



Inside

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
SPECIAL EVENTS
CME HELD AT ARAVIND EYE HOSPITAL
NEWS AND EVENTS
CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE
LAICO HAPPENINGS
TRAINING PROGRAMMES
PUBLICATIONS
CASE STUDY

Aravind News Team Archives

Hit Counter 2

Quote

The more we come out and do good to others, the more our hearts will be purified, and God will be in them.

- Swami Vivekananda

Dear Readers,

Back from the festive mood of Deepavali season, activities at Aravind are in its full swing. Aravind – Pondicherry hosted two CMEs, one being Update in Ophthalmology and the other, Update in Neuro Ophthalmology. Keeping in mind the Deepavali celebrations, the hospital arranged an awareness exhibition on the use of crackers. To provide newer insights into the basics of cataract surgical procedures, Aravind – Coimbatore organized a three day CME, Phaco excel.

Programmes organized by Aravind Eye Hospitals in connection with World Diabetes Day draw attention of the public to the escalating health threat that the disease now poses.

Aravind has always been generous in acknowledging its well wishers and supporters. Sponsors' Day, a biannual event, held for felicitating and thanking the sponsors for their consistent support in the outreach activities was organized at Madurai and Tirunelveli in the last week of October.

The long time effort of the Instruments maintenance department at Aravind – Madurai came to fruition with the successful development and testing of a new cutter that employs high frequency radio waves for electro surgical procedures.

Several of Aravind doctors participated in different conferences, the major one being the Annual Meet of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

We wish all our readers happy reading.

Aravind News Team.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Best Poster Award for Dr. Manju Pillai at the Fifth International Congress of Glaucoma Surgery

New Delhi, November 13



Dr Manju R Pillai, Glaucoma Services, Aravind - Madurai has been given the Best Poster award for her presentation on - *Functional health literacy and barriers to follow up in patients initially diagnosed with glaucoma.*



SPECIAL EVENTS

Aravind – Madurai



informative video was played in the retina department detailing the disease and how it affects eye, treatment options and the control measures.

An awareness exhibition on diabetes was conducted. Posters displayed at the exhibition provided a first hand knowledge of the disease to the patients. A model eye was displayed which showed the normal functioning of retina and how it will be affected with the onset of diabetic retinopathy. Awareness brochures were distributed to the patients. Two camps were organized in two different places - Sungam pallivasal, Nellupettai and BGM Hospita, Iyer bungalow. Of the total 400 outpatients at the Nellupettai camp, 162 were diabetics and 19 were diagnosed with diabetic retinopathy. Among the 270 diabetes patients screened at the second camp, 50 were detected with DR. An



Aravind – Theni



schools and Kalapandian Polytechnic, and the rest were members of self help groups, NGOs, Vellalar Sangam, police and staff of Aravind - Theni.

Various programmes were organized with the support from Vellalar Uravinmurai Sangam-Bodinaikanur, Nalam Hospital-Theni, Natchatra NGO, Dinamalar, and IMA-Bodi Doctors Association. Awareness rally was arranged on November 13 from Bodinaikanur bus stand to Vellalar Sanga Mandapam - Bodinaikanur. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy - Chairman Emeritus, AECS flagged off the rally in the presence of Mr. Ravi, Secretary - Vellalar Sangam; Mr.P.D. Palpandian, Chairman - Kalapandian Polytechnic and general physicians - Dr. Ragavan, Dr. Anbuhezian, Dr. Chandrasekar and Dr. Velraj. Altogether 1250 persons participated in the rally of which 1150 were students from 6

A meeting was conducted for the general public after the rally in which Dr. P. Namperumalsamy delivered an awareness talk on diabetic retinopathy and the physicians stressed the importance of routine health check ups to control the disease.

An exclusive camp for diabetics was arranged on November 14. A forty member team including doctors from AEH, Nalam Diabetes specialty hospital – Theni and Bodi Doctors Association examined the patients. Of the 516 patients screened, 272 were Diabetics and 23 were diagnosed with diabetic retinopathy. The public were informed ahead of the camp through post cards, media advertisements and announcements.



Aravind – Tirunelveli



organized at the hospital auditorium in which Dr. R. Ramakrishnan and Dr.Manakavala Perumal, Physician spoke on Diabetes and the precautionary steps to be taken to prevent the disease. A total of 130 persons including the general public, patients and the staff members attended the seminar. Diabetes camps were organized at Kovilpatti and Valliyoor, where in the outpatient turnout was 210 and 140 respectively.

Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli organised the following programmes in connection to the World Diabetes Day observation. The staff formed a human chain on 15th November in front of the hospital holding placards with slogans about diabetes. The human chain was inaugurated by Mr. Avinash Kumar, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Tirunelveli. Pamphlets were distributed to the public to create awareness about the disease and its prevention. An awareness exhibition on the disease was also arranged at the hospital. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer inaugurated the exhibition which was visited by around 150 participants. An awareness meeting was



Aravind-Pondicherry



Diabetic retinopathy screening camps were conducted in Vadakarai and Marakkanam in which the outpatient turn out was 154 and 148 respectively. Out of the 55 diabetics screened at Vadakarai, 9 were detected with DR. At Marakanam, 7 patients were diagnosed with DR out of a total of 44 diabetics. A talk on Diabetes by Dr. Jayshree was aired on All India Radio and an awareness programme was conducted in Pondicherry beach for the public.

An awareness exhibition on Diabetes was also arranged in which various charts, posters, and models were displayed. A diabetic retinopathy awareness class was handled by Dr. Jayashree and Dr. Malarvanan during which patients were briefed on the precautionary steps to prevent diabetes.



World Diabetes Day Celebrations

November 14

World Diabetes Day was introduced in 1991 by the International Diabetes Federation and the World Health Organization in response to the alarming rise of diabetes around the world. World Diabetes Day is a campaign that features a new theme chosen by the International Diabetes Federation each year to address issues facing the global diabetes community. "Diabetes Education and Prevention" is the theme for the period 2009-2013.



CME HELD AT ARAVIND EYE HOSPITAL

21st PG Update in Ophthalmology

Aravind-Pondicherry, October 25 - 29



Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind - Pondicherry delivered the welcome address and provided an overview of the programme. There were a total of 30 delegates, 26 from outside and 4 from Aravind Eye Care System. The update included a wide range of topics focused on Uvea, Cornea, Glaucoma, Retina, Cataract, Pathology Microbiology, Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, Orbit and Surgical Instruments. The sessions were handled by eminent internal and external faculty members from various institutions.

There was an overwhelming response from the delegates and there was a good interaction between the delegates and faculty at the end of each session. At the end of the programme, a mock examination and Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) were also conducted.



Neuro Ophthalmology Update 2010

Aravind - Pondicherry, October 30 - 31



Dr. K. Nirmala Devi, Neuro Consultant Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry delivered the welcome address. Among the total 280 delegates who attended the programme, 40 were from Aravind Eye Care System.

Dr. Neil Miller, Prof. of Neuro Ophthalmology, Wilmer Eye Institute, Baltimore, USA, Dr. Jayakumar, Neurologist, JK Institute of Neurology, Madurai, Dr. Palani, Neurologist, Chennai, Dr. K.G. Srinivasan, Radiologist, KGS Advanced Scan Centre, Madurai, Dr. Santhosh Joseph, Interventional Neuro Radiologist, Sri Ramachandra Medical College, Chennai were the national faculty. Dr. G. Natchiar, Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi, Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Dr. Usha Kim, Dr.

S. Mahesh Kumar, Dr.S.Padmavathy, Dr. Kiruba E.Paul and Dr. K. Nirmala Devi were the host faculty who participated in the CME.

A wide variety of topics discussed during the CME focused on evaluation of patients with oculomotor cranial nerve palsy, pupillary abnormalities, Optic neuritis management, head ache and disc edema management and also covered different radio imaging techniques. There was an overwhelming response from the delegates and there was a good interaction between the delegates and faculty at the end of each session.



PHACOEXCEL

Aravind-Coimbatore, November 19 - 21



Three day conference on Phacoemulsification, "PHACOEXCEL 2010" aimed at twin objectives of reinforcing the basics of cataract surgery and at the same time to offer a forum for the experienced surgeons to interact with peers. Totally 153 participants from Tamilnadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and trainees from Philippines, China, Argentina, Zambia and Albania attended the conference. Apart from Aravind team the conference had experienced and eminent international and national faculty - Dr. Ronald Yeoh from Singapore, Dr. Charith Fonseka from Sri Lanka, Dr. Sriganesh from Bangalore and Dr. Purendra Bhasin from Gwalior. The conference was inaugurated by Dr.Ronald Yeoh, Dr. Charith Fonseka, Dr. Sriganesh, Dr.Purendra Bhasin, Dr. R. D Ravindran and Dr. Haripriya. Dr.Kalpana Narendran welcomed the gathering.

As part of the conference hands-on wet lab Phaco training was conducted on 19th November 2010 and totally 18 participants attended this training. The conference had very interesting sessions like live surgeries, videos on "Phaco Nightmares" – challenging cases and managing complex situations. The conference had many interactive sessions also.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Dr. K. Thiruvenkatakrishnan as Guest Speaker at PIMS-Pondicherry

October 15

Dr. K. Thiruvenkatakrishnan was invited as guest speaker for World Sight Day at Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital. He gave a presentation on Eye Banking and Corneal Blindness.



Awareness Exhibition on the Use of Crackers

Aravind – Pondicherry, October 24



As it was the Deepavali season, a week long awareness exhibition on the use of fire crackers was organized at AEH-Pondicherry. Various posters and models displayed at the exhibition stressed the different precautionary steps to be taken while bursting the fire crackers. Around 352 persons visited this exhibition.



Freshers' Day at Aravind - Tirunelveli

October 27

The first year DNB students celebrated the Freshers' Day with a variety of programmes. Variety entertainments like



skit, song, solo dance, group dance and candle dance were put up by the residents which really delighted the audience.



Sponsors Day Celebrations 2010

Aravind – Madurai, October 31



An event is conducted once in two years by each Aravind hospital to felicitate the outreach sponsors (who conduct eye camps in the community in terms of local arrangements and community mobilisation) who partner with Aravind continuously. This is to recognise their contribution to Aravind's outreach programmes and sensitize them their role in restoring sight for thousands of blind people in the community.

Aravind's base hospital at Madurai organized its 'Sponsors Day 2010' at the Dr.G.Venkataswamy Eye Research Institute. 255 Participants attended the Sponsors Day function. The programme started with a prayer song. Dr.K.Ilango, Camp Medical Officer welcomed the Sponsors. Mr.S.Selvam, Senior Camp Organiser explained the objectives of conducting 'Sponsors Day' programme. He also showed the developments in outreach work which had been suggested by the gathering of sponsors in the past. Mr.R. Meenakshi Sundaram, Senior Manager – Community Outreach spoke on the importance of comprehensive eye care to address the magnitude of the problem of blindness. He also touched upon the quality of eye care delivered through outreach by a video clipping. Aravind's Vision Centre functions were also explained through a video clipping for a better understanding about the recent developments.

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman-Emeritus delivered felicitation address. He appreciated the committed service by the sponsors. He hoped that their association can further scale up the service to a new height. Dr.G.Natchiar, Director - Human Resource also delivered a special address to the sponsors. She thanked the sponsors for their constant involvement without any expectations and requested them to continue the same kind of cooperation and dedication. She also invited all the outreach staff to the dais and congratulated their work in front of all the sponsors which was very much appreciated by every one.

A 'pattimandram' was organized where 6 sponsors from different regions in the service area were asked to argue on whether the success of an eye camp depends on the 'Banner' of the sponsor or on the 'Leadership' of the sponsor.

Prof. Dr. Revathi Subbulakshmi from Fatima College was the judge. She conducted the entire debate in a lively and informative manner. The final judgement came in favour of the second argument.

Finally vote of thanks was given by Mr.P.Jeyaram, Senior Camp Organiser. The programme came to an end with National Anthem. After lunch, a free eye check-up for the sponsors was organised in the paying section. 55 sponsors registered their names and underwent eye examination. The special medical team was led by Dr. K. Ilango. 25 sponsors received eye glasses and 6 were advised cataract surgery.



Aravind – Tirunelveli

October 31

Two hundred and twenty five participants (Tirunelveli - 91, Thoothukudi – 71, Kanyakumari - 33 and Kerala - 30) attended the Sponsors' Day at Aravind – Tirunelveli. The programme started with a prayer song. Mr. S.T.Jayabalan, Manager -Administration welcomed the gathering and explained the objectives of conducting Sponsor's Day. Dr. Maneksha, Camp Medical Officer spoke on the importance of eye care and the need for comprehensive eye camps. Mr. P. Navaneetha Krishnan, Manager – Camp Section introduced the camp organisers and the newly appointed Paediatric Co-ordinators at Aravind - Tirunelveli. The Camp Manager presented the achievements of Camp Department and also the sponsors' detailed the list of camps held from 1996 and also the performance of cataract



surgeries held in Paying, Camp and Direct sections. He also requested the continued co-operation of the sponsors in the future outreach activities.

Mr. S. Balakrishnan, Free Hospital Manager spoke in detail about the Vision Centres. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind - Tirunelveli gave the felicitation address. He appreciated the good services and co-operation extended by the sponsors in the conduct of free eye camps. Dr. A. Subramanian, Paediatrician and a well wisher of AECS was the chief Guest who talked on Love, Compassion and Co-operation. A few of the sponsors shared their views and gave some suggestions regarding the overall conduct of camps. Mr. Andrew Robin, Camp Organiser proposed a vote of thanks and the program came to an end with National Anthem. After lunch, a free eye check-up for the sponsors was organised for the sponsors. Twenty members underwent eye examination.



Deepavali Celebrations at Aravind – Tirunelveli

November 1



For the first time, Aravind – Tirunelveli organised Deepavali celebrations with a variety of programmes. The gala evening was marked with illuminations, dazzling fireworks, sweets and cultural programmes. The celebrations came to an end with the bursting of crackers. All the staff members including doctors, MLOPs and Admin team attended the function.



School Teachers' Training Programme

Aravind – Pondicherry



Ninety three teachers from government schools of Cuddalore district attended the training programme held on November 13. Twenty five schools with a total strength of 34792 from Cuddalore district were covered. Dr. Veena, Chief-Paediatric ophthalmology services welcomed the gathering and presented the genesis of Aravind Eye Care system. Dr. Jayashree, Resident spoke on the anatomy of eye and common eye diseases. Dr. Veena, briefed on common eye disorders in children and the importance of nutrition in eye care for children. Ms. Devi, Refractionist demonstrated visual acuity measurement procedure. The teachers were taken for a hospital tour.

At another training programme held on November 19, 51 teachers from government schools of Pondicherry district participated. 37 schools with a total strength of 10,750 from were covered. Dr. Veena, Chief-Paediatric ophthalmology services welcomed the gathering and spoke on the genesis of Aravind Eye Care system. Dr. Jayashree, Resident handled a session on the anatomy of eye and common eye diseases. Dr. Veena spoke on common eye disorders in children and importance of nutrition in eye care. Ms. Devi, Refractionist demonstrated visual acuity measurement procedure. The teachers were taken for a hospital tour.



Children's Day Celebrations

Aravind – Pondicherry, November 13

A total of 18 paediatric patients actively participated in the drawing competition organized as part of the children's day celebrations. Dr. Thiruvenkadakrishnan presented awards to the winners. An awareness exhibition on paediatric eye diseases was also organized on the same day.



PMOA Refresher Training Programme

Aravind – Pondicherry, November 8 – 13



At the refresher training for paramedical ophthalmic assistants (PMOA), Dr.R.Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the gathering and gave an overview of the training programme. A total of 21 ophthalmic technicians from various health centers and government and general hospitals in Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam participated. The training was conducted for six days covering all the clinical aspects and recent developments in ophthalmology. Dr.Thiruvengkatakrisnan distributed participation certificates to the participants. Dr.Senthamizhan Rene and Dr.Amutha, Programme

officers-National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) also distributed participation certificates. A total of another 19 PMOAs will join the second batch of the training programme on November 22.

Rangoli competition

Aravind – Pondicherry, November 19



As part of employee developmental activities for MLOPs, the HR department organized a rangoli competition based on the theme *Safety of eye while bursting fire crackers*. The MLOPs were divided into different teams. The teams Anbu and Unmai got the first and second prize respectively.

Glaucoma gene, Myocilin - co discoverer Dr. John Fingert Visited AECS

Aravind-Madurai, November 15-20



Dr. John Fingert, MD, Ph.D, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Glaucoma Services, University of Iowa, Iowa city, Iowa, USA visited Aravind Eye Care System from November 15-20, 2010. The purpose of his visit was to develop a collaborative glaucoma research project and strengthen our long term relationship with University of Iowa. He interacted with all the senior faculty members at AECS and students at Aravind Medical Research Foundation. He gave a guest

lecture on *"New Directions in Glaucoma Genetics"*. He visited Aravind Eye Hospital-Tirunelveli and Pondicherry and also participated in glaucoma camp at Kayalpattam.

They literally ran to get a job in Aurolab! A matter of strange coincidence

Aravind-Madurai



Recently Prof. V. Srinivasan, Instruments Maintenance Department, Aravind Eye Hospital - Madurai shared with the Aravind news team an interesting piece of information.

A couple of years back as part of Auroustav competitions, a marathon race was organized from Aravind Eye Hospital to Aurolab. Interestingly two persons from the Instruments Maintenance Department participated and completed the run successfully. Afterwards they both left the service at Aravind due to personal reasons.

It is really interesting to note that they both have now rejoined AECS and that too at Aurolab itself where they ran from AEH to win the marathon. They both have literally run to get a job in Aurolab!



A New Device from Instruments Maintenance Department

Aravind - Madurai



The use of very high frequency radio waves for cutting and coagulation of tissues is well known. High frequency radio waves in the frequency range 4 MHz (mega hertz) is used instead of a sharp knife. The cutting is said to be painless. This process is known as electro (radio) surgery.

The Instruments maintenance department at Aravind – Madurai in collaboration with staff in Orbit clinic has been working on the development of a "cutter" and has recently come out with a product. As a first step, the product was tested in the Orbit OT. The main task behind the making of this cutter was building a high frequency radio wave oscillator for which some external help was sought. There is scope for duplicating it for use in other Aravind hospitals and in due course the same could be taken up by

Aurolab for marketing just as they have done for the Bi-polar cautery.

The cutter has been named "KS Cutter" after Kasthuri (Instruments maintenance department) and Sundari (Orbit clinic) who did the necessary background work in the production and testing.



Lions Club felicitates two of Aravind staff at Tirunelveli

November 21



Sr. Chidambaram, Nursing Superintendent and Sr. Pappa Ramalakshmi, Free Hospital Manager were appreciated by Lions Club of Palayamkottai for their selfless service to the society. The awardees were presented with a certificate of appreciation at the occasion.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Seminar on Disruptive Innovation

Bangalore, September 24

Dr S.R. Krishnadas attended the seminar organised for senior executives of ITC Ltd to present the innovative eye care delivery model pioneered by Aravind Eye Care System.



Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology

Chicago, USA, October 16 – 19



Dr. Haripriya Aravind performed live surgery -2.2mm phaco with Aspheric implant. She was also the faculty at the skill transfer workshop on SICS and ECCE. [Live Surgery](#)

Dr. Shivakumar Chandrashekharan, Aravind – Tirunelveli participated as instructor at the skills transfer course (Wetlab), "Extracapsular Cataract Extraction: Non-phacoemulsification Large and Small-Incision Approach" and also attended various instruction courses to update his knowledge.

He also spent some time with prominent cataract surgeons across the United States, like Dr. Bradford Shingleton (Ophthalmic Consultant, Boston), Dr. David Lubeck (Arbor Centers for Eye Care , Chicago) and Dr. David Chang (San Francisco) and upgraded his skills during his visit from October 7 - 28.

Dr. S.R. Rathinam, Uvea clinic, Aravind – Madurai was invited for uveitis subspecialty day and she made various case presentations. She also participated in the panel discussion, *Filling the gap: Upcoming potential treatments for Uveitis and ocular inflammatory diseases*.



Moorfields Uveitis Symposium and Course

Chandigarh, October 28 – 29

Dr. S.R. Rathinam

- *How to approach the diagnosis of progressive cases without a diagnosis?*



30th Annual Conference of Maharashtra Ophthalmological Society

Sangli, Pune, October 29 – 30

Dr. P.Vijayalakshmi

- *Paediatric Ophthalmology as we practice today*



Uveitis Society Meet

Chandigarh, October 30 – 31

Dr. S.R. Rathinam

- *Epidemiology of Uveitis in India*

- *Algorithm for managing a patient with granulomatous anterior uveitis*

- *Leptospirosis and uveitis*



Scientific Committee of Uveitis Society of India

Chandigarh, October 31

Dr. Balamurugan

- *The rare case of resistant Uveitic choroidal neovascular membrane*



Fifth International Congress on Glaucoma Surgery

New Delhi, November 11 - 13

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan

- *High volume surgery for demanding regions*

- *Glaucoma surgery in the developing world*

He also chaired a plenary session and participated in the instruction course, *Trabeculectomy in challenging situations*

Dr. Mohideen Abdul Khadar

- *Effect of Phacoemulsification with IOL implantation in eyes with cataract and pre-existing Trabeculectomy*

Dr. R. Venkatesh

- *Laser assisted deep sclerectomy*
- *Glaucoma in pseudophakia*

He was the speaker for the session – *Learn from the Old Hands* and also led the basic course session, *Step by Step: NPGS*

Dr. P.Sathyan

- *SICS trabeculectomy in glaucoma management*
- *Surgical management of lens induced glaucoma*

Dr. George V. Puthuran

- *What can I do before and during surgery to improve outcomes?*

Dr. S.R. Krishnadas

- *Ahmad glaucoma valves: An Indian perspective*

Dr. Sharmila

- *Role of ologen implant in glaucoma filtering surgery*

Dr. Manju R. Pillai

- *Subtenon anaesthesia in glaucoma surgery*



26th Annual Conference of Orissa Ophthalmology Society

Orissa, November 13 - 14

Dr. R. Kim

- *Solid State Yellow Laser (577nm)*



6th International Conference of Telemedicine Society of India

Bhubaneswar, Orissa, November 14-16

Dr.R.Kim

- *Creating access through telemedicine*



GSI Meeting Scientific Programme

New Delhi, November 14



Dr. R. Ramakrishnan

- *Trabeculectomy: Why it is my surgery of choice?*

He also participated in the panel discussion, *Surgical management of glaucoma*

Dr. Mona Khurana

- *'Tele' Vision and Glaucoma: The role of vision centres in diagnosis and management of glaucoma (paper presentation)*
- *Single site versus two site Phacotrabeculectomy: A comparative study of efficacy complications and change in corneal topography*

(rapid fire presentation)

Dr. R. Venkatesh

- *Implant tube obstruction*

Dr. Manju Pillai

- *Bilateral simultaneous acute angle closure glaucoma*

Dr. George V. Puthuran

- *What can I do before & during surgery to improve outcomes?*



5th Congress of the Asia Pacific Vitreo-Retina Society

Bayfront Avenue, Singapore, November 18 – 20

Dr. Dhananjay Shukla

- *Retinal vascular diseases – Macular Telangiectesia*



Dr. Anand Rajendran

- *The Macular hole coefficient – An OCT predictor of macular hole closure*



21st Annual Conference of Oculoplastics Association of India

Mumbai, November 19 – 21

Dr. Usha Kim

- *Tarsofrontal sling simplified!*

She performed a live surgery and also chaired the video assisted skill transfer session.

Following free papers were also submitted during the conference:

- *Outcome of dacryocystorhinostomy in paediatric population in a tertiary eye care centre:* Dr. Subhashis Mukherjee, Dr. Sridevi, Dr. Kamalpreet Likhari, Dr. Usha Kim

- *Profile of lacrimal gland masses in a tertiary care centre in south India:* Dr. Shilpa Taneja, Dr. Subhashis Mukherjee, Dr. P. M. Aravind, Dr. Kamalpreet Likhari, Dr. Usha Kim

- *A prospective study of idiopathic orbital inflammatory diseases in a tertiary eye care hospital:* Dr. Subhashis Mukherjee, Dr. Harikrishna, Dr. Usha Kim

- *Surgical outcome of orbital floor fracture repair:* Dr. Aravind P. Murugesan, Dr. Usha Kim, Dr. Vidya



National Retinoblastoma registry PI meeting

Delhi, November 22

Dr. Usha Kim and Dr. P.M. Aravind, Orbit and Oculoplasty Services, Aravind – Madurai attended the National Retinoblastoma Registry meeting, a project initiated by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Visit to Makkah Eye Complex and Hospitals

Khartoum, Sudan, October 10 – 16

Mr. B.S. Ganesh Babu, Senior Manager – IT and Systems visited Makkah Eye Complex and Hospitals to assess their IT applications. He demonstrated the Aravind applications and discussed opportunities for implementing new systems.



Follow up Visit to Grameen Hospitals at Bogra and Barisal

Bangladesh, October 23 - 29

As part of the consultancy and capacity building programme, Mr. Suresh Kumar, Faculty – LAICO visited the Grameen Hospitals at Bogra and Bangladesh and had interactions with the senior leadership to discuss the future projects and the steps to be taken for their implementation.



Assessment Visit for Developing Resource Centres for Eye Care

Shenyang, China, November 1 - 5

LAICO, supported by International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) is mandated to assist two eye hospitals towards becoming resource centres in their respective regions. The hospitals are He Eye Hospital, Shenyang, China



and Al-Noor Foundation, Cairo, Egypt. Through this initiative, these hospitals would improve their capacity to provide training and organisational consulting to other eye hospitals towards building the overall organisational capacity in terms of generating demand for eye care services, improving operational efficiency, human resources development and organisational sustainability.

LAICO team consisting of Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj, Executive Director – AECS, Dr. Manoranjan Das, Consultant – Aravind Eye Hospital and Ms. KM Sasipriya made an assessment visit to He Eye Hospital, Shenyang, China to understand their readiness to become a resource centre for

strengthening eye care services in China. The team got an understanding about the functioning of hospital and thereafter had detailed discussions with the core team. It was decided that the hospital would strengthen existing training programmes as well as start new training courses. The training programmes thus identified include – structuring ophthalmology residency training and offer a couple of courses in outreach and management. The team from He Eye Hospital is in the process of developing an action plan to identify areas where LAICO could support.

Soon LAICO would start working with Al-Noor Foundation and move forward with a similar visit and layout future steps thereafter.

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



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on September 2010	Enrollments for October 2010
Long Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	97	1
	Tirunelveli	12	0
	Coimbatore	20	0
	Pondicherry	10	0
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology	Madurai	51	2
	Tirunelveli	2	0
	Coimbatore	16	0
	Pondicherry	1	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists			
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Madurai	92	1
	Tirunelveli	119	1
	Coimbatore	84	3
	Pondicherry	1	0
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	121	1
	Tirunelveli	66	1
	Coimbatore	80	3
	Pondicherry	17	0
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	149	2
	Tirunelveli	104	1
	Coimbatore	119	1
	Pondicherry	17	1

	Theni	1	0
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	240	2
	Coimbatore	227	2
Ocularist	Madurai	16	1
Short Term Training in OT Techniques	Madurai	16	5
Short Term Course in Refraction Techniques	Madurai	24	2

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



PUBLICATIONS

- ASIAN J OPHTHALMOL. 2010; 11:50-2.
Mohideen A Kader, Rengappa Ramakrishnan, Chandrashekar Granulomatous Anterior Uveitis and Follicular Conjunctivitis due to Brimonidine Tartrate.
Abstract:
Brimonidine tartrate 0.2% is a highly selective adrenergic agonist that is increasingly used for the long-term management of glaucoma. The mechanism of action is to lower intraocular pressure by reducing aqueous production and increasing uveoscleral outflow. In addition to lowering intraocular pressure, brimonidine may prevent optic nerve damage through a neuroprotective mechanism. Brimonidine tartrate 0.2% is comparable to 0.5% timolol and better than 0.25% betoxolol in IOP-lowering efficacy. Ocular side effects of brimonidine include ocular allergy, conjunctival follicles, and lid oedema. The ocular allergy rate for brimonidine is substantially less than that for apraclonidine. Systemic effects of topically applied brimonidine include oral dryness, sedation, drowsiness, headache, and fatigue. This report is of recurrent granulomatous anterior uveitis and follicular conjunctivitis in a 60-year-old woman with pseudophakia after prolonged use of brimonidine for primary open angle glaucoma.
- J CATARACT REFRACT SURG VOL: 36(11) 2010 NOV. P.1859-1854
Venkatesh, R, Tan, Colin S H, Sengupta, Sabyasachi; Ravindran, R D; Thiruvengada Krishnan; Chang, David F
Phacoemulsification versus manual small-incision cataract surgery for white cataract
<http://www.jcrsjournal.org/article/S0886-3350%2810%2901227-7/abstract>
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- p.136-138
Viji Rangarajan
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CASE STUDY

Zyoptix removes the hurdle to marriage!



She is young, educated and beautiful. Yet no one came forward to marry her because of a negative thing-the spectacles! "Who will marry that 'Kannadiponnu'", was the often passed remark from the prospective grooms. But, people of the area were astonished one day to find the girl walking with her husband. Her spectacles had gone! How all these happened is an interesting story.

The girl Ragini (real name shielded) belongs to a family living in a village near Andipatti. Her parents were very much worried that their good looking and well educated daughter was being rejected by the "Boys' families" for wearing spectacles. Is there any way to get rid of these spectacles that has become an obstacle to Ragini's marriage?

One of the neighbours suggested her parents to go to Aravind Eye Hospital at Theni. They took her to the hospital where doctors said that it was a minor problem which can be solved easily. They were informed about the Lasik laser procedure that will obviate the necessity of spectacles.

It was a pleasant news for Ragini and her parents who said that they were prepared to spend any amount of money. Then the doctor referred them to Aravind-Madurai where they were counselled on the Lasik and Zyoptix procedures. They opted for Zyoptix which is a technologically advanced laser procedure. Ragini was examined to see whether she was fit for the Zyoptix. Since the results were normal the procedure was done successfully.

Next day, her vision was tested and she was found to see and read everything clearly without spectacles. This made her parents immensely happy. Before returning home they thanked Aravind Eye Hospital, its doctors and the patient- counsellor for their help.

After a few months, Ragini came to Aravind-Madurai for a follow up examination accompanied by parents and a young man. She informed the staff that she got married recently and the youngman was her husband! Yes, the Zyoptix had done the magic!

"Like Ragini, there are a number of girls in our village who remain unmarried due to spectacles. We will ask them to come over here to Aravind for this wonderful procedure" – said the family before taking leave.

-Source: D. Sangeetha

Aravind - Madurai

