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Quote

Happiness radiates like the fragrance from a flower and draws all good things towards you.

Maharishi Mahesh yogi

Editorial

Completing forty years calls for special celebration in the history of an organization and that's where Aravind stands today. The organization witnessed two leadership transitions and journey over the 4 decades was dynamic, challenging and exciting. What has not changed since the beginning is the strong value system and patient centredness that underlie all its endeavours. With renewed vigour, Aravind continues to take forward its service to restore sight to many more millions.

The field of healthcare is extremely dynamic, with developments happening at a rapid pace, be it in the case of diagnosis or treatment. Medical personnel need to be constantly updated on the latest developments in their field in order to provide the best care to their patients. With this in mind, educational sessions for doctors and mid level ophthalmic personnel were organized on a regular basis in various centres.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Crossing Milestones

Aravind – Madurai, September 17



Time just flies. It has been forty years since the first Aravind Eye Hospital was started at Madurai. What started off as a humble beginning has now become a conglomerate with 5 tertiary care centres, secondary care centres, 6 outpatient eye examination clinics and 60 vision centres.

A gala ceremony was organized to celebrate the occasion. Founding members, Dr.P.Namperumalsamy and Dr.G.Natchiar shared their thoughts about Aravind's journey so far. Dr.R.Kim shared the achievements of the past year. Cultural

programmes staged by the staff added colour to the whole event. Service awards were distributed to the staff members appreciating their commitment and dedication.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Library for Nursing Staff

Aravind – Coimbatore, September 15



As part of employee welfare activities, a library for nursing staff was opened by Dr. Kalpana Narendran. The library is located in the premises of nurses' hostel and hosts a good collection of books and novels of eminent Tamil authors.

Aravind – Tirunelveli, September 29

A new library for MLOPs was opened in the hostel premises by Dr.R.Ramakrishnan at Aravind – Tirunelveli.



CME for Staff of Vision Centres, Community Eye Clinics and Surgical Centres

Aravind – Tirunelveli, September 18



CME programmes have proved to be a strong motivation as well as training ground for mid level ophthalmic personnel. Such programmes are regularly conducted in various Aravind centres to keep the staff updated on latest developments in the field and thereby improve the quality of care. At the CME organized at Aravind – Tirunelveli, Lakshmi.R, Manager HR welcomed the gathering and set the context. Dr R Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer spoke on the functions of vision centre. Dr.Shivkumar, Dr.Maneksha, Dr.Mohideen, Dr.Karthik Srinivasan, Dr.Fathima and Dr.Sowmya handled various sessions in eye care. Mr.Thiruvengadam and Sr Chidambaram spoke on various operational issues faced and how to handle them. Mr.Balaji, Varilux Consultant - Essilor India Limited gave an interesting lecture on progressive lens and its benefits for patients. Dr.Allwin, Occupational Therapist spoke on how to lead a healthy life and taught simple exercises to manage neck pain, back and knee pain. Sr.Shanmuga Sundari proposed a vote of thanks.



Moments of Relaxation

Aravind – Tirunelveli



As part of Employee welfare activity, second year staff members of Aravind - Tirunelveli were taken on a half day tour to Krishnapuram and Vanathirupathi on 22nd September 2016.

Third year lady staff members were taken on a one day tour to Kuttralam on 23rd September 2016. They visited Old Kuttralam falls, five falls, Main falls and the Kuttralanathar temple.



Optimeet

Aravind – Tirunelveli, September 25



Optimeet was organized for the staff of Lakshmi Eye Care Support Services (LECSS) from across the Aravind centres to share the best practices. The meeting started with a welcome address by Sr.Sivasankari, Incharge - LECSS, Tirunelveli. Mr Murugesh made a presentation on the performance of the centre and this presentation helped develop an action plan for the year 2017. Staff from various centres made interesting and informative presentations. Dr P Ravi, Professor - Department of Management Studies, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University was the guest speaker and he gave a talk on Vision towards Customer Delight. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan gave a motivational talk and congratulated each and every one for their good work. Ms. Baby Sudha, proposed a vote of thanks.



Nursing Students Visit Aravind – Tirunelveli

Aravind – Tirunelveli, September 21

Close to forty nursing Students from St Ann's College of Nursing, Tuticorin along with their faculty visited Aravind – Tirunelveli to learn about eye donation process and eye bank activities. Orientation about Aravind Eye Care System was given by Lakshmi R, Manager HR and the students were taken on a tour of the hospital. Dr Reshmi Haridoss spoke about eye donation, and emphasized its importance. The team watched the activities of eye bank.



MLOP Freshers Day

Aravind – Tirunelveli, September 21



The programme started with Ms.Abinaya welcoming the gathering. New recruits exhibited their talents through singing, skit and folk dances such as, Karagattam and Silambattam. The skit based on anatomy of the eye was very interesting. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan and Dr.Meenakshi, congratulated the team for the excellent show and gave an inspiring speech. The program came to an end with vote of thanks by Ms.Anitha Devi.

At Aravind-Pondicherry, the programme was organized on September 16. MLOPs expressed their talents through singing and dance.

At Aravind – Salem, fresher's day was celebrated September 30 in the presence of Dr. Manohar Babu, Ms.Hima Bindu and Sr.Indrani. The trainees presented a colorful performance which included dance, skit and songs.



Retreat for Eye Bank Staff

LAICO, September 24



A one day retreat was organized for structuring of the Aravind Eye Banks. Senior leaders, Heads of eye banks and cornea clinics from Madurai, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli and Pondicherry Hospitals participated in the meeting. The name for Aravind Eye Banks was unanimously decided as Aravind Integrated Eye Bank Services (AIEBS) with Dr.M.Srinivasan as the Director. Mr.Athul, Mr.Saubrah and Ms.Rakhi from Sight Life facilitated the meeting.



ReLOAD

Aravind – Madurai, September 24-25



ReLOAD phacoemulsification (Review Learning on Advancement and Development) workshop in association with Alcon was conducted. Thirteen external ophthalmologists participated in this workshop which covered both basics and advances in phacoemulsification including complication management. Other than the lectures and interactive sessions, a hands-on wetlab session was also arranged where each of the doctors performed anterior vitrectomy, and practiced insertion of iris hooks and capsule tension ring in animal eyes.



CME on Low vision aids

Aravind – Salem, September 11 2016



The CME aimed to spread awareness and update knowledge of personnel working in the field of low vision and rehabilitation. Dr.B.Manohar Babu, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind Salem, inaugurated the event with a warm welcome note. Dr.Ilango, Senior Medical Officer, Low Vision Clinic, Aravind- Madurai set the context. Speakers included Dr Ilango, Dr.Tanuja from St.Joseph's Eye Hospital, Trichy, Dr.Sandra Ganesh – Aravind - Coimbatore, Dr.Fathima – Aravind-Tirunelveli and Ms.Flora of Aravind - Madurai.Hands-on sessions were organised by the Ms.Flora and MLOPs and the coordinators from low vision clinics. 95 participants from Tamilnadu, Kerala and Karnataka attended.



Observing Eye Donation Fortnight

Aravind, August 25 – September 8



Madurai



Pondicherry



Tuticorin



Tirunelveli



As parts of Eye Donation Fortnight, several activities were conducted to create awareness among patients and public. At Aravind – Madurai, the fortnight celebration was inaugurated by District Collector, Respected Thiru.K.Veera Ragava Rao IAS. Setting an example for the society, he pledged to donate his eyes. He also honoured the family members of donors and flagged off the eye donation information vehicle at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai. Staff and patients pledged to donate their eyes. Eye Donation information vehicle was parked at eight major locations of Madurai city and pamphlets containing information on eye donation were distributed to the general community.

Aravind – Tirunelveli organised a walk led by the blind. An exhibition on eye donation was organized at **Tuticorin** which was inaugurated by Dr.G.Anitha -Senior Medical Officer. School students and general public visited the same.

Aravind – Pondicherry organized various programmes such as talks, exhibition, honouring the motivators and rally to create awareness on eye donation. Dr.Rajesh gave a talk on eye donation in Suriyan FM, Puducherry. He gave an inspiring speech on the importance of eye donation at Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences. He also gave a speech on the same topic to all the technicians and community workers from various hospitals. An awareness exhibition was conducted at Aravind – Pondicherry, for two weeks, from at Aravind hospital premises. A special talk on eye donation and recent advances in keratoplasty was given by Dr.Josephine Christy students of Indira Gandhi Medical College, in Kathirkamam at Pondicherry. A mega rally was organised at Pondicherry Beach from Gandhi Statue to Kamban Kalaiaaramam. Pondicherry Alliance Franchise President Mr. Lalith Verma inaugurated the rally. Dr.Thanikachalam, Programme Officer, National Blindness Control Society, Indian Red Cross Society, Dr. Gopal, President, Indian Red Cross Society, Puducherry Branch, Dr.K.V.Raman, Pondicherry Social Welfare department, Rtn. Thirumaran, Mid Town president, Rotary Club of Pondicherry and Dr. Tiruvengada Krishnan, Cornea – Chief Medical officer, led the Rally. Around 500 staff members from Aravind Eye hospital and Nursing students from various colleges participated in the rally.

A function was organized in the hospital premises to honour the clubs and motivators of Lions/Rotary and Hospital Cornea Retrieval Programme (HCRP) who were instrumental in arranging large number of eye donation. Around 200 members from various voluntary organizations participated in the function. The function was graced by the august presence of the

Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Puducherry Dr.Kiran Bedi. She delivered the key note address. PMJF Lion Mr. M. Madava Radjou, District Governor – 2016 – 17, District 324 – A3 addressed the gathering and insisted on the importance of eye donation.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for September 2016 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for September 2016
Residency Programmes		
Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Tirunelveli	6
	Pondicherry	1
	Theni	1
Post DO DNB	Theni	2
	Tirunelveli	4
Residency Programmes		
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	1
Cornea	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	1
	Pondicherry	1
General Ophthalmology	Theni	1
	Coimbatore	1
Glaucoma	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
Retina & Vitreous	Madurai	1
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Clinical Observership Program In Diagnosis and Management Of Glaucoma	Madurai	2
	Tirunelveli	2
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Coimbatore	2
	Madurai	1
	Pondicherry	1
Phacoemulsification	Pondicherry	1
	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	2
Short term training in vitrectomy	Madurai	1
Management of ROP abd retinal disorders	Coimbatore	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	2
Short Term Courses - For Paramedicals		
Fundus Fluorescein Angiography and Ultrasonography	Madurai	1
Optical Dispensing	Madurai	4
Training for Ocularist	Madurai	1
Management Courses - Non Clinical		
Medical Records Management	LAICO	1
Project Management for Eye Care	LAICO	5



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AUROLAB NEWS

Excursion for Staff Members

Aurolab, September 17-18



Gardeners and cleaners of Aurolab were taken on a tour to Pondicherry and Cuddalore. The team visited Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Mannakula Vinayagar temple, Panchavadi Anjaneyar Temple, Cuddalore beach, Padaleeswarar temple, Sanniwaran Temple, Narasimhar temple, Thiruvanaikaval Shiva Temple. They all had a good dharsan in the temples and spent good time at Pondicherry and Cuddalore beaches.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

September - 2016

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Tuticorin	RS Puram	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS												
Paying (New & Review)	57,946	7,981	29,270	34,883	27,891	6,791	4,227	12,077	3,101	5,094	2,542	1,91,803
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	15,643	1,802	7,679	10,387	9,356	NA	650	1,037	1,250	748	NA	48,552
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS												
Comprehensive Eye Camps	9,846	2,281	3611	6,980	8,988	NA	NA	1,666	NA	742	NA	34,114
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	226	NA	245	750	1,086	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,307
Refraction Camps	1,126	463	1,068	202	1,276	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4,135
Mobile Refraction Unit	NA	NA	NA	3,168	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,168
School Screening camps	NA	115	459	1,700	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,274
Paediatric Camps	NA	265	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	265
Vision Centres	18,436	5,254	10,097	3,186	5,073	NA	970	NA	1204	NA	NA	44,220
Community Centres	9,031	1,847	2,941	NA	2,544	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	16,363
Total OP Examinations	1,12,254	20,008	55,370	61,256	56,214	6,791	5,847	14,780	5,555	6,584	2,542	3,47,201

Total number of camps	41	10	23	33	30	NA	NA	14	NA	5	NA	156
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SURGERIES

Service Proportion of Cataract Surgeries

Paying	3,589	446	1,455	1,867	1,394	351	183	673	145	191	67	10,361
Free (Direct)	3,203	274	1,041	1,650	1,032	NA	103	173	262	78	NA	7,816
Camp	3,777	356	780	1,629	2,214	NA	35	356	37	100	NA	9,284
Total Cataract Surgeries	10,569	1,076	3,276	5,146	4,640	351	321	1,202	444	369	67	27,461

Note: NA - Not Applicable

