Around 42 participants attended the training programme. Aurolab’s Marketing department organized Astra VII training programme for the new recruits. Due to lockdown, the programme took place on a virtual platform. Participants were briefed on anatomy of eye, and eye diseases, product training and effective use of VCMS.

The training programme was conducted in May, and the participants were from the hospitals in Tamil Nadu, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and other countries.

Aravind Centre also conducted an online pranayama class for the staff to improve their breathing and regularize their physical and mental health.

Aurolab conducted COVID-19 vaccination camps in association with Confederation of Indian Industry for the age group of 18–44 years free of cost. Earlier, in April, it had organized vaccination for employees above the age of 45.

For the safety and well-being of employees, Aurolab conducted Antigen test to identify COVID positive cases. The test results were immediately communicated to the employees, and necessary precautions were taken to ensure their safety.

Aravind centres observed retinoblastoma awareness week with special care and attention. Due to COVID situations, many centres could not organize it this time. At Aravind-Madurai, families of select few children affected by the disease were identified and provided with necessary support and care.

To improve the knowledge of vision technicians and engage them during the pandemic, an online CME series was conducted under the LEAP Vision Centre Collaborative. The sessions were facilitated by Dr. Kausalya, Dr. Vinitha Rashme, Dr. Lakshana, Dr. Krishnan, Mr. Mohammed Gowth, and Aravind’s vision centre staff.

The CME focuses on improving general protocols and precautions during pandemic times, understanding cataract, cataract surgery counselling process at vision centres, understanding corneal conditions, improving data management skills, and awareness creation on myopia.

All the participants found the CME useful and essential. They learned how to implement effective patient safety goals in their role to attain excellence in eye care delivery.

Senior medical consultants briefed the participants on the 10 patient safety goals in the sessions. By quoting a few incidents happened in the recent past, they made the sessions very informative and also shared tips to avoid such instances in future. The participants found the sessions informative and helpful.

Every year in the month of May, Aravind centres observe retinoblastoma awareness week. Due to COVID situation, many centres could not organize it this time. At Aravind-Madurai, families of select few children affected by the disease were identified and provided with necessary support and care.

Aravind Coimbatore observed International Nurses Day in a grand manner. The nurses were recognized for their selfless service and dedication.

To acknowledge the hard work of the staff, Aravind Coimbatore developed and circulated greetings by senior doctors and admins in theWhatsApp group. Greeting cards were prepared by the admin staff and were given to the MLOPs of each department. Doctors joined hands to acknowledge their selfless service.

With the COVID-19 cases rising up, the state of Tamil Nadu went into another lockdown. Travel restrictions were put in place by the authorities which resulted in a low patient footfall across the Aravind centres. To utilize the downtime caused by lockdown, several centres organized internal CMEs and training sessions for their staff.

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In addition to the above, Aravind centres conducted various activities to keep the staff engaged during the lockdown. These activities included an online pranayama class, an online CME series, and other fun-filled events. Staff enthusiastically participated in these activities and enjoyed the time spent with their colleagues.

A Kolam Competition was also conducted to identify hidden talents of the staff. Prize winners were also announced.

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