



Editorial

May 2023 happened to be an exciting month for Aravind as patient footfall reached its peak across the hospitals. Additionally, it became a month of awards and accolades. Aravind's doctors, research scholars, and postgraduates have actively engaged in numerous conferences and programmes, showcasing their expertise by charting sessions, leading discussions, presenting papers, posters, and videos. Their contributions have been greatly recognised through numerous prizes and awards. The news during this month is brimming with these remarkable achievements.

International Nurses Day is a worldwide celebration that recalls the life and service of Florence Nightingale, who is widely known as the "Lady with the Lamp." She became an inspirational figure through her heroic efforts in saving soldiers' lives during the time of war. As a British nurse and social reformer, Nightingale laid the groundwork for modern nursing. Aravind enthusiastically observed this day, acknowledging the dauntless service of its MLOP, who are the Nightingales of Aravind. The MLOP makes up more than 80% of the institution's total employees, and they are the backbone of the organisation. They consistently demonstrate dedicated service towards patients' needs. Aravind takes great pride in commemorating this day in a way of expressing gratitude to these true heroes.


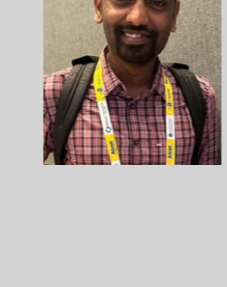




Despite the significant influx of patients in all the hospitals of Aravind during this month, the doctors, MLOP, and other staff members have been tirelessly working at full capacity to effectively manage the patient flow. As a result, additional activities and events such as CME programmes or workshops are relatively limited compared to previous months. Nonetheless, the primary focus of the hospitals remains on fulfilling the utmost responsibility of providing exceptional patient care.

Accolades


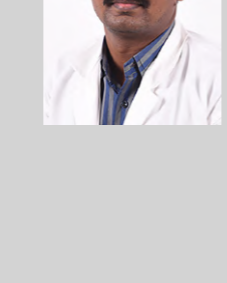



Awards at Annual Conference of All India Ophthalmological Society

Kochi, May 11-14


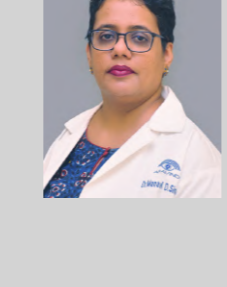


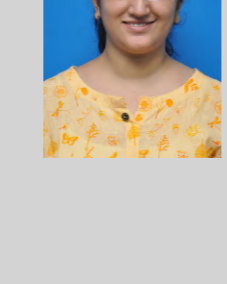


Aravind-Madurai

 Dr. Manju R. Pillai Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winner: Best Film in Quality Teaching Video title: <i>Clinical evaluation protocols for childhood glaucoma</i> • Runner up: Best Film in Special Interest category Video title: <i>This too shall pass</i> 	 Dr. Madhu Shekhar Chief, Cataract and IOL Services Winner: Film Festival Award of AIOC (FIFA) Video title: <i>Identifying subtle signs of zonular compromise: The art of deduction</i>	 Dr. Talla Sruthi Glaucoma Fellow Winner: Best Physical Poster Poster title: <i>BL secondary angle closure glaucoma as an initial manifestation of systemic lupus erythematosus</i>
 Dr. Athul S. Puthalath Retina Fellow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runner up: Film Festival Award of AIOC (FIFA) Video title: <i>Blue light patch for smartphone assisted Cobalt blue photography</i> • Consolation Prize: ARC Surgical Innovators Career Intraocular diathermy instrument: A challenge overcome in vitreoretinal surgery 	 Dr. Senthil Prasad Cataract Fellow 7th Place – MicroVision Quiz	 Dr. Toshit Varshney Retina Fellow Certificate of Excellence in Research Young Researcher's Award Session in PG thesis competition

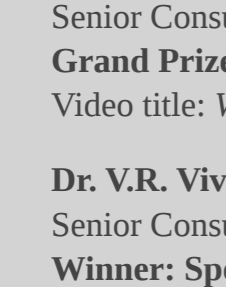
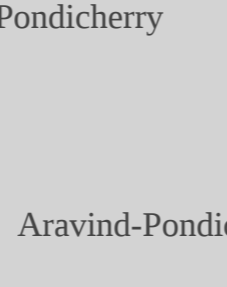
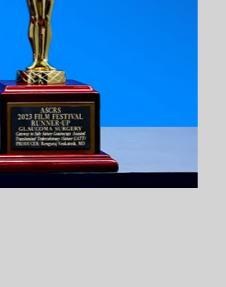
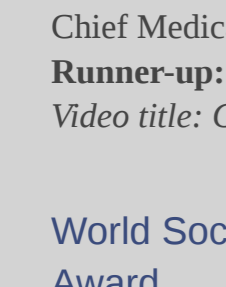
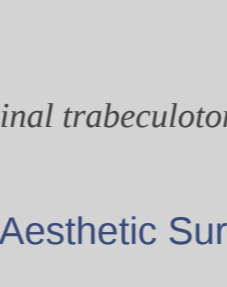
Aravind-Tirunelveli

 Dr. Shivkumar Chandrasekharan Chief, Cataract and IOL Services IJO Gold Award <i>Outcomes and favourable prognostic factors in patients of phacolytic and phacolytic glaucoma managed by manual small incision cataract surgery- A retrospective study</i>	 Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kader Chief, Glaucoma Services IJO Certificate of Merit <i>Lowering of intraocular pressure after phacoemulsification in primary open angle and angle closure glaucoma: Correlation with lens thickness.</i>	 Dr. V. Anitha Chief, Cornea Services IJO Certificate of Merit <i>Pythium insidiosum keratitis (Co-author)</i>
 Dr. Neelam Pawar Senior Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology Services Best Poster Podium Presentation <i>Non-compliance for wearing spectacles in school-going children in South India</i>	 Dr. Praveena Shyam Fellow, Paediatric Ophthalmology Services Second Prize in Entod Quiz	

Aravind-Coimbatore

 Dr. Siddharth Narendran Medical Consultant, General Ophthalmology Col. Rangachari Award for Best of Best Paper Paper title: <i>Nucleic acid extraction – Free CRISPR/CAS 12 a based diagnostic platform for fungal keratitis</i>	 Dr. Karthik Kumar Medical Consultant, Neuro ophthalmology Best Physical Poster Award in Neuro ophthalmology Poster title: <i>Lamina cribrosa thickness in non arteritic – anterior ischemic optic neuropathy</i>	 Dr. Avani B. Chandran DNB Resident Appreciation Award – Photography
 Dr. Hrika Gosalia DNB Resident <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Free Paper: Community Ophthalmology Paper title: <i>Smartscope kit: A portable eye hospital for screening in outreach camp</i> • Consolation Prize: Think under the Apple Tree Innovation Award Log: <i>A perfect surgical digi logbook for residents</i> • International Hero Award 	 Dr. Chinmay Vikas Mahatme DNB Resident Runner up: Free paper, Neuro ophthalmology Paper title: <i>Macular microvascular and structural changes in neuroinflammatory optical spectrum disorders and myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody disease</i>	 Dr. Sunanda Subramanian Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services <i>Fellowship of the All India Collegium of Ophthalmology in Glaucoma</i>
 Dr. Prithvi Chandrakanth Medical Consultant, Retina and Vitreous Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Free Paper: Trauma category Paper title: <i>Documentation of ocular trauma using Smartscope kit</i> • Best physical poster: Optics category Poster title: <i>Gimbalscope: Every beginners retinoscopy teacher</i> • Third place: Think under the Apple Tree Innovation Award Video title: <i>SLITSCOPE</i> • Fourth place: Think under the Apple Tree Innovation Award Video title: <i>GIMBALSCOPE</i> • International Hero Award 		

Aravind-Pondicherry

 Dr. Swati Upadhyaya Senior Consultant, Glaucoma Services Winner Best Poster Podium Presentation Poster title: <i>Bent needle AB interno goniotomy- Preliminary results</i>	 Dr. Manavi D. Sindal Chief, Retina and Vitreous Services Winner Best Poster Podium Presentation Poster title: <i>Unusual associations with aggressive retinopathy of prematurity</i>	 Dr. C.R. Viswaraj Senior Consultant and Dr. S. Kavitha, Chief, Glaucoma Services Best of IJO Award Paper title: <i>Neuroprotection in glaucoma</i>
 Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan Chief, Cataract and General Ophthalmology Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winner: ARC Video session Video title: <i>Flanges – "MJOLNIR" of ophthalmology</i> • Two Consolation Prizes: ARC Think Under the Apple Tree Flanges-the brahmastra for anterior segment surgeons ARC-Surgical Innovators Corner Managing ID repair, CTS and SFJOL the simple flanged way 	 Dr. Joshi Saloni Mahesh DNB Resident Winner: AIOC-YOSI Competitive case presentations <i>Paradox in the eyes – A case of bilateral secondary acute angle closure</i>	

Aravind-Chennai

 Dr. Anand Rajendran Chief, Retina and Vitreous Services IJO Honour Award	 Dr. Prasanna Venkataraman Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services IJO Certificate of Merit Paper title: <i>A Systematic approach to the management of microspherophakia</i>	 Dr. Puja Maitra Medical Consultant, Retina and Vitreous Services International Ophthalmic Hero Award
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Film Festival Award Winners – American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Conference 2023
 San Diego, California, USA, May 05 – 08

Dr. K. Veena
 Senior Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Pondicherry
Grand Prize: Outstanding Film
 Video title: *Wasteless: A Model for green cataract surgery*

Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan
 Senior Consultant, Cataract & General Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Pondicherry
Winner: Special Interest
 Video title: *Flanges – Mjolnir for Ophthalmologists*


Dr. R. Venkatesh
 Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Pondicherry
Runner-up: Glaucoma Surgery
 Video title: *Gateway to safe suture gonioscopy assisted transilluminal trabeculectomy*

World Society of Ophthalmic Plastic, Reconstructive Aesthetic Surgery - Oscar Award

Dubai, UAE, May 5 – 7

Dr. Viji Rangarajan, Chief, Orbit and Oculoplasty Services, Aravind-Coimbatore received Oscar Award in Best Video category at the inaugural meeting of the World Society of Ophthalmic Plastic, Reconstructive Aesthetic Surgery.

Video title: *Eyes are the windows of the soul bridging extensive upper eyelid congenital colobomas*



Awards at the National Video Competition – Maharashtra Ophthalmological Society

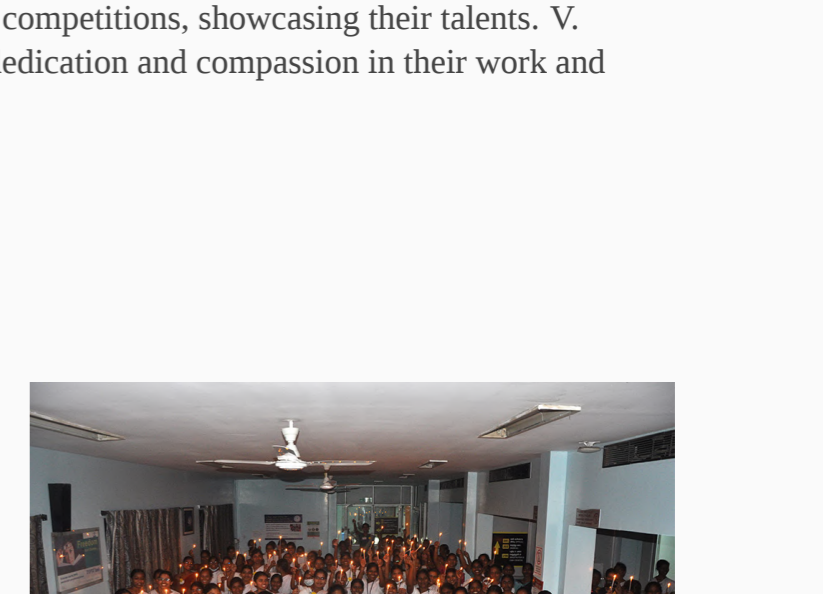
April 15

 Dr. Nishant Maindargi DNB Resident, Aravind-Pondicherry secured first prize in the non-surgical category. Video title: <i>Eye-banking</i>	 Dr. Shivraj Tagare Retina Fellow, Aravind-Pondicherry received first prize in the innovation category. Video title: <i>Innovations in operation theatre</i>
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Akshaya Seva Ratna Award

Madurai, April 14

Dr. Usha Kim, Chief, Orbit and Oculoplasty Services, Aravind-Madurai received the Akshaya Seva Ratna Award from Akshaya Pathra Trust at a programme held in Madurai. The award was given in recognition of her service to the society.



Aravind Events

Experiential Learning Visit

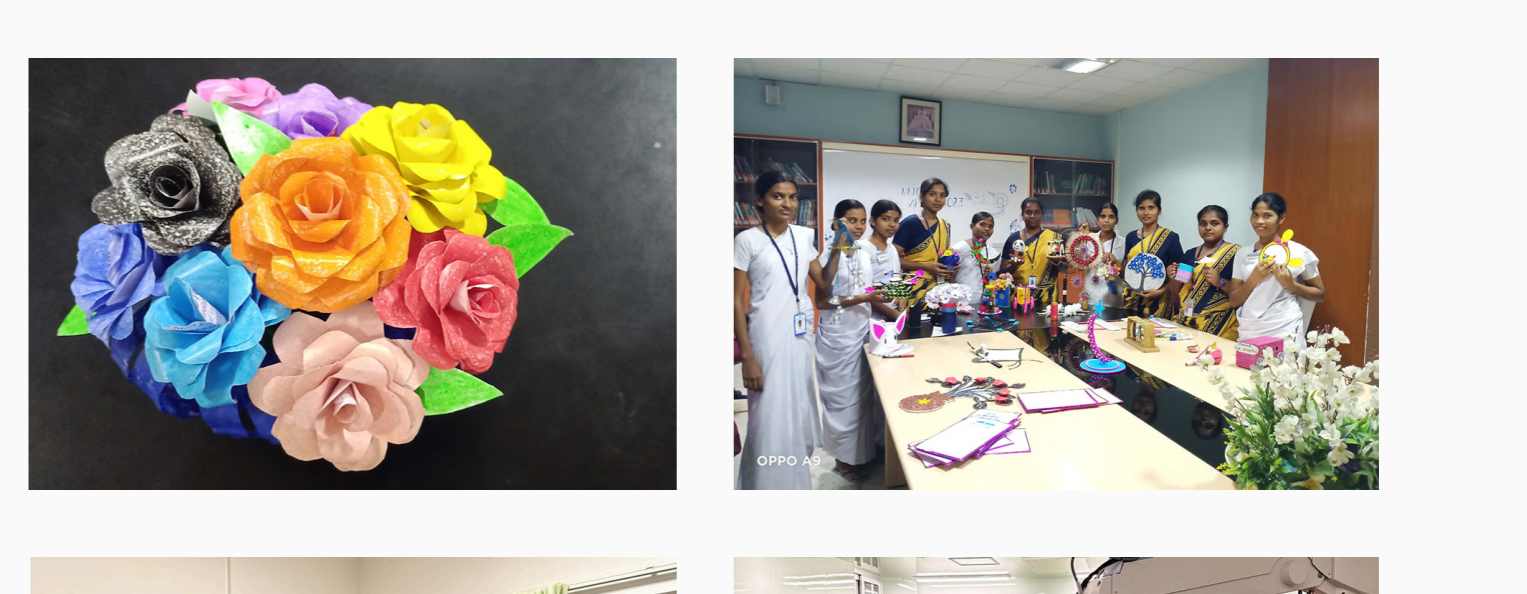
Aravind-Chennai, May 14

A team of 85 paramedical students from the Agaram Foundation visited Aravind-Chennai. During the visit, a workshop that aimed to transform them into social contributors was arranged. The workshop started with a presentation on Aravind Groups by Revathy, Manager, Organisation, Aravind-Chennai. Subbulakshmi, Senior MLOP shared valuable experiences of her association with the organisation. The students divided into 10 teams were taken on a hospital tour. The workshop concluded with a feedback session, where the participants and senior leaders from Agaram expressed their thoughts and impressions.

Tally Certification for MLOP

Aravind-Salem, May 13

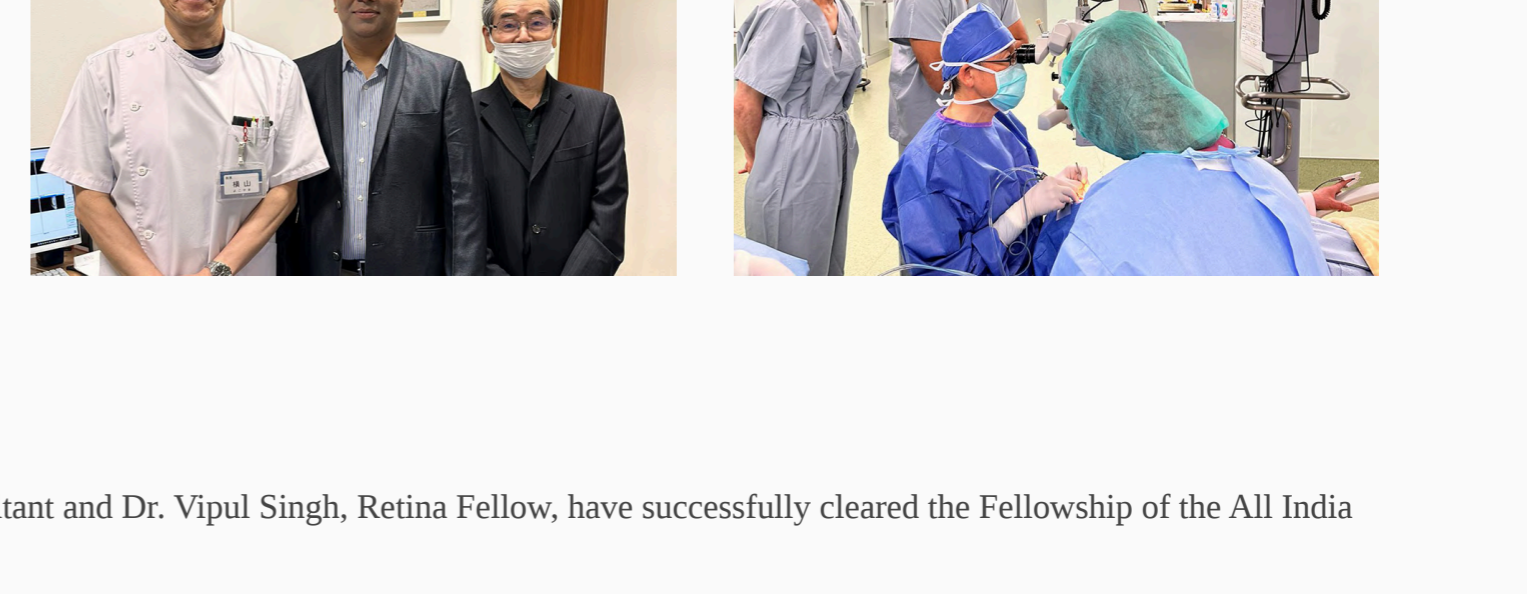
Aravind-Salem has made an attempt to create a career path for the non-clinical MLOP (MRD, Optical & Stores departments). As they are very efficient in handling cash and accounting procedures, the hospital facilitates a one month course on Basics of Tally Prime 2.0, with support from AXN Academy. Each candidate is charged a nominal fee of Rs. 2,000. A tutor posted by the academy takes sessions for this group every evening in the hospital premises. A total of 15 candidates have been enrolled and trained so far. They cleared the Tally examination and became certified Tally operators with an Authentication Tally number. Dr. Manohar Babu, Chief Medical Officer and Dr. K. Anuja, Chief, Cornea Services distributed the certificates to them.



Employee of the Month

Aravind-Salem, May 13

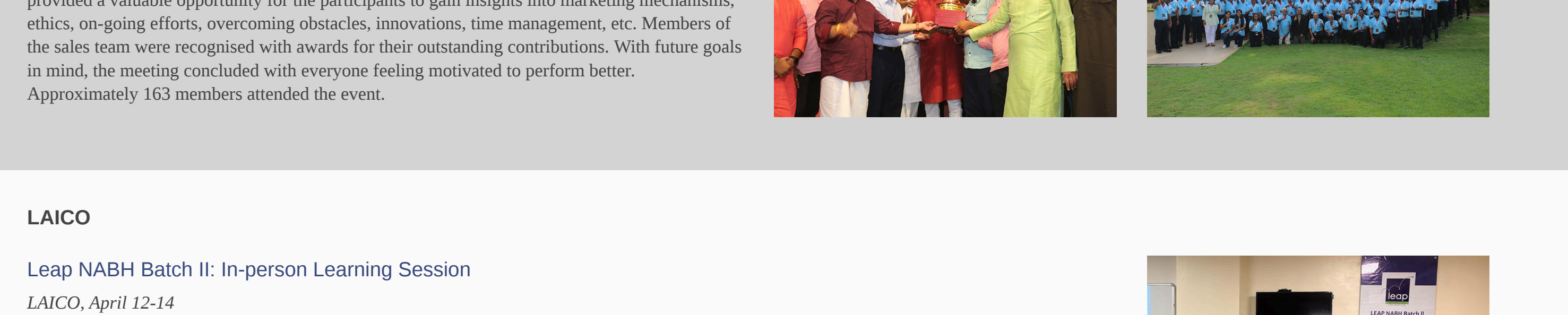
Boopathi, Optometrist / Coordinator of Eicher Truck Drivers Care Program was named Employee of the Month for his exceptional performance from January to April 2023. Boopathi has conducted 57 camps through which 4916 people were screened. Out of this, 2,665 (54%) were contacted with cataract and bus drivers. He has been appreciated by Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital for going this extra mile in coordinating the entire programme alongside playing his actual role as an optometrist. The entire team of MLOP – Vignesh, Gopi, Ravikumar and drivers – Arumugam, and Palanisamy – were also appreciated for their teamwork.



Workshop on Dispensing of Spectacles

Aravind-Coimbatore, April 14-15

The workshop was conducted by the Refraction Department of Aravind-Coimbatore. The team organised seven stations on the topics, Single Vision and their Coatings, Kryptok Bifocal, D-Shaped Bifocal, Executive Bifocal, Progressive Lens, Spectacle Correction for Patients, and Paediatric Spectacle Correction. Each station had a senior refractometrist accompanied by trainees who provided explanations on the respective topics. Medical Consultants, Dr. Balsaraswathy, Dr. Srinila, and Dr. Bagavath Shalini judged and appreciated the competitive spirit and the teamwork of the participants. The workshop provided valuable information to enhance the clinical knowledge of trainees and keep them updated on spectacles and the available coatings.



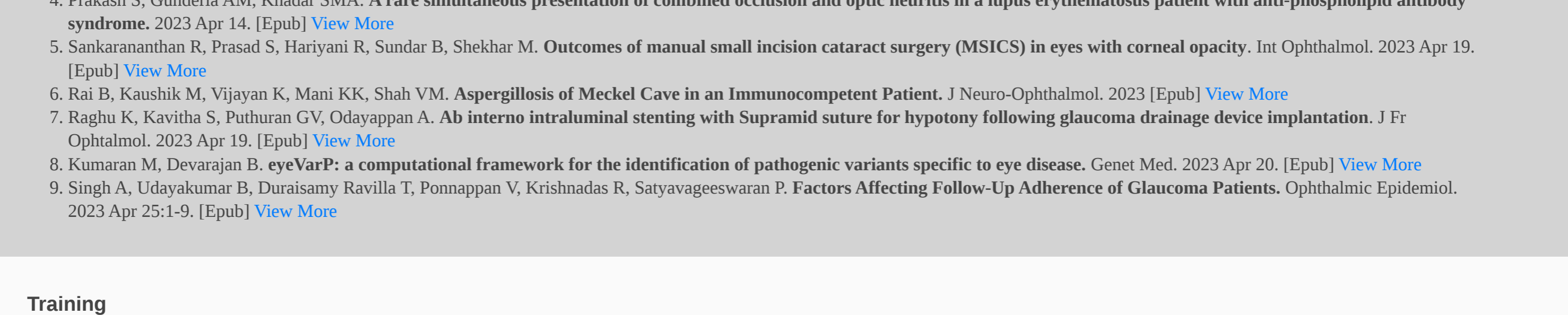
Celebrating International Nurses' Day

Aravind-Tirunelveli, May 12

At Aravind-Tirunelveli, exciting competitions such as pencil sketching and poetry writing were arranged. Nurses enthusiastically participated in these competitions, showcasing their talents. V. Arumugam, Nursing Superintendent shared the inspiring story of Florence Nightingale to all the MLOP Trainees. She emphasised the importance of dedication and compassion in their work and highlighted the organisation's vision of eliminating preventable blindness.

Aravind-Salem


Aravind-Salem had a week-long celebration starting from May 6-12; celebrations included various cultural events and fun quizzes.



Best Nurse Award

May 12

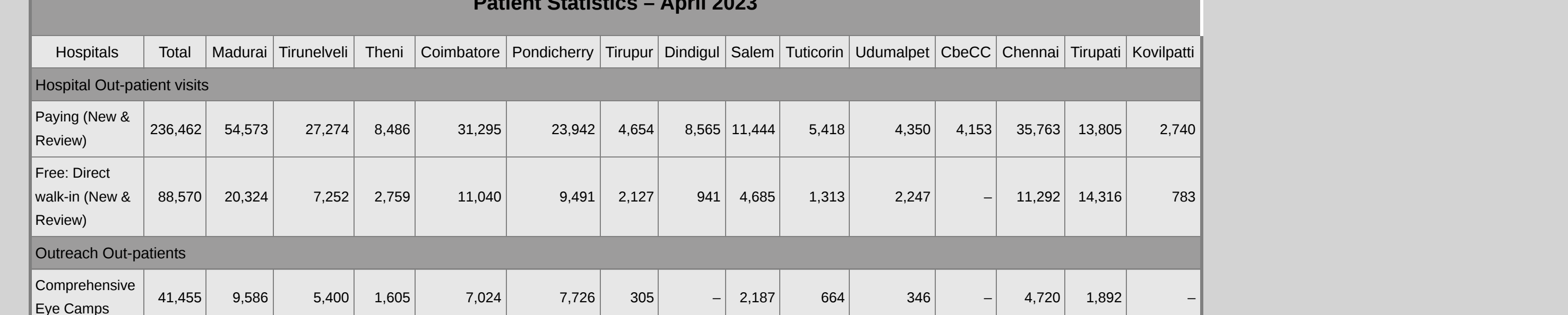
C. Saravana Selvi, Performer, Refraction Department, Community Eye Clinic, Sankarankoil was felicitated by Red Cross Society with the Best Nurse Award on International Nurses Day.



Welfare Activity for Mid-Level Ophthalmic Personnel

Aravind-Salem, April 7, 20

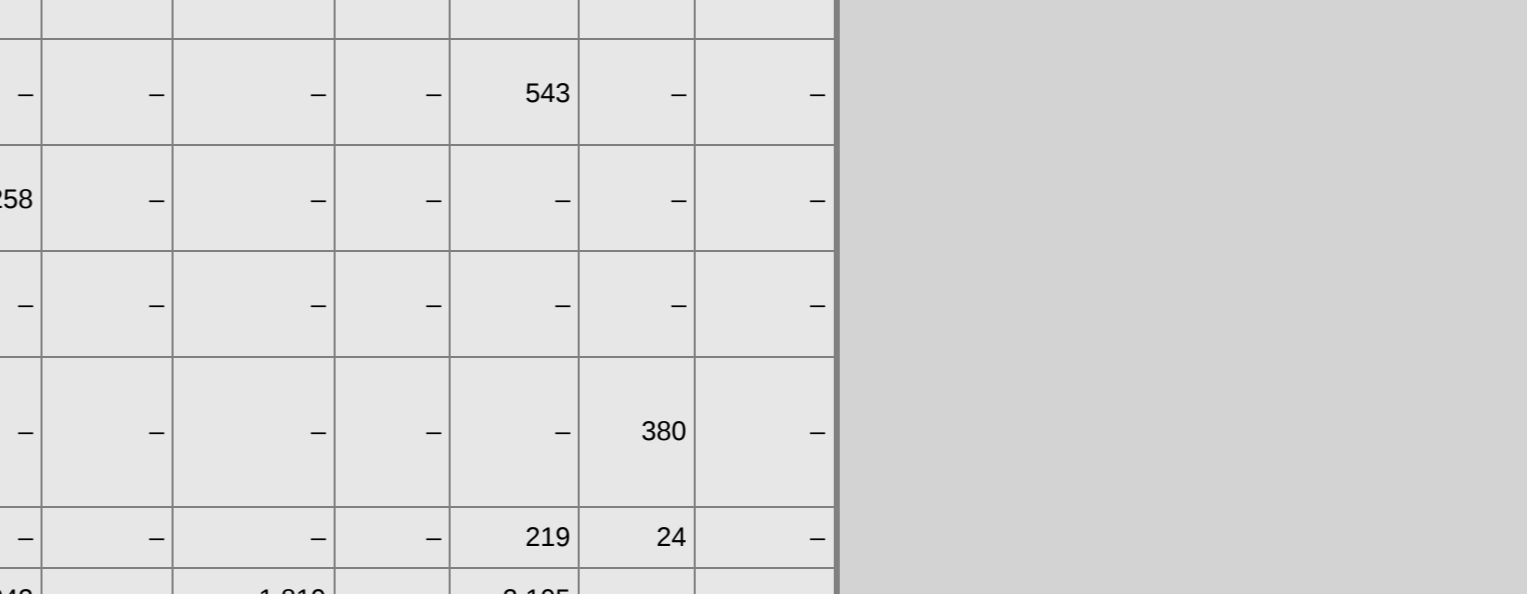
As a part of the monthly welfare activity, the Oscar Award winning movie, *Elephant Whisperers*, was screened. Further, a handicraft competition was conducted for all MLOP on April 20 and the winners were awarded the International Nurses Day.



Internal Capacity Building

Japan, April 15-22

Dr. Devendra Maheshwari, Senior Glaucoma Consultant, Aravind-Tirunelveli visited Shimane University in Japan to expand his expertise in Micro invasive glaucoma surgery (MIGS). He received training from Dr. Masaki Tambo, Professor & Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology – Shimane University Faculty of Medicine. Additionally, Dr. Devendra visited Yokoyama Clinic in Hiroshima, where he collaborated with Dr. Mitsunobu Yokoyama to develop new MIGS instruments.



Winners of FAICO Exam

Madurai

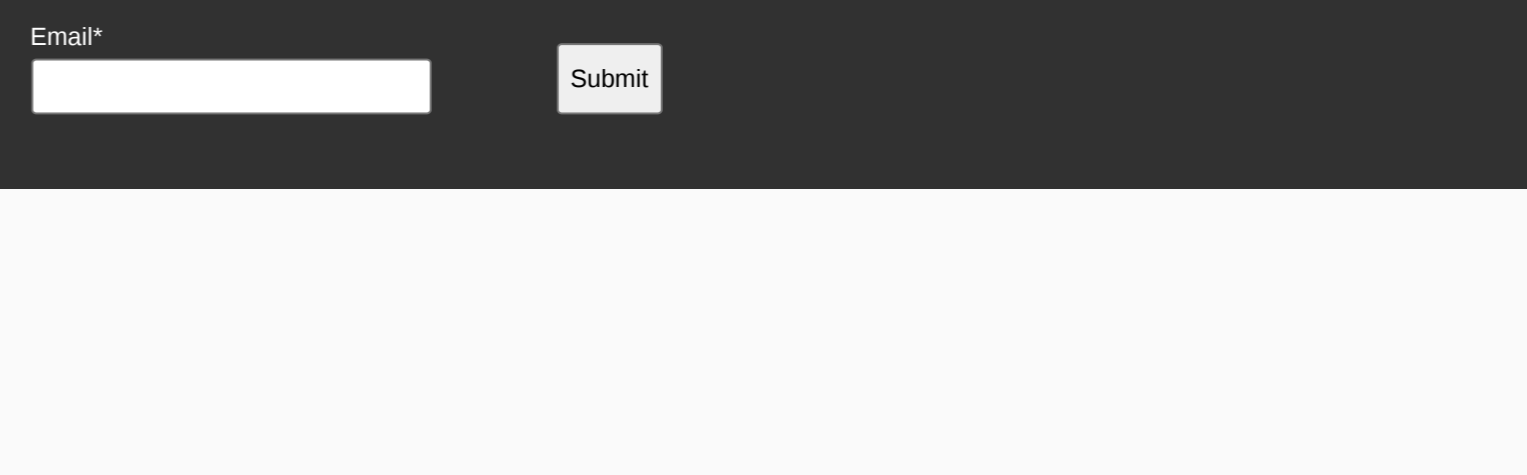
The doctors at Aravind-Madurai, Dr. Arpit Sharma, Retina Fellow, Dr. U. Prithiviraj, Retina Consultant and Dr. Vipul Singh, Retina Fellow, have successfully cleared the Fellowship of the All India Collegium of Ophthalmology exam conducted by the All India Ophthalmological Society.

Aurolab

Lakshya Rotary Conference 2023

Kolkata, April 21-23

Aurolab participated in the conference held in Kolkata, where several of its products including Aurove EV Toric IOL, and Hammagird line were showcased. The domestic marketing staff of Aurolab actively promoted these products to the attendees of the conference.



National Sales Meet 2023

Goa, April 11-15

Aurolab's national sales team organised their annual national sales meeting at Goa. The meeting provided a valuable opportunity for the participants to gain insights into marketing mechanisms, ethics, on-going efforts, overcoming obstacles, innovations, time management, etc. Members of the sales team were recognised with awards for their outstanding contributions. With future goals in mind, the meeting concluded with everyone feeling motivated to perform better. Approximately 163 members attended the event.



LAICO

Leap NABH Batch II: In-person Learning Session

LAICO, April 12-14

LAICO conducted the first in-person learning session for batch two, as part of the Leap NABH programme. The session was to orient the participant teams in all the ten chapters of NABH. Dr. Lalitha Prajna, Subject matter expert – NABH, Aravind-Madurai delivered the welcome address. Dr. R. Ravindran, Chairman, Aravind Eye Care System set the context for the learning session. The session was followed by five hospitals participated.

- Netaji Eye Hospital, Purnia, West Bengal
- SCVS Hospital & Research Centre, Khunti, Jharkhand
- Mahatma Gandhi Eye Hospital, Rangoonwiganj, Odisha
- Shree Jagannath Neralaya, Bhuvanipatna, Odisha

Members from Rotary Navsari Hospital, Gujarat participated virtually.

Publications

1. Ravishanker R, Rohankumar A, Christy JS. Dry eye in thalassaemia. *Indian J Ophthalmol.* 2023 Apr;71(4):1653-1655. [View More](#)
2. Ravishanker R, Mohankumar A, Shivamanda N. Erythrolin-induced dry eye. *Indian J Ophthalmol.* 2023 Apr;71(4):1657-1658. [View More](#)
3. deCampos-Stankovic MA, Coyner AS, Gupta A, Oh M, Shah PK, Subramanian P, Venkatapathy N, Singh P, Kalpathy-Cramer J, Chiang MF, Chan R, Campbell JP. Epidemiologic evaluation of retinopathy of prematurity severity in a large telemedicine program in India using artificial intelligence. *Ophthalmology.* 2023 Apr;6. [Epub] [View More](#)
4. Prakash S, Gundeja AM, Khadar SMA. A rare simultaneous presentation of combined occlusion and optic neuritis in a lupus erythematosus patient with anti-phospholipid antibody syndrome. 2023 Apr 14. [Epub] [View More](#)
5. Sankaranarayanan R, Prasad S, Hariyani R, Sundar B, Shekhar M. Outcomes of manual small incision cataract surgery (MSICS) in eyes with corneal opacity. *Int Ophthalmol.* 2023 Apr 19. [Epub] [View More](#)
6. Rai B, Kashiabi M, Vijayan K, Mani KK, Shah VM. Aspergillus of Meckel Cave in an Immunocompetent Patient. *J Neuro-Ophthalmol.* 2023 [Epub] [View More](#)
7. Raghu K, Kavitha S, Puthurav GV, Odappan A. Ab interno intraluminal stenting with Supracompent suture for hypotony following glaucoma drainage device implantation. *J Fr Ophthalmol.* 2023 Apr 19. [Epub] [View More](#)
8. Kumar M, Devarajan B. eyeVarP: a computational framework for the identification of pathogenic variants specific to eye disease. *Genet Med.* 2023 Apr 20. [Epub] [View More](#)
9. Singh A, Udayakumar B, Duraisamy Ravilla T, Ponappan V, Krishnasar R, Sanyavageswaran P. Factors Affecting Follow-Up Adherence of Glaucoma Patients. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol.* 2023 Apr 25;1-9. [Epub] [View More](#)

Training

Enrolments for Training Centre

Course title	Training Centre	No. of enrolments
Long Term Fellowship Programmes – For Ophthalmologists		
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Pondicherry	2
	Coimbatore	1
Surgical Paediatric CORP	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in Retina	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Paediatric Ophthalmology	Coimbatore	2
Short Term Training Programmes – For Ophthalmologists		
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	2
	Tirunelveli	2
	Pondicherry	1
Clinical Observership Program in Diagnosis and Management Of Glaucoma	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
Neuro Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
Short term training in vitrectomy	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	2
Phacoemulsification	Tirunelveli	2
	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	2

Statistics

Patient Statistics – April 2023															
Hospitals	Total	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Dindigul	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	CheCC	Chennai	Tirupati	Kovviganj
Hospital Out-patient visits															
Paying (New & Review)	236,462	54,573	27,274	8,486	31,295	23,042	4,654	8,565	11,444	5,418	4,350	4,153	35,763	13,805	2,740
Free: Direct walk-in (New & Review)	86,570	20,324	7,252	2,750	11,040	9,401	2,127	941	4,685	1,313	2,247	–	11,292	14,316	783
Outreach Out-patients															
Comprehensive Eye Camps	41,455	9,586	5,400	1,605	7,024	7,726	305	–	2,187	664	346	–	4,720	1,892	–
Diabetic Retinopathy Camps	2,132	1,115	–	296	645	77	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Glaucoma Camps	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Refraction Camp	2,666	595	901	522	–	105	–	–	–	–	–	–	543	–	–
Mobile Refraction Unit	2,287	–	–	–	1,029	–	–	–	1,258	–	–	–	–	–	–
School Screening	731	–	–	109	280	342	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Paediatric Eye screening camps	525	–	–	–	–	145	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	380	–
Refraction Screening	1,665	239	234	192	630	77	–	–	–	–	–	–	219	24	–
VISION Centres	72,370	24,571	13,366	5,813	5,361	13,722	1,669	–	3,842	–	1,819	–	2,105	–	–
Community / City Centres	16,426	8,774	2,785	2,278	–	2,589	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total OP Examinations	465,289	119,777	57,214	22,159	59,843	65,627	8,785	9,906	23,416	7,395	8,762	4,153	54,642		