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Quote

Go on aspiring and the necessary progress is bound to come
- the Mother

Editorial

April is always a busy month at Aravind and this year too it was no exception. Everywhere in the hospital it was the sight of patients streaming in and staff stretching out themselves to ensure the smooth patient flow and to cater to their needs. One of the reasons why patients prefer Aravind to other eye care centres is the unique culture and value system that the staff follow, which has been ingrained in them right from the inception of the organisation. A retreat was held in the last week of April to demystify this unique Aravind culture and to identify the various rough edges that we come across while practising these.

Sub Saharan Africa (SSA) is one of the regions with higher prevalence of blindness due to cataract with more than 1.5 million losing their sight. The CSR in the region is around 200 to 400 for a million and WHO fixed the goal as 2000-3000 for a million. In order to increase the cataract surgical services in SSA, Hilton Foundation, LAICO and Dana Centre for Preventive Ophthalmology (Johns Hopkins University) joined hands together to develop model eye care centres that can be replicated in the region. The first phase started in 2013 and ended in 2016 Hilton Foundation was generous to come forward to support these hospitals for another three years.

In order to make eye care easily accessible to the rural people, Aravind opened its 62nd vision centre in Kalugumalai.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Padmashree Dr.M.M.Joshi Oration Award

Hugli, April 22



Dr.Haripriya Aravind delivered the "Padmashree Dr.M.M.Joshi oration on the topic, *Intracameral Antibiotic Prophylaxis- The Aravind experience* at Dr.M.M.Joshi Eye Institute at Hubli. She performed a life surgery for the ophthalmologists at the gathering.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Inauguration of 62nd Vision Centre

Kalugumalai, April 24



Aravind's 62nd Vision centre was inaugurated by Dr.Venkatesh Prajna at Kalugumalai in the presence of Dr R Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind - Tirunelveli. The function was attended by prominent leaders and general public in the area. The beginning was so encouraging, that on the inaugural day itself 71 patients were registered.



Training of Trainers for Ophthalmic Assistants in Nepal

Kathmandu, Nepal, April 4-10



Ms.Arumugaselvi was the guest faculty for the programme sponsored by Seva - Nepal. Participants from 8 eye hospitals in Nepal attended. She handled the following topics:

AECs: An overview and MLOP programme

Journey from Classroom to Work Station

Evaluation of the Training Programme: Why, when and How?



CME on Recent Advances in Ophthalmology

Aravind - Tirunelveli, April 16



The CME was organised for all medical professionals, paediatricians and post graduates. Around 40 doctors from various hospitals, PGs, Fellows, Medical Officers and senior MLOPs participated. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan welcomed the gathering. Inaugural address was given by IMA secretary, Dr.Roy which was followed by lighting the lamp. Dr.Sherin Haroon, Dr.Shivkumar, Dr.Neelam pawar, Dr.Ravi Chandra, Dr.Mohideen, Dr.Maneksha, Dr.Meenakshi, Dr.Syed Mohideen, Dr.Pratik shah, Dr.Subramanian, Dr.Anitha, and Dr.Raju, MD (Paed) were the faculty who handled the different sessions. During the CME, monthly newsletter named NELMA was released by IMA.



Graduation Ceremony of Staff Children

Aravind-Coimbatore, April 25



At the graduation day ceremony of kids in Janakiamma Child Care Centre, Dr.R.Revathy gave the keynote address. Lovely kids entertained the audience with songs, dance and poetry recital. Ready to School certificates were distributed. A few mothers shared their experience as to how they benefitted from the day care centre.



The Aravind Way Retreat

Aravind-Madurai, April 28-29



Over a period of last 40 years what has made Aravind a successful organization is its Value System. Going ahead we needed a clearer understanding of the "Aravind way" of doing things in order to keep it alive and to be able to help future generations at Aravind to practice it as well. Keeping this in mind 'The Aravind Way' retreat was organized which was attended by Senior staff members from across the centres. While Team Fetzer (Prof.Fred, Ms.Meg, Mr.Thulasiraj, Ms.Dhivya and Dr. Devendra) shaped this workshop, Prof.Fred and Mr.Thulasiraj facilitated it to take it to the desired outcome. Ms.Cindy Harrison also played a vital role in the workshop.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Strategic Planning Workshop for Participant Hospitals of Hilton Cataract Initiative

LAICO, April 21-26



In order to increase the cataract surgical services in sub-Saharan Africa, Hilton Foundation, LAICO - Aravind Eye Care System and Dana Centre for Preventive Ophthalmology (Johns Hopkins University) joined hands together to develop model eye care centres that can be replicated in SSA. Five entrepreneurial ophthalmologists were identified to participate in this noble cause. The overall goal of the ACCESS (African Centres of Excellence in Cataract Surgical Services Network), supported by Hilton Foundation was to build the capacity of these five eye hospitals to perform at least 5000 cataract surgeries annually, by the end of the project period. The first phase started in 2013 and ended in 2016. The project assisted the five hospitals (from Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia) through a systematic planning, staff training, implementation of systems and processes, installation of IHMS & CATQA platforms, clinical protocols, stationery, etc. In addition to this, onsite support was also provided to most of the hospitals. These hospitals could not achieve the said targets due to various challenges – low awareness levels & priority for eye care, difficulty in conducting productive outreach camps, issues with respect to quality, especially the post-op visual outcomes and affordability of the community, etc. With immense experience gained with the implementation of phase I of this initiative, hospital teams, LAICO and Dana Centre strongly felt the need for continuity of the support.

Hilton Foundation generously came forward to support the hospitals for another three years until 2020. Towards this, a strategic planning workshop was conducted at LAICO. Strategies were planned to enhance quality, increase the number of screening eye camps and their productivity with greater level of community participation.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for April 2017 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for April 2017
Residency Programmes		
Post DO DNB	Coimbatore	4
	Pondicherry	6
	Tirunelveli	2
Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists		
Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	1
Cornea	Coimbatore	1
General Ophthalmology	Coimbatore	1
	Salem	1
Glaucoma	Madurai	1
Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Madurai	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Clinical Observership Program In Diagnosis and Management Of Glaucoma	Madurai	2
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	2
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	1
Phacoemulsification	Coimbatore	2
	Madurai	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Management Courses - Non Clinical		
Management Training and Systems Development for Hospital Administrators / Managers	LAICO	14
Instrument Maintenance - For Technicians	Madurai	7



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AUROLAB NEWS

Guest Lecture on Liver Disorders

Aurolab, April 28

Dr.Arun, Gastroenterologist from Velammal Medical College touched upon the various liver disorders and ways to prevent the same. Participants felt the session very useful.



