

Editorial

The strong pillar, the silent and subtle presence that held Aravind in place is no more.

Mr. G. Srinivasan, one of the founding members of Aravind Eye Hospitals and the President of Aravind's governing trust passed away in Madurai on 24 May 2021 at the age of 86, following a brief period of illness.

'GS' as he was fondly called, was the force behind each one of Aravind's facilities and their growth over the past four and half decades. His strength and dedication created the practical foundation for Aravind's vision to manifest. His was a life well-lived, touching many souls and lives.

Feeling grateful for his life and work, we resolve to perpetuate the values he brought to Aravind.



In Memoriam

Sri. G. Srinivasan

July 7 1934 - May 24, 2021

Aravind Events

In Memoriam

Mr. G. Srinivasan, the strong pillar, the silent and subtle presence that held Aravind in place is no more.

GS was born on July 7, 1934 at Vadamalapuram in Tirunelveli. He holds his B.E from Alagappa University and MS from Kansas State University, USA. Trained as a civil engineer, he worked for a brief period with the Asia Engineering Company. Later he quitted, only to join his brother Dr. G. Venkatswamy, to establish the Aravind Eye Hospital in 1976. He single-handedly managed all aspects of Aravind's infrastructure and building projects.

A man with strong principles, GS instilled a culture of frugality into the very DNA of the organisation. But for his prudence and unstinting support, Aravind would not have reached where it is today. It is hard to fathom the depth and extent of his contributions. By embedding fiscal discipline, he ensured the financial well-being of the organisation. Beneath GS' apparent strict demeanour, was a soul that cared for those in distress and a heart filled with a strong humor sense. Hardworking, simple and unassuming he was, his life itself was a message and source of inspiration to many, as evident from the overwhelming condolence notes received within hours of his passing.

An institution in himself, personalities like GS are hard to find. His light lives on in the lives he touched.



Aravind-Tirupati starts RoP Tele-screening

Retinopathy of Prematurity (RoP) is a disorder of the retinal vasculature growth in premature babies which can lead to blindness. In India, the incidence is 24% -47% among high risk preterm infants. Major risk factors are premature birth, low birth weight and high oxygen use in NICUS. Timing is one of the important factors that make the treatment successful.

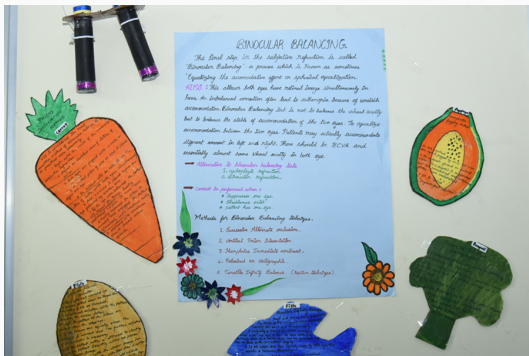
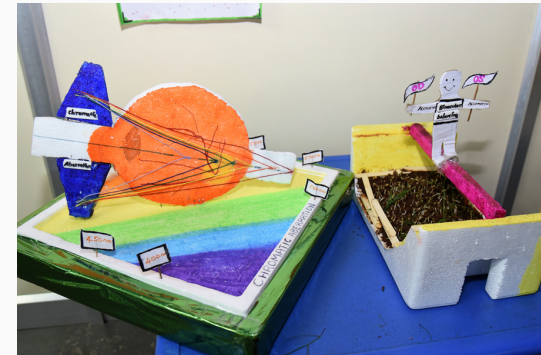
The incidence of RoP is increasing because more NICUs are established even in rural parts of India and there is less number of ophthalmologists trained in RoP screening.

Tele screening through a portable fundus camera is an effective way to build this gap. Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirupati has launched telescreening for RoP through a portable fundus camera called retcam. The project is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This is a multicentre study with Aravind-Coimbatore being the primary investigating centre.

Refraction skill workshop

Aravind-Coimbatore, April 26

Two workshops were organised by the Refraction department for employees and trainees. Participants were divided into 11 teams. Each team was given a skill related topic. With the help of inputs from the seniors, trainees from each group came up with presentations on various skills. Charts and models representing vision cubicles were prepared and instruments and techniques used in refraction were displayed. PowerPoint presentations were also shown. The whole exercise gave an opportunity for the juniors to learn more about the skills in refraction and to fine-tune their knowledge. Doctors were invited as judges and good presentations were awarded.



CME on Best practices in Patient care

Aravind- Coimbatore, April 24

The CME was conducted for all staff of Aravind-Coimbatore and consisted of three sessions. Dr.Jebinth Brayan, Medical Officer In charge, Aravind Eye Hospital, Udumalpet moderated the sessions. Mr.Gautam, Manager-Quality Assurance spoke on *Excellence in service delivery* in which he emphasized the importance of ensuring quality at each stage of service delivery. Ms.Rajakumari, Counselling Coordinator explored along with the participants the concept of *Cure through care*. Ms.Umapriya, Manager-HR dealt with the topic, *Professional ethics to achieve excellence at work* and motivated the participants to focus on continuous improvement.



CME on Medico Legal Cases Management

Aravind-Coimbatore, April 17

The CME conducted for the MLOPs dealt with the procedures to handle medico legal cases and the legal formalities involved. Ms.Hema, Manager-Medical Records and Mr.Vignesh, Manager-Patient Care shared their experiences on documentation of such cases. The session was moderated by Dr.D.Chandrasekar, Consultant, Aravind Eye Care System. The session helped the participants understand the importance of medico legal cases documentation and communication with patients or their family members in handling such cases.



Creche Graduation Day

Aravind-Coimbatore, April 23

Janakaiaamma Child Care Centre celebrated its annual graduation day. Children enthralled the audience with their various performances. A total of four children graduated.



Aurolab

Launch of Aurovue Vivid

Aurolab launched Aurovue VIVID through a webinar organised for the heads of the IOL departments in all major Aravind centres. Dr.Haripriya, Head, Cataract and IOL Services, Aravind-Chennai shared her experiences of Aurovue VIVID and Mr.R.Sundar Ganesh, Manager, IOL Division, Aurolab presented the technical information.

Aurovue Vivid enhances practical functional vision and overcomes the issue of visual disturbance in trifocal and multifocal IOL technologies. The combination of novel, diffractive and refractive EDoF IOL delivers superior contrast regardless of light conditions thereby enhancing quality of vision. It also provides excellent distance vision at night and minimizes the occurrence of glare and halo issues.

Training Programme

Aurolab organises a weekly training programme for its sales teams spread across India. Titled Auropedia, this is conducted every Saturday evening. Sessions focus on Aurolab products and features as well as soft skills development.

LAICO

Eyexcel 2.0

LAICO is conducting Eyexcel 2.0 from May 05 to June 09, 2021. For the first time, Eyexcel is being offered as a completely virtual course. Training sessions are scheduled weekly, spread across 6 weeks. 12 teams are participating, working on various real-time training projects.

Inauguration of Audio Visual Studio

LAICO, April 6

With support from Lavelle Fund for the Blind, LAICO has set up an advanced audio visual unit, equipped with professional studio-grade video and audio recording options.

This will be a meaningful addition to Aravind's audio visual requirements and will enable the team to augment the development of professional digital resources. A demo of the facility was also shown during the inauguration.



Publications

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Statistics

Patient Monthly Statistics

April- 2021															
Hospitals	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Dindigul	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	CbeCC	Chennai	Tirupati	Kovilpatti	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS															
Paying (New & Review)	44,631	23,425	7,879	23,577	22,693	4,526	7,159	11,327	4,714	4,365	2,934	21,314	9,231	2,739	190,5
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	18,299	6,463	2,772	10,336	11,003	1,879	—	3,623	1,242	2,746	—	8,624	6,734	789	74,5
OUTREACH OUT PATIENT															
Comprehensive Eye Camps	178	1,281	465	1,853	393	337	—	215	198	172	—	844	673	—	6,6
Diabetic Retinopathy Camps	—	113	—	192	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Refraction Camps	—	217	320	328	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Mobile Refraction Unit	—	—	—	53	—	—	—	350	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
School Screening Camp	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
RoP Screening	168	190	137	633	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	103	—	—	1,2
Vision Centres	22,181	12,400	5,266	4,854	7,903	1,123	—	1,132	—	1,597	—	—	—	—	56,4
Community / City Centres	8,008	2,450	1,994	—	2,110	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14,5
Total OP Examinations	93,465	46,539	18,833	41,838	44,117	7,865	7,159	16,647	6,154	8,880	2,934	30,885	16,638	3,528	345,4
Total number	1	10	4	15	2	2	—	2	1	3	—	5	3	—	—

of camps																
SURGERIES																
Cataract	7,511	3,029	1,190	3,987	4,318	757	550	1,593	485	1,458	154	3,118	1,853	337	30,3	
*Other Surgeries	5,502	1,939	482	2,710	2,481	92	167	504	59	127	47	1,738	715	87	16,6	
Total Surgeries	13,013	4,968	1,672	6,697	6,799	849	717	2,097	544	1,585	201	4,856	2,568	424	46,9	

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

Training

Enrolments for April 2021

April- 2021

Course title	Training Centre	No. of enrolments
LONG TERM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES – FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS		
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Coimbatore	1
	Tirupati	1
	Chennai	1
Fellowship in Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Cornea	Madurai	2
	Chennai	1
	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	2
	Tirunelveli	1
Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Madurai	1
CLINICAL COURSES FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS		
Phacoemulsification	Pondicherry	18
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Coimbatore	1

Archives

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May 2021 

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