



## Editorial

One of the cornerstones of the Aravind model of eye care delivery is its ardent efforts in reaching out to the community. Staying true to this policy, Aravind-Salem, as part of an initiative by Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital and Eicher Motors Ltd; reaches out to the truck drivers to screen them for their eye problems. Under this initiative, eye camps are conducted in transport hubs with the help of a van designed with all necessary ophthalmic diagnostic equipment.

Aravind Centre for Eyecare Innovation was formed to address Aravind's small clinical, surgical or process problems and to build safer and reliable systems. ACEI tries to have a solution to improvise the situation and facilitate in solving problems with innovative ideas. The centre recently conducted a competition calling for innovative ideas in eye care delivery which received overwhelming response.

Many Aravind Eye Hospitals opened vision centres in an effort to improve eye care access to the rural community. New centres were opened at Alangulam and Valapady.

Aravind Eye Hospitals at Tirunelveli and Pondicherry celebrated their annual days with a great show of programmes.

## Accolades

### Aravind Inspiring Innovator Award 2021

"The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them, into the impossible." – Arthur G. Clarke

Aravind-Pondicherry organised Aravind Inspiring Innovator competition asking staff to submit innovative ideas in eye care delivery in the form of videos. There were a total of 19 submissions and the top three were selected by a jury consisting of Dr. Sathish Srinivasan, Dr. Sean Ianchulev, Dr. Manas Ghosh, Dr. Parag Shah and Dr. Naresh Babu. The winners and their innovations are as follows:

- Dr. Prabu Baskaran, Aravind-Chennai (S Fix)
- Dr. Megha Nair, Aravind-Pondicherry; Dr. Shivraj Tagare, Aravind-Pondicherry and Dr. Hirika Gosalia, Aravind-Coimbatore (I-Verter)
- Fathima Allapitchai, Aravind-Tirunelveli (Stamp the tunnel)

### Certificate of Appreciation for Aravind-Madurai

Madurai, January 26

The hospital was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Govt. of TN in recognition of its adherence to the quality certification standards of Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS) – Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY). On behalf of the hospital, Dr. S.R. Krishnadas, Director-HR received the award from the honorable District Collector.



## Aravind Events

### Truck Drivers Eye Screening Initiative: Dedication Ceremony of Eicher Eye and Ear Care Van

Aravind-Salem, February 18

Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, Delhi (SCEH) and Eicher Motors India has joined hands to initiate a project to screen truck drivers for eye problems. With the help of a van sponsored by Eicher, eye camps will be conducted in transport hubs, petrol stations, service stations of Eicher, RTO offices, etc. The van is designed with all the necessary eye care equipment inside. Under this initiative, SCEH has tied up with 8 major eye hospital networks across the country. Till date, the programme has catered to 1,19,221 lives including 65,354 commercial vehicle drivers across various states including Delhi NCR, UP, Assam, West Bengal, etc.

Aravind Eye Hospital, Salem is identified to be one of the partners for this project in the south zone. The dedication ceremony of the van was conducted February 18. Dr. B. Manohar Babu, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Salem welcomed the audience to the ceremony. Chief guests were Mr. G.Sathyamurthi, Asst. Commissioner of Police – Traffic, Salem and Dr.S.Sozhamadevi, Head of the Department of Ophthalmology, Govt. Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College Hospital, Salem; District Programme Manager, DBCS. Special guest, Mr. Karthikeyan, Joint Managing Director, JAWA group, Salem lit the lamp. Mr. Shantanu Dasgupta, GM, SCEH highlighted the milestones and achievements of the Eicher Driver care programme. Mr. Gaurav Sharma, Managing Director shared a note on the vision of the programme. Mr. Karthikeyan and Mr. Radhakrishnan, Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles Ltd., Salem shared their thoughts on the importance of eye screening for truck drivers.



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#### New Vision Centres

Aravind – Tirunelveli, January 25

New Vision Centre was opened at Alangulam and will be managed by Aravind-Tirunelveli. Dr R Ramakrishnan, Advisor, Aravind-Tirunelveli inaugurated the centre in presence of staff members and well-wishers of AECS. The centre examined 54 patients on the inaugural day.



Aravind-Salem, February 24

Aravind-Salem opened a new vision centre at Valapady. The centre was opened by Ln.Dr.C.Mothilal, Founder, Udhaya Hospital, Salem. On the day of inauguration, 72 patients were screened, 19 patients were advised for cataract surgery, 14 patients were given glass prescriptions and three were referred to Aravind-Salem.



#### Hospital Day Celebrations

Aravind-Tirunelveli, February 12

Aravind-Tirunelveli celebrated its 33rd hospital day. Staff members belonging to all cadres joined the celebration. Celebration started with a prayer song by Dr Rithu, Resident, following which Dr.R. Meenakshi, Chief Medical Officer welcomed the gathering. Dr.V. Anita, Senior Medical Officer presented a brief update on the activities of the last year. Dr.R. Ramakrishnan, Advisor gave an inspiring talk. Service awards and certificates were distributed to the staff members. Following this, there were two dance programmes by doctors. Dr. Rithu entertained the audience with her melodious song. Dr. Maneksha, Chief, Orbit Clinic proposed the vote of thanks.



Aravind-Pondicherry, February 20

Aravind-Pondicherry celebrated its 18<sup>th</sup> annual day with Mr.G.Srinivasan, Director-Finance, Dr.G.Natchiar, HR Director Emeritus,

Dr.R.D.Ravindran, Chairman, Mrs.Kannamma Ravindran as the chief guests. The function started with a prayer song followed by the Chief Medical Officer Dr. R. Venkatesh welcoming the gathering. Dr.Fredrick Mouttappa, Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology Services presented a report on the achievements highlighting the various innovative ideas implemented especially during the COVID-19 outbreak. Dr.R.D.Ravindran and Dr.G.Natchiar gave an inspiring speech. As a mark of respect and recognition for the effort put in by the staff, service awards were distributed. Aravind-Pondicherry has come up with more than 100 publications in reputed journals. Awards were given to the doctors with maximum publications. Cultural programmes followed the award distribution.



#### Inauguration of Hospital Cornea Retrieval Program

Pudukkottai, January 21

Organised by Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, Hospital Cornea Retrieval Programme was inaugurated at Govt Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Pudukkottai. The Dean, medical officers, professors, PGs and paramedical staff attended the programme. Dr.Poovathi, Dean, GMCH delivered the special address. Dr.Prajna, Chief, Cornea Services, Aravind-Madurai was the guest of honour. Eye donation awareness materials and boards were handed over by Dr.Prajna to Dr.Poovathi. Dr. Murugan, Asst. Professor, Department of Ophthalmology GMCH spoke on Cornea retrieval and grafting. He also shared his thoughts on the gaps in demand and supply. Mr. D. Saravanan, Manager, Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank, Madurai gave an overview on Hospital Cornea Retrieval Programme. Dr.Thaial Nayaki, Head of the Department of Ophthalmology delivered a vote of thanks.



#### MLOP Freshers' Day

Aravind-Tirunelveli, January 29

Freshers day for the newly joined mid-level ophthalmic personnel was celebrated at Aravind-Tirunelveli with Dr.R.Ramakrishnan, Advisor and Dr.R. Meenakshi, Chief Medical Officer as the chief guests. The new recruits performed cultural programmes like Karagattam, folk dance, singing; Two of them read poems on Dr.V. A skit was also performed showcasing the lessons learnt after joining Aravind. Ms. Saranya, Housekeeping trainee shared her experience at Aravind and how Aravind has contributed to a transformation in her attitude and behavior. Dr.R.Ramakrishnan and Dr.Meenakshi gave inspiring talks and congratulated all the trainees for the wonderful programmes.



#### NABH Assessment

Aravind-Coimbatore, February 21

Aravind-Coimbatore had an extensive and strict onsite NABH assessment for 8 hours on February 21, 2020 and the hospital came out successfully with no NCs.

#### SICS Webinar

Aravind-Chennai, February 16

Aravind-Chennai organised the webinar. Speakers included senior doctors from across the Aravind centres.

#### Time Out for Our Daughters of Sight

Aravind-Pondicherry, February 27

MLOPs are considered as the backbone of Aravind Eye Hospital. They are the first to enter and last to leave the hospital and are a part of every step in care delivery process. To give them a time out for recreation and relaxation, Aravind-Pondicherry organised a Tennikoit tournament.

MLOPs were divided into 5 teams named after women who have created history: Rani Lakshmbai, Mother Teresa, Kalpana Chawla, Mary Kom and KiranBedi. The final match was between team Mary Kom and Mother Teresa. Team Mary Kom emerged as winners.

## Aurolab

### Cricket Tournament

February 7 and 14

A cricket tournament was arranged for the staff members. Dr. G. Natchiar and Mr. G. Srinivasan were invited as the chief guests. Trophies were distributed to the winners and runners up.



## LAICO

### Online courses

Online course on Ophthalmic Instruments Maintenance was conducted during February 1-15, 2021. A total of fourteen participants from India and Ghana attended.

Online collaborative on Implementing NABH Standards for Entry Level Certification : LAICO rolled out this year-long collaborative series with the first learning session held on February 15-20, 2021. Five hospitals have enrolled into this collaborative.

## Publications

1. Kannan NB, Sen S, Mishra C, Lalitha P, Rameshkumar G, Kumar K, Rajan RP, Ramasamy K. Ten-year trends in the incidence, clinical profile and outcomes of acute-onset endophthalmitis following combined pars plana vitrectomy and sutureless, glueless and flapless scleral fixation of intraocular lenses. *Int Ophthalmol*. 2021 Jan 29. [Epub] [View more](#)
2. Manayath G, Verghese S, Ranjan R, Agrawal H, Khanna A, Narendran V, Chhablani J. Long-term outcomes of half-fluence photodynamic therapy and eplerenone in chronic central serous chorioretinopathy: A comparative study. *Eur J Ophthalmol*. 2021 Jan 28. [Epub] [View more](#)
3. Shekhar M, Lamba P, Haripriya A, Ravindran S, Palod S, Mishra C, Sundar B, Sen S. Acute Postoperative Endophthalmitis after re-surgery following primary cataract surgery, 9 years of experience from a tertiary eye care center. *J Cataract Refract Surg*. 2021 Jan 21. View more [Epub] [View more](#)
4. Shekhar M, Pai A, Kumar A, Sankaranathan R, Senthil Prasad R, Bhanumathi HS, Wijesinghe HK, Mishra C. Outcomes of Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery and Phacoemulsification in eyes with Chorio-retinal Coloboma. *J Cataract Refract Surg*. 2021 Jan 21. [Epub] [View more](#)
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6. Ayub R, Tom LM, Rengaraj V, Srinivasan K. Lens Induced Glaucoma: Outcomes and Reasons for Late Presentation- Prospective Study. *Ophthalmol Glaucoma*. 2021 Feb 3. [Epub] [View more](#)
7. Kannan NB, Jena S, Sen S, Kohli P, Ramasamy K. A comparison of using digitally assisted vitreoretinal surgery during repair of rhegmatogenous retinal detachments to the conventional analog microscope: A prospective interventional study. *Int Ophthalmol*. 2021 Feb 8. [Epub] [View more](#)
8. Sen S. Drusen-like deposits in systemic disorders: A point of convergence for nephrologists and ophthalmologists. *J Postgrad Med*. 2021 Jan-Mar;67(1):6. [View more](#)
9. Burton MJ, Ramke J, Marques AP, Bourne RRA, Congdon N, Jones I, Ah Tong BAM, Arunga S, Bachani D, Bascaran C, Bastawrous A, Blanchet K, Braithwaite T, Buchan JC, Cairns J, Cama A, Chagunda M, Chuluunkhuu C, Cooper A, Crofts-Lawrence J, Dean WH, Denniston AK, Ehrlich JR, Emerson PM, Evans JR, Frick KD, Friedman DS, Furtado JM, Gichangi MM, Gichuhi S, Gilbert SS, Gurung R, Habtamu E, Holland P, Jonas JB, Keane PA, Keay L, Khanna RC, Khaw PT, Kuper H, Kyari F, Lanssing VC, Mactaggart I, Mafwiri MM, Mathenge W, McCormick I, Morjaria P, Mowatt L, Muirhead D, Murthy GVS, Mwangi N, Patel DB, Peto T, Qureshi BM, Salomão SR, Sarah V, Shilio BR, Solomon AW, Swenor BK, Taylor HR, Wang N, Webson A, West SK, Wong TY, Wormald R, Yasmin S, Yusufi M, Silva JC, Resnikoff S, Ravilla T, Gilbert CE, Foster A, Faal HB. The Lancet Global Health Commission on Global Eye Health: vision beyond 2020. *Lancet Global Health*. 2021 Feb 16. [Epub] [View more](#)
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## Training

### Enrolments for January 2021

January – 2021		
Course title	Training Centre	No. of enrolments
<b>LONG TERM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES – FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS</b>		
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Chennai	1
	Coimbatore	1
	Tirunelveli	1
Fellowship in Cornea	Coimbatore	1
	Chennai	1
	Chennai	1
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Retina Vitreous	Pondicherry	1
	Tirupati	2
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	1
<b>SHORT TERM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES – FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS</b>		
Neuro Ophthalmology	Madurai	1

## Statistics

### Patient Monthly Statistics

January – 2021															
Hospitals	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Dindigul	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	CbeCC	Chennai	Tirupati	Kovilpatti	Total
<b>HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS</b>															
Paying (New & Review)	42,293	23,126	7,021	24,909	19,324	4,086	6,045	10,615	4,218	3,314	3,265	19,908	9,493	2,347	179,964
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	12,667	5,223	1,924	8,904	7,076	1,485	—	2,603	575	1,139	—	5,385	4,220	390	51,591
<b>OUTREACH OUT PATIENT</b>															
Comprehensive Eye Camps	5,845	1,319	588	68	1,237	—	—	—	198	—	—	76	—	—	9,331
Diabetic Retinopathy Camps	—	—	—	239	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	239
Mobile Refraction Unit	—	—	—	353	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	353
Refraction camps	1,568	55	228	232	249	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,352
RoP Screening	114	81	128	462	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	88	1	—	874
Vision Centres	18,358	10,648	4,772	4,044	7,391	1,087	—	—	—	1,223	—	—	—	—	47,523
Community / City Centres	7,395	2,179	1,880	—	2,259	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13,713
<b>Total OP Examinations</b>	<b>86,240</b>	<b>42,631</b>	<b>16,541</b>	<b>39,211</b>	<b>37,536</b>	<b>6,658</b>	<b>6,045</b>	<b>13,238</b>	<b>4,991</b>	<b>5,676</b>	<b>3,265</b>	<b>25,457</b>	<b>13,714</b>	<b>2,737</b>	<b>305,940</b>
<b>SURGERIES</b>															
Cataract	3,734	2,132	682	2,612	1,265	266	349	1,051	268	488	157	1,784	797	138	15,723

*Other Surgeries	3,659	1,606	337	2,836	1,943	99	122	417	90	85	88	1,173	497	61	13,013
Total Surgeries	7,393	3,738	1,019	5,448	3,208	365	471	1,468	358	573	245	2,957	1,294	199	28,736

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

Note: Owing to COVID-19 restrictions, Aravind has suspended all its outreach eye camps

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February 2021

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