

Inside

SPECIAL EVENTS

NEWS AND EVENTS

CONFERENCES
ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT

LAICO HAPPENINGS

ARAVIND MEDICAL
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

TRAINING
PROGRAMMES
PUBLICATIONS

STAFF CORNER

AUROLAB NEWS

Aravind News Team Archives Hit Counter 41

Quote

You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.

- Kahlil Gibran

Editorial

October is always a busy and bustling month at Aravind with a lot of workshops and programmes to commemorate the birth anniversary of our founder, Dr. G. Venkataswamy and this year was no exception . A long - awaited memorial for Dr. V came to reality with the opening of Nithyatha in the Aurolab premises in the presence of a huge audience.

Dr. Marilyn T Miller, a long term associate of Aravind was awarded the Dr. G. Venkataswamy Endowment Oration Award at a spectacular function held at LAICO. A special CME on the latest trends in paediatric ophthalmology was also conducted.

Two workshops in the October Summit series were hosted by LAICO, both well appreciated by the participants and delegates.

A festival mood prevailed over Aravind with the staff basking in the gala celebrations arranged for Navarathri and Diwali. The staff also had a feel of the rejuvenating experience of yoga with Ms. Susy Stewart who handled the sessions in an outstanding way.

Ms. Susie Van Sickle is here again to surprise us with her simple facial tips and introduce us the Halloween celebrations that she arranged at LAICO.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

Aravind News Team

SPECIAL EVENTS

Dr. G. Venkataswamy Endowment Oration award

LAICO, October 1



The third Dr. G. Venkataswamy Endowment Oration Award was presented to Dr. Marilyn T. Miller, Professor of ophthalmology, University of Illinois by Mr. G. Srinivasan, President – GOVEL Trust at a spectacular function held at LAICO auditorium. Welcome address was given by Dr. Meenakshi, chief, Paediatric ophthalmology services, Aravind – Tirunelveli. Dr. R.D. Ravindran gave an introduction of the award and Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi, chief, Paediatric services, Aravind – Madurai introduced the award winner, Dr. Marilyn T Miller to the audience. She recalled the role of Dr. Marilyn in the development of pediatric ophthalmology in Aravind. Dr.Marilyn gave the oration talk

on "International collaboration, mentoring and teaching – a personal view". Citation presented to Dr. Marilyn was read out by Dr. Kalpana, chief, paediatric ophthalmology services, Aravind – Coimbatore. Dr. Miller delivered the Dr.

G. Venkataswamy Endowment Oration. Dr. Veena, chief, paediatric ophthalmology services, Aravind – Pondicherry delivered a vote of thanks. All the senior leaders of Aravind attended the function. The ceremony was attended by eminent ophthalmologists and physicians from all over the region.

Inauguration of Nithyatha

Aurofarm, October 2



Nithyatha – a retreat center that celebrates the life and work of Dr. G. Venkataswamy was inaugurated at Aurofarm by Dr. R. Pararajasegaram,consultant ophthalmologist, Geneva. All the senior leaders and well wishers of Aravind attended the special function held at Aurofarm. Sri. Vijay Poddar form Sri Aurobindo Society, Pondicherry, Dr. Bill Stewart, oculoplastic surgeon from California, Dr. S.R. Krishnadas, Director – HR, AECS and Ms. Deepa Krishnan, Manager – Operations offered felicitations. A song on Dr. V written by Mr. K.V.S. Lakshmanan, consultant editor and composed by Mr. Sanil Joseph, faculty – LAICO was launched during the programme. Mr. G.

Srinivasan, President – GOVEL Trust delivered a vote of thanks.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Lions SightFirst seminar on diabetic retinopathy

Aravind - Coimbatore, September 25



Around 140 members from different clubs participated in the Lions sight first seminar which was intended to create awareness on diabetic Retinopathy. Ln. M. Sekar MJF, District Chairperson, SightFirst welcomed the gathering. Dr. A. Rajendra Prasad - Chief Ophthalmic Surgeon, CMC Hospital, Coimbatore released the souvenir. Ln. Mekson Balu, District Chairperson – Diabetes Awareness, Ln C. Saji David MJF - District Governor, Lion R. Mathanagopal MJF, Chairman – SightFirst Committee addressed the gathering. Dr. V. Narendran gave the felicitations.

There were awareness talks on diabetes, cataract, glaucoma, cornea, pediatric eye diseases and diabetic retinopathy by Dr. V. Rajendran, Dr. Ramakrishnan, Dr. Ganesh V. Raman, Dr. Siddharthan, Dr. Sandra and Dr. V.R. Saravanan. Blood screening for diabetes and DR screening were done for the Lions Club members. 102 members underwent blood sugar examination and 40 people underwent retinal examination. No DR cases were found.



Founder's Day CME on Paediatric Ophthalmology

Aravind – Madurai, October 1



part commemorating the birth anniversary Dr.G. Venkataswamy, founder of Aravind Eye Care System, a continuing medication education program on Paediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus was organized by the department at Aravind - Madurai. The CME was attended by pediatric ophthalmologists from different states of India. Dr.Marilyn T.Miller from University of Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary, Chicago delivered a lecture on Moebius sequence, an uncommon congenital dysinnervational disorder. Dr. G. Kumaramanickavel, Advisor -Research, Narayana Nethralaya, Bangalore talked on the relevance of

genetic studies in ophthalmic practice. A discussion of interesting strabismus cases was dealt with by Dr.Pradeep Sharma, Professor of Opthalmology, AIIMS, New Delhi.



Excursion programme for cleaners

Aravind - Pondicherry, October 2

The cleaners of Aravind - Pondicherry were taken on a trip to Tanjore. They visited Pragadeeswarar Temple, Kumbakonam Temples, Vaitieeswaran Temple, Chidambaram Natarajar Temple, etc.



Awareness exhibition on the use of crackers and other fireworks

Aravind - Pondicherry, October 18



AS this is the festival season, a special awareness exhibition on the use of fireworks was organized for a week at Aravind - Pondicherry. Awareness posters and models were displayed in the exhibition. More than 500 persons visited the same.



Guest Lecture

Aravind - Madurai, October 19

Dr. Bill Stewart, ophthalmologist and medical director, California Pacific Medical Centre, San Francisco delivered a lecture on Healing with heart as part of the weekly grand rounds session.



Dr. Aravind Srinivasan at GRG school of Management studies

Peelamedu, October 20

Dr. Aravind Srinivasan delivered an address on "Building a socially relevant organization" to the students of GRG School of Management Studies, Peelamedu, Coimbatore.



Towards a Sound Mind and a Sound Body



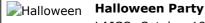
Yoga as a means of attaining holistic health is well known to all. But a few really take it seriously and practise it consistently owing to time constraints or lack of opportunity to learn it. Recently Aravind staff of Pondicherry, Madurai and Aurolab got the golden chance to learn the basics of yoga from Ms. Susy Stewart, a long term friend of Aravind from San Francisco. Ms. Susy handled the sessions in an engaging manner as to attend to the physical problems of the audience and suggest postures specifically meant for those. It was really exciting at the same time tiring for the staff to learn the various poses which provided a great deal of mental relaxation and also demonstrated the

importance of concentration.

"Our heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Susy who has taken time out of her busy schedule to organize such an enchanting learning experience for our staff" - Aravind news team



Extra curricular Activities for MLOP



LAICO, October 19

Many people came out to enjoy the witches, ghosts and goblins at a halloween party in the LAICO dining hall on the 19th of October. Susie Van Sickle brought to life one of her holiday customs that is celebrated in the United States to many of the Aravind family of sisters. Activities included bobbing for apples, ring toss on the witches' hat and the game of pin the tail on the black cat. Many mask and decorations were available for everyone to try on while learning more information about the history of other cultures.

In the second state of the second sec

Aravind's sisters were glowing after participating in activities at a facial night! The sisters learned the anatomy of skin and how to care for their skins needs as conditions change throughout their lives. Kitchen cosmetics for the event were prepared by volunteers Becki Barns and Susie Van Sickle. The natural ingredients are available to all the sisters from the mess and facials can easily become a routine in the hostel. Apples, pineapple, papaya, honey, oats, yogurt, jaggery, egg whites, lime juice, green tea, milk, cucumbers, nutmeg, and other common consumables were mixed and used on the sisters' faces to cleanse, tone, exfoliate and moisturize their skin.

"We want to thank Ms.Varalakshmi for her interpretation of the questions and answers with the information provided to the sisters. She has given her support and joined in the activities with the sisters on many education event nights".

- Ms. Susie and Ms. Beckie Barns

CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Salzburg Global Seminar

Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzberg, Austria, September 25 - October 1



Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj was the invited faculty for the Salzburg Global Seminar session entitled Innovating for Value in Health Care Delivery: better cross-border learning, smarter adaptation and adoption.

Dr. S. Aravind participated in the session on Achieving value for patients in health care: lessons from low-resource settings and also contributed to the discussion on Case study: from eye care to geriatric care.



Annual Conference of Glaucoma Society of India

Mumbai, October 7 - 9

Dr. R.Ramakrishnan

- Maintaining quality of life amongst glaucoma patients in India (keynote address)

Dr. R. Venkatesh

- Trabeculectomy: End of surgery, beginning of intervention

Dr. R. Sharmila

- Try combination therapy: Achieving maximal tolerable treatment

Dr. George Varghese Puthuran

- Management of acute primary angle closure

Poornachandran S, Drs. Gajanan, George V. Puthuran, S. R. Krishnadas and Prof.V. Srinivasan

- Calibration Errors in Goldmann Applanation Tonometers of tertiary eye hospitals (free paper) Dr. P. Sathyan

- Teleophthalmology, glaucoma and India

Posters

Dr. Sangeet Vivek Patil

- Conjunctival Dehiscence with scleral thinning following Ologen And MMC use
- Outcome of repeat trabeculectomy with mitomycin-C

Dr. Ramakrishna K

- Surgical induced necrotizing scleritis in Marfan's Syndrome- A case report

Dr. Amar Keshaorao Bhaskare

- Outcome of scleral patch graft and conjunctival advancement for late-onset leaking blebs after glaucoma filtering surgery with antimetabolites.

Dr. M Shiraz Ali

- Comparison of intraocular pressure rise in the early post operative period between Phacoemulsification with intraocular lens implantation and Phacotrabeculectomy in patients with primary open angle glaucoma and Pseudoexfoliative glaucoma

Dr. Malleswari Medikonda

- Outcome and complications of Ahmed Glaucoma valve implantation in Refractory glaucomas in a tertiary eye care centre

Dr. Neethu Mohan

- Surgical outcome of trabeculectomy in Uveitic Glaucoma

Dr. Devendra Maheswari

- Family screening of primary open angle and primary angle closure glaucoma patients: the help of family glaucoma screening project.
- Evaluation of Quality of life in elderly POAG patients by using the GOL 15 questionnaire Dr. Arun Ranjan
- Management of the leaking Bleb A report of 14 cases

CME for Physicians

Theni, October 9

Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi

- Headache and its causes



Asia Pacific Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (APACRS) conference

Seoul, Korea, October 12 -15



Dr. Haripriya Aravind

- Using IP on complex cases: video presentation
- IOL placement in eyes with compromised capsular support
 She performed live surgery and submitted a video on "Spherophakia to aphakia and back!"



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Vision Day

October 1



Vision Day is celebrated on October 1 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. G. Venkataswamy, founder of Aravind Eye Care System.

Aravind - Coimbatore

Special flower decorations were done in the meditation hall and in the reception area. Prayer meeting and Bhajan were arranged to reflect on the Chief.

Aravind -Pondicherry

A special prayer meeting with Bhajan was organized in the morning. Special flower arrangement was made in the meditation room. Staff paid homage to the Chief by observing a moment of silence. Mrs. Sulochana, retired professor from Bharathidasan College, Pondicherry was invited as the special guest and she shared her experience with Dr.V., Ms. Kavery and Mr. Kaliamoorthy from Aravind - Pondicherry recalled their experiences of working with Dr. V. Competitions on poetry and essay were conducted. A quiz programme was organised for the MLOPs.



Saraswathy Pooja at Aravind Eye Hospitals

October 5



Aravind - Tirunelveli

Doctors, MLOPs and administrative staff members of Aravind – Tirunelveli paid obeisance to Goddess Saraswathy, the goddess of knowledge and learning by participating in a special pooja. Fruits and prasadam were offered to the goddess. Books were placed before the deity for divine blessings.

Aravind - Coimbatore

On the occasion of Navarathri celebrations, a traditional Saraswathi pooja was performed at Aravind - Coimbatore. Mr.Senniappan, maintenance manager performed the pooja and the staff sang

devotional songs on Lord Ganesh and Saraswathi. At the end prasadams were distributed to all.

Aravind - Madurai

Aravind – Madurai performed pooja in three different places – main hospital, free hospital and at LAICO. Staff and senior leaders sought blessings of Goddess Saraswathi during the ceremony. Devotional songs were also sung.

Aravind - Pondicherry

The staff paid obeisance to the Goddess Saraswathi. Mr.Solaimuthu, accounts manager performed the Pooja. The department books and instruments were arranged with a picture of Goddess Saraswathi in front.After the pooja prasadam were distributed to all the staff.

As part of Navarathri celebrations, the staff visited Sri Saradha Ashram, Ulundupet on September 3.



Navarathri Celebrations

Aravind - Madurai

October 5



As part of the Navarathri celebrations, the staff and employees displayed a spectacular show of talents through skit and dance. The team from LAICO through their engaging skit conveyed to the audience the significance of Navarathri celebrations, Golu etc.

The team from AMRF presented a dance drama detailing the story of Mahishasura and Durga devi. Special performances by the MLOP sisters and kids from the crèche added more colour to the whole programme. Swami Swaroopananda from American College was the chief guest for the function and he addressed the audience and gave an inspiring brief speech.



Aravind - Tirunelveli

October 5

For the very first time, Aravind – Tirunelveli celebrated Navarathri – "Auro Dassara" with a variety of programmes. The celebrations lasted for the entire nine days with special poojas both in the mornings and evenings. Bhajans were sung daily and the staff performed various cultural programmes like Kolatam, Kummi pattu etc. Elaborate and extensive Golu was arranged as part of the celebrations. Special prasadams like sundal, coconut rice, tamarind rice



and kheer were offered to the goddess sakthi. New rangolis were drawn daily in front of the golu.

Diwali CME for MLOPs

October 16



Aravind - Pondicherry

The theme for the Diwali CME was patient centered care. A debate was arranged on the staff's attitude towards providing proper patient centred care. This debate was a great eye opener for the staff as they were able to understand both the negative and positive aspects in their approach towards work.

Coimbatore

Diwali CME conducted at Aravind – Coimbatore focused on both clinical and non clinical aspects. Clinical CME focused on clinical

updates and also provided a platform to discuss the key problem areas. The discussion helped the departments streamline their activities in a better way. The CME helped the staff gain in-depth understanding of the diseases and various treatments. Case discussion helped them understand a particular situation in a better way and also arrive at different options to manage the same.

Non clinical CME was planned as a panel discussion on "Patient satisfaction and importance of the staff attitude to provide the best patient care" Four teams were formed and shared their experience about patients' expectation on Compassionate care, latest technology, quality treatment and expertise of the staff.

Each team member expressed his views on how each one of the elements contributes to the overall satisfaction of the patient. This was followed by video presentation of patients' experience at the hospital. This gave an idea on patients' expectation level and how it differs according to persons. Dr. Jeyanthasri Balakrishnan, Professor, PSG College of Arts and science was the chief - guest and headed the panel.



Deepavali celebrations

October 19



Aravind - Tirunelveli

Aravind - Tirunelveli organized splendid Deepavali celebrations for all the staff members including Doctors, MLOPs and admin team. The evening was marked with glittering diyas, dazzling fireworks, sweets and impressive cultural programmes. Celebrations started with a prayer song. Welcome address was given by Ms. Stella Baby.

Ms. Mariselvi and team performed dance and an interesting skit was put up by Sr. Yogeshwari and team. Dr. Meenakshi, MLOP -in-charge gave a motivational talk on this special occasion. It was a perfect evening of happiness, joy, fireworks and sweets.

Aarvind - Pondicherry

As part of Diwali celebrations, dance competitions were organised. MLOPs were divided into different teams. The team Sunflower got the first prize. All the sisters actively participated and enjoyed the competition.

Coimbatore

October 21

On the occasion of Diwali, different cultural activities for the staff were organized at Aravind – Coimbatore. Dance program by MLOPs was the highlight of the whole event. The skit performed by them was really interesting and relevant to our times.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

October Summit



October Summit held in honour of the Founder Chairman, Dr. G. Venkataswamy on the occasion of his birth anniversary provided a platform for deliberations and brainstorming to improving the eye care delivery. Of the total four workshops, three are over in the month of October and November where as the final one is scheduled for January 2012. Following is a brief write up on the completed workshops in this series:

Workshop on Eye Care Research Priorities for India

LAICO, October 08 - 09

In September 2010, International Association for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and the International Council for Ophthalmology (ICO) jointly convened a workshop at the Lions Aravind Institute for Community Ophthalmology to consider research priorities and related issues.

The purpose of this workshop is to develop a research plan and identify priorities with a focus on improving coverage, which will lead to improved control of avoidable visual impairment and blindness in India over the next 10 years. A total of 25 participants attended the workshop. Welcome address was given by Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman - AECS and keynote address was given by Dr. G.N. Rao, Chairman - LV Prasad Eye Institute. Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj, Executive Director, LAICO set the context of this workshop and Mr. Sanil Joseph delivered the workshop overview. A total of 25 participants attended this workshop.



Workshop on Patient Safety for Aravind Eye Hospitals

October 21 - 22



The Workshop on Patient Safety was an internal workshop for all the Aravind Eye Hospitals conducted as part of October Summit 2011. This workshop was attended by 110 staff from the five hospitals representing all patient care departments. This workshop oriented the participants to Patient Safety and the importance of continuously monitoring our service in order to eliminate medical errors in the hospital.

Prof. Rangaraj Ramanujam from Vanderbilt University, USA was a key resource person for this workshop. As a leading researcher in "organizational causes and consequences of operational failures in high-risk work settings", he was instrumental in structuring and

delivering this workshop. Other resource persons included Dr R D Ravindran, Dr. Haripriya, Dr. Lalitha and Dr. William Stewart.

The individual hospitals also shared certain strategies that they have been implementing in their hospitals to eliminate error. Through systematic group discussions, the participants worked on developing strategies to specifically improve two aspects of safety:

- Improving accuracy of patient identification
- Improving communication among care givers and with patients
- A patient safety committee at each of the hospitals will be taking this work forward, in their respective places.

Click here to view Consultancy statistical report



ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Mr. K.V.S. Lakshmanan who had been the senior most staff and consulting editor at Aravind for over 5 years passed away on Monday, the 7th of November, 2012. He had always been a strong source of support for us, a person to whom we often turned on in cases of doubts both in English and Tamil and who contributed a lot to the perfect making of the newsletter with his various suggestions.

Apart from writing different patient information materials and editing our magazineslike "Kannoli", "Illumination", "Compassion" etc, he used to inspire the staff with his motivating articles published on the intranet every week.

A great lover of music, he was also deeply interested in composing and singing songs written by himself. He was an active participant of Melody Friday where he rendered his own compositions. His latest and the last composition, "Nithyatha" song on Dr. V launched at the inauguration of Dr. G. Venkataswamy retreat Centre received wide acclaim from the audience.

He was a vital source of inspiration for others and his whole - hearted dedication to work, reliability and sincerity remains unparalleled.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on August 2011	Enrollments for September 2011
Long Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists	·		
Fellowship in Anterior Segnemt/Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	100	1
	Tirunelveli	12	0
	Coimbatore	24	0
	Pondicherry	11	0
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists	·		
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Madurai	101	2
	Tirunelveli	128	1
	Coimbatore	96	2
	Pondicherry	1	0
IOL Microsurgery	Madurai	704	0
	Tirunelveli	276	0
	Coimbatore	209	0
	Pondicherry	11	0
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	134	2
	Tirunelveli	74	0
	Coimbatore	90	2
	Pondicherry	17	0
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	159	3
	Tirunelveli	107	1
	Coimbatore	123	0
	Pondicherry	22	0
	Theni	1	0
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	252	1

	Coimbatore	242	1
	Pondicherry	3	0
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	4	1
Short term training in Vitrectomy (Virtual)	Madurai	11	0
	Coimbatore	6	1
Optical Dispensing	Madurai	154	4
Ocularist	Madurai	21	1
Management Courses			•
Project Management for Eye Care	LAICO	54	6

Click here to view Training Programme full statistics

PUBLICATIONS

• EYE 2011 Sep 23.

Priya CG, Arpitha P, Vaishali S, Prajna NV, Usha K, Sheetal K, Muthukkaruppan V.

- Adult human buccal epithelial stem cells: identification, ex-vivo expansion, and transplantation for corneal Surface reconstruction <u>article-view</u>
- GRAEFES ARCH CLIN EXP OPHTHALMOL 2011 E-Pub

Dhananjay Shukla; Ramesh Venkatesh

- Spontaneous closure of full-thickness macular hole in type 2 idiopathic macular telangiectasia article view
- OCULAR IMMUNOLOGY & INFLAMMATION 19(5), 327–336, 2011.

Rathinam, S R Radha Annamalai; Jyotirmay Biswas

- Intraocular Parasitic Infections article view

• RETINA. 2011 SEP 30

Dhananjay Shukla; Shashank R. Gupta; Nithya Neelakantan; Sachin Tiwari; Sumi Gupta; Aditi R. Patwardhan; Tthayyil B. Soubhya

- Type 2 Idiopathic Macular Telangiectasia Long-Term Visual Prognosis and Incidence of Subretinal Neovascularization article view



STAFF CORNER

Diet food that binds

DR. Kuheli Bhattacharya, Paeditric fellow



From this issue onwards, we introduce "Staff Corner" dedicated to showcasing the literary talents of the staff and members of Aravind family. We invite our friends to join us in our efforts to make this an interesting column.

Here we present an exciting and inspiring letter from an ex – paediatric fellow of Aravind. <u>Click</u> <u>here to read</u>



AUROLAB NEWS

Vision Day

October 1

Vision day programmes started with a prayer song and the staff observed 2 minutes moment of silence as a mark of showing respect to the Chief. Mr. R.Meenakshi Sundaram, Camp manager of AEH - Madurai was invited as guest

speaker to share about his experiences with the chief. A few lines from Illuminated Spirit were read. The programmme came to end with Aravind Anthem.



Saraswathy Pooja

October 5



At the Saraswathi pooja observed in Aurolab, the production staff sang a song about Goddess Saraswathi. Special flower arrangements were made and fruits were offered to the Goddess. Prasadam was distributed at the end. Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj sir and Dr.Usha Kim joined staff in the pooja.



Guest lecture on basic fire safety measures

Aurolab, October 19



Guest lecture and awareness program on basic fire safety measures was arranged for the Aurolab staff by Usha Fire Safety Equipment Pvt Ltd. Mr.Arulprakasam demonstrated how to handle the fire extinguisher and fire hydrant system about which many of the staff were not aware of. How to act sensibly in case of LPG leakage (Gas Cylinder) at home was also explained. The benefits of wearing helmet while riding two wheelers was also stressed during the occasion.



🖚 ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Admin