



Hackathon 2021  
Aravind-Pondicherry

## Editorial

Researches show that permanent eye care facilities in rural areas motivate people to seek earlier treatment for vision problems, allowing them to reintegrate into the workforce instead of becoming visually impaired. This pattern of proactively seeking eye care before it is too late makes the role of vision centres even more crucial in an eye care institution's mix of outreach initiatives. Aravind continued to expand its vision centre network by opening two new centres thus benefiting many more rural people.

Aravind eye Hospital, Salem has been identified as one of the partners for a project that aims to screen truck drivers for visual problems. The project is a collaborative venture by Shroff Charity Eye Hospital, Delhi (SCEH) and Eicher Motors India.

Aravind seniors were honoured by various societies for their invaluable contributions in the field of eye care.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

## Accolades

### Dr.P.Namperumalsamy honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award

December 29

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System will be honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Association of National Board Accredited Institutions at the ceremony scheduled for December 29, 2020. The award recognises his inspirational work in promoting the NBE courses at Aravind as well as his phenomenal work in the field of ophthalmology.

### IAPB Vision Excellence Award for Mr. Thulasiraj Ravilla

IAPB honoured Mr. Thulasiraj Ravilla with the award recognising his vision, drive, commitment and quality of work that contributed to realising the goals of VISION 2020.

### Dr. R.N. Gandhewar Award for Dr. Kalpana Narendran

Dr. Kalpana Narendran has been bestowed with the award instituted by Vidharbha Ophthalmic Society at its annual conference held virtually.

## Aravind Events

### New Vision Centres

Aravind's 82nd Vision Centre was inaugurated at Mecheri by Ln.Mr.K.Ramasamy, Past President, Lions Club of Mecheri on December 25. The centre is managed by Aravind-Salem. Dr. B. Manohar Babu, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Salem; Mr.Raghupathy, Ex-Counsellor and president of Mecheri Silk Sarees Manufacturing association, Mecheri; Mr.Baskar, Retd., Electrical Engineer Powergrid Corp., Mr.Ranjith, Professor NSS & Social Welfare, Kavary Engineering College, Mecheri and Mr.Murugesan, Proprietor, M.M Textiles & Pattumalgai, Mecheri, Salem were present at the event.



Aravind's 83rd Vision Centre was inaugurated at Vandavasi on January 20, 2021 by Ln. B. Munirathnam, Founder & President, Sri Akilandeswari Women's College, Vandavasi and Mr P. Nallasamy, Founder, Gowtham Finance, Cheyyar in the presence of Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer Aravind Eye Hospital. Members of Lions and Rotary Clubs, Chamber of Commerce, and prominent people in the community were present. The centre saw a total of 108 patients on the inaugural day.



protected by reCAPTCHA

Privacy - Terms



**Hackathon 2021**

*Aravind-Pondicherry, January 9*

“You can’t solve a problem on the same level that it was created. You have to rise above it to the next level.” – Albert Einstein

Aravind-Pondicherry hosted the first official Hackathon of AECS.

Hackathon is a sprint-like event where different people come together to work on a problem statement. They work continuously for 24-48 hours and come up with a working solution for the same. The Hackathon 2020 was very successful and the team was able to come up with innovative ideas to combat Covid-19 related problems, some of which were – iOpener, safe slit lamp shield, 90D holder, and antifog band.

For this year’s event, Aravind-Pondicherry team was joined by doctors from Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, and a team from Aurolab. 14 problem statements were given and 14 teams worked diligently on them with help from the instrument department, MLOPs and Aurolab. Out of these, a few teams came up with prototypes, by pushing beyond their limits, thinking out of the box.



**Impact Workshop- Goal 2021**

*Aravind-Chennai, January 1*

The workshop was organised with the objective of setting goals for 2021 and was attended by 33 employees from different cadres. The workshop began with Dr. S. Aravind, Chief Medical Officer setting the context. Dr. Haripriya reflected on the performance of Aravind-Chennai in 2020 in different domains – Service delivery, Quality & patient care, HR & Academics and Research & Publications. Participants were divided into five teams – OPD & cataract, Specialty, Academic & HR, Research & Publications, and Quality & Patientcare followed with a brainstorming session to set goals with action plan for 2021.



**Freshers’ Day**

*Aravind-Coimbatore, December 26*

Freshers day for the newly joined allied ophthalmic personnel was celebrated at Aravind-Coimbatore. Dr.Kalpana Narendran, Senior Medical Officer, Aravind-Coimbatore was the chief guest. Trainees performed cultural programmes like dance, singing. They shared their experience at Aravind and how Aravind has contributed to a transformation in their attitude and behavior. Dr.Kalpana Narendran in her address emphasized the excellent way in which the programme was organised. She highlighted the importance of commitment and dedicated service as a unique work culture at Aravind.



### SCEH-Eicher Truck Drivers' Eye Screening Project

Shroff Charity Eye Hospital, Delhi (SCEH) and Eicher Motors India has joined hands to initiate a project to screen truck drivers for eye problems. Aravind Eye Hospital, Salem is identified to be one of the partners for this project in the south zone. The project will commence from January 2021 and with the help of the mobile 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.



### Presentations by Aravind Staff selected for VISION 2020 Website

Posters and papers by Aravind staff from various centres were selected for publishing on the website of Vision 2020. VISION 2020 INDIA's 16th annual conference had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. The Board decided to give an opportunity to authors who submitted their presentations to publish their posters on the conference website.

- A.Arumugaselvi (Poster): *Reducing patient waiting time in a high volume tertiary eye care setup*
- Gomathi (Poster) : *Changing trends of fundus fluorescein angiography (FFA) performed in the era of optical coherence tomography angiography (OCTA) in the management of neovascular AMD*
- Meena, Devarani (Paper) – *Impact of fitting of a custom fit ocular prosthesis on the quality of life of patients*
- Ranitha Gunaselvi (Poster) – *Evaluation accuracy of Glaucoma screening by trained vision technicians at vision centres in rural southern India*
- Esakiammal (Poster) – *Retinopathy of prematurity telescreening and management at urban and rural Neonatal Intensive care units: outcomes and impact assessment*
- A.Stella Baby (Paper) – *Screening first degree relatives with primary glaucoma in a tertiary eye care hospital*
- Ayirathammal (Paper) – *Common optometric & dispensing errors in tertiary eye care hospital*
- Rajakumari, Prema Subramaniam (Paper) – *Impact of grief counselling by non-physicians for acceptance of treatment in newly diagnosed cases of Retinoblastoma.*
- Ramyadevi, Prema Subramaniam (Paper): *Gender Disparity and Socio Economic status of babies undergoing Retinopathy of Prematurity Telescreening in Rural South India*

### Webinars

Aravind-Coimbatore organised two webinars:

- Webinar on *Hospital Infection Control and OT Protocols* was held on December 17. Over 300 people attended.
- Webinar on *Refraction for Post Graduates* was conducted on December 10.

### Publications

#### December 2020

1. Krishnadas R. **Commentary: Evolving role of portable visual field testing in communities.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Jan;69(1):92-93. [View More](#)
2. SelvaPandiyana A, Siva Ganesa Karthikeyan R, Rameshkumar G, Sen S, Lalitha P. **Identification of Bacterial and Fungal Pathogens by rDNA Gene Barcoding in Vitreous Fluids of Endophthalmitis Patients.** Semin Ophthalmol. 2021 Jan 3. [Epub] [View More](#)
3. Rajan RP, Kannan NB, Sen S, Lavanya C, Jena S, Karthik Kumar, Vijayalakshmi P, Kim R. **Clinico-demographic profile and outcomes of 25-gauge vitrectomy in advanced stage 5 retinopathy of prematurity.** Graefes Arch ClinExp Ophthalmol. 2021 Jan 6. [Epub] [View More](#)
4. Gupta S, Haripriya A, Ravindran RD, Thulasiraj RD. **Differences Between Male and Female Residents in Case Volumes and Learning in cataract surgery.** J Surg Edu. 2021 Jan 8. [Epub] [View More](#)
5. Ranjan R, Verghese S, Shah PK. **Laminaria-like Vitreoschisis in Persistent Fetal Vasculature.** Ophthalmol Retina. 2021 Jan;5(1):70. [View More](#)
6. Shroff S, Gu SZ, Vardhan S A, Mani I, Aziz K, P N, Datta D, Friedman DS. **Screening first-degree relatives of glaucoma patients reveals barriers to participation.** Br J Ophthalmol. 2021 Jan 8. [Epub] [View More](#)
7. Haribalaganesh R Gowri Priya C, Sharmila R, Krishnadas S, Muthukkaruppan V, Willoughby CE, Senthilkumari S. **Assessment of differential intraocular pressure response to dexamethasone treatment in perfusion cultured Indian cadaveric eyes.** Sci Rep. 2021;11:605. [View More](#)
8. Rajendrababu S, Wijesinghe HK, Uduman MS, Kannan NB, Mishra C, Prajna L. **A comparative study on endothelial cell loss in nanophthalmic eyes undergoing cataract surgery by phacoemulsification.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Feb;69(2):279-285. [View More](#)
9. Anitha V, Vanathi M, Raghavan A, Rajaraman R, Ravindran M, Tandon R. **Pediatric keratoconus – Current perspectives and clinical challenges.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Feb;69(2):214-225. [View More](#)
10. Sheth JU, Stewart MW, Khatri M, Gupta SR, Chawla S, Rajendran A, Narayanan R. **Changing trends in the use of anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (anti-VEGF) biosimilars: Insights from the Vitreoretinal Society of India Biosimilars of Anti-VEGF Survey.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Feb;69(2):352-356. [View More](#)
11. Sen S, Kannan SK, Shanmugam U, Rajan R, Babu N, Vanniarajan A. **Variable phenotypes of gyrate atrophy in siblings with a nonsense mutation in *OAT*** Ophthalmic Genet. 2021 Jan 19:1-4. [Epub] [View More](#)
12. Aruljyothi L, Bavishi A, Balasundaram MB, Janakiraman A, Shekar K, Atmakur H. **Expanding the scope of tele-ophthalmology from vision centers to home.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Feb;69(2):442-446. [View More](#)
13. Damodaran S, Babu N, Sen S, Arthur D, Ramasamy K. **Frugal model for scleral fixated intraocular lens simulation.** Indian J

- Ophthalmol. 2021 Feb;69(2):463-464. [View More](#)
14. Khanna V, Betdur R, Tagare S, Chhabra K, Venkatesh R. **Do it yourself antifogging noseband.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2021 Feb;69(2):447-448. [View More](#)
15. Schehlein EM, Yadalla D, Hutton D, Stein JD, Venkatesh R, Ehrlich JR. **Detection of Posterior Segment Eye Disease in Rural Eye Camps in South India: A Non-Randomized Cluster Trial.** Ophthalmol Retina. 2021 Jan 18. [Epub] [View More](#)
16. Pawar N, Ravindran M, Chakravarthy S, Ramakrishnan R. **A rare association of type 2 Duane's retraction syndrome with arthrogyrosis multiplexcongenita.** Strabismus. 2021 Jan 22:1-3. [Epub] [View More](#)
17. Zhu X, Yang M, Zhao P, Li S, Zhang L, Huang L, Huang Y, Fei P, Yang Y, Zhang S, Xu H, Yuan Y, Zhang X, Zhu X, Ma S, Hao F, Sundaresan P, Zhu W, Yang Z. **Catenin alpha 1 mutations cause familial exudative vitreoretinopathy by overactivatingNorrin/beta-catenin signaling.** J Clin Invest. 2021 Jan 26. [Epub] [View More](#)

## Training

### Enrolments for December 2020

December – 2020		
Course title	Training Centre	No. of enrolments
<b>LONG TERM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES – FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS</b>		
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Cornea	Coimbatore	1
	Pondicherry	1
	Pondicherry	1
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Madurai	2
Fellowship in Comprehensive Ophthalmology	Salem	1
Fellowship in Retina Vitreous	Madurai	1
	Chennai	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Coimbatore	1
<b>MANAGEMENT COURSES</b>		
Project Management for Eye Care (Online Training)	LAICO	17

## Statistics

### Patient Monthly Statistics

December – 2020															
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)	47,922	26,373	8,101	27,251	21,553	4,682	6,468	11,614	4,574	3,806	3,388	21,185	8,911	2,497	198,325
Free:Direct walk-in (New & Review)	9,944	6,323	2,183	9,976	7,831	1,760	—	2,499	506	1,057	—	5,857	3,620	508	52,064
<b>OUTREACH OUT PATIENT</b>															
Comprehensive Eye Camps	3,023	503	661	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,187
Refraction Camps	164	—	—	—	—	—	—	216	—	—	—	—	—	—	380
RoP Screening	225	101	144	113	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	132	—	—	715
Vision Centres	19,195	12,389	5,206	4,381	7,726	1,062	—	826	—	—	—	—	—	—	50,785
Community / City Centres	7,980	2,459	1,855	—	2,498	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14,792
<b>Total OP Examinations</b>	<b>88,453</b>	<b>48,148</b>	<b>18,150</b>	<b>41,721</b>	<b>39,608</b>	<b>7,504</b>	<b>6,468</b>	<b>15,155</b>	<b>5,080</b>	<b>4,863</b>	<b>3,388</b>	<b>27,174</b>	<b>12,531</b>	<b>3,005</b>	<b>321,248</b>
<b>SURGERIES</b>															
Cataract	6,281	3,083	953	3,343	2,535	544	489	1,318	299	286	185	2,117	842	207	22,482
*Other Surgeries	4,655	2,164	402	3,207	2,237	84	137	408	81	96	116	1,004	299	51	14,941
<b>Total Surgeries</b>	<b>10,936</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>1,355</b>	<b>6,550</b>	<b>4,772</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>1,726</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>3,121</b>	<b>1,141</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>37,423</b>

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

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

## Archives

Learn more about the happenings at Aravind

January 2021

More Archives

## Subscribe to our newsletter

By subscribing to our mailing list you will always be updated with the latest news from us!

Email\*

Submit

