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Quote

"There is no greater courage than of recognizing one's own mistakes". – The Mother

Editorial

Aravind's network of providing eye care services through vision centres continues to expand and the latest one in this series was inaugurated at Devakkotai in the first week of August. This network of vision centres is a proven replicable model for outreach in highly populated rural areas.

Aravind model of eye care delivery continues to inspire organizations across the world and many come to learn the best practices applied here. The second batch of delegates from Alexandra Eye Health visited Aravind to get a firsthand knowledge of its operational model.

The HR department at Aravind organizes various initiatives to ensure the overall development of the staff and employees. Special motivational lectures were arranged for the fresh MLOP recruits in the month of August.

The Workshop on Research Methodology held at LAICO provided valuable insights for the participants as to how to take forward a research study.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

Aravind News Team

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Rotary Award of Excellence for Dr. G. Natchiar

Mumbai, August 28



Dr. G. Natchiar has been awarded the Award of Excellence by L.M. Patel Rotary Eye Hospital, Mumbai and Rotary Club of Mumbai, North West, Malad in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the cause of eye care and her expertise in establishing the Rotary Eye Hospital.

CME HELD AT ARAVIND EYE HOSPITAL

CME on Biology to Molecular Biology

Aravind -Tirunelveli, April 28

As part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli, a one day CME on "Biology to molecular



biology: Changing scenario in medicine" was organised at the hospital under the auspices of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry chapters. The CME was inaugurated by Dr. VR. Muthukaruppan, Director-Research, AMRF, Madurai and a total of 163 participants including medical and non-medical postgraduates of microbiology, pathology, biochemistry, molecular biology and biotechnology attended.

Guest faculty included Dr. VR. Muthukaruppan; Dr. Vanaja Kumar, National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis, Chennai; Dr. N. Palaniappan, Dr. Swaminathan and Dr. Kalavani, Kanyakumar from Govt. Medical College –

Tirunelveli; Dr. P.K. Rath, Doctor Diagnostic Centre, Trichy, Dr.SR. Srinivasa Kannan, Vivek Laboratories, Nagercoil, Mr. Mani and Dr. CP. Thangavelu from Microbiological Laboratory, Coimbatore. The contents of the scientific sessions of this CME were evaluated and accredited by Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University which awarded 10 credit points to postgraduates for attending this CME. The CME was organized by Dr. M. Jayahar Bharathi and his team under the guidance of Dr. R. Ramakrishnan.



23rd Update in Ophthalmology for Post Graduate Students

Aravind - Tirunelveli, July 16 - 20

The field of Ophthalmology has undergone revolutionary changes and the main purpose of this CME was to make the participants familiarized with the recent trends and update themselves. Post Graduate students in Ophthalmology representing various states of the country, fellows and trainees from Aravind Hospital attended the CME. Aravind faculty for the CME included Dr. R. Kim, Dr. Usha Kim, Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Mr. Kalaiarasan, Dr. Manoranjan Das, Dr. Parag Shah, Dr. Naresh and Dr.Rathinam. Experts from outside like Dr. K. G. Srinivasan, and eminent radiologists with rich experience were invited as faculty to discuss the recent advances and developments at a great length.

The inaugural function commenced with prayer song and lighting of Kuthuvilakku. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan, Chief Medical Officer of Tirunelveli welcomed the Faculties and all the participants for the 23rd update. A total of 30 participants attended the update.



NEWS AND EVENTS

Inauguration of Devakkottai Vision Centre

August 2



Aravind's new vision centre was inaugurated at Devakkottai by Dr. S. Mahesh Kumar, Consultant, Neuro-ophthalmology Clinic, Aravind – Madurai. The function was marked by the presence of various community leaders.



Alexandra Team Visit

Aravind - Madurai, August 3 - 8



Subsequent to the visit made by a senior team of Alexandra Eye Health to Aravind in January 2012, a second batch visited Aravind – Madurai to get an understanding about its working model, HR practices and to meet with the senior leadership team. The team got an opportunity to have discussions with the leaders of the organisation and also went on a tour of the different Aravind facilities.



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy at the Inauguration of School for Visually Impaired

Madurai, August 11



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy attended the inauguration of the new building of IAB School for the visually impaired. He honoured the teachers and students of IAB for achieving hundred per cent results in the board examinations.



Sri. Aurobindo's birthday Celebrated

Aravind - Tirunelveli, August 15



Satff of Aravind – Tirunelveli celebrated Sri Aurobindo's birthday today and special flower arrangements were made in the meditation room.



Guest Lecture

Aravind - Coimbatore, August 16

Dr. Vasantha Muthuswamy, Senior Deputy Director General (Retd.) of ICMR delivered a lecture on History and Principles of Bioethics including SIDCER (Strategic Initiative for Developing Capacity in Ethical Review) recognition of IEC/IRBs.



Curiosity Club opened at Aravind - Madurai

August 18

It is very important that administrators and mid-level managers who work at Aravind understand the working principles of the various instruments used in eye care and also about the new instruments that are likely to invade the field in due course. With this in mind a Curiosity Club has been created at Aravind – Madurai.

While inaugurating the club, Mr. R. D. Thulasiraj said that the activity should include other Aravind centres as well through video conferencing in due course.

Prof. V. Srinivasan introduced to the audience the need for asking questions citing examples and quoting Archimedes' who has said "any one who can ask questions can enter" his gymnasium for learning. This will be the guiding principle of the Curiosity Club. The first presentation he made was on Lasers in general and on Femto second Lasers that will be coming soon.

The motivator of the activity Ms. Deepa Krishnan said that in due course each member of the club will make similar presentations about the different instruments and procedures followed in different sections of the hospital.



Fourth Anniversary Celebrations of Punjai Puliyampatti Vision Centre

August 18

Vision Centre at Punjai Puliyampatti celebrated its fourth anniversary at Chindamani Vidhyalaya Primary School, Punjai Puliyampatti. An eye care awareness exhibition was organised which also detailed the functions of a vision centre. At the Diabetic Retinopathy screening camp held in the same premises, the outpatient turnout was 254 with 46 known diabetes patients and 2 newly identified ones. Various community leaders were present for the anniversary celebrations.

Mr. Murugaraju, Manager - Outreach welcomed the gathering. Dr. Ganesh V Raman, Medical Consultant-Glaucoma presided



over the function. Total gathering was with 300 members. Sr. Kanagalakshmi, Vision centre coordinator read the annual report of the centre. Mr. Vijayaganth honoured the community leaders for their support. Mr.Kathirvel, Camp Organiser rendered a vote of thanks. Dr. Ashish - Senior Resident and Dr. Bani Sadat - Paediatric ophthalmology fellow and were the key persons in making the camp successful.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

Annual Conference of Delhi Ophthalmological Society

New Delhi, April 6 - 8

Dr. Saurabh Arora

- Low fluence PDT for Early onset CNVM following LASIK
- Myopia as a Protective factor against central serous chorio-retinopathy

Seminar on Early Detection of Abnormalities and Intervention for Children

Tiruvannamalai, May 13

Dr. Parag K Shah

- Ophthalmic Abnormalities in children



Recent Advances of Retinablastoma: CME Oraganized by Aditya Jyot Eye Hospital

Mumbai, May 27

Dr. Parag K Shah

- Is there role of subtenon carboplatin in the management of Retinoblastoma?



ICMR -FERCAP Workshop on Human participants Protective Course

Coimbatore, July 12 - 14

Dr. Parag K Shah attended the workshop held at PSG Hospital, Coimbatore. He also participated in the ICMR- FERCAP Workshop on SOP for Ethics committee held from July 17 – 19.



ARMD-A Stand Alone Meet

Jakarta, Indonesia, June 14 - 17

Dr. V. Narendran, Dr. George J Manyath

- Management guidelines for wet AMD-Indian scenario



Indian AMD Congress

Dubai, July 14

Dr.V. Narendran, Dr. Rodney Morris, Dr. V.R. Saravanan and Dr. Amit Gupta participated in the Congress.



RetNet Annual Symposium

Cochin, July 21 - 22

Dr. V.R. Saravanan and Dr. Amit Gupta participated in the symposium.



Annual Conference Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association

Trichy, August 10 – 12

Dr. V.R. Saravanan

- Non Magnetic IOFB Removal
- Case Discussion -OCT-Instruction course
- SFIOL-Introduction course

Dr. Amit Gupta

- Introduction and sutured SFIOL

Dr. V. Narendran chaired the RoP Symposium (Screening of ROP) and DME Symposium (How to present DME)

Dr. M. Srinivasan

- Unusual ocular infections - Infective keratitis

Dr. Parag K Ahah

- Strategies to prevent RoP related blindness

Dr. S.R. Rathinam

- When to suspect infective cause for uveitis

Dr. Usha Kim

- Congenital Naso Lacrimal duct obstruction

She was the chief instructor for the course, Aesthetic surgery-What's hot and what's not

Dr.Sukhdeep, Dr.Usha Kim

- Orbital fractures retrospective review of 57 cases (free paper)

Dr. Usha Kim, Dr. N. Vidya

- Ewings Sarcoma of the Orbit - A case report (poster)

Dr. Naresh Babu, Dr. Kim

- A comparative study between IVTA and bevacizumab for macular edema due to RVO

Dr. Kim chaired the surgical retina symposium and gave keynote address on Advantages of MIVS in complicated retinal pathology

Dr. Lipi Chakraborthy, Dr. George Varghese Puthuran, Dr. S.R.Krishnadas

- Glaucoma in Sturge Weber Syndrome
- Goldmann Applanation Tonometry versus Non Contact Tonometry: A comparative study

Dr. V. Maneksha

- Clinical profile of patients with proptosis associated with Thyroid related orbitopathy

Dr. Kalpana Narendran, Dr. Pooja Kishor, Dr. Rajesh Prabhu

- To study the surgical outcomes of superior oblique palsy

Dr. Kalpana Narendran, Dr. C. Sandra

- Improvement in visual acuity in children following the prescription of low vision aids

Dr. Kalpana Narendran, Dr. Pooja Kishor, Dr. C. Sandra

- To study the visual outcome of secondary sulcus IOL implantation in children for paediatric aphakia

Dr. Shreyas Ramamurthy, Dr. S. Mahesh Kumar

- Rare presentation of a solitary mid brain Neurocysticercosis causing recurrent third nerve palsy

Dr. A. Kowsalya, DR. S. Mahesh Kumar

- Clinical profile of ocular cranial nerve palsy

Dr. S. Kavitha, Dr. R. Venkatesh

- The importance of family screening in angle closure glaucoma (Won the C.P. Gupta Award)

Dr. Lipi Chakraborthy, Dr. George Varhese Puthuran, Dr. R. Prashanth

- Quality of life in primary open angle glaucoma and primary angle closure glaucoma

Dr. K. Veena

- Sibling motivational card - A new initiative for early diagnosis in paediatric ocular defects

She was also the instructor for the course on strabismus evaluation

D. R. Muralidhar, Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi

- Spot diagnosis of ocular motility disorders

Dr.R. Venkatesh

- Nightmare due to posterior polar cataracts, can anterior segment OCT help us?
- Oil control of tear film

He was also one of the panelists for the live surgery programme sponsored by Aurolab.

Dr. George Varghese, Dr. R. Ramakrishna

- Fix the leak first

Dr. Fathima A, Dr. Shivakumar Chandrasekharan

- In -situ fixation of subluxated CTR+IOL+bag complex

Dr. Lipi Chakraborthy, Dr. George Varghese Puthuran

- Automated glaucoma assessment: a novel screening method for glaucoma

Dr. D. Gajanan, Dr. George Varghese Puthuran

- Bilateral segmental neurofibromatosis presenting with bilateral congenital glaucoma
- Dr. R. Vidhyadevi, Dr.S. Ramakrishna, Dr. Kalpana Narendran

- Lowe Syndrome: A rare presentation with corneal keloids

- Dr. Sashikant Shetty
- Management of A V Patterns
- Nystagmus Update

Dr. R. Muralidhar

- Management of Paralytic strabismus
- Choosing refractive targets and IOLs

Dr. P.Vijayalakshmi

-Challenges in paediatric cataract surgery

Dr. R. Sharmila

- Collaborative initial Glaucoma treatment study
- Landmark trials in glaucoma
- Disc field correlation

Dr. Neethu Mohan

-Early Manifest Glaucoma Trial

Dr. S.R. Rathinam

- When to suspect infective cause for uveitis

University of Michigan India Business Conference

Mumbai, August 11



Dr. S. Aravind participated in the Panel Discussion on Socio-Political Drivers for the Transformation at the University of Michigan India Business Conference (UMIBC) held at Mumabi. UMIBC is an annual gathering of members of the University of Michigan India Alumni Association (UMIAA) and guest dignitaries.



International AMD Classification Meeting

California, USA, August 16 - 18



Dr. Kim has been invited to be in a panel of 25 experts in macular degeneration to convene at the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Macular Center at the National Academy of Sciences and Engineering on August 2011. The aim of this group is to develop the best way to characterize the clinical phenotype of AMD at different stages. And to develop a Simple classification in AMD to be used by all the ophthalmologists and another classification which will be based on the phenotyping and genotyping of AMD. This group

will meet twice in the next 2 years. In this context, he participated in this meeting held at Irvine, California on Aug16-18, 2012.



Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Singapore, August 23-25

Dr. Usha Kim was the invited faculty

- Challenging cases from around the World - how I have managed: The India experience (video)



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Motivational Lecture for New MLOP Recruits

Aravind -Tirunelveli

August 4

Kalaimamani Ervadi S. Radhakrishnan, Administrative Officer in State Bank of India gave a motivational talk for the MLOP



new recruits. An excellent Tamil orator and a poet, his speech was very interesting and informative. He narrated many moral stories which were well appreciated by the audience.

Aravind - Coimbatore

August 6

Prof. Jeyanthasree Balakrishnan from PSG. College of Arts and Science delivered a motivational talk on the importance of the roles and responsibilities of MLOPs in the hospital set up. It is all matter of being trustworthy, compassionate and also giving our best. Helping a patient who

is in need is serving mankind, so it has to be done dedicatedly. She also shared many real life examples to make them aware of the value added service. This session facilitated new recruits to know, understand and implement the importance of patient care.

August 18

Mr. Ramesh, representative from Sirithuli (NGO) gave a talk on "Environment and You". This helped them realize the importance of developing eco-friendly attitude. Saving water, electricity in a smaller way will have greater impact. He also taught them tips to use water and electricity without causing wastage. He also stressed the importance of developing a plastic free environment.

August 22

Mr. Shivalingam, author of Vizhivaelvi, delivered a motivational lecture for the MLOPs.



MLOP Fresher's Day

Aravind -Tirunelveli & Coimbatore



Aravind -Tirunelveli

August 7

Fresher's Day programme was organized for the first year MLOPs of Aravind – Tirunelveli in the first week of August. The participants shared their talents through drama, dance and recitation. At the end, Dr. R Ramakrishnan Chief Medical Officer congratulated the participants and gave a motivational talk. The entire program was co-ordinated by Ms. Petchi Piramachi, MLOP new recruit.

Aravind - Coimbatore

August 18

Dr. Kalpana Narendaran was the chief guest for the function. Different cultural programs like dance, singing and drama were organised. Drama staged by the new recruits was really enjoyed by all.



Self Development workshop

Aravind - Coimbatore, August 12



Self Development workshop was arranged for the Supervisors, Tutors, Optical and Refraction staff of Aravind – Coimbatore. This was organized by Transition company from Chennai. The session was facilitated by Mr. Vijay Samuel Benjamin from Light House leadership organization. It was an opportunity for the staff to reflect ON themselves regarding their strength and their learning areas. This kind of self realization workshop had a greater impact helping the participants to understand what they are and how they can make a change.



Independence Day Celebrations at Aravind

August 15

The 65th Independence Day was celebrated across the Aravind Hospitals and Aurolab. Flag hoisting ceremony was



arranged at all the centres and patriotic songs were sung. Aravind - Coimbatore conducted different literary competitions for the MLOP new recruits. Sweets were distributed to all who assembled.



Melody Friday

Aravind - Madurai, August 24

The 31st Melody Friday was held at LAICO auditorium with the theme *Journey*. Various songs related to journey were sung. The programme was anchored by Ms. Sivakarthika and Ms. Anjana.



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Workshop on Research Methodology

LAICO, August 28 - September 1



Research methodology workshop was conducted in the last week August with Dr. R.D. Ravindran delivering the welcome address. Dr. P. Namperumalsamy delivered the keynote address and workshop overview was provided by Mr. Sanil Joseph. Around thirty participants attended the workshop. Guest faculty included Dr. Ken Basett, Professor and Division Head, British Columbia Centre for Epidemiology and International Ophthalmology, Canada; Mr. Rajesh Kumar John, Biostatistics Consultant, Delve Data Systems, Coimbatore; Dr. Sabyasachi Sengupta, Research cum Clinical Vitreoretina fellow, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai and Dr. Vishali Jeyaseelan, Lecturer - Department of Biostatistics, CMC – Vellore.

Click here to view Consultancy statistical report



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Course title	Training Centre	Total Number Trained as on July 2012	Enrollments for August 2012	
Long Term Fellowship Courses				
	Madurai	48	1	
Fellowship in Cornea	Coimbatore	28	0	
	Tirunelveli	0	0	
	Pondicherry	5	0	
Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	34	1	
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists	·			
	Madurai	113	1	
Diagnosis and Managament of Clauseurs	Tirunelveli	135	0	
Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma	Coimbatore	107	0	
	Pondicherry	3	0	
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	173	1	
	Tirunelveli	117	0	
	Coimbatore	136	0	

	Pondicherry	24	0
	Madurai	267	2
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Coimbatore	262	2
	Pondicherry	6	0
	Madurai	152	1
Phacomulsification	Tirunelveli	87	0
riiacomuismication	Coimbatore	105	2
	Pondicherry	21	0
	Madurai	713	0
IOL Microsurgery	Tirunelveli	278	0
TOE Microsurgery	Coimbatore	217	1
	Pondicherry	12	0
Short Term Training in Vitrectomy (Vitural)	Madurai	16	1
Short Term Training in Vitrectomy (Vitural)	Coimbatore	7	0
Short Term Course in Refraction Techniques	Madurai	36	16
Ocularist	Madurai	25	1
Management Programmes - Non-Clinical Course			
Fellowship in Eye Hospital Management	LAICO	46	6
Management Training and System Development for Hospital Administrators / Managers	LAICO	230	10
Research Methodology	LAICO	183	33
Instrument Maintainance for Technicians	LAICO	391	5

Click here to view Training Programme full statistics



PUBLICATIONS

• OPHTHALMIC EPIDEMIOL. 2012 AUG 16. [Epub]

Subha Sivakolundu, Rathinam SR, Gowri Priya Chidambaranathan, Manjula Sengupta S, Thiruvengadakrishnan K, Ravindran RD, Vaitilingam MC.

- Changing referral patterns of infectious corneal ulcers to a tertiary care facility in South India - 7-year analysis. Article view

• INDIAN J OPHTHALMOL VOL: 60(5) SEP.-OCT. P.351-357

Babar M Qureshi, Rabiu Mansur, Abdulaziz Al-Rajhi, Van Lansingh, Kristen Eckert, Kunle Hassan, Thulasiraj Ravilla, Mohammad Muhit, Rohit C Khanna, Chaudhry Ismat

- Best practice eye care models. article view

• INDIAN J OPHTHALMOL VOL: 60(5) SEP.-OCT. P.376-379

Thulasiraj D Ravilla, Dhivya Ramasamy

- Advocacy for eye care.article view

• JOURNAL MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY. 2012 Sep 6. [Epub ahead of print]

Subha Sivakolundu, Rathinam Sivakumar, Gowri Priya Chidambaranathan and Manjula Sritharan

- Serological diagnosis of leptospiral uveitis by HbpA-IgG ELISA. article view

• AM J OPHTHALMOL. 2012 Sep 5. [Epub ahead of print]

Lalitha P, Srinivasan M, Rajaraman R, Ravindran M, Mascarenhas J, Priya JL, Sy A, Oldenburg CE, Ray KJ, Zegans ME, McLeod SD, Lietman TM, Acharya NR.

- Nocardia Keratitis: Clinical Course and Effect of Corticosteroids. article view



AUROLAB NEWS

Awareness Lecture about Cancer



As a part of Aurowell programme, an awareness session on cancer was organised for the staff of Aurolab. The session was handled by Dr. J. Jebasingh, Consultant Medical Oncologist from Asirvatham Speciality Hospital. Dr. Jebasingh's lecture helped the audience know more about cancer and its prevention methods.

New Office for HR, Personnel, Admin and imports department Inaugurated

August 20



A new office was inaugurated in the second floor for Accounts, HR, Personnel, Admin, Imports departments at Aurolab. Dr.P.Balakrishnan, Managing Director inaugurated the new office in the presence of Mr. R.D. Thulasiraj, Mr. R.D. Sriram, Mr.Venkatesa Kannan, Mr. Srinivasan, Mr.Sankar and Mr. Krishnakumar.



Tour for Production Staff

Kanyakumari, August 25 - 26



Two batches of production staff were taken on a tour to Kanyakumari, Suseenthram Temple, Padmanaban Palace and Thiruparappu Falls.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

August - 2012										
Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS										
Paying (New & Review)	42,352	7,077	20,675	29,206	20,104	5,474	3,515	7,600	2,352	138,355
Free (Direct walk-in)	14,268	2,006	5,921	9,266	6,695	7	168	-	1,087	39,418
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS										
Regular Eye Camps	13,012	1,909	4,126	8,067	9,766	-	-	327	94	37,301
Diabetic Retinopathy	202	321	202	1,672	1,328	-	-	-	-	3,725

50.100										
Total Surgeries	12,126	973	2,668	4,561	3,787	142	136	552	172	25,117
Camp	4,574	269	1019	1,854	2,091	-	-	189	-	9,996
Free (Direct)	3,380	318	751	1,348	724	26	37	35	91	6,710
Paying	4,172	386	898	1,359	972	116	99	328	81	8,411
SURGERIES										
Total OP Examinations	93,268	18,956	36,622	58,264	49,960	5,481	4,394	7,927	3,533	278,405
Community Eye Clinics	3521	1,554	1,782	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,075
Vision Centres	9,622	4,610	4,631	2,686	2,365	-	461	-	-	24,375
Paediatric Camps	_	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ICDS Children	_	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
School Screening camps	9,307	488	350	6,873	9,611	-	250	-	-	26,879
Mobile Refraction Unit	-	426	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	426
Refraction Camps	984	565	717	494	91	-	-	-	-	2,851
camps										

◆ ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Admin