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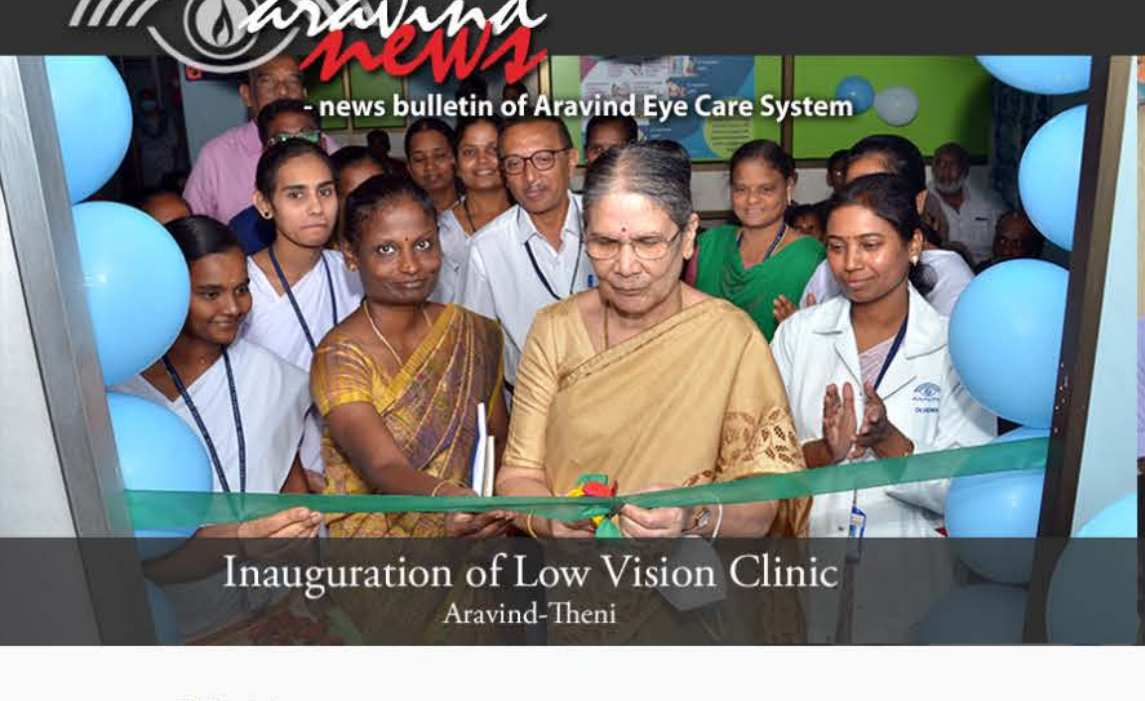


Inauguration of Low Vision Clinic
Aravind-Theni

Smart Glass Distribution Programme
Aravind-Dindigul

Editorial

Aravind's commitment to patient care is exemplified by the establishment of new Vision Centres across different locations. The recent addition of the Samayanallur Vision Centre, bringing the total to 112, highlights the organisation's expansion of service.

In addition to its focus on patient care, Aravind places a strong emphasis on employee welfare. The My life My Pride programme stands as a proof to this commitment, offering employees opportunities for personal and professional development through various extracurricular activities. The recent achievement of earning Taekwondo yellow belts by employees who completed two months of training is a proud reflection of their dedication and the organisation's support for their growth.

International Women's Day holds significant importance for Aravind, as it actively contributes to empowering young girls from rural backgrounds through initiatives such as Mid-Level Ophthalmic Personnel (MLOP) training, creating employment opportunities. Thus, Aravind becomes a strong backbone for them in their personal and professional growth. Moreover, Aravind is indebted to these women battalions who later become the pillars of Aravind Eye hospital where 70% of the staff are MLOPs. Their dedicated service to eradicate needless blindness is immense. Hence, the observance of International Women's Day was a great joy, marked with special events organised across all Aravind centres, including talks, debates, and competitions, actively participated by women employees.

News about these and much more are featured in this series.

Note: The events that occurred between 15th February and 15th March are included here.

Accolades

Dr. V. Shanta Memorial Oration

Chennai, 8th March

Dr. G. Natchiar, Director Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System, delivered the 3rd Dr. V. Shanta Memorial Oration titled, "Dr. V. Shantha: A Compassionate Healer." She shared inspiring insights, reflecting on the legacy of Dr. Shantha and her unparalleled dedication to cancer care.

Dr. V. Shanta Memorial Oration Award 2024

Awards at AIOC 2024

Kolkata, 14-17 March

Aravind doctors actively participated and garnered recognition at the 82nd Annual Conference of the All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOC 2024) held in Kolkata.

Dr. G. Natchiar was honoured with the International Ophthalmic Heroes of India Award for being conferred with Padma Shri, recongising her distinguished contribution and services in the field of medicine. On behalf of her, the participating doctors from Aravind received the award.

Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman, Aravind Eye Care System, was honoured with the award of the Honorary Fellow All India Collegium of Ophthalmology (FAICO) at the AIOC 2024, held in Kolkata.
Dr. R.D. Ravindran was nominated in the speciality of "Comprehensive Ophthalmology" by the Governing Board of the Collegium of the All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS) in its meeting held on 8th February.

Aravind-Madurai

Dr. N. Venkatesh Prajna, Chief, Cornea and Refractive Surgery Services
Dr. Gullapalli N Rao Oration Lecture
Title: *Innovative diagnostic procedures in fungal keratitis.*

S.R. Rathinam, Chief, Uvea Services was honoured with the Best of IJO Certificate 2023
Title: *Leptospiral uveitis: "Transition from epidemic to endemic form" difficulties in laboratory confirmation.*
(G. Jeya Kohila, P. Chidambaranthan Gowri, and K.S. Balagiri)

Dr. Usha Kim, Chief, Orbit & Oculoplasty
Best Free Papers

- *Our SMS Strategy for Molecular Diagnosis of Retinoblastoma*
- *Genetics and Retinoblastoma: All you need to know!*

Dr. Madhu Shekhar, Chief, Cataract Services, received the Best of IJO Certificate 2023
Title: Outcomes of toric intraocular lens realignment surgery done using slit lamp method and wavefront aberrometry method

Dr. Manju R. Pillai, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services
International Ophthalmic Heroes of India Award for Best Video Award – World Glaucoma Congress
Title: *This too shall pass*

Dr. R. Sharmila, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services
IJO Commendation Certificate – One of the top 10 cited papers of the IJO in 2021
Title: *Impact of COVID-19 on follow-up and medication adherence in patients with glaucoma in a tertiary eye care centre in south India*
(Dr. Subathra GN, Sharmila R, Dr. Vijayalakshmi A, Iswarya M, and Udayakumar B.)

Dr. Muthukrishnan, Medical Consultant, Retina Services
Best Free Paper
Title: *Toxic anterior segment syndrome following Vitreoretinal surgery: A retrospective analysis (FP2083)*

Dr. Meera Biju Rahim, IOL Fellow
Consolation prize in the Video Symposium "When the going gets tough"
Title: *Innovation born out of an adversity*

Dr. Athul S. Puthalath

- Winner – Two minutes to win video symposium
  Title: *BLU revolution*
- Grand Prize winner – FIFA Film Festival of AIOC
  Title: *Slit Lamp Sensor*
- Consolation Prize – Think under the apple tree
  Title: *Slit lamp sensor: A sustainable solution*

Dr. George V. Puthuran, Chief, Glaucoma Services

- AIOS – P Siva Reddy International Award 2023
  Title: Evolution and widespread use of an affordable aqueous drainage implant
- IJO Award of appreciation for one of the top 25 cited papers of 2021
  Title: Neovascular Glaucoma – A review

Dr. Talla Sruthi, Glaucoma Fellow
Best Physical Poster
Title: Bilateral secondary angle closure glaucoma as an initial manifestation of systemic lupus erythematosus

Dr. Mythri Rao, Glaucoma Fellow
Young Researcher's Award
1st Prize – All India PG Thesis competition

Aravind-Tirunelveli

Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kader, Medical Consultant, secured the best free paper award for his paper titled, *To screen Myocilin mutation in a large South Indian family with early onset JOAG and POAG* while, **Dr. Shivam Gupta**, Medical Consultant, was the winner at the Hyde Park Paper Session for his paper titled, *Clinical and surgical outcomes of Sturge Weber syndrome.*

Aravind-Coimbatore

Dr. Viji Rangarajan, Chief, Orbit & Oculoplasty, received the
International Ophthalmic Heroes of India for Best video Oscar award, for her video titled, Eyes are the windows of soul: Bridging extensive upper eyelid colobomas

Dr. Abhishek Das, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Retina-Vitreous Services, secured the Best paper award for his paper titled Impact of telemedicine in ROP screening in rural outreach in South India: A report of 17270 sessions.

Dr. Virna M Shah, Medical Consultant, Neuro-Ophthalmology
Best of IJO Certificate 2023
Title: *Comparison of glaucomatous from non-glaucomatous optic neuropathy using Bruch's membrane opening minimum rim width optical coherence tomography measurements*. Indian J Ophthalmol. 2023 Aug;71(8):3005-3009.
(Karthik M Kumar, A K Karan, Veerappan R Saravanan, Virna M Shah.)

Aravind-Pondicherry

Dr. Harsha, DNB resident won the Dr. Narsing Rao award & Best paper in Uvea titled, *The Sarcoidosis-Tuberculosis conundrum: The role of serum ACE, Mantoux test and Lymphocyte count.*

Dr. Balraj, Medical Consultant, Neuro-Ophthalmology, won the Best free paper award in Neuro Ophthalmology titled, *Proficiency assessment of trained vision centre technicians in Neuro-Ophthalmology disease screening* and he was the winner of AIOC FAICO Gold Medal 2024 in Neuro Ophthalmology.

Dr. Indira Pegu, Fellow – Glaucoma services has won the C S Reshmi Award for the best video of the year titled, *DIY for Glaucoma Procedures- Practice Makes a Doctor Perfect!.*

Dr. Naveen R, Medical Consultant, Cornea & Refractive surgery services, secured the top 16 in the C S Reshmi Award for the best video of the year titled, *Pythium keratitis vs Fungal keratitis.*

Dr. Kaavya, DNB Resident was the winner in the Poster Podium Presentation in the Cataract category titled, *Intra-operative complications in high volume cataract surgery: A quartile-wise analysis.*

Dr. Hari Bhadari, DNB Resident was the winner in the Poster Podium Presentation at the Community Ophthalmology category titled, *Environmental Sustainability of Outreach & Telemedicine at a Tertiary Eyecare Centre in South India.*

Dr. Kulharsh B. Jaiswal, Medical Consultant, Cornea & Refractive Surgery Services won the AIOC 2024 – FIFA Award at Cornea category.

Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan, Chief, Cataract-General Ophthalmology Services won the AIOC 2024 – FIFA Award at the Cataract category.

Dr. Prabhu Krishna, Medical Consultant won the AIOC 2024 – FIFA Award Runner-up in the General Ophthalmology category.

Dr. Shagufa Jamal, Medical Consultant won 2nd Price in the AIOC 2024 Quiz Competition.

The following doctors were honoured with AIOS International Ophthalmic Heroes of India award.

- Dr. R. Venkatesh, Chief Medical Officer
- Dr. K. Veena, Chief, Paediatric Ophthalmology
- Dr. S. Kavitha, Chief, Glaucoma Services
- Dr. Swati Upadhaya, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma
- Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan, Chief, Cataract
- Dr. Shivraj, Fellow, Retina
- Dr. Apurva, Fellow, Cornea

Aravind-Chennai

Dr. Haripriya Aravind, Chief, Cataract Services
International Ophthalmic Heroes of Indian Award for Best paper of Cataract session at American Academy of Ophthalmology, San Francisco, November 2023

Dr. Prabu Baskaran, Medical Consultant
IJO Recognition Certificate for Peer review

Dr. Aditya Maitray, Medical Consultant
Best Poster Podium Presentation
Title: *AI-Powered smartphone fundus camera: Advancing referable AMD screening*

Dr. Puja Maitra, Medical Consultant

- Best Physical Poster
  Title: *Pole to pole imaging: Economising paediatric ocular imaging by DIY devices*
- International Ophthalmic Heroes Award for Certificate of Achievement from Harvard Medical School
  Title: *HMX-pro- genetics essentials and genetic testing and sequencing technologies*

Dr. R.D. Ravindran second to the left, receiving the award of the honorary FAICO

On behalf of Dr. G. Natchiar, Aravind doctors, receiving the International Ophthalmic Heroes of India Award

Dr. N. Venkatesh Prajna, pictured on the right, being honored for delivering the Dr. Gullapalli N Rao Oration Lecture

Dr. Haripriya, second from the left, receiving the International Ophthalmic Heroes of India Award

Dr. George Puthuran receiving the AIOS P Siva Reddy International Award 2023

Dr. Madhu Shekhar receiving the Best of IJO Certificate 2023

Dr. Puja Maitra receiving the International Ophthalmic Heroes of India Award

Delegates at the 82nd Annual Conference of AIOS

Prizes at the 2nd Incubator Start-up Challenge 2024

Hyderabad, 2nd March

Aravind doctors won prizes at the 2nd Incubator Start-up Challenge 2024, held at L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad. Dr. Shivraj Tagare, Retina Fellow, and Dr. Megha Nair, Cornea Fellow, both from Aravind-Pondicherry, secured first prize for their project *I-Verter* at the AIOS Eye Invent Hackathon. Additionally, Dr. Shivam Gupta, Glaucoma Fellow, Aravind-Tirunelveli, secured the second prize for his project SL90DH – *Slit Lamp 90D Holder* in the AIOS Eye Invent Hackathon category.

Dr. Shivraj Tagare receiving first prize at the 2nd Incubator Start-up Challenge 2024

Dr. Shivam Gupta, positioned at the centre, receiving the second prize for his project

Awards at the 39th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress

Bali, Indonesia, 22-25 February

Dr. Meghana Tanwar, Medical Consultant, Orbit, Aravind-Madurai was among the three ophthalmologists awarded the APAO International fellowship for the year 2022-23 at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress, held at Bali, Indonesia. This award is bestowed upon promising ophthalmologists annually, particularly from developing nations in the Asia-Pacific region, to enhance their clinical skills, surgical exposure, and research experience, and broaden their perspectives in ophthalmology. Dr. Meghana completed her fellowship at the Osaka Medical University Hospital, Oska, Japan, from April to June 2023, under the guidance of Dr. Y. Kitaguchi. She was presented with the award during the congress.

Additionally, Dr. R. Madhavi, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli, received the prestigious "Professor Yasuo Tano" Travel grant.

Dr. Meghana Tanwar receiving the APAO International fellowship award for the year 2022-23

Aravind Events

World Glaucoma Week

10-16 March

Aravind-Tirunelveli

In observance of World Glaucoma Week at Aravind-Tirunelveli, a series of activities were conducted to raise glaucoma awareness.
A human chain programme was held in front of the hospital, graced by the presence of Venkatesh, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Tirunelveli, and Dr. N. Subramanian, President, the Indian Medical Association, Tirunelveli Branch.
A glaucoma awareness exhibition for the public was inaugurated by Thiru. Venkatesh and Dr. N. Subramanian. The exhibition featured informative posters detailing various types of glaucoma, its causes, symptoms, and hereditary factors. Furthermore, a press conference was organised, and informational pamphlets and notices were distributed among the public.
Moreover, Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Advisor, Aravind-Tirunelveli, and Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kadar, Chief, Retina Vitreous, Aravind-Tirunelveli, delivered talks on glaucoma awareness via All India Radio, broadcasted throughout the week.
In addition, a mega glaucoma camp was held at Aravind-Kovilpatti on 6th March. During the camp, 452 patients underwent screenings, resulting in the identification of 38 new cases of glaucoma, while 78 individuals were recommended for cataract surgery.

Aravind-Tirupati

As part of World Glaucoma Week, an exhibition was organised at Aravind-Tirupati, aimed at raising awareness about preventable vision conditions. Queries were addressed by MLOPs, emphasising the importance of early diagnosis and treatment. The exhibition facilitated understanding of glaucoma's early symptoms, the tubular vision and its occurrence, encouraging attendees to undergo eye check-ups. Additionally, the District Medical & Health Officer visited the hospital, and delivered an awareness speech on glaucoma diagnosis and treatment to patients. Family screenings for glaucoma were conducted, and a screening camp was held at Zoopark, Tirupati.

Venkatesh, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Tirunelveli at the exhibition

Human chain before Aravind-Tirunelveli to create glaucoma awareness

Charts, posters and models on display at the Optical exhibition at Aravind-Tirupati

Patients and Aravind staff during the screening camp at Aravind-Tirupati

International Women's Day Celebration

8th March

Across all Aravind centres, the Women's day was celebrated with enthusiasm, featuring a range of events such as special talks, physical fitness activities, Kolam competitions, and various fun games. The festivities made the day a memorable occasion, honouring and empowering women in the workplace.

Aravind-Madurai

Several Women's Day activities were organised at Aravind-Madurai, including a special talk by Bathmavathi, Sub-Inspector of Police, Madurai, and Selvi Rani, Brahma Kumari. Additionally, various physical fitness activities were arranged for all female employees at LAICO.

Aravind-Tirunelveli

In commemoration of International Women's Day, Aravind-Tirunelveli organised talks on the theme "Inspire Inclusion," featuring three guests: Benazir Fathima, Entrepreneur and home baker; Valli, an auto driver; and Sornam, an Entrepreneur, beautician, and artist. They shared real-life examples of life challenges and spoke on how they overcame them to achieve success.

Aravind-Coimbatore

In celebration of International Women's Day, Aravind-Coimbatore hosted a session on "Holistic Health for Today's Women" in collaboration with the Adolescent Health Academy (AHA) of Tamil Nadu and the Coimbatore branch of the Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP). The event commenced with Dr. Sandra Ganesh introducing the esteemed speakers, and Dr. Lakshmi Shanthi, President, IAP, presiding over the proceedings. Dr. Jeyashree Ashwathi, Secretary, AHA, Tamil Nadu, delivered an insightful talk on "Reproductive Health", followed by Dr. Pradeep Kumar, Treasurer, AHA & Vice President, Indian Academy of Paediatrics, Kanyakumari, who provided valuable insights on nutrition and fitness. Lastly, Dr. Mohammed Ismail, Director, the Adolescent Health Academy, Tamil Nadu, delivered a special lecture on "Coping with Stress in Daily Life".

Aravind-Pondicherry

Aravind-Pondicherry observed International Women's Day with special talks and engaging games. A highlight of the day was a special pattimandram chaired by Karpagambal, a recipient of the Dr. Radhakrishnan Best Teacher award, making it a memorable occasion. The day was further enriched by a captivating speech from Dr. A. Muthamma, I.A.S., who shared her invaluable experiences on women empowerment across various fields.

Aravind-Tirupati

At Aravind-Tirupati, Women's Day was celebrated with an Art from Waste competition themed "Celebrating Women". Sasi Bindu Garu, a lawyer and external member of the Internal Complaints Committee, as the chief guest, delivered a talk emphasising steps towards creating an inclusive workplace. The programme concluded with a quiz competition organised by Aurosambaralu.

A special talk by Selvi. Rani, Brahma Kumari at Aravind-Madurai

Guest speakers of the women's day programme at Aravind-Tirunelveli

Inspiring talk delivered for MLOPs at Aravind-Tirunelveli

A session on "Holistic health for today's women" at Aravind-Coimbatore

Women employees engaging in fun games at Aravind-Pondicherry

Dr. A. Muthamma, I.A.S on the left, presenting prizes to MLOPs at Aravind-Pondicherry

Enjoyable game session for doctors and MLOPs at Aravind-Salem

Chief guest Sasi Bindu Garu with doctors at Aravind-Tirupati

Smart Glass Distribution Programme

Aravind-Dindigul, 2nd March

Organised by Aravind-Dindigul with the support of Aravind-Madurai, 50 smart vision glasses were provided to beneficiaries at Aravind Eye Hospital, Dindigul, as part of Project Drishti. This initiative was made possible through collaboration with the Rotary Club, Madras East and a donation from JM Fritech India.

Dr. Rekha, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Dindigul, delivered a warm welcome address, followed by a felicitation address by Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi, Senior Medical Consultant, Vision Rehabilitation Centre, Aravind-Madurai. Dr. R. Vigneshwar, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Dindigul was present during the occasion. Jeyaseeli Flora, Vision Rehabilitationist, and Muthuramalingam from the Refraction Department, Aravind-Madurai, coordinated the event.

Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi delivering the felicitation speech

Distribution of smart vision glasses

Organisers and beneficiaries at the Smart Glass Distribution Programme

Press release of the event

Inauguration of Low Vision Clinic

Aravind-Theni, 26th February

Aravind-Theni opened the Low Vision Clinic, a small initiative primarily focused on adult rehabilitation. Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi, Dr. Datta, Chief Medical Officer, Aravind-Theni, and Jeyaseeli Flora, inaugurated the clinic. On the opening day, approximately 10 patients visited the clinic and received counselling about various Low Vision Aids and their benefits.

Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi inaugurating the low vision clinic

Ceremonial lamp lighting

Doctors and MLOPs at the inauguration

Doctors engaging in a brief meeting with the patients

Inauguration of Selectra ProM

Aravind-Tirunelveli, 26th February

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, and Dr. Meenakshi, CMO, Aravind-Tirunelveli, jointly inaugurated the fully automated Selectra ProM machine at the biochemistry lab.

Selectra ProM machine inauguration

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan inaugurating the machine

Hospital Day 2024

Aravind-Pondicherry, 25th February

Aravind-Pondicherry celebrated its hospital day in a grand manner. The event was graced by the presence of Dr. R. Kim, CMO, Aravind-Madurai. Dr. Naveen presented the annual report, highlighting a 2% increase in the annual patient turnout. Dr. R. Kim, and Dr. R. Venkatesh, CMO, Aravind-Pondicherry, gave the service awards, recognising the dedicated service of staff members completing 10, 20, and 30 years of experience.

Dr. S. Kavitha, Chief, Glaucoma Services, was awarded first prize, while Dr. Manavi D. Sindal, Chief, Retina-Vitreous Services, and Dr. Josephine Christy, Chief, Cornea & Refractive Surgery Services, received second prize for their research activities. Furthermore, Dr. Nandita and Dr. Ojus were honoured with the "Inspiring Innovators Award" for their creation of the device "UVlyser", securing the third position. The celebration also featured cultural performances, including dances by the children of doctors, dance by MLOPs, a musical fusion by doctors, and a mesmerising shadow art display.

Hospital day programme at Aravind-Pondicherry

Dr. R. Venkatesh presenting the service award to a staff

Dr. R. Kim on the right, and Dr. R. Venkatesh on the left, presenting the award to Dr. S. Kavitha

Cultural performances by MLOPs

Relocation of Eral Vision Centre

Aravind-Tirunelveli, 22nd February

Eral Vision Centre has been shifted to a new building following damages incurred by recent floods at the previous location. A small inaugural ceremony was held, graced by the presence of several dignitaries, including Sundar, Secretary, Trade Union; Arunachalam, Association Treasurer, Lions Club & Trade; Dharmara, Vice President, Trade Union; Sudalaimuthu, a Trade Union Member; Mahalakshmi, Ward Councillor; Sivabalan, a local businessman; and the community members. Representatives from Aravind-Tirunelveli, including Dr. Jaisri Priya, Dr. Karthikeyan, and Shanmuga Sundari, Clinical Manager, Vision Centres, Raja Sathya Selvi, Nursing Superintendent, Saradha, Patient Care Manager, Stephen, Vision Centre Coordinator, and Natarajan, Electrician, actively managed the event.

Inaugurating the Eral Vision Centre in its relocated building

An MLOP providing explanation to a patient

Patient undergoing screening

Organisers, MLOPs, and invitees at the inaugural event

Taekwondo – Belt Grading Ceremony and Launch of MLOP Committees

Aravind-Tirupati, 24th February

As part of the "My Life My Pride" initiative spearheaded by G. Krishna Veni, Administrator, LAICO, MLOPs have been undergoing training in a variety of extracurricular activities, including Taekwondo and dance. After completing two months of training, and following a grading exam for the yellow belt on 4th February, a certificate award ceremony was held on 24th February. Anupama, who conducts life skill classes for the MLOPs, and Dr. Ashok Vardhan, CMO, Aravind-Tirupati, distributed the certificates and yellow belts. Sangeetha, Nursing Superintendent, provided an overview of the MLOP committees such as wellness, hostel, academic, and My Life My Pride as well as their responsibilities. This approach fosters a sense of shared ownership between management and MLOPs, symbolised by badges, offering a sense of pride. During the feedback session, several MLOPs shared how the "My Life My Pride" programme has significantly boosted their self-confidence, empowering them to feel bolder when travelling alone. The event also featured captivating performances by both the dance and Taekwondo students.

Participants showing their skills during a taekwondo demonstration

Students appearing for Taekwondo grading

Anupama and Dr. Ashok Vardhan, presenting the yellow belt to the MLOPs

Taekwondo yellow belt recipients at the prize distribution ceremony

Optical and Pharmacy Exhibition

Aravind-Tirupati, 23rd February

In an on-going effort to train MLOPs and raise awareness about the importance of spectacles and proper medication usage among both the public and staff, the optical and pharmacy departments collaborated to organise a one-day exhibition. The exhibition attracted patients and staff, who expressed their appreciation for the team's initiatives.

Models at the optical and pharmacy exhibition

Attendees at the exhibition

MLOPs explaining the importance of spectacles to the visitors

Angaadi

Aravind-Madurai, 22nd February

Aravind-Madurai organised Angaadi, a unique charity event where all employees donated their unused items. These items were categorised and sold at different stalls, creating a fun shopping experience exclusively for hospital employees. Additionally, auctions, fun games, and food stalls were arranged. The funds raised through the sale of these items were donated to Adaikalam Old Age Home, Tirunagar, Madurai, and Blessed Special Kids Home, Vilangudi, Madurai.

Deepa inaugurating the sales event, Angaadi

Photos for sale at the stalls of Angaadi

Aravind staff enjoying shopping at the Angaadi

Herbal plants being sold at Angaadi

Boomi Pooja Ceremony

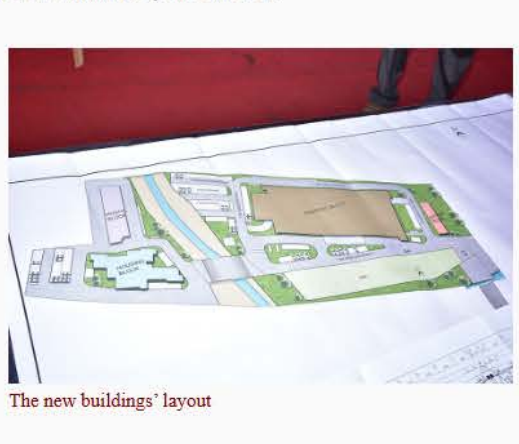
Aravind-Salem, 22nd February

Boomi Pooja ceremony for the new hospital building and quarters in Aravind-Salem took place, graced by the presence of esteemed guests including Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, Aravind Eye Care System (AECS), Dr. G. Natchiar, Director Emeritus, AECS, R.D. Thulasiraj, Executive Director, LAICO, Dr. S. Aravind, CMO, Aravind-Chennai, and the senior leadership team. The new building, spanning 2.25 lakh sq. ft., will be constructed on a 7-acre plot of land. Dr. B. Manohar Babu, CMO, Aravind-Salem, thanked the senior leadership team for expediting the project, which is expected to be completed within 1.5 years in 2026.

Boomi Pooja for new hospital building and quarters in a divine ambiance at Aravind-Salem

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Dr. G. Natchiar, and Dr. B. Manohar Babhu laying the first brick for the new building

Tree planting ceremony during the Boomi Pooja



The new buildings' layout

CME on Retina4U

Aravind-Pondicherry, 18th February

The one-day Retina4U CME organised by Aravind-Pondicherry, focusing on Intravitreal injections, was led by Dr. Manavi D. Sindal, Dr. Sivaranjani, Retina Consultant, and the organising committee. The event was graced by Dr. Hannah, Consultant, Pondicherry Institute of Medical Science, Dr. Roshini Mohan, Retina Consultant, Agarwals Eye Hospital, Chennai, Dr. Nagesha, Retina Consultant, Narayana Nethralaya, Bangalore, and Dr. Sivaranjani.

The programme commenced with the welcome address by Dr. R. Venkatesh, followed by ceremonial lamp lighting. The conference featured talks by speakers from leading institutes and internal speakers including, Dr. Manavi D Sindal, Dr. Prabu Baskaran, Dr. Sivaranjani, and Dr. Preet Kanwar Singh Sodhi. A wide spectrum of topics in Intravitreal injections such as retinal vascular disorder, age-related macular degeneration, inflammations, and infections including the intravitreal injection technique were discussed in detail. A total of 117 participants comprising ophthalmologists, fellows, and postgraduates from various colleges attended the CME.

Dr. Manavi D Sindal leading a session during the CME on Retina4U

Dr. Manavi D Sindal on the left, presenting a memento to an attendee

Participants of the CME on Retina4U

CME on Dry Labs for Post Graduates

Aravind-Coimbatore, 18th February

The 5th edition of the CME on "Dry labs for postgraduates" organised by Aravind-Coimbatore saw the participation of 190 delegates from 36 institutions from Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh. The delegates were divided into nine groups and rotated to nine stations namely cornea, glaucoma, retina 1, retina 2, neuro-ophthalmology, squint, orbit, retinoscopy and electrophysiological studies. There were 12 mentors guiding 20 faculty members, and conducting the dry labs. A booklet with 17 write-ups was given to the delegates. Dr. V. Narendran, CMO, Aravind-Coimbatore, was the chairperson of the organising committee and Dr. D. Chandrasekhar, Consultant & NABH Coordinator as well as Dr. Parag Shah, Chief, Paediatric Retina & Ocular Oncology Services were the coordinators. The Programme was accredited with two hours for delegates and three hours for faculty by the Tamil Nadu Medical Council.

Ceremonial lamp lighting during the CME

Dr. Parag K Shah addressing the audience

Participants actively engaging in an interactive session during the CME

Hands-on session

Hospital Day

Aravind-Tirunelveli, 17th February

Aravind-Tirunelveli celebrated its 36th Hospital day with great jubilation. Esteemed guests Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Dr. G. Natchiar, R.D. Thulasiraj, and Chitra Thulasiraj, Aravind Communications, graced the occasion.

The programme commenced with a prayer song by Nandhini. Dr. R. Meenakshi welcomed the gathering. Dr. Sherin Haroon, Medical consultant, presented the activity report for the year 2022-2023. During the occasion, a milestone video showcasing Aravind-Tirunelveli's journey was screened. Dr. R. Ramakrishnan delivered a special address, and Jagatheesan, a well-wisher of Aravind Eye Hospital, shared his journey with Aravind.

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy and Dr. G. Natchiar delivered motivational speeches, leaving a lasting impact on all present. Service Awards were given to staff members, acknowledging their dedication and contributions. The event was further adorned with cultural programmes performed by doctors and MLOPs. Dr. R. Madhavi, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services delivered the vote of thanks. Lakshmi R, HR Manager, led the proceedings as the master of the ceremony. The delightful evening concluded with dinner.

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, on the right, honouring Dr. Namperumalsamy during the Hospital day programme

Dr. G. Natchiar delivering a talk during the hospital day celebration

Presenting service awards

Cultural performances by MLOPs

Eye Donation Awareness Programme

Madurai, 13th February

Conducted by the Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank (RAIEB), Aravind-Madurai, the session took place at the Primary Health Centre in Kannagudi, Sivagangai. D. Saravanan, Manager, RAIEB, led the session focusing on the Hospital cornea retrieval programme and highlighting the significance of healthcare professionals in promoting eye donation. The session saw active participation from 40 attendees, including doctors and nurses.

Inauguration of the Samayanallur Vision Centre

Aravind-Madurai, 9th February

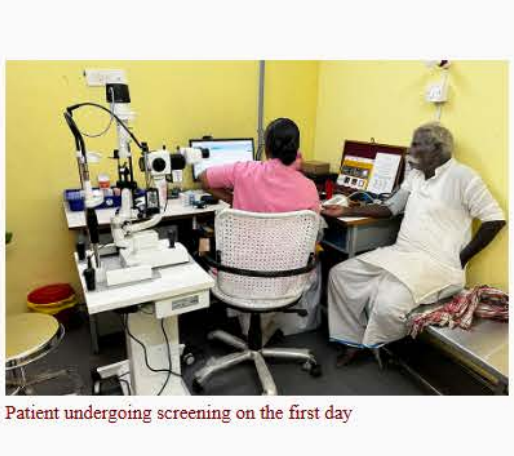
Aravind inaugurated its 112th vision centre in Samayanallur, Madurai, with the ceremony officiated by Dr. Usha Kim, Regional HR Director, Aravind-Madurai.

The event witnessed the esteemed presence of Dr. A. Kowsalya, Doctor In charge, Madurai Vision Centre, and Dr. Priyagini, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Madurai, Saikat Palit, Project Coordinator, Seva Foundation, along with the community members including, Tambi Durai, Panchayat President, Samayanallur, Bagavath Singh, Trade Union President, Vivaganantham, Camp Sponsor, and Murugesan, Camp Organisers.

Under the coordination of Begam, MLOP HR Coordinator, alongside Jhansi, Pitchaimeena, and Aathi Parasakthi from the vision centre team, the event was effectively managed. Kalai Selvi, VC Coordinator from Sholavanthan Vision Centre, will provide mentorship and assistance to the new VC staff during their initial week. On the opening day, the centre attended to 67 patients, with 5 referred for cataract surgery, 10 prescribed eyeglasses, and 5 placing orders for glasses.

Inaugural ceremony

Inaugural ceremony at Samayanallur vision centre



Patient undergoing screening on the first day

Dr. Usha Kim, along with the attendees at the inaugural event

AMRF

Research Facility Training Programme on Genetic Testing Techniques

AMRF, 29th February

As an integral component of the SERB-LHON project, AMRF organised a one-day research facility training programme on Genetic testing techniques as part of the scientific social responsibility programme (SERB-SSR). The programme consisted of two modules: the first covering DNA isolation and quantitation, and the second focusing on Sanger sequencing. Dr. P. Sundaresan, the Principal Investigator and Convenor of the programme, elucidated the fundamentals of ophthalmic genetics and its application in molecular diagnosis. In his concluding remarks, Prof. K. Dharmalingam, Director, Research, AMRF, emphasised the significance of epigenetics and its implications on human diseases. Thereafter, certificates were distributed to all the participants by Prof. K. Dharmalingam. The programme saw active participation from 30 students representing 14 different colleges in the vicinity of Madurai, spanning across 8 distinct academic departments.

Participants pictured with Dr. Namperumalsamy, Prof. K. Dharmalingam and Dr. P. Sundaresan

Aurolab

82nd Annual Conference of the All India Ophthalmological Society

Kolkata, 14-17 March

Aurolab's team participated in the 82nd Annual Conference of AIOC 2024 and got their stalls with increased brand visibility, showcasing their products. The stall attracted more than 1400 visitors.
Moreover, Aurolab launched the following new products:

- Falcon-i: Ophthalmologists can step into the future of surgical visualization with Falcon-i, featuring excellent optics and exceptional clarity.
- Aurolab Essence: This high-performance aspheric advanced monofocal technology IOL provides expanded vision and clarity from intermediate to distance sight.
- Retisil 1500 PFS: Offering unparalleled clarity, consistent performance, and enhanced safety with ease of use.
- Aurolab i-Ring: Engineered to save surgery time and simplify the intraocular implantation of CTR.

Additionally, Aurolab organised a Wet Lab Training programme for doctors, held for four days.
During the conference, Aurolab showcased its products in scientific sessions featuring presentations by medical experts. Dr. Amit Kiran Mahajan discussed on *Aurolab essence: Essential choice for optimal outcomes*, while Dr. Upsham Goel spoke on Falcon-i.

Aurolab showcasing its products at the 82nd Annual Conference of AIOC 2024

Training Session on 'How to Protect our Environment'

Aurolab, 13th February

Aurolab organised a training session on "How to protect our environment" for all employees. Dr. Sailesh Rao, Founder & Executive Director, Climate Healers, handled the session, creating awareness on how to solve climate change with a vegan diet.

At the training session conducted at Aurolab

Dr. Sailesh Rao leading a session

LAICO

Workshop on Continuous Process Improvement for Achieving Operational Excellence

LAICO, 1-2 March

A two-day workshop on Continuous Process Improvement for Achieving Operational Excellence was conducted with the main focus on developing processes to foster a culture of continuous improvement within AECS, enhancing operational efficiency, and achieving excellence. The workshop further aimed to enhance participants' knowledge and skills in identifying problems and opportunities for improvement, determining root causes for delays and errors, deriving ideas through a systematic journey to test and implement them across AECS. B.S. Ganesh Babu, Senior Faculty, LAICO coordinated the entire event. Vadamalaiappan and Rajasekar from Aurolab served as resource persons for the programme. Sessions included group work, a visit to Aurolab, and discussions on TPM. A total of 51 participants from all Aravind centres, including managers from various departments, supervisors, nursing superintendents, senior sisters, and administrators, attended the programme.

R.D. Thulasiraj lighting the lamp during the inaugural event of the two-day workshop

Vadamalaiappan delivering a talk

Informative sessions at the workshop

Participants of the workshop

Needs Assessment Visit

Aurangabad, 20-24 February
As part of the Manpower Management Development Programme (MMDP), D. Yesunesan, Senior Faculty, LAICO, conducted a comprehensive visit to Aurangabad Chikalthana LIONS Eye Hospital, Aurangabad. This visit served as a needs assessment to better understand the hospital and identify potential areas for growth. During this visit, Dr. Kuldeep Dhole, Technical Advisor, LIONS Club International Foundation, also joined the team on 24th February, providing valuable insights for the assessment.

Looking ahead, the team is scheduled to visit LAICO for a vision-building exercise from 22-28 March, 2024. This initiative aims to further strengthen the strategic direction and goals of the organisation.

Odisha, 21-23 February
As part of the LEAP Collaborative Series, A. Syed Ali, Senior Faculty, LAICO, and Mohammed Ghouse, Manager, Patient Care, Aravind-Tuticorin, visited the Mahatma Gandhi Eye Hospital and Research Institute, Odisha. The objective of their visit was to provide recommendations for enhancing compliance with NABH standards and to conduct an audit of the facility according to these standards.

Odisha, 19-20 February
As part of the Manpower Management Development Programme (MMDP), A. Syed Ali visited the Balasore Lions Eye Hospital in Balasore District, Odisha. The objective of the visit was to engage with the hospital team, gain insights into their operations and systems, know their needs, and identify potential areas for growth. Looking ahead, the hospital team is scheduled to visit LAICO for a vision-building and strategic planning exercise from -28 March.

Gujarat, 5-8 February
Mohammed Gowth, Senior Faculty, LAICO, and Chandravadhana, Manager, Quality & Patient care, Aravind-Madurai, visited the Rotary Eye Institute in Navsari, Gujarat, as part of the LEAP Collaborative series to fulfill NABH standards. The purpose of the visit was to initiate the application process for NABH accreditation.

Yesunesan during the Needs assessment visit at Aurangabad Chikalthana LIONS Eye Hospital, Aurangabad

Syed Ali and Mohammed Ghouse visiting Mahatma Gandhi Eye Hospital and Research Institute, Odisha

Syed Ali's visit to Balasore Lions Eye Hospital in Balasore District, Odisha

Mohamed Gowth and Chandravadhana visiting the Rotary Eye Institute in Navsari, Gujarat

NABH ECO Training Programme

Aravind-Chennai, 2-3 February

Aravind-Chennai organised the NABH ECO Training Programme conducted by the Central team for NABH Compliance Monitoring. The primary objective was to provide staff members with an orientation to NABH ECO requirements and train them to monitor adherence to standards and execute quality standards in their respective hospitals. Key internal resource persons included Dr. D. Chandrasekar, Dr. Sivakumar, Dr. Marie Frederick Mouttappa, Dr. Jayashree, Dr. Sathya Ravilla, and R. Ushalini. The training programme provided a common platform for communication and learning towards on-going quality improvement. A total of 67 staff members from across all Aravind centres, including doctors, managers, coordinators, MLOPs, and staff nurses, attended the training.

Dr. Marie Frederick Mouttappa providing training to the staff members

Participants of the NABH ECO Training Programme

Conference Attended

50th Annual Meeting of the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS)

USA, 2-7 March

Dr. Virna M. Shah, Medical Consultant, Neuro-Ophthalmology, Aravind- Coimbatore, and Dr. Jayasri, Medical Consultant, Neuro-Ophthalmology, Aravind- Madurai, attended the Annual Meeting of the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS) held in Sheraton Waikiki, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. This event continues to be the premier meeting for cutting-edge innovation and advances in Neuro-Ophthalmology, providing a forum for everyone to come together from across the globe to share expertise and advance the field of Neuro-Ophthalmology through case discussions, didactic sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities. During the meeting, they presented the following physical posters.

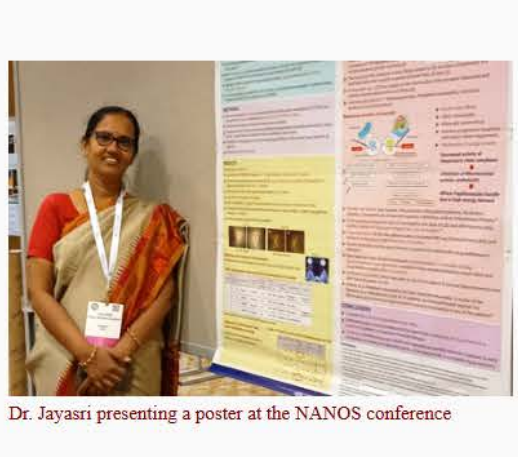
Dr. Virna M. Shah

- Descriptive studies- *Efficacy of Telemedicine in Neuro-Ophthalmology Channeled Through "Vision Centers" In South India.* (Physical Poster)
- Analytical studies –*Challenges Faced in Diagnosis And Management of Atypical Optic neuritis- The Indian Scenario* (Physical Poster)

Dr. Virna M. Shah at the Annual Meeting of the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS)

Dr. Jayasri K. N

- Descriptive studies- *Linezolid Induced Toxic Optic neuropathy-A case series*
- Analytical studies- *Clinical Profile and Etiologies of Papilledema in Tertiary Eye care Centre*



Dr. Jayasri presenting a poster at the NANOS conference

39th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress

Bali, Indonesia, 22-25 February

Several doctors from Aravind participated and assumed various roles, including instructor, chair, and presenter, during the 39th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress, held in conjunction with the 49th PERDAMI, or the Indonesian Ophthalmologists Association (IOA), at the Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center, Indonesia.

Dr. N. Venkatesh Prajna, Chief, Cornea Services, Aravind-Madurai
– *Advances in Diagnosis of Fungal Keratitis*
– *AI in Infectious Keratitis*

Dr. Sahithya Bhaskaran, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology, Aravind-Madurai
– *Impact of online vision therapy on functional vision of children with multiple disabilities* (Poster presentation)
– *Referral uptake and outcomes in children referred to tertiary eye care from school eye screening* (Free paper presentation)
– *Smart vision glasses* (Video presentation)

Dr. Nithya Sridharan, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology, Aravind-Madurai
– *Study on acceptance of low vision aids and visual rehabilitation measures in tertiary care center* (e-poster)

Dr. Meghana Tanwar, Medical Consultant, Orbit, Aravind-Madurai
– *Globe salvage in Panophthalmitis: Identification of significant predictive factors using logistic regression and Fine-Gray models.*

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Chief, Glaucom Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli
– *A battle well prepared is half won pre op evaluation ,intra op measures to prevent failure* (Co-instructor)

Dr. Devendra Maheshwari, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli
– *Repeat Trabeculectomy and post resurrection bleb care* (Co-instructor)
– *Modified ab-interno sulcus placement of non-valved drainage implant tube-early outcomes of a novel technique* (Physical Poster)

Dr. R. Madhavi
– *The quandary of a failing bleb: Strike when the bleb is hot* (Chair and chief instructor)
– *Catch it early: Role of AS-OCT in failing bleb & future of OCT angiography* (Speaker)
– *Outcomes of bleb needling with high dose (40µg) injectable subconjunctival mitomycin C in failing or failed blebs* (Physical Poster)
– Ocular Imaging – Evaluation of Microvascular changes and optic nerve head perfusion following Trabeculectomy: An optical coherence tomography angiography(OCT-A) study (Rapid Fire Paper presentation)

Dr. Nimrita Nagdev, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli
– Early interventions: Ocular massage, suturolysis, add on injections of MMC/5FU- when & how? (Co instructor)
– Glaucoma Update (Rapid Fire Paper presentation)
– *Deroofing the narrow road by magnifying mirror: Gonioscopy-assisted transluminal trabeculotomy (GATT)* (Video presentation)

Dr. Madhavi, Dr. Geetha Kurian, Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kader, Medical Consultants, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli
– *Outcomes of bleb needling with High dose(40µg) injectable subconjunctival MMC in failing or failed blebs* (Poster presentation)

Dr. Elackiya, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology, Aravind-Madurai
– *An outreach school screening model for functional vision assessment in children with disabilities* (Poster presentation)

Dr. R. Ram Sudarshan, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Kovilpatti
– *Demographics, clinical, microbiological profile and treatment outcomes of traumatic endophthalmitis in paediatric population in south India* (Poster presentation)

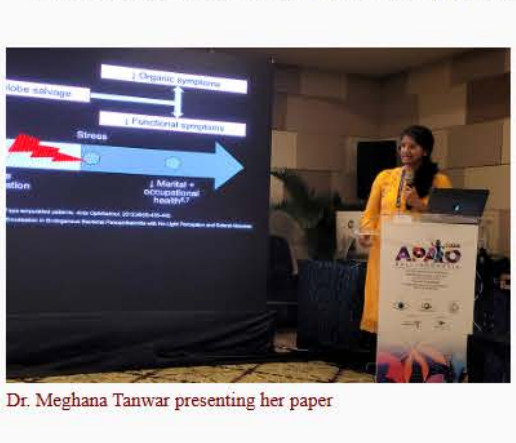
Dr. Harinikrishna Balakrishnan, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Kovilpatti
– *Correlation of mantoux test and serum angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) levels with clinically and radiologically diagnosed ocular tuberculosis and ocular sarcoidosis* (Poster presentation)

Dr. Sameer Chaudhary, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Dindigul
– *Blindness due to the third eye Sudden vision loss in Pineal gland tumour* (Poster presentation)

Dr. Chinmay Mahatme, & Dr. Siddharth Narendran, Medical Consultants, Aravind-Coimbatore
– *Predicting outcomes in fungal keratitis using RidMyc CRISPR assay* (Paper presentation)

Dr. Chinmay Mahatme, Dr. Virna Shah, Dr. Karthik Kumar, & Dr. Madhurima Kaushik, Medical Consultants, Aravind-Coimbatore
– *Optic NEWritis challenges in Indian scenario* (Physical poster – Neuro-ophthalmology)

Dr. Chinmay Mahatme, Dr. R. Revathi, & Dr. P. Mangala, Medical Consultants, Aravind-Coimbatore
– *Delayed melt post C3R case series* (Physical Poster – Cornea)



Dr. Meghana Tanwar presenting her paper

Dr. Chinmay Mahatme presenting his paper at the APAO conference

Dr. Chinmay Mahatme's Poster presentation

Publications

1. Khatri K, Balraj A. **Popcorn in the Brain: A Rare Case of Millard-Gubler Syndrome in an 8-Year-Old Child**. J Neuroophthalmol. 2024 Feb 21. [Epub] View more
2. Kulkarni VM, Ciociola EC, Vardhan AS, Sundar B, Rajendrababu S, Ramulu PY. **A comparative analysis of IOP measurement accuracy with reused iCare probes.** Ophthalmol Glaucoma. 2024 Feb 22. [Epub] View more
3. Ravindran RS, Aswin PR, Abdul Khadar SM. **One-minute ophthalmology: "To PI or not to PI".** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar;72(3):311. View more
4. Kavitha S, Tejaswini SU, Venkatesh R, Zebardast N. **Wound modulation in glaucoma surgery: The role of anti-scarring agents**. Indian J Ophthalmol 2024 Mar;72(3):320-327. View more
5. Gurudas S, Vasconcelos JC, Prevost AT, Raman R, Rajalakshmi R, Ramasamy K, Mohan V, Rani PK, Das T, Conroy D, Tapp RJ, Sivaprasad S; SMART-India Study Collaborators. **National prevalence of vision impairment and blindness and associated risk factors in adults aged 40 years and older with known or undiagnosed diabetes: results from the SMART-India cross-sectional study.** Lancet Glob Health. 2024 Feb 28. [Epub] View more
6. Joseph S, Selvaraj J, Mani I, Kumaragurupari T, Shang X, Mudgil P, Ravilla T, He **Diagnostic accuracy of artificial intelligence based automated diabetic retinopathy screening in real-world settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis**. Am J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar 2. [Epub] View more
7. Senthilkumar VA, Wala N, Rajendrababu S, Mishra C, Kannan NB, Uduman MS. **Clinical Presentation and Treatment Outcomes of Pupillary Block Glaucoma Following Vitreoretinal Surgery.** Semin Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar 4. [Epub] View more
8. Thaker SK, Shah PK, Das A, Maitra P. **Management of Recurrence in Retinoblastoma Based on the Source of Tumor Cells**. Middle East Afr J Ophthalmol. 2024 Jan-Mar;30(1):24-30. View more
9. Srinivasan K, Sakthivel S. **Classic anterior lenticonus in Alport syndrome**. J Fr Ophthalmol. 2024;47(4):104120. View more
10. Venugopal A, Gurnani B, Ravindran M, Uduman MS. **Management of symblepharon with Gore-tex as a novel treatment option for ocular chemical burns**. Eur J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar. [Epub] View more
11. Cheung CSY, Wan MJ, Zurakowski D, Kodsi S, Ekdawi NS, Russell HC, Shetty S, Dumitrescu AV, Dagi LR, Shah AS, Hunter DG; AACE Outcomes Consortium. **A comparison of chemodenervation to incisional surgery for acute, acquired, comitant esotropia: An international study**. Am J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar. [Epub] View more
12. Coyner AS, Murickan T, Oh MA, Young BK, Ostmo SR, Singh P, Chan RVP, Moshfeghi DM, Shah PK, Venkatapathy N, Chiang MF, Kalpathy-Cramer J, Campbell JP. **Multinational External Validation of Autonomous Retinopathy of Prematurity Screening.** JAMA Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar 7. [Epub] View more
13. Rosenberg CR, Prajna V, Srinivasan MK, Lalitha PC, Krishnan T, Rajaraman R, Venugopal A, Acharya N, Seitzman GD, Rose-Nussbaumer J, Woodward MA, Lietman TM, Campbell JP, Keenan JD, Redd TK; Corneal Ulcer Image Interpretation Study Group. **Locality is the strongest predictor of expert performance in image-based differentiation of bacterial and fungal corneal ulcers from India.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar 8. [Epub] View more
14. Raghavan A, Rammohan R. **Acanthamoeba keratitis – A review.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar 8. [Epub] View more
15. Maitra P, Shah PK, Campbell PJ, Rishi P. **The scope of artificial intelligence in retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) management.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar 8. [Epub] View more
16. Kannan NB, Sivadarshan M, Dey Sarkar A, Vallinayagam M, Ramasamy K. **Outbreak of toxic anterior segment syndrome following vitreoretinal surgery – A retrospective analysis.** Indian J Ophthalmol. 2024 Mar 8. [Epub] View more

Training

Enrolments for March 2024

Course title	Training Centre	No. of enrolments
Long Term Fellowship Programmes – For Ophthalmologists		
Fellowship in Cornea	Madurai	1
	Tirunelveli	1
	Pondicherry	1
	Chennai	1
Fellowship in Anterior Segment / Intraocular Lens Surgery	Madurai	2
	Chennai	2
	Coimbatore	1
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Medical Retina	Chennai	1
Fellowship in Orbit & Oculoplasty	Madurai	1
Fellowship in Retina-Vitreous	Chennai	2
Fellowship in Glaucoma	Chennai	1
	Pondicherry	1
Fellowship in Uvea	Madurai	1
Short Term Training Programmes – For Ophthalmologists		
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity and Paediatric Retinal Disorders	Madurai	1
Phacoemulsification	Tirunelveli	1
	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Tirunelveli	1
	Chennai	1
Short Term Training Programs – For Paramedicals		
Ocularist	Madurai	1
Instrument Maintenance – For Technicians		
Instrument Maintenance – For Technicians	LAICO	1

Statistics

Patient Statistics – February 2024

Hospitals	Total	Madurai	Tirunelveli	Theni	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Dindigul	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	CbeCC	Chennai	Tirupati	Kovilpatti
Hospital Out-patient visits															
Paying (New & Review)	2,44,430	54,886	30,422	8,447	31,501	25,092	4,585	8,262	11,456	5,768	4,146	4,328	38,795	13,742	3,000
Free: Direct walk-in (New & Review)	93,807	21,205	8,883	2,862	12,524	9,979	2,580	1,949	5,649	1,465	2,017	–	11,830	12,003	861
Outreach Out-patients															
Comprehensive Eye Camps	34,925	8,759	3,961	1,109	6,530	6,214	749	–	–	786	337	–	4,407	1,950	123
Diabetic Retinopathy Camps	1,941	619	–	230	660	370	–	–	–	–	–	–	62	–	–
Glaucoma Camps	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Refraction Camp	6,843	1,356	1,470	987	1,357	597	–	–	–	–	420	–	656	–	–
Mobile Refraction Unit	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
School Screening	6,805	1,106	177	896	1,968	1,475	–	–	–	–	729	–	385	69	–
Paediatric Eye screening camps	725	–	–	–	575	150	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
RoP Screening	1,678	189	283	223	745	58	–	–	–	–	–	–	149	31	–
Vision Centres	82,124	27,757	15,771	6,174	6,122	15,815	1,890	–	3,417	–	1,795	–	3,383	–	–
Community / City Centres	18,290	9,409	3,007	2,214	–	2,777	–	–	–	–	–	–	883	–	–
Total OP Examinations	**4,91,568**	**1,25,286**	**63,974**	**23,142**	**61,982**	**62,527**	**9,804**	**10,211**	**20,522**	**8,019**	**9,444**	**4,328**	**60,550**	**27,795**	**3,984**
Total number of camps	**178**	**41**	**22**	**7**	**35**	**28**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**4**	**3**	**–**	**22**	**12**	**1**
Surgeries															
Cataract	38,088	9,074	3,899	1,083	5,339	5,098	699	807	2,276	599	791	227	4,985	2,846	365
*Other Surgeries	22,208	6,043	3,044	415	4,113	2,770	90	132	675	108	47	162	3,122	1,440	47
Total Surgeries	**60,296**	**15,117**	**6,943**	**1,498**	**9,452**	**7,868**	**789**	**939**	**2,951**	**707**	**838**	**389**	**8,107**	**4,286**	**412**

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