

Surgical Paediatric Retina International Fellowship Training Programme



Introduction

From a 11 bedded clinic in 1976, the Aravind Eye Care System has grown into what is now one of the most productive eye care organizations in the world. Today its network of 16 hospitals, 118 vision centres and 8 community centres handle over 8.4 million outpatient visits and performs more than seven hundred thousand surgeries and ocular procedures each year. Aravind's high quality, high-volume, low-cost services have earned it a worldwide reputation for excellence and made it a much sought-after institute for clinical education and advanced surgical training.

Aravind Eye Hospital - Coimbatore has well equipped Paediatric Retina services manned by suitably trained faculty to offer excellent scope for training in methods of diagnosis and management in Paediatric retinal diseases. The Institute has advanced structural facilities with examination rooms, operating suites, state-of-the-art equipment, as well as diagnostic, therapeutic and ancillary support services. Additional facilities available include an ocular pathology laboratory, molecular genetics, immunology laboratory and microbiology services.

Course Objective

- The programme aims to train international ophthalmologists (Retina Specialists) in the diagnosis and management of paediatric vitreoretinal diseases; including retinoblastoma and other intraocular tumours, focusing on clinical evaluation, the use of various investigative procedures, medical management, and surgical intervention. This equips them with the fundamental knowledge and requisite skills to effectively manage paediatric vitreoretinal diseases in their communities.

Highlights of the Course

- Aravind Eye Hospital, Coimbatore is well equipped with wet labs, tele-ophthalmology network, class rooms and teaching facility, audio visual facility, library and resource centre. The Institution provides various online resources accessible to all trainees.
- Exposure to various paediatric retinal disorders and oncology especially retinoblastoma.
- Surgeries supervised by senior instructors till the surgeon gains confidence to perform independent surgeries including ROP surgeries
- Structured lectures on various topics related to the Retina (both adult and paediatric).
- ROP screening (including tele-screening) and its management: both medical and surgical.
- Postoperative review of cases along with senior consultants.
- Maintenance of Clinical and Surgical Log Records for documenting training and learning.

Programme Details

Eligibility Criteria

- Qualified Postgraduates (MS/MD/DNB) along with Post Long Term Surgical Retina Fellowship from a reputed Institute

No. of Positions	1
Duration	12 Months
Starting Date	January 1st of every year
Training Centre	Coimbatore

Course Outline

- The curriculum combines didactic learning, supervised clinical practice, surgical training, research, and participation in multidisciplinary teams to prepare fellows for independent subspecialty practice in Paediatric Retina. The fellows will get ample opportunities for seeing a vast spectrum of pathologies including oncology.

Clinical

- Indirect ophthalmoscopy
- Indirect slit lamp biomicroscopy
- Hand-held slit lamp biomicroscopy

Diagnostics

- Fundus Fluorescein Angiography
- Fundus Autofluorescence
- Ultrasonography
- Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT AF, OCT A)
- Ultrasound Biomicroscopy
- Electro-physiological tests (ERG, EOG, VEP, MFERG)
- Fundus photo (RetCam, Clarus, OPTOS)

Medical Management

Medical management of the various Paediatric vitreo-retinal and Oncology diseases includes

- Focal laser treatment
- Transpupillary thermotherapy (TTT) for the treatment of Retinoblastoma and other tumours
- Pan-retinal photocoagulation
- Barrage Laser
- Cryotherapy of various retinal pathologies and intraocular tumours

- Intravitreal injections for ROP and other Pediatric disorders
- Intravitreal Chemotherapy

Surgical Techniques

- Pars Plana Vitrectomy including complex ROP surgery
- Pars plana lensectomy
- Silicone oil removal
- Scleral buckling procedures – Comprehensive techniques for paediatric retinal detachments
- Basic vitreous surgery
- Ocular oncology: Brachytherapy plaque application and management
- Medical and surgical treatment of endophthalmitis

Academics

- Fellows will be able to participate in the journal clubs, resident lectures, and guest lectures.
- The fellow will be expected to be significantly involved in research activities and clinical trials as well as scholarly activities such as scientific presentations and manuscript publications.
- The programme also expects a fellow to participate actively in imaging research at Aravind to gain knowledge in the proper use of ophthalmic diagnostic devices, which forms the cardinal axis of clinical and experimental ophthalmology.

Tuition Fee

- USD 7080 (Inclusive of 18% GST to the course fee)

Accommodation

- Secure, on-campus accommodation is available upon request for the selected candidate.

Food

- The on-campus mess provides local Indian cuisine at an additional monthly cost. Numerous local restaurants are also easily accessible. Food is served at the on-campus mess itself which includes break-fast, lunch and dinner (local Indian menu). There are number of good restaurants located within walking distance. Food expenses are separate and can be paid at the mess on a monthly basis.

National Medical Commission Process

- It is mandatory for all the international candidates to get a temporary medical license from the National Medical Commission, Govt of India
- The application process will take minimum three months to complete which will be done through the organization only

Admission / How to Apply

Applicants are requested to apply through our website www.aravind.org
If you have difficulty in submitting the application form,
you can contact the course coordinator (uma@aravind.org).

 ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM