

Editorial

As always, March is a busy month at Aravind Eye Hospitals. Number of patients visiting the hospital has seen a steady increase once the lockdown restrictions were relaxed. Aravind Eye Hospitals function with all the necessary precautionary measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection.

Aravind strengthened its primary eye care delivery network with the opening of five more vision centres. Three of these centres were opened as part of the Orange Initiative by Rotary International District 3232.

With a generous support from SEVA-Canada, Aravind-Chennai opened a training hub for allied ophthalmic personnel. The centre is intended to create an atmosphere for learning for MLOPs and optometrists focusing on skill and knowledge.



Accolades

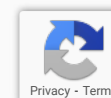
Aravind Eye Hospital Bestowed with the FICCI Healthcare Award

Madurai, March 20

Aravind Eye Hospital was awarded the FICCI Healthcare Quality Award for *Beacon of Excellence with affordable healthcare* at the 13th TANCARE Conference held on March 20, 2021 at Madurai. Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman, Aravind Eye Care System received the award.

Health Ambassador Recognition

Ms. E. Sakthi, Co-ordinator, Welfare and Development and, Ms. S. Swetha, HR Manager, Aurolab were recognized as Health Ambassadors by Dr.Reddy's Foundation for Health Education. The recognition came in recognition of their role in championing the foundation's Awareness for Life Initiative at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai and Aurolab.



Aravind Events

Inauguration of iLearn Training Hub

Aravind-Chennai, February 26

Dr. G Natchiar, Director Emeritus-HR, AECS inaugurated the iLearn Training Hub. Supported by a grant from SEVA, Canada, the iLearn Training Hub is intended to create an atmosphere for learning for MLOPs and optometrists focusing on skill and knowledge. This training hub has both classrooms and skill labs for all departments of ophthalmic nursing and allied departments such as refraction, outpatient, ward, counselling, medical record, instrument maintenance, stores and housekeeping. The skill lab displays the mission and key performance indicators of individual department, instruments and equipment, and posters relevant to learning the skills in each of these areas. Equipment available include keratometer, autorefractometer, lensometer, trial set, digital vision chart, Bjerrum's screen and slit lamps. The lab also has equipment used to monitor systemic health conditions such as BP machines, pulse oximeter, crash cart, ECG machine and mannequin to practise cardiopulmonary resuscitation.



New Vision Centres

Aravind-Coimbatore, March 5

87th Vision Centre of Aravind Eye Care System and the 13th centre for Aravind-Coimbatore was inaugurated at Suler by Lion VP Kandasamy and PMJF R N Karunanithi. Various Community leaders graced the occasion with their presence.



Aravind-Madurai, March 8

Aravind's 88th Vision Centre was inaugurated at Chathirapatti by Dr. Banushree, Physician, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai. A total of 58 patients were examined on the inaugural day.



Aravind-Pondicherry, March 17

Aravind-Pondicherry opened a new vision centre at Sethiyathoppu. This is the 89th vision centre by Aravind Eye Care System and the 14th by Aravind-Pondicherry.

The centre was established with support from the Rotary International District 3232 as part of its initiative titled Orange. The main objective of this initiative is to ensure Avoidable Blindness Free Society in India. The centre was inaugurated in the presence of Rtn. S. Muthupazhaniyappan, Governor, Rotary District – 3232, Mr. Rtn. Ganesh Subbaiah and Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind Eye Hospital, Pondicherry. On the inaugural day, the centre, handled 113 outpatients. 41 patients were advised cataract surgery and patients needing speciality care were referred to the base hospital.



Aravind-Chennai, March 19

Aravind-Chennai opened its first two vision centres at Manali and Ennore. These two vision centres are also part of the Orange initiative by the Rotary International District 3232. The centres were inaugurated in the presence of Rtn. S. Muthupazhaniyappan, Governor, Rotary District – 3232, Mr. Rtn. Ganesh Subbaiah, Mr. M. Nachiappan, Dr. S. Aravind and Dr. Haripriya Aravind. On the inaugural day, Manali centre screened 24 patients. 35 patients were screened at Ennore vision centre.



LAICO

Eyexcel 2.0: Effective Presentation Skills

March 5

As part of Eyexcel 2.0, webinar on effective presentation skills was organised for trainers of allied ophthalmic personnel. Over 100 participants attended the live session.

Publications

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3. Ranjan R, Verghese S, Salian R, Manayath GJ, Saravanan VR, Narendran V. **OCT angiography for the diagnosis and management of choroidal neovascularization secondary to choroideremia.** Am J Ophthalmol Case Rep. 2021 Jun;22:101042. [View More](#)
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5. Wong SSW, Venugopalan LP, Beaussart A, Karnam A, Shait Mohammed MR, Jayapal JM, Bretagne S, Bayry J, Prajna L, Dharmalingam K, Latgé J-P, Aïmianianda V. **Species-Specific Immunological Reactivities Depend on the Cell-Wall Organization of the Two Aspergillus, Aspergillus fumigatus and A. flavus.** Front Cell Infect Microbiol. 2021 Feb 25. [Epub] [View More](#)
6. Kelly NK, Chattopadhyay A, Rathinam SR, Gonzales JA, Thundikandy R, Kanakath A, Murugan SB, Vedhanayaki R, Cugley D, Lim LL, Suhler EB, Al-Dhibi HA, Ebert CD, Berlinberg EJ, Porco TC, Acharya NR; FAST Research Group. **Health and Vision-Related Quality of Life in a Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing Methotrexate and Mycophenolate Mofetil for Uveitis.** 2021 Mar 3. [Epub] [View More](#)

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8. Mekala S, Dhoble P, Vishwaraj CR, Khodifad AM, Hess OM, Lavanya GS. **Subjective and objective measures of the patient experience before, during, and after intravitreal anti-vascular endothelial growth factor injections.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Apr;69(4):890-894. [View More](#)
9. Rengappa R, Chandrashekharan S, Gunaselvi R, Maheshwari D, Kader MA, Chakrabarty S. **Agreement of findings of glaucoma screening between trained vision center technicians and glaucoma specialists at a tertiary hospital in South India.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Apr;69(4):871-875. [View More](#)
10. Chhabra K, Khanna V, Vedachalam R, Sindal M. **RetiSurge – Enabling “Dry Lab” vitreoretinal surgical training during COVID-19 pandemic.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Apr;69(4):982-984. [View More](#)
11. Damodaran S, Sen S, Babu N. **Slit-lamp mounted anti fogging fan.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Apr;69(4):997-998. [View More](#)
12. Damodaran S, Babu N, Sen S, Arthur D. **Learning to buckle the sclera – The organic bench model for learning suturing skills.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Apr;69(4):1013-1014. [View More](#)
13. Kaur K, Kannusamy V, Gurnani B. **Incremental innovations in pediatric ophthalmology department during the COVID-19 pandemic: An experience from a tertiary eye care hospital.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Apr;69(4):1000-1001. [View More](#)
14. Chandrakanth P, Duggirala V, Narendran K, Narendran V. **Do it yourself automatic liquid dispenser for the COVID-19 aeon.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Apr;69(4):999-1000. [View More](#)
15. Ravilla T. **A Holistic perspective in caring for people with diabetic retinopathy.** 2021 Apr; 128(4):574-575. [View More](#)
17. Durai I, Pallamparthys, Puthuran GV, Wijesinghe HK, Uduman MS, Krishnadas SR, Robin AL, Palmberg P, Gedde SJ. **Outcomes of Glaucoma Drainage Device Implantation and Trabeculectomy with Mitomycin C in Glaucoma Secondary to Aniridia: AADI Versus Trabeculectomy in Aniridia.** Am J Ophthalmol. 2021 Mar 15.[Epub] [View More](#)
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Statistics

Patient Monthly Statistics

February- 2021

Hospitals	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Dindigul	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	CbeCC	Chennai	Tirupati	Kovilpatti	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS															
Paying (New & Review)	48,367	27,352	7,448	27,013	26,186	4,542	6,857	11,418	5,057	4,113	3,490	24,549	11,312	2,467	210,1
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	17,239	6,480	2,307	10,703	10,132	1,610	—	3,077	920	1,605	—	7,913	2,619	416	65,0
OUTREACH OUT PATIENT															
Comprehensive Eye Camps	11,067	2,349	975	732	4,988	285	—	374	550	413	—	1,661	369	—	23,7
Diabetic Retinopathy Camps	402	265	—	285	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,0
Refraction Camps	809	961	281	180	484	—	—	—	144	—	—	—	—	—	2,8
Mobile Refraction Unit	—	—	—	685	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
School Screening Camp	—	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
RoP Screening	154	107	116	547	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	80	3	—	1,0
Vision Centres	21,392	12,216	5,111	4,603	9,470	1,288	—	1,295	—	1,356	—	—	—	—	56,7
Community / City Centres	8,795	2,301	2,022	—	2,494	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15,6
Total OP Examinations	108,225	52,031	18,260	44,834	53,873	7,725	6,857	16,164	6,671	7,487	3,490	34,203	14,303	2,883	377,0
Total number of camps	41	17	7	6	10	—	—	3	5	5	—	8	2	—	1
SURGERIES															

Cataract	9,417	3,576	992	3,679	4,770	604	473	1,245	461	812	202	3,108	1,509	324	31,1
*Other Surgeries	5,088	2,108	263	3,052	2,404	69	170	454	244	123	81	1,649	667	55	16,4
Total Surgeries	14,505	5,684	1,255	6,731	7,174	673	643	1,699	705	935	283	4,757	2,176	379	47,5

***Other surgeries include major surgeries, minor surgeries, intra-vitreous & other injections and laser procedures**

Training

Enrolments for February 2021

February – 2021

Course title	Training Centre	No. of enrolments
LONG TERM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES – FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS		
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Tirunelveli	1
Fellowship in Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Theni	1
	Salem	1
Fellowship in Cornea	Tirunelveli	1
	Coimbatore	2
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	2
Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in Retina Vitreous	Madurai	3
	Chennai	1
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Madurai	2
	Coimbatore	1
	Salem	1
SHORT TERM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES – FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS		
Phacoemulsification	Madurai	1
INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE COURSE – NON CLINICAL COURSES		
Online Course on Ophthalmic Instruments Maintenance	LAICO	14

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March 2021



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