



Inside

SPECIAL EVENTS
NEWS AND EVENTS
CONFERENCES
ATTENDED ELSEWHERE
LAICO HAPPENINGS
ARAVIND MEDICAL
RESEARCH FOUNDATION
TRAINING
PROGRAMMES
PUBLICATIONS
AUROLAB NEWS
MONTHLY PATIENT
STATISTICS

Aravind News Team
Archives
Hit Counter 1

Quote

Music takes you from words to silence thus helping to create a calm and meditative state of mind.
Sri Ravishankar

Editorial

At Aravind, October is always a busy month with the patient crowd touching the highest ever. The organisation also celebrated the birth anniversary of its founder, Dr.G.Venkataswamy organising various deliberations and brain storming sessions which would help take eye care service delivery across the world a step forward. The prestigious Dr.G.Venkataswamy Endowment Award was presented to Dr.Suzanne S Gilbert at a grand ceremony organised as part of October Summit.

One of the strong foundations that ensured the success of Aravind model is the robust paramedic network taking care of most of the clinical procedures that do not need an ophthalmologist's time and expertise. Right from the inception, Aravind was fortunate to have an efficient group of these mid-level ophthalmic personnel who with their commitment and hardwork contributed tremendously towards the growth of the system. For the first time ever, a two-day meet was organised at Aravind inviting all the senior nurses to share their feelings about Aravind and to meet their colleagues and friends.

Eye care awareness programmes were organised in various Aravind centres to commemorate World Sight Day.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Aravind Eye Care System Honours Dr.Suzanne S Gilbert

Aravind – Madurai, October 1



Dr.G.Venkataswamy Endowment Award was presented to Dr.Suzanne. S.Gilbert, Centre for innovation, Seva at a spectacular ceremony held at Dr.G.Venakataswamy Eye Research Institute. Mr.G.Srinivasan presented the trophy. Dr.P.Namperumalsamy presented the citation. Dr.Suzanne in her oration titled "Compassion in Action : Living a Life of Service" reminisced about her long term association with Aravind and the leadership qualities of Dr.V. Senior members of Aravind from across the centres attended the function.



MLOP Alumni Meet

Aravind – Madurai, October 15-16



For the first time ever in the history of Aravind, senior MLOPs – those within the system and those who left the organization were called in for a two-day meet at Aravind – Madurai. The programme shared a platform for everyone to come together and meet old friends and cherish old memories. Participants were taken on a tour of the different Aravind facilities. Around 160 MLOPs attended.



NEWS AND EVENTS

CME for Vision Centre Staff

Aravind – Madurai, October 9



Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai conducted a CME programme for vision technicians, and coordinators from 24 vision centres. Current performance of vision centres and their importance in ensuring universal coverage were discussed. Clinical sessions were taken by Dr.V.P.Ravichandran, Dr.Ashish, Dr.Rathika, Dr.Gomathi Ramya, Dr.Sreesha, and Dr.Sathish. A motivational talk was given by Prof. Raja Govindasamy on ensuring culture and values of the organization and keeping oneself motivated throughout the life. Mrs.Varalakshmi – Housekeeping Incharge talked about the importance of cleaning and ensuring a good ambience in vision centres. Mr.Praveen – Programmer, IT and Ms.Vijayalakshmi – Incharge for Vision centres opticals management discussed the benefits of online indenting and managing complaints on opticals. Dr.Usha Kim anchored the entire programme.



Mission Day Celebrations

Aravind, October 1

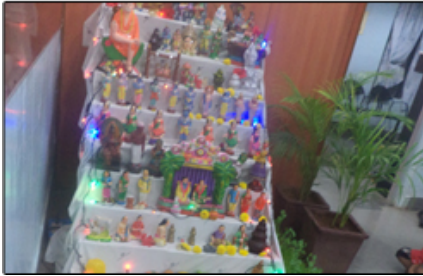


In order to commemorate Dr.V's birth anniversary, prayer meeting was organized across the various Aravind centres. Special flower arrangement was made in the meditation room. Staff paid homage to the Chief by observing a moment of silence. Seniors shared their experiences of working with Dr.V.



Navaratri Celebrations

Aravind – Madurai, October 7



Creche children performed dance and were dressed up colorfully depicting various gods and goddesses. Special bhajan by MLOPs was arranged.

Saraswathi Pooja

Aravind, October 10

On the occasion of Saraswathi Pooja, special prayers were performed at all Aravind facilities. Staff paid obeisance to the Goddess Saraswathi. At Pondicherry, art from waste competition was conducted for the staff and prizes were distributed.



Awareness Programmes on World Sight Day

Aravind – Madurai, October 13



On the occasion of the World Sight Day, Aravind Eye Hospital in collaboration with the Madurai Ophthalmologists Association conducted an awareness talk on ophthalmic diseases and importance of eye care. The programme mainly targeted general public and patients. Paediatric ophthalmology department under the aegis of Orbis REACH Project arranged various programmes on the occasion: An exhibition was conducted at Paediatric department which was inaugurated by Dr.P.Vijayalakshmi. Posters on refractive error, optical illumination and ROP as well as various models were displayed. Around 400 children and their parents were benefited through this exhibition.

A live interaction programme was conducted in All India Radio – Madurai Rainbow FM 103.3 which reached around 14 districts of Tamilnadu. Dr.P.Vijayalakshmi interacted with listeners of Rainbow FM Radio and answered the questions raised by them.

Along with the Department of Social Work and Health and Fitness Club of Mannar Thirumalai Nayaker College, an awareness program was organized at the college premises. Prof.Ramachandran welcomed the gatherings. Mr.Syed Ali gave an introduction to World Sight Day and its importance. Dr.Jamuna gave a presentation on paediatric eye problems, symptoms and treatment facilities. Around 250 students participated in the event. Dr.Jamuna answered the question raised by the participants.



New Library Facility for MLOPs

Aravind – Madurai, October 11



As part of employee welfare activity, renewed library and facilities for indoor games were opened in the nurses hostel by Dr. Usha Kim. This initiative is mainly intended to help the nurses make use of their time productively.



DNB Accreditation to Salem AEH

Aravind - salem, Tuesday, 04 October 2016

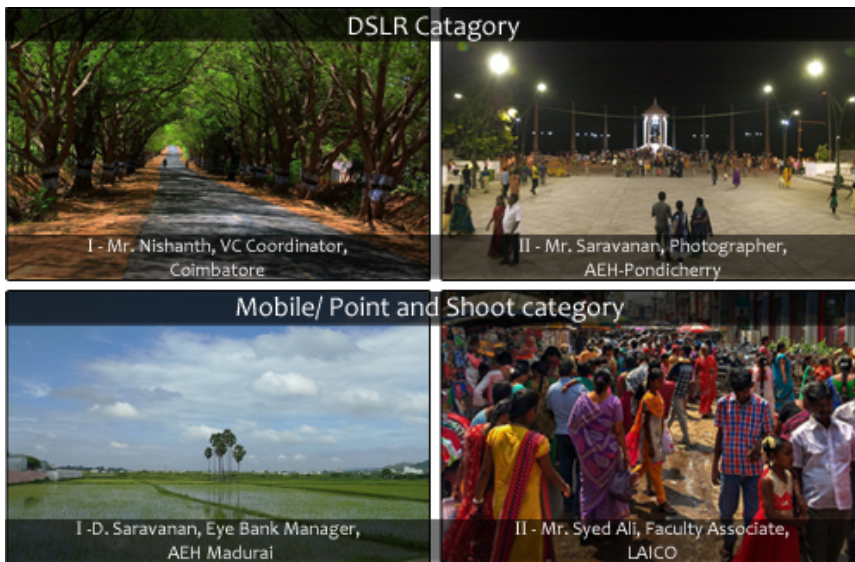
Aravind – Salem achieved another milestone in its growth as the centre has been allotted with two DNB seats.



Celebrating Two Years of Wandering

Aravind – Madurai, October 18

Wanderers – the informal group of Aravind staff and employees that organizes trekking and photography sessions celebrated their second anniversary. Dr.Badri Narayanan, bird watcher and ophthalmologist, Ms. Soma Basu, journalist and traveller and DR. Devandra Tayade, Manager – Employee Engagement shared their experiences. A photography competition was organized as part of the celebrations and winners were awarded prizes.



For more photos:
DSLR

Category:

<http://wanderers625020.blogspot.in/2016/10/wanderers-photograph-competitiondslr.html?view=sidebar>

Mobile/ Point and Shoot category: http://wanderers625020.blogspot.in/2016/10/wanderers-photoragraphy-competition_87.html?view=sidebar



Inauguration of Cancer Genetics Centre

Aravind – Madurai, October 26



Retinoblastoma is the most common intra-ocular tumour of children. Unfortunately half of these are heritable. Aravind has been treating retinoblastoma cases and found very good results in those who presented early. Lot of work has been done at Aravind's research institute on the gene responsible for retinoblastoma. A lot of mutations have been identified and cost effective methodology has been established to predict this disease in the siblings, offspring and secondary tumours in the same patient, results of which have been published. Now a cancer genetic testing lab has been established at Aravind - Madurai, thanks to the generous contribution made by Mr. Shyam Prakash Gupta and family. Dr.P.Namperumalsamy inaugurated the centre. The facility extends its services to patients beyond Aravind Eye Care System, at an affordable cost.



Eye Donation Awareness Programmes

Aravind – Madurai



Awareness programmes on the importance of eye donation were conducted in urban health centres (UHC) at Mapalayam and Munisalai in Madurai on October 18 and 20. Staff members including doctors and nurses attended the programme. Mr.D.Saravanan, Manager – Eye Bank handled the sessions which touched upon eye banking, the process and hospital cornea retrieval programme. The aim of the whole programme was to seek support from UHC staff towards eye donation.



Deepavali Celebrations

Aravind – Tirunelveli, October 26



Staff of Aravind – Tirunelveli including doctors, MLOPs and admin team participated in the grand celebrations. Glittering diyas and dazzling fireworks added colour to the whole show. Several cultural programmes such as karagattam, folk dance, silambattam were also staged. Sr.Kamaladevi welcomed the audience to the celebrations. Doctors and MLOPs sang songs. Sr.Chitra Devi shared a few words about Deepavali and its significance. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan gave a motivational speech on this special occasion. Sr.Kavitha proposed a vote of thanks. Sr. Stella was the master of the ceremony.

At Aravind – Madurai, tiny tots of Janakiamma Child Care Centre celebrated the festival along with their parents. Children performed dance and skit. Sweets brought by the parents were shared by all.



Aravind Helps Train Ophthalmologists in Mexico

Queretaro, Mexico, September 28 – October 1



As a representative from Aravind, Dr. V. R. Vivekanandan was invited to the course conducted by IMO hospital in Queretaro, Mexico to train ophthalmologists in Mexico in MSICS. Training included lectures, wet lab sessions, live surgery and assisting the ophthalmologists in surgery. Eminent ophthalmologists including Dr. Marty Spencer were also there to share their inputs.



Inauguration of Kuniyamuthur Vision Centre

Aravind – Coimbatore, October 28



Aravind's 60th Vision Centre was opened at Kuniyamuthur by Ln. Ranganathan, District Governor, Lions Dist – 324 B1. Dr. Rodney John Morris, Dr. Krishna Babu, Mr. Thirunavukarasu, Manager – IT, Mr. Ganapathy, Manager- Civil, Mr. Prabakaran – Camp Manager, Mr. Nishanth- VC Coordinator, Mr. Palanisamy – Camp Organiser, Mr. Muthusamy – Camp Organiser participated from Aravind. 33 patients were examined on the inaugural day, and 13 patients were advised for cataract surgery. Madurai field workers Mr. Vijayan, Mr. Satheesh helped with publicity campaigns, and awareness creation.



CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Annual Conference of Vidarbha Ophthalmic Society

Nagpur, October 21-23



Dr. Haripriya Aravind

- Phacodynamics
- Iris sutured IOL
- Antibiotic prophylaxis to prevent endophthalmitis
- Posterior capsule rupture management

She delivered the Dr. Ishwarchandra Oration titled Measuring outcomes following cataract surgery. She performed live phaco emulsification surgery.



Annual Conference of the American Academy of Ophthalmology

Chicago, October 15- 18

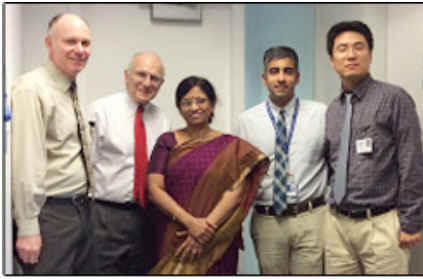
Dr. Rathinam Sivakumar was a panelist at the Uveitis subspecialty day. She also visited Casey Eye Institute-Ohsu at Portland and had discussions with Dr. James T Rosenbaum.

Dr. Neelam Pawar

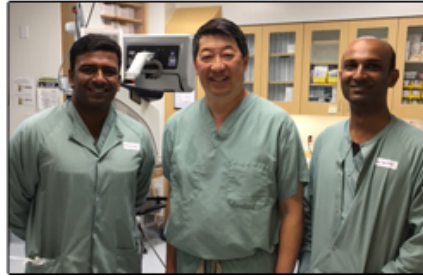
- Internal Aberrations , Strehl Ratio, Modulation Transfer Function, and Corneal Aspheric Function After Femtosecond Laser - Assisted Cataract Surgery (e-poster)

Interocular Symmetry of Retinal Nerve Fiber Layer and Optic Nerve Head Parameters Measured by Cirrus HD-OCT in a Normal Pediatric Population

Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan took part as instructor in the course on MSICS at the AAO Conference



He also got an opportunity to observe Dr. David Chang during surgery.



Dr. Haripriya Aravind at the North Zone Ophthalmic Society and Uttarkhand State Ophthalmic Society meeting

Dehradun, October 17-19



Dr. Haripriya performed live surgery- Femtosecond Laser Assisted Cataract Surgery at Drishti Eye Hospital. She delivered the Dr. CS Grover Oration on 'Preventing Post-operative Endophthalmitis- The Aravind Perspective'. She received the oration award from Dr. KK Paul, Honourable Governor of Uttarakhand.

10th General Assembly of International Agency for Prevention of Blindness



Dhivya Ramasamy

- Patient comprehension and its impact on follow up

Kumaragurupari

- Worldwide research productivity in paediatric eye health: A bibliometric analysis

Vengadesan

- Delayed follow up in patients with diabetic retinopathy in south India: Socila factors and disease progression

V.Vijayakumar

- Evaluation of a diabetic retinopathy screening strategy at government primary health centres in south India

Ganesh Babu

- Eyeinfobase: An innovative approach in building global repository of blindness and morbidity data

Mohammed Gowth

- Role of telemedicine enabled vision centres in enhancing eye care coverage-a retrospective study in a south Indian district

R.Meenakshi Sundaram

- Enhancing compliance of referrals from outreach for sub speciality eye care

Sanil

- Prevalence and risk factors for myopia and hyperopia in an adult population in southern India

- A comparison of post-operative outcomes among patients undergoing day care Vs inpatient surgery for cataract in a south Indian eye hospital

K.M Sashipriya

- Enhancing eye care delivery through organizational capacity building



Regional Consultation of the WHO Collaborating Centers in South-East Asia Region

Delhi, October 20 – 21, 2016



Ms. G. Krishnaveni and Dr. Ashok Vardhan participated in the Regional Consultation of the WHO Collaborating Centers in South-East Asia Region. This meeting was organized for strengthening networks between WHO collaboration centers in South East Asia Region as well as with WHO Office. Totally 82 WHO collaboration centers from 11 countries

of South East Asia Region participated in this consultation and given recommendations



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Practicing Responsible Medicine

Aravind – Madurai, September 30 – October 1



Today when people visit hospital they have serious concerns not only about how much it will cost but also as to whether they will receive the right treatment – are the investigations or surgery advised, warranted? While it has made significant strides forward, the current mode of delivery is by and large eroding the trust and respect for the medical profession. A group of 25 likeminded people from varied background came together for October Summit meeting – 'Practicing Responsible Medicine' in an attempt to address this grave issue. The team who worked on conceptualizing and executing this meeting consisted of Mr.Thulasiraj Ravilla, Mr.D.Nagarajan (Volunteer), Ms. Sashipriya (Senior

Faculty) and Dr. Devendra (Manager, Employee Engagement). Major challenge while organizing this think tank meeting was to find right people and facilitate the meeting itself, Dr. G. N. Rao (Chairman, LVPEI), Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar (Ex. IIM) and Prof. DVR Seshadri (ISB) played a vital role in that. As an outcome of the meeting a Forum for Responsible Medicine was formed and this group will take on the issue by working in different verticals such as Value based Education, Policy and Information Beurocracy etc. This meetings marked the beginning of something which can be a great contribution to the mankind.



Priorities in Paediatric Eye Care Delivery, Intervention Models and Research

Aravind – Madurai, October 2-3



Paediatric eye care and childhood blindness is recognized as a global issue and there is much that remains to be done. This two-day workshop aimed to bring in understanding on various aspects of paediatric vision impairment in the current context and analyze key challenges in paediatric eye care delivery. The workshop brought together experts and organizations sharing their experiences and successful intervention models that will help in evolving actionable next steps towards improving paediatric eye care. The workshop also focused on inherited eye diseases and genetic counseling in low resource settings.

Mr.R.D.Thulasiraj welcomed the audience and Dr.Deen Mohammed, Director General, Directorate General of Health Services gave the special address. Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi set the context. Close to ninety participants attended.



USAID Partners Meet

Aravind – Madurai, October 4-5



USAID's Child Blindness Program convened grantees, experts, groups, organizations and stakeholders involved in pediatric eye care from around the world, creating an opportunity to share best practices and lessons learned from each project. State-of-the-art topics and presentations will range from the use of laser for the treatment of ROP to monitoring and evaluation, provision of low vision devices, and project management. Experts included CBP Senior Advisors Drs. Clare Gilbert and Marilyn Miller. 46 participants from 22 partner organizations including two Aravind Eye Hospitals participated in this meet.



Enhancing the Low Vision Services at AECS towards Better Care Delivery

Aravind – Madurai, October 6-7



This internal workshop was held for Low Vision Teams across the Aravind centres to deliberate the challenges in providing low vision services, learn about recent updates in this field and evolve strategies for enhancing referral to and uptake of low vision services across our hospitals. The teams worked on standardizing the protocols for service delivery at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of care. The workshop processes included sharing of experiences/learning from our existing LV services and projects as well as inputs from other eye hospitals. A three member team from each Aravind Eye Hospital including an ophthalmologist, senior refractionist and senior nurse from the paediatric department attended this meeting.



ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Conference on Approaches to understand Modern Biology through Research

AMRF, October 7



As a part of October Summit 2016, AMRF organized a one day conference to motivate post graduate (Life Sciences) students towards research. A total of fifty seven participants from eight colleges attended. The programme started with an introduction by Dr.P.Namperumalsamy, followed by a series of presentations by AMRF faculty as well as faculty from Mepco Schlenk Engineering College, Kalasalingam University, The American College and Lady Doak College. A total of eight models explaining various scientific themes prepared by AMRF research scholars and technicians, were displayed.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for October 2016 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for October 2016
Residency Programmes		
Diplomate of National Board	Salem	2
	Coimbatore	2
Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists		
Cornea	Coimbatore	1
General Ophthalmology	Theni	1
	Coimbatore	2
Glaucoma	Madurai	1
Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Coimbatore	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Orientation to Paediatric Ocular Anesthesia for Anaesthetist	Madurai	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Coimbatore	2
	Madurai	1
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	2
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Tirunelveli	1
Short Term Courses - For Paramedicals		

Fundus Fluorescein Angiography and Ultrasonography	Madurai	1
OT Techniques	Madurai	4
Training for Ocularist	Madurai	1
Management Courses - Non Clinical		
Research Methodology	LAICO	56
Instrument Maintenance - For Technicians	LAICO	4



PUBLICATIONS

- Prajna NV, Krishnan T, Rajaraman R, Patel S, Srinivasan M, Das M, Ray KJ, O'Brien KS, Oldenburg CE, McLeod SD, Zegans ME, Porco TC, Acharya NR, Lietman TM, Rose-Nussbaumer J; Mycotic Ulcer Treatment Trial II Group. **Effect of Oral Voriconazole on Fungal Keratitis in the Mycotic Ulcer Treatment Trial II (MUTT II): A Randomized Clinical Trial.** JAMA Ophthalmol. 2016 Oct 27 [Epub]
[Article View](#)
- Kandhavelu J, Demonte NL, Namperumalsamy VP, Prajna L, Thangavel C, Jayapal JM, Kuppamuthu D. **Aspergillus flavus induced alterations in tear protein profile reveal pathogen-induced host response to fungal infection.** J Proteomics. 2016 Oct 24. pii: S1874-3919(16)30446-8. [Epub]
[Article View](#)
- Shah PK, Sripriya S, Narendran V, Pandian AJ. **Prenatal genetic diagnosis of retinoblastoma and report of RB1 gene mutation from India.** Ophthalmic Genet. 2016 Dec;37(4):430-433.
[Article View](#)
- Panikkar K, Manayath G, Rajaraman R, Saravanan V. **Progressive keratoconus, retinal detachment, and intracorneal silicone oil with obsessive-compulsive eye rubbing.** Oman J Ophthalmol. 2016 Sep-Dec;9(3):170-173.
[Article View](#)
- Kasinathan JR, Namperumalsamy VP, Veerappan M, Chidambaranathan GP. **A novel method for a high enrichment of human corneal epithelial stem cells for genomic analysis.** Microsc Res Tech. 2016 Nov 9. [Epub]
[Article View](#)
- Kandhavelu J, Demonte NL, Namperumalsamy VP, Prajna L, Thangavel C, Jayapal JM, Kuppamuthu D. **Data set of Aspergillus flavus induced alterations in tear proteome: Understanding the pathogen-induced host response to fungal infection.** Data Brief. 2016 Nov 9;9:888-894.
[Article View](#)
- Murugan G, Shah PK, Narendran V. **Clinical profile and outcomes of pediatric endogenous endophthalmitis: A report of 11 cases from South India.** World J Clin Pediatr. 2016 Nov 8;5(4):370-373.
[Article View](#)



AUROLAB NEWS

Navarathri Celebrations

Aurolab, October 8



Kolu dolls were arranged in Nithyatha Building. Members of production staff and employees' children performed special dance. Bhajan was sung by all the staff members. After prayers, holy prasadam was distributed to all.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

October - 2016

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Tuticorin	RS Puram	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS												
Paying (New & Review)	50,811	7,011	27,354	33,711	25,847	6,227	4,075	11,224	2,920	4,583	2,487	1,76,250
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	12,569	1,579	6,531	9,230	7,957	NA	509	872	1,148	755	NA	41,150
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS												
Comprehensive Eye Camps	2,251	827	3,581	4,623	3,966	NA	NA	450	NA	70	NA	15,768
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	1,031	NA	NA	1,745	318	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,094
Refraction Camps	1,655	458	991	716	464	NA	NA	150	NA	NA	NA	4,434
Mobile Refraction Unit	NA	NA	NA	3026	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,026
School Screening camps	NA	600	1,454	4,590	10,484	NA	NA	3,420	NA	NA	NA	20,548
Paediatric Camps	NA	241	NA	85	242	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	568
Vision Centres	17,621	4,928	9,603	NA	5,360	NA	NA	NA	1,112	NA	NA	38,624
Community Centres	4,193	1,753	2645	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	8,591
Total OP Examinations	26,751	8,807	18,274	14,785	20,834	NA	NA	4,020	1,112	70	NA	94,653
Total number of camps	12	7	20	24	18	NA	NA	5	NA	1	NA	87

SURGERIES

Service Proportion of Cataract Surgeries

Paying	2,577	303	1,118	1,277	1,192	376	111	551	122	117	53	7,797
Free (Direct)	1,876	189	687	1,011	921	NA	69	127	168	56	NA	5,104
Camp	745	194	699	1,273	939	NA	42	132	23	9	NA	4,056

Total												
Cataract Surgeries	5,198	686	2,504	3,561	3,052	376	222	810	313	182	53	16,957

Note: NA - Not Applicable

