 | 123 | 13 | 75 | 9,549 |
| Total Surgeries | 10,101 | 909 | 3,432 | 6,292 | 4,155 | 276 | 331 | 778 | 347 | 362 | 26,983 |