



ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Vision: Eliminate needless blindness

ACTIVITY REPORT

April 2025 to March 2026





TO SEE ALL AS ONE • TO GIVE SIGHT FOR ALL • 1976 - ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM - 2026

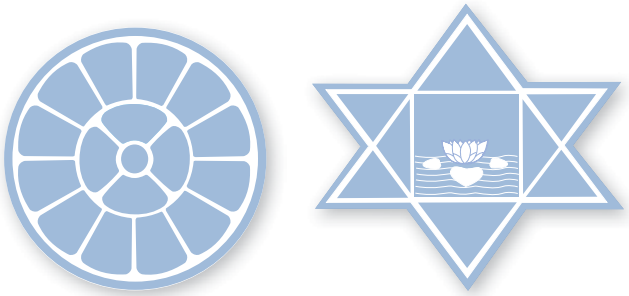












Guiding Philosophy

Aravind Eye Hospital takes its name and inspiration from Sri Aurobindo, an influential philosopher and sage of the twentieth century. Sri Aurobindo and The Mother believed that humankind is on an evolutionary journey, guided by the Divine toward a higher consciousness.

Aravind strives to be an instrument of this vision. At the core of its work lies the conviction that work done with discipline and compassion towards something greater than oneself, contributes to our collective evolution. These ideals are deeply woven into the philosophy of Aravind where the pursuit of excellence is therefore not merely about achieving better outcomes, but about serving others with humility, dedication, and love.



Our effort is to make Aravind an instrument of the Divine Will. We strive to forget our limitations and work with the direction of the Divine Will, not in a vain superficial way but with a deep commitment and faith that guidance comes from a higher level of consciousness. Then one is able to work with the great confidence that comes only with that faith and realisation that we are all part of a spiritual capacity or spiritual power. It is then that all of nature works with you. You don't feel that you are a superior being but you are an instrument in the hands of a higher force and it is in that spirit, that we meet our day-to-day struggles and successes.

- Dr. G. Venkataswamy



On 5th April 2025, the Aravind Eye Care System commenced its march towards the golden milestone of 50 years of selfless service to humanity.

What better time than this to reflect and re-commit ourselves to what our founder, Dr. Govindappa Venkataswamy (fondly known as Dr. V), stood for. He personified compassion when he said,

"To see all as one.

To give sight for all."

His kindness radiated in all directions, embracing people of diverse backgrounds as his own. His vision was to eliminate needless blindness not only in his immediate community but beyond, spanning lands and oceans.

Today, almost 50 years on, Aravind Eye Care System lives by his words, working together as a family, providing compassionate care for all, regardless of ability to pay, caste, creed, or ethnicity, with a firm focus on restoring or preserving the ability to see.

Design concept by: Dr. Gokul Vasanth

The quiet strength, the compassionate presence and the unwavering spirit that helped shape Aravind has left an enduring void amidst the family of Aravind and far beyond.

Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, fondly known as Dr. Nam to thousands of admirers and students, one of the founding members of Aravind Eye Care System and the President of Aravind's governing trust and Aravind Medical Research Foundation passed away in Madurai on 24th July 2025, at the age of 86, following a brief period of illness.

His contributions to ophthalmology are lasting and immense, from establishing the nation's first Low Vision Aid Clinic and the Vitreo Retinal Surgical services in the Madurai Medical College and Government Rajaji Hospital, to founding the Dr. G. Venkataswamy Eye Research Institute to promote integrated basic and clinical ophthalmic research. He had assiduously built on his mentor and guide, Dr. G. Venkataswamy's vision of transforming Aravind from a mere cataract centric hospital to that of a renowned postgraduate training institute as well as a centre of excellence in treating most prevalent eye diseases in the country, attracting residents, fellows and trainees from afar. His legacy went far beyond merely tertiary care and research of eye diseases. He had pioneered the screening of diabetic retinopathy and Retinopathy of prematurity in the communities, transcending many barriers to prevent avoidable blindness. He had promoted technology-enabled primary vision care centres in rural Tamil Nadu to bridge the last mile and breach the eye care access barriers. These path breaking initiatives continue to provide vision to millions in need.

Having inspired legions of doctors and paramedical professionals, Dr. Nam led a life rooted in humility and service. He leaves behind not just a legacy, but a path, a standard, and a vision for generations to follow.



Dr. P. Namperumalsamy
9th July 1940 - 24th July 2025

ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Vision: Eliminate needless blindness . .

EYE CARE SERVICES

.. by providing compassionate and quality eye care affordable to all

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

.. by developing human resources through teaching and training

RESEARCH

.. by providing evidence through research and evolving methods to translate existing evidence and knowledge into effective action

CONSULTANCY & CAPACITY BUILDING

.. by enhancing eye care through capacity building advocacy, research and publications

OPHTHALMIC SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT

.. by making quality ophthalmic products affordable and accessible to the vision impaired worldwide

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

. . by empowering healthcare institutions through providing accessible, innovative, and affordable digital solutions

EYE CARE SERVICES



8 Tertiary Eye Hospitals

8 Secondary Hospitals

8 Community Eye Clinics

120 Vision Centres

5 Aravind Integrated Eye Bank Services

Free Eye Camps

3,450 camps were conducted through which 556,043 patients were screened, and 104,589 surgeries performed in the year ending March 2026.





EDUCATION AND TRAINING

ARAVIND EYE HOSPITALS & POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY
LIONS ARAVIND INSTITUTE OF COMMUNITY OPHTHALMOLOGY (LAICO)



RESEARCH

ARAVIND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (AMRF)

DR. G. VENKATASWAMY EYE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Basic and translational research, clinical research, operations research & product development in eye care



CONSULTANCY AND CAPACITY BUILDING

LIONS ARAVIND INSTITUTE OF COMMUNITY OPHTHALMOLOGY (LAICO)

Sharing best practices of Aravind and advocacy in eye care



OPHTHALMIC SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

AUROLAB

Intraocular lens, pharmaceuticals, suture needles, equipment, surgical blades and special products



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

AUROiTECH

EMR/EHR design, development and support, digital transformation and operations in healthcare, hospital IT support and management, DevSecops solutions, data management, research, consulting and training

CONTENTS

Highlights 9

Patient Care 13

- Eye Hospitals
- Community Outreach
    - Free Eye Camps
    - Community Eye Clinics and City Centres
    - Vision Centres
- Aravind Integrated Eye Bank Services

Education and Training 29

Consultancy and Capacity Building 59

Research 67

Ophthalmic Supplies and Equipment 79

Information Technology 87

Employee Empowerment 89

Innovation 100

Recognitions and Achievements 103

Aravind Eye Foundation 120

Partners in Service 123

Trustees and Staff 125

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activity report

April 2025 to March 2026

Highlights 2025-2026

Several significant milestones marked Aravind's journey over the past year, particularly in expanding its services and enhancing patient care, while also celebrating its Golden Jubilee through a series of commemorative events. These occasions served as a meaningful reminder for every member of the Aravind family to renew their commitment to the noble vision of Dr. V.

Aravind commenced its services to the people of Thanjavur and the neighbouring districts on 20th April 2025 with the inauguration of its eighth Tertiary Eye Care Centre. Equipped with modern facilities, the new centre fulfils a long-standing need in the delta region of Tamil Nadu, providing affordable and accessible eye care.

BEENT Eye Hospital, Chengalpattu, an existing facility, has now been integrated into Aravind network as its eighth Secondary Eye Hospital, under Aravind-Chennai. This integration into the Aravind family was formalised on 29th August 2025, further strengthening the reach and impact of quality eye care across Chengalpattu and the surrounding regions.

Aravind-Salem has been serving the eye-care needs of the western region of Tamil Nadu since 2011, operating from Nethimedu, Salem. With increasing demand, it has now expanded to a new facility at a nearby location in Uthamacholapuram, along the Salem-Coimbatore Highway. The new



BEENT Eye Hospital, Chengalpattu, is now Aravind's Eighth Secondary Centre

campus was inaugurated on 14th December 2025. The original building has continued to function as a city centre from December 2025 onwards.

As part of future expansion, there are plans to relocate Aravind-Madurai, the first hospital in the network, to a nearby site. Preliminary planning for construction, design, and the incorporation of modern technology, while ensuring the capacity

The Honourable Supreme Court Justice Thiru. R. Mahadevan, inaugurating the new facility of Aravind - Salem



to meet increasing patient volumes, has gained momentum. Visits by the senior leadership team of AECS to key hospitals in China during the month of March 2026 have provided new perspectives for initiating this hospital construction.

Reaching a Half-Century Milestone on the Journey Toward Centuries

Inspired by the timeless words of Dr. V, who admired Gandhiji's concept of 'soul-force,' and observed, "His great strength was his capacity to love people," Dr. V embodied this ideal through his own life and work, making the gift of sight freely available to countless people.

As Aravind marks its 50th year, it looks ahead with renewed spirit and a clear determination to accomplish all that still remains to be done in its mission of eliminating needless blindness. The jubilee celebrations kicked off on 4th April 2025 with the launch of the jubilee logo, followed by various events at every Aravind centre. It was a time for all Aravind members to rejoice in the impressive work carried out to help fellow human beings see the world clearly. Throughout the





Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran inaugurating the new Eye Drops facility of Aurolab



Aravind Eye Care System hosting the WHO regional meeting on eye health at Madurai

year, staff participated in designing the jubilee logo, composing a special anthem, taking part in a jubilee photo competition, planting tree saplings, and conducting department-wise CMEs and CPEs, all with the aim of rededicating themselves to the noble mission of eliminating needless blindness.

WHO - Regional Meeting on Eye Health: Towards Better Vision

Aravind hosted the Regional meeting of the World Health Organization South-East Asia Regional Office (WHO SEARO) held at GRT Grand Hotel, Madurai, on 10-12 November 2025. The discussions focused on reviewing progress related to effective cataract surgical and refractive error coverage, diabetic retinopathy screening and SPECS 2030, a global initiative addressing refractive errors, and outlining the way forward to achieve the 2030 global eye health targets.

A New Eye Drops Manufacturing Facility

Aurolab opened its Advanced US FDA-Compliant Eye Drops Manufacturing Facility on 5th October 2025, a major milestone in the company's efforts

In loving memory of Prof. Astrid Fletcher

Prof. Astrid Fletcher, a noble soul, a pioneering force in global public health, and a very dear friend of the Aravind family, left this world on 21st May 2025. As an eminent faculty at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, she made lasting contributions through her work with the World Health Organization and the National Eye Institute.

Astrid's association with Aravind began in 1992 and left an enduring impact. Her ground-breaking research on barriers to eye care utilisation in rural India led to the development of the Vision Centre model, transforming access to eye care for countless communities. In recognition of her contributions to eye care and the profound impact of her research, Aravind honoured her with the Dr. G. Venkataswamy Memorial Award 2023.

Astrid's legacy of compassion, intellect, and service continues to guide Aravind in its mission.





Dr. G. Venkataswamy Memorial Award to Dr. Leon B Ellwein

to promote India's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision and improve eye care globally, while also upholding Aurolab's commitment to "Make in India," sustainability, and international quality standards. Today, Aurolab stands as one of the leading producers of ophthalmic pharmaceuticals in the region.

AMRF: Lab to Clinic - Myocilin Glaucoma

Genetic research on the MYOC (myocilin) gene has been translated into clinical practice for the early detection and management of Juvenile-onset Open-Angle Glaucoma (JOAG). The recent study identified several MYOC gene mutations N480K, in eight families across South India with young individuals who are yet to develop the clinical symptoms and are being closely monitored.

Dr. G. Venkataswamy Oration and Award Ceremony 2025

This year, the Oration Award was conferred on Dr. Leon B. Ellwein, a public health professional recognising his contributions to epidemiology and operations research in vision health. His collaboration with Aravind began in the early 1980s with community-based research aimed at improving cataract care delivery. He later played a pivotal role in the landmark Madurai Intraocular Lens Study (MIOLS). These initiatives helped build Aravind's capacity for population-based studies and facilitated international collaborations that continue to guide Aravind's research. During the oration ceremony held at Aravind-Madurai on 30th September 2025, Dr. Ellwein delivered the Dr. G. Venkataswamy Memorial Oration on the title: *"Research to Give Sight for All"*.

Beyond Eye Care

Art Exhibition

In remembrance of artists Perumalda and Manohar Devadoss, whose birthdays fall on 7th August and 10th September, respectively, Aravind celebrated their legacies through an exhibition under the theme "Art that Inspires," organised at Aravind-Madurai from 12 to 16 August 2025. The event included sessions led by renowned artists from Madurai, engaging schoolchildren, college students, and the public, and encouraging them to appreciate artworks that celebrate Madurai's notable monuments and capture the beauty of nature.

Patient Care



"I was not condescending to do something good for them (people), as though I were a superior being. Rather, I felt a part of me was suffering with them." - Dr. V

Responding to the growing eye care needs of patients has led to the steady expansion of hospitals and service areas across all its centres, year after year. As partners in Dr. V's mission, doctors, AOPs, and staff at every level contribute their best to delivering quality and effective services, ensuring that no one suffers from a lack of eye care. Aravind continues to bridge the gap between the availability of eye care services and their reach to those who need them most.



Shri. P.R. Venketrama Raja, Chairman, Ramco Group, and Shri. Babaji Rajah Bhonsle, Hereditary Trustee, Thanjavur Palace Devasthanam, inaugurating Aravind-Thanjavur.

The past year marked several notable achievements, including expansion initiatives, outreach projects to serve the needy, innovative approaches in care, the launch of new ventures, and the continued delivery of quality, affordable, and accessible eye care for all.

EYE HOSPITALS

Infrastructure development

A new tertiary centre for Aravind was constructed at Thanjavur and dedicated on 20th April 2025. Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, the new hospital aims to ensure continued access to quality eye care for a population of 7.2 million across Thanjavur and the surrounding districts.

BEENT Eye Hospital, Chengalpattu, became part of the Aravind family on 29th August 2025. Now functioning as Aravind's eighth secondary eye care centre in Chennai, the merger represents the coming together of two institutions united by shared values, principles, and practices. This integration has further strengthened Aravind's service to the people of Chengalpattu and surrounding region.

To meet the growing demand for quality eye care, Aravind-Salem has relocated to a nearby location in Uthamacholapuram. The new building was inaugurated on 14th December 2025 and its new Operation Theatre commenced operations from 8th January 2026 with the installation and launch of advanced sterilisation facilities. The former hospital building has been converted into a city centre, providing basic eye care service to the community.



Lighting the ceremonial lamp during the inauguration of the new facility at Aravind-Salem

New initiatives

The stores department of Aravind-Madurai was relocated from the OPD building to the AMRF building on 12th May 2025, streamlining processes and facilitating the smoother store operations. A new MRD facility was inaugurated at Aravind-Theni by Srinivasulu Thayam, Chief Technology Officer, Auroitech on 30th July 2025. The facility will help ease patient congestion in the OPD and ensure more efficient use of the available space.

Aravind-Tirunelveli opened the Eye Gym, Vision-Skills Training Lab & Myopia control clinic on 15th September 2025. The Eye Gym is a specialised facility to diagnose, treat vision disorders like amblyopia (lazy eye) and binocular vision anomalies.

The first Clinical Trial Unit (CTU) at Aravind-Pondicherry was inaugurated by Dr. G. Natchiar on



Inauguration of Eye Gym, Vision-Skills Training Lab & Myopia control clinic at Aravind - Tirunelveli



Dr. G. Natchiar at the Clinical Trial Unit during the inaugural event



Dr. M. Srinivasan presenting a low vision device to a patient during the Low Vision Meetup

31st December 2025. The unit has been established to provide all essential research investigations in a single dedicated location.

The department of Low Vision Aids, Aravind-Madurai, organised A Low Vision Community Meetup on 14th February 2026, to create awareness about education, career opportunities, and rehabilitation services for persons with severe visual impairments.

The renovated Aravind Optical Edging Lab and Essilor Lens Grinding Lab at Aravind-Coimbatore were inaugurated on 2nd March 2026. The upgraded facility has been developed in accordance with Pollution Control Board norms, ensuring an eco-friendly and pollution-free working environment for employees.
A delegation from Aravind visited China from 15-22 March 2026 to study leading ophthalmic institutions, hospital infrastructure, and emerging practices in patient care. The visit focused particularly on innovative approaches to addressing refractive errors, which affect nearly 50% of China's population. During the visit, the delegation toured the Eye & ENT Hospital of Fudan University in Shanghai, Aier Eye Hospital in Changsha, and the Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center in Guangzhou.

The Aravind-Alcon Centre for Surgical Advancement (Virtual Reality), along with the conference hall, was inaugurated at Aravind-Madurai on 25th March 2026. The centre plays a major role in enhancing surgeons' skills through advanced simulation technologies, supporting excellence in patient care.

Dr. V. Narendarn and Dr. Kalpana Narendran inaugurating the Optical Edging Lab at Aravind - Coimbatore



Dr. Madhu Shekhar inaugurating the Aravind-Alcon Centre for Surgical Advancement at Aravind - Madurai



Projects to enhance eye care service delivery

Vision rehabilitation programme

With support from Vision-Aid, Aravind strengthened infrastructure and expanded low vision and rehabilitation services across its centres. During the reporting year, Aravind's Low Vision clinics at Madurai, Tirunelveli, Pondicherry, Coimbatore, and Tirupati together served nearly 15,000 patients through low vision assessments, functional vision evaluations, rehabilitation counselling, vision therapy, orientation and mobility training, early intervention services for children with cerebral visual impairment, and computer and mobile accessibility training.

At Madurai alone, 5,117 individuals underwent low vision or functional vision assessments. Services provided included spectacles for 25 patients, free computer training for 1,093 college students, vision therapy for 778 patients, smartphones for 433 beneficiaries, 254 non-optical devices, 240 optical aids, 67 electronic devices, and 61 Smart Vision Glasses (SVG). In addition, low vision evaluation training was provided to 134 college students.

Across the four Vision-Aid-supported centres at Tirunelveli, Pondicherry, Coimbatore, and Tirupati, a total of 9,875 patients were served. Assistive devices distributed through the programme included 897 optical devices, 194 non-optical devices, 9 electronic devices, 272 spectacles, 187 SVG, and 2 smartphones. Capacity-building initiatives such as CMEs, webinars, conferences, and continuous skill enhancement programmes were organised for staff and rehabilitation professionals. Outreach activities included screening camps for children and awareness programmes conducted on World Sight Day and Low Vision Day. Assistive technologies, including SVGs and the Vision Tracker app, were also introduced, with 25 beneficiaries onboarded onto the Vision Tracker app during the year.



Vision therapy training for a low vision patient

Integrating school eye health into vision centres

Supported by Aravind Eye Foundation (AEF), the project aims to address visual impairment among school-going and pre-school children, particularly due to uncorrected refractive errors and other treatable eye conditions. During the reporting year, Aravind-Madurai and Tirunelveli enrolled 363 schools, reaching 50,083 students, of whom 27,652 were screened by trained vision screeners. A total of 2,570 children identified with defective vision were referred for further evaluation,

Computer training for low vision patients at Aravind-Madurai





Spectacles distributed to schoolchildren under the Spectacles for Schoolchildren Programme

and 1,383 reported to Vision Centres. Among those examined, 805 were advised spectacles, 788 ordered them, and 251 were referred to the base hospital for specialised care.

A similar initiative supported by Trees for Life International was implemented at Aravind-Pondicherry across five Vision Centres in Villupuram district. Under the programme, 45 schools were covered and 26,482 students screened. Of these, 3,457 students were referred to Vision Centres for detailed examination, with 800 reporting for follow-up. Among them, 437 were advised spectacles and 427 (98%) received them. In addition, 259 students were referred to the base hospital for further care, of whom 150 (58%) reached the hospital for treatment.

Schoolchildren receiving spectacles following refractive error screening



Spectacles for Schoolchildren

Supported by the AEF, the programme was implemented through Aravind Eye Hospitals in Madurai, Theni, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Kovilpatti, Coimbatore, Pondicherry, Salem, Tirupati, and Chennai to improve visual health and educational performance among schoolchildren through school-based eye screening initiatives. During the reporting year, the initiative was carried out across six tertiary and four secondary hospitals, in terms of supporting the glass for the children A total of 3,08,979 students were screened, and 13,437 children diagnosed with refractive errors were provided with spectacles.

Strengthening Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) tele-screening services – Theni

The project focused on early identification, timely treatment, and continuous follow-up of Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) through tele-screening and outreach services. During the reporting year, 788 premature babies were screened, with 14 diagnosed with ROP, all received timely treatment, including intravitreal injections where required, along with counselling and follow-up care. ROP tele-screening services were expanded to seven additional NICUs in Salem, with the procurement of vehicles and equipment completed to support the initiative.

Tele-screening for children with ROP



Ring of Hope

Supported by the AEF and implemented by Aravind-Madurai, the Ring of Hope Fund provides free treatment and genetic testing for underprivileged children and adults with eye cancers across all Aravind centres. Past year, 40 new Retinoblastoma patients were registered, 1,436 review visits were conducted, and 139 adult patients received care. Advanced treatment services included one intra-arterial procedure and 82 genetic tests.

Enhancing the management of children with glaucoma

The project focused on sibling screening for children diagnosed with primary childhood glaucoma and on supporting treatment and rehabilitation for children from low socio-economic backgrounds with progressive glaucoma. Last year, seven new childhood glaucoma cases and 60 review cases were managed. As part of sibling screening efforts, 40 registrations were completed, 13 children underwent clinical evaluation, and four confirmed cases were identified. The programme also supported 27 children from low socio-economic backgrounds, including medication support for 15 children.

Management of recalcitrant non-Infectious Uveitis patients with newer biologics and immunosuppressive therapy

The project focused on strengthening the management of complex non-infectious uveitis through multidisciplinary care involving rheumatology specialists, with emphasis on early treatment using newer biologics and immunosuppressive agents, including Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF). During the reporting year, 11 patients were enrolled, and 10 underwent joint rheumatology evaluation. Biologic therapy was initiated for 10 patients, including Adalimumab for seven patients and Rituximab for two patients, while MMF therapy was started for one patient. Regular follow-up, monitoring, and patient counselling were provided for all enrolled patients.

Creating Access to Rural Eyecare (CARE) project

Supported by the AEF, the one-year CARE Project was implemented by Aravind-Tirupati in the service area of Aravind Eye Clinic, Puttur, to improve utilisation of eye care services among rural communities. The project covered 44 villages within a 10 km radius of the Community Eye Centre and focused on identifying patients through door-to-door and school screenings, referring them for diagnosis and treatment, and improving eye health-seeking behaviour through health education programmes.

A mobile application developed by Peek Vision was used for visual acuity assessment and data capture. Training included a three-day Peek Software User Training Programme for four field workers and one project coordinator, along with a 10-day general eye care training. As of March 2026, 2,830 individuals had been screened across four village panchayats, with 1,250 referred to the clinic for further care. Among the 122 patients who attended the clinic, 20 underwent cataract surgery, 35 received spectacles, and 14 were referred to speciality clinics at the base hospital for advanced treatment.

Identifying patients through door-to-door and school screenings under the CARE project at Aravind-Tirupati



Eye care awareness through patient education

Aravind Eye Hospitals, across all its locations, were actively involved in creating awareness about eye care in addition to its core clinical services. A wide range of activities, including exhibitions, rallies, student competitions, webinars, video talks, press meets, and radio programmes, were regularly organised to educate the public. These activities aim to emphasise the importance of protecting one's vision, highlight the prevalence of various eye conditions within communities, and inform the public about available treatment options.

In addition, free eye screening camps and counselling services form an integral part of Aravind's community awareness initiatives, encouraging early detection and timely access to eye care.

Eye health awareness programme for children on Myopia Day at Aravind-Chennai



Myopia day eye health awareness programme for children at Aravind-Coimbatore



World Down Syndrome Day observation at Aravind-Tirunelveli



Diabetic retinopathy awareness exhibition at Aravind-Theni



World diabetic day awareness exhibition at Aravind-Madurai



World glaucoma week observation at Aravind-Dindigul



World glaucoma week observation at Aravind-Salem



World disability day awareness exhibition at Aravind-Tirunelveli



World sight day observance at Aravind-Pondicherry



Retinoblastom awareness week observation at Aravind-Madurai









PERFORMANCE APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026

	Total	Madurai	Dindigul	Theni	Tirunelveli	Tuticorin	Kovilpatti	Coimbatore
OUT-PATIENT VISITS								
HOSPITALS								
Paying sections	**3,447,561**	701,070	128,584	117,236	402,859	70,491	40,824	451,909
Free sections	**1,288,695**	271,901	35,959	34,795	105,674	20,373	16,211	152,404
OUTREACH								
SCREENING CAMPS								
Comprehensive camps	**399,230**	95,166	-	12,343	49,870	4,362	2,335	72,754
Diabetic Retinopathy screening camps	**21,098**	5,537	-	2,796	3,062	-	-	8,476
Workplace refraction camps	**53,435**	10,284	-	5,812	11,174	2,119	593	9,018
Schoolchildren examined by Aravind staff*	**64,162**	17,212	-	4,018	7,645	-	294	10,680
Paediatric eye screening	**4,111**	-	-	-	558	-	-	1,540
Mobile van refraction camps	**14,007**	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,811
RoP-No. of babies screened in NICUs	**28,620**	5,635	-	3,963	4,045	-	-	11,042
TOTAL FROM SCREENING CAMPS*	**584,663**	133,834	-	28,932	76,354	6,481	3,222	115,321
VISION CENTRES	**1,145,621**	382,668	-	87,663	199,459	-	-	83,865
COMMUNITY EYE CLINICS & CITY CENTRES	**245,965**	118,580	-	31,752	36,398	-	-	-
TOTAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS	**6,712,505**	1,608,053	164,543	300,378	820,744	97,345	60,257	803,499
SURGERIES, LASER PROCEDURES & INJECTIONS								
Paying sections	**413,198**	92,947	7,553	12,283	53,037	4,479	2,725	66,789
Subsidised (walk-ins to the free hospital)	**284,216**	61,548	5,305	6,421	25,086	3,669	3,059	35,277
Free (through screening camps)	**104,589**	24,767	528	2,264	12,736	466	343	23,807
TOTAL SURGERIES	**802,003**	179,262	13,386	20,968	90,859	8,614	6,127	125,873

**While the Aravind team screened 64,162 schoolchildren, an additional 588,656 children were screened by teachers/vision screeners and found to be normal.*

SURGERIES

	Total	Madurai	Dindigul	Theni	Tirunelveli	Tuticorin	Kovilpatti	Coimbatore
Cataract surgeries	**475,425**	100,657	11,324	13,998	49,311	7,528	5,189	63,598
Trab and combined procedures	**12,383**	3,222	24	49	1,923	47	-	2,154
Retina and vitreous surgeries	**28,919**	8,927	1	3	3,504	-	-	7,141
Squint correction	**3,470**	935	-	-	412	-	-	1,167
Keratoplasty (Incl. Graft procedures, Keratotomies, DSAEK)	**2,700**	621	-	-	402	-	-	582
Pterygium surgery	**12,711**	2,886	464	371	924	2	45	1,616
Ocular injuries	**2,396**	505	2	1	249	-	-	530
Lacrimal surgeries	**5,719**	2,546	-	15	402	-	-	996
Orbit and oculoplasty surgeries	**11,658**	3,291	21	75	915	37	15	2,709
Refractive laser procedures	**6,810**	1,665	-	-	1,242	-	-	1,153
Retinal laser procedures	**85,974**	15,611	-	2,484	13,112	-	-	16,372
YAG laser procedures	**68,712**	17,183	1,421	2,034	8,147	977	873	8,738
Intravitreal injections (Anti VEGF & Steroids)	**58,824**	13,537	-	1,577	7,484	-	-	12,912
Other surgeries, laser procedures & injections	**30,188**	8,036	151	395	3,495	46	5	7,287
TOTAL SURGERIES	**802,003**	179,622	13,386	20,968	90,859	8,614	6,127	125,873

Tirupur	Udumalpet	CBE CC	Pondicherry	Salem	Chennai	Chengalpattu	Tirupati	Thanjavur
63,899	58,455	62,609	336,663	156,187	514,452	36,000	181,913	124,410
34,839	30,013	-	126,977	86,408	156,043	-	160,073	57,025
8,552	4,468	-	59,867	22,617	42,301	-	24,595	-
-	-	-	214	318	290	-	405	-
1,797	1,345	-	6,107	843	2,339	-	2,004	-
985	1,116	-	9,791	9,091	2,261	-	1,069	-
-	-	-	2,013	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	12,196	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	1,335	-	2,329	-	271	-
11,334	6,929	-	79,327	45,065	49,520	-	28,344	-
26,007	30,780	-	226,680	60,494	48,005	-	-	-
-	-	-	31,579	-	15,047	-	12,609	-
136,079	126,177	62,609	801,226	348,154	783,067	36,000	382,939	181,435
4,169	5,598	5,830	43,872	17,658	66,019	2,714	17,749	9,776
5,465	7,486	-	31,501	20,657	33,546	-	36,938	8,258
1,370	638	-	16,904	5,659	8,765	-	6,342	-
11,004	13,722	5,830	92,277	43,974	108,330	2,714	61,029	18,034

This takes the total outreach screening to 1,173,319.

Tirupur	Udumalpet	CBE CC	Pondicherry	Salem	Chennai	Chengalpattu	Tirupati	Thanjavur
9,692	11,526	3,489	55,775	32,793	62,346	1,469	37,419	9,311
41	107	50	1,659	170	1,763	25	864	285
-	-	-	3,109	593	3,550	50	1,582	459
-	-	-	292	9	437	-	218	-
-	-	-	439	53	288	-	313	2
161	202	95	1,611	602	1,687	98	1,619	328
1	13	1	380	119	262	8	300	25
-	-	-	763	76	522	-	399	-
51	46	101	1,660	80	1,861	29	761	6
-	-	-	1,017	58	1,263	-	345	67
-	31	798	10,857	3,450	13,114	608	6,113	3,424
980	1,372	838	6,101	2,861	9,448	238	4,942	2,559
13	132	404	6,462	2,138	8,478	156	4,130	1,401
96	342	58	2,753	1,193	3,726	45	2,353	207
11,004	13,722	5,830	92,277	43,974	108,330	2,714	61,029	18,034

In the year ending March 2026, over 6.7 million outpatient visits were handled and 802,003 surgeries, laser procedures, and injections were performed across all Aravind Eye Hospitals.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the last year, through Aravind's outreach eye camps, 556,043 patients were screened and 102,7620 patients underwent surgeries for cataract and other eye conditions.

Aravind Eye Hospitals regularly conduct schoolchildren screening camps in government aided, and private schools with the support of school teachers. During 2025–26, in addition to the regular programme, District Health Officers requested Aravind to implement the Kannoli Kappom Thittam (KKT) in government schools. Under KKT, vision screening was conducted in 735 schools, covering 305,601 children. Of these, 17,460 children were prescribed spectacles to correct refractive errors. Combined with the regular school screening programme, a total of 652,818 children were screened during the year, and 16,188 children received spectacles with support from the Aravind Eye Foundation (AEF), other projects, and donors.

Sponsors' day

A total of five Sponsors' Day programmes were organised at Aravind Eye Hospitals in Tirunelveli, Madurai, Chennai, Tirupati, and Coimbatore on 31st August 2025, 9th October 2025, 11th October 2025, 6th December 2025, and 4th January 2026, respectively. These events served as a heartfelt expression of gratitude to the many generous donors and well-wishers who continue to support Aravind's mission. The programmes featured detailed presentations showcasing the hospital's achievements, success stories of sponsors, patient care statistics, and community outreach initiatives, along with various engaging events. Representatives from several social organisations and volunteers were felicitated for their commendable service in the field of eye care.

Sight First seminar

Sight First Seminars were organised at Aravind Eye Hospitals in Madurai, Thanjavur, and Pondicherry on 31st August 2025, 27th September 2025, and 1st October 2025, respectively. Conducted for the newly elected office bearers of Lions Districts 3242B, and 3242F, the seminars aimed to raise awareness about eye health issues and strengthen Lions members' participation in community eye care programmes. The sessions focused on strengthening SightFirst initiatives while highlighting the importance of early detection and eye screening camps.

Annual outreach planning meeting

Conducted for over three decades during the first week of January, the Annual outreach planning meeting brings together outreach teams from all Aravind tertiary hospitals to review the previous year's performance and plan strategies for the year ahead. This year's meeting, held at Aravind-Madurai on 7-8 January 2026, brought together 73 camp staff from all tertiary centres. The meeting focused not only on reviewing performance but also on in-depth discussions of the challenges faced in 2025, while gathering valuable inputs and suggestions from the teams.

COMMUNITY EYE CLINICS AND CITY CENTRES

During April 2025 to March 2026, four community eye clinics and four city centres together handled 245,965 patient visits.

During the annual outreach planning meeting held at Aravind-Madurai



Outreach Performance APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026

	Total	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Tirupur	Salem	Tuticorin	Udumalpet	Chennai	Tirupati	Kovilpatti
FREE EYE CAMPS													
Comprehensive Eye Camps													
Camps	**2,158**	498	73	277	370	273	34	152	38	27	248	146	22
Patients examined	**399,230**	95,166	12,343	49,870	72,754	59,867	8,552	22,617	4,362	4,468	42,301	24,595	2,335
Glasses prescribed	**98,430**	21,785	3,932	11,587	16,135	13,566	3,303	5,326	1,444	1,095	14,409	5,347	501
Glass delivered	**83,430**	18,124	3,755	9,796	14,977	10,838	2,892	4,341	1,254	1,007	11,302	4,728	416
Glasses dispensed on the spot	**72,557**	16,921	3,142	8,545	14,198	9,878	2,406	3,080	877	819	8,698	3,713	280
Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Camps													
Camps	**224**	35	64	23	90	2	-	5	-	-	2	3	-
Patients examined	**21,098**	5,537	2,796	3,062	8,476	214	-	318	-	-	290	405	-
Diabetics screened	**13,574**	2,801	2,796	1,139	6,075	75	-	85	-	-	278	325	-
DR Patients screened	**2,246**	496	221	320	1,048	26	-	16	-	-	73	46	-
Refraction Camps													
Camps	**264**	38	31	43	30	48	8	12	16	9	10	16	3
Patient examined	**53,435**	10,284	5,812	11,174	9,018	6,107	1,797	843	2,119	1,345	2,339	2,004	593
Glasses prescribed	**20,276**	3,743	2,679	4,990	2,943	2,137	723	306	692	321	1,006	570	166
Glasses delivered	**18,530**	3,431	2,668	4,784	2,676	1,673	691	256	624	296	877	434	120
On-the-spot deliveries	**14,894**	3,069	2,406	3,621	1,987	1,511	496	165	400	218	538	388	95
Refraction Camps by Mobile Unit													
Camps	**198**	-	-	-	8	-	-	190	-	-	-	-	-
Patients examined	**14,007**	-	-	-	1,811	-	-	12,196	-	-	-	-	-
Glasses prescribed	**2,999**	-	-	-	112	-	-	2,887	-	-	-	-	-
Glasses delivered	**2,438**	-	-	-	77	-	-	2,361	-	-	-	-	-
Eye Screening of School Children													
Schools served	**1,609**	686	48	270	194	90	16	157	-	15	36	44	53
Camps	**584**	141	29	39	130	98	13	77	-	15	19	23	-
Teachers trained	**220**	-	-	-	-	147	-	-	-	-	73	-	-
Total Strength in school	**652,818**	215,269	29,725	72,443	114,760	73,967	10,892	85,124	-	11,750	21,083	13,617	4,188
Children screened by Oph.	**64,162**	17,212	4,018	7,645	10,680	9,791	985	9,091	-	1,116	2,261	1,069	294
Children received glasses	**16,953**	2,675	893	2,320	4,547	2,756	484	1,365	-	251	1,092	400	170
Children identified with eye defects other than Refractive Error	**9,632**	2,027	365	1,171	2,695	1,487	188	1,280	-	128	170	95	26
Paediatric Eye Screening Camps													
Camps	**22**	-	-	4	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Children Examined	**4,111**	-	-	558	1,540	2,013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Refractive Errors	**0**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glasses prescribed	**0**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glasses delivered	**0**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Children identified with eye defects other than Refractive Error	**295**	-	-	41	-	254	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RoP Screening													
Screening Visits	**2,089**	577	157	506	360	178	-	-	-	-	273	38	-
Babies screened	**14,393**	3,624	1,989	1,879	4,745	739	-	-	-	-	1,179	238	-
Babies with ROP	**1,184**	535	54	146	332	46	-	-	-	-	62	9	-
ROP Babies treated	**596**	105	39	161	197	52	-	-	-	-	37	5	-
VISION CENTRES													
Centres	**120**	41	7	21	8	19	3	9	-	4	8	-	-
New + Review	**1,145,621**	382,668	87,663	199,459	83,865	226,680	26,007	60,494	-	30,780	48,005	-	-
Out-patients / day	**31**	31	40	32	34	38	28	22	-	25	19	-	-
COMMUNITY EYE CLINICS AND CITY CENTRES													
Centres	**8**	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
New + Review	**245,965**	118,580	31,752	36,398	-	31,579	-	-	-	-	15,047	12,609	-
Outpatients / day	**109**	128	102	117		102	-	-	-	-	49	41	-

VISION CENTRES

The number of vision centres increased to 120 last year, with the addition of three new centres in different locations, while a few existing centres were relocated.

To commemorate 22 years of vision centre services and to raise awareness about the range of services offered, Aravind-Madurai organised a vision centre exhibition on 17th April 2025. The initiative encouraged patients to seek consultation locally and reduce unnecessary travel. A skill upgradation programme for Madurai VC staff was conducted by Aravind-Madurai on 28th April 2025. The programme focused on Importance and key aspects of taking quality fundus images and techniques. Further, a hands-on training was conducted to ensure the staff are technically competent to take quality fundus images which helps in reducing ungradable images.

As part of its ongoing commitment to excellence in eye care delivery, Aravind-Salem conducted a Seva Audit of vision centres at Omalur and Mecheri on 12th May 2025, and at Thalaivasal and Harur on 13th May 2025. The purpose of these visits was to ensure that all vision centres continue to uphold the highest standards of community eye care. Besides, vision centre CMEs were also organised by Aravind Eye Hospitals in Tirunelveli and Madurai on 28th September 2025 and 7-8 November 2025, respectively. These sessions aimed to enhance knowledge and skills, update participants on recent developments in clinical practice, and reinforce the importance of delivering quality eye care in the community.



Vision Centre exhibition at Aravind-Madurai

The Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on vision centre skill assessment

To enhance the quality and performance of Vision Centre services across Aravind's growing network, a the workshop was organised at Aravind-Madurai on 4th October 2025. The programme focused on equipping 25 participants, including assessors, senior vision technicians, and vision centre clinical coordinators from across the Aravind network, with the knowledge, tools, and methodologies required to conduct skill assessments independently at their respective base hospitals. Following the workshop, centres in Tirunelveli, Coimbatore, Salem, Pondicherry, and Chennai successfully conducted skill assessments.

As part of this initiative, the vision centre skill assessment programme was held at Aravind-Salem on 15-16 October 2025 for all vision centre staff. Nine vision centre technicians participated in the assessment, followed by an evaluation session for vision centre coordinators.

Vision centres inaugurated in 2025-2026

Pallathur - Aravind-Madurai, 12th September 2025



Lakshmi Hospital (TVS Group), Madurai Aravind-Madurai, 25th June 2025



Shengottai - Aravind-Tirunelveli, 23rd January 2026



ARAVIND INTEGRATED EYE BANK SERVICES (AIEBS)



Inauguration of the eye donation centre at SV Aravind-Tirupati

AIEBS works towards providing solutions for corneal blindness through awareness creation, volunteer training, community-based death notification systems, and efficient response to eye donation calls. AIEBS collaborates with community volunteers, educational institutions, and organisations such as Lions Clubs International and Rotary International to promote eye donation and support cornea retrieval. During the reporting year, around 55% of corneas were retrieved through community-based programmes, while 45% were retrieved through Hospital Cornea Retrieval Programme (HCRP).

AIEBS currently partners with 18 Government Medical College Hospitals under HCRP, while also strengthening collaborations with private hospitals. In a significant step towards combating corneal blindness, Aravind-Tirupati inaugurated its Eye Donation Centre on 28th August 2025 and formally launched the HCRP at Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences.

On 29th January 2026, the Rotary Club of Madurai West, in association with the Rotary Club of Freshwater Bay and with support from The Rotary Foundation, donated a specular microscope and accessories, including a slit-lamp machine, computer system, centrifuge, and photocopier to the Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank (RAIEB), Madurai. The equipment was commissioned by Holger Knaack, Past President of Rotary International and Trustee Chair of The Rotary Foundation.

During the reporting year, Aravind Eye Banks distributed corneas, sclera, and amniotic membrane grafts (AMG) to 43 institutions.

Training

RAIEB, Aravind-Madurai, also provided training to 11 eye bank technicians, one eye donation counsellor, and two eye bank managers.

Awareness Creation

AIEBS organised awareness programmes in collaboration with volunteers, educational institutions, clubs, and hospitals, including observance of the 40th National Eye Donation Fortnight (25th August 2025 - 8th September 2025) to encourage public participation in eye donation.

Statistics

Centre	Eyes collected	Eyes utilised for corneal transplantation	Sent to other institutions
Madurai	3,115	871	219
Coimbatore	1,157	422	9
Tirunelveli	1,270	426	8
Pondicherry	1,017	469	34
Chennai	338	206	6
Total	6,897	2,394	276

Formal programme for the donation of a specular microscope and essential equipment to RAIEB, Madurai, by the Rotary Foundation



National Eye Donation Fortnight observed across Aravind centres



Aravind - Tuticorin

Aravind - Tirunelveli



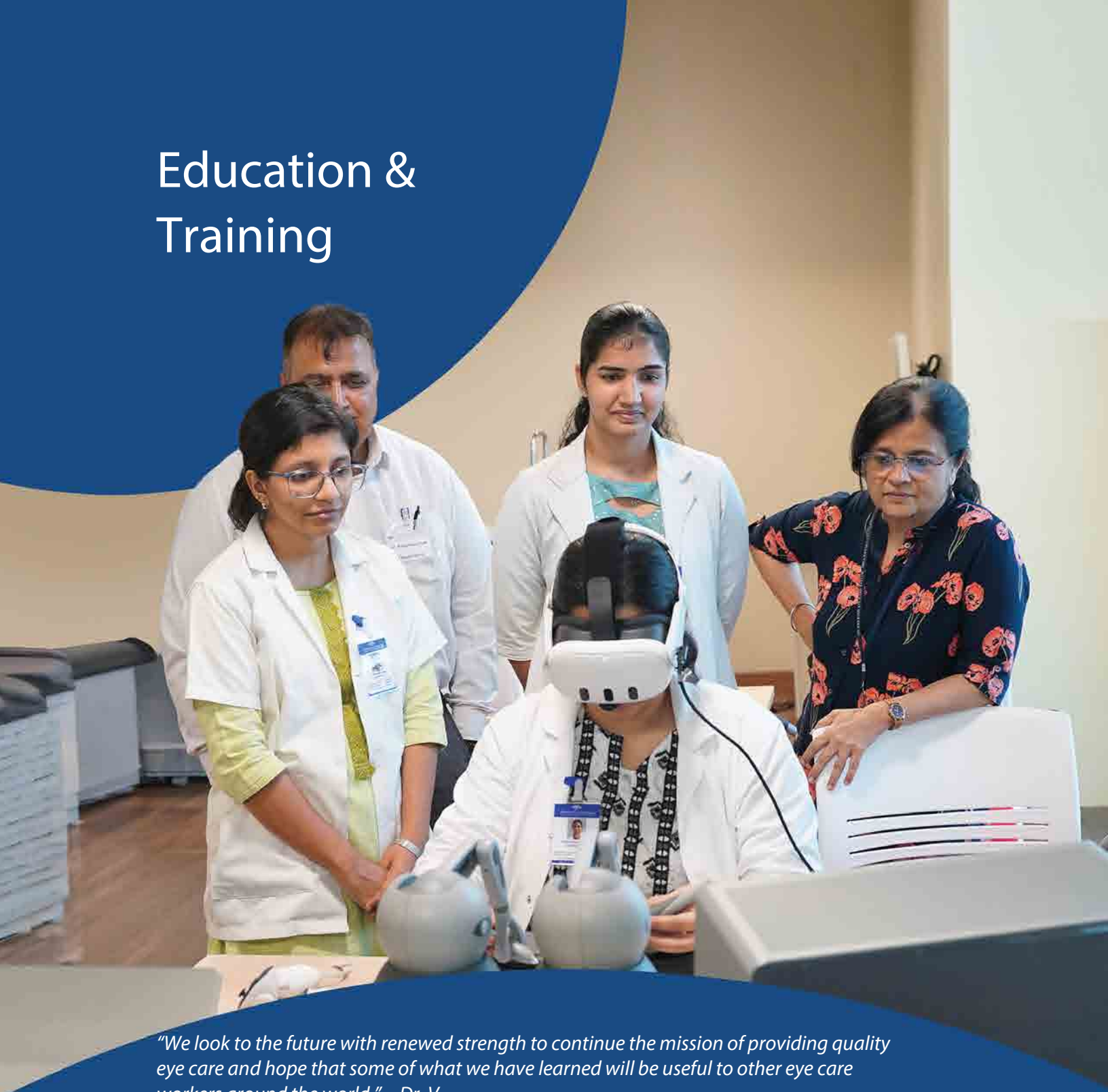
Aravind - Tirupathi



Aravind - Madurai



Education & Training



"We look to the future with renewed strength to continue the mission of providing quality eye care and hope that some of what we have learned will be useful to other eye care workers around the world." – Dr. V

A key initiative that has gone hand in hand with Aravind's core clinical activities, contributing to its growth, is its strong commitment to education and training. Aravind has placed knowledge-sharing at the heart of its growth. This commitment has not only strengthened the institution but has also contributed to the field of ophthalmology by enabling professionals and institutions to carry forward the mission of quality eye care. Through structured training and academic programmes, Aravind equips professionals with the knowledge, skills, and compassion needed to enhance the quality of eye care.

In the last year (April 2025 - March 2026), ***611 candidates*** *underwent training in various clinical and management courses offered at Aravind.*







POSTGRADUATE COURSES

Master of Surgery in Ophthalmology (3 years)	17
Diplomate of the National Board (3 years)	33
Post DO DNB (2 years)	12

LONG-TERM OPHTHALMOLOGY FELLOWSHIP

Ant. Segment / Intraocular Lens Microsurgery (2 years)	27
Orbit & Oculoplasty (18 months)	09
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus (18 months)	08
Glaucoma (2 years)	25
Retina & Vitreous (2 years)	34
Comprehensive Ophthalmology (2 years)	06
Cornea (18 months)	27
Medical Retina (1 year)	09
Uvea (1 year)	01
Surgical Paediatric Retina Fellowship (RoP) (1 year)	01
Fellowship in General Ophthalmology	06

LONG-TERM OPHTHALMOLOGY FELLOWSHIP (INTERNATIONAL)

Cornea (1 year)	01
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus (1 year)	02
Orbit & Oculoplasty (1 year)	01
Retina (1 year)	01

SHORT-TERM OPHTHALMOLOGY FELLOWSHIP (INTERNATIONAL)

Orbit & Oculoplasty (6 months)	02
Glaucoma (6 months)	01
Paediatric Ophthalmology (6 months)	01
Retina & Vitreous (6 months)	01

SHORT-TERM CLINICAL COURSES FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Clinical Observership Programme in Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma (1 month)	04
Neuro Ophthalmology (3 months)	03
Phacoemulsification (1 month)	66
Small Incision Cataract Surgery (1 month)	58
Management of Retinopathy of Prematurity & Paediatric Retinal Disorders (1 month)	13
HelpMeSee Simulation-Based Training in MSICS (1 week)	14

SHORT-TERM PARAMEDICAL COURSES

Vision Centre Technicians	10
Telescreening in Retinopathy of Prematurity	02
Optical Dispensing	04
Short-Term Course in OT Techniques	05
Short-Term Course in Refraction Techniques	02
Orientation to Paediatric Ocular Anaesthesia for Anaesthetic Nurses	02
Training for Ocularists	06
Training for Orthoptists	01

MANAGEMENT COURSES

Fellowship in Eye Hospital Management (1 year)	06
Community Outreach and Social Marketing for Eye Care Services (3 weeks)	19
Eyexcel – Excellence in Eye Care Training (5 days)	47
Management Priorities in Eye Care Delivery (1 week)	29
Management Training and Systems/ Development for Hospital Administrators/ Managers (1 month)	20
Management Training for Eye Care Programme Managers (2 weeks)	17
Vision Centre Management (6 days)	19
Online Project Management for Eye Care (1 month)	13
Ophthalmic Instrument Maintenance - for Technicians (1 month)	15
Ophthalmic Instrument Maintenance (Online)	05
Eye Bank Techniques (1 month)	05
Eye Bank Management (6 days)	04



Last year, **377 candidates** *underwent training through Aravind Rotary Centre for Advanced Ophthalmic Resource and Education (ARCORE).*

AKSHIVIKAS - Aravind Advanced Cataract Course (2 days) (Practicing ophthalmologist)	- 105
ĪKSHANA - Comprehensive Capsule for Postgraduates – Phase 1 (5 days) (First Year)	- 111
ĪKSHANA - Comprehensive Capsule for Postgraduates – Phase 2 (5 days) (Final Year)	- 161

Custom Designed Courses

To meet the specific needs of individuals and organisations, Aravind and LAICO offer a range of custom-designed courses that provide specialised learning opportunities. Tailored to participants' requirements, these programmes combine hands-on training with observation in selected clinical and administrative areas. The duration, schedule, and course fee vary depending on the learning objectives and specific needs of the participants.

During April 2025 to March 2026, **45 participants from 5 countries**, including Antigua and Barbud, Ghana, India, South Sudan, and Vietnam attended these customised training programmes. The courses were conducted across various Aravind centres in Madurai, Coimbatore, Pondicherry, Tirunelveli, and at LAICO, based on their individual requirements.

Winners of AIOS - Fellow of the All India Collegium of Ophthalmology (FAICO) Examination 2025:

Orbit: Aravind-Madurai: Dr. Lakkimsetty Bharadwaj, and Dr. Aparna Alphons Kurian

Retina: Aravind-Madurai: Dr. Ramya Jeyasingh Rajan, Dr. Rajiv Pardasani, Dr. Krishna Pramod, Dr. Konduru Rishitha, Dr. Sivaraman G., Dr. Aravindh K., Dr. Rashmi Nagar, Dr. Shreyas Sundardas Gore, Dr. Nivedita, Dr. Jigu S. Krishn, Dr. Harshini G.V., Dr. Veeradasari Jawahar Satya, Dr. Anish Chandane, Dr. Neeti Agarwal, and Dr. Pawan Garde; Aravind-Pondicherry: Dr. Saranya B; Aravind-Coimbatore: Dr. Ayushi Verma; Aravind-Chennai: Dr. Sorthiya Bansari Parsottam

Cataract: Aravind-Madurai: Dr. Sameer Chaudhary, Dr. Gopal Archana, Dr. Praveen Kumar Khuntia, Dr. Gariyashee Lahkar, Dr. Kriti Bhatt, Dr. Anooj Asif, Dr. Ramya Chirumamilla, Dr. M.D. Alan Uddin, and Dr. K. Dhivya; Aravind-Tirunelveli: Dr. A.J. Anju, and Dr. A. Jaishri Priya; Aravind-Chennai: Dr. Saranya

Paediatric Ophthalmology: Aravind-Madurai: Dr. Sreelekshmi, Dr. Abirami Priyadarshini, and Dr. Dixitha Aravind-Coimbatore: Dr. S. Murali Krishan, Dr. Jogith, and Dr. Pooja K.V.

Uvea: Aravind-Pondicherry: Dr. Devika Bhattacharya Mandlik; Aravind-Coimbatore: Dr. Nina P. Jacob

Glaucoma: Aravind-Coimbatore: Dr. Neenu Mariam George; Aravind-Tirunelveli: Dr. Kavya Subramanian, and Dr. Ramarghya Kusum Chakraborty

Besides its structured courses, Aravind continuously expands the knowledge and skills of internal staff as well as participants from across the world by conducting various Continuing Medical Education (CME), Continuing Professional Education (CPE) programmes, workshops, and retreat sessions. These platforms serve as common forums to discuss the latest trends, innovations, and best practices in the field of ophthalmology.

Continuing Medical/ Professional Education (CME/CPE) programmes

Workshop on CORNEA Surgical Skill Transfer Course - Lamellar Keratoplasty

Aravind-Pondicherry, 27th April 2025
A focused workshop on advanced lamellar corneal surgeries featured clinical insights and practical training on Deep Anterior Lamellar Keratoplasty (DALK), Descemet's Stripping Endothelial Keratoplasty (DSEK), and Descemet Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty (DMEK).

Neuro Synapse 2025: A Day of Knowledge Sharing!

Aravind-Pondicherry, 18th May 2025
The conference on Decoding Neuro-Ophthalmology Disorders, brought together renowned specialists and postgraduates to share knowledge and experiences. It featured a series of engaging sessions from neurologists and radiologists to offer a comprehensive approach to Neuro-ophthalmology.

Advanced surgical demonstration during the workshop on CORNEA SSTC - Lamellar Keratoplasty





A dry lab training session at the CME on Ocular Diagnostics

CME on Ocular Diagnostics

Aravind-Tirunelveli, 14-15 June 2025
The CME aimed to familiarise ophthalmologists with recent trends and advancements in ophthalmology through scientific sessions on major subspecialties and a dry lab training session focused on key diagnostic investigations.

Paediatric and Strabismus Symposium - PASS 2025

Aravind-Pondicherry, 22nd June 2025
The CME covered all aspects of myopia, including strategies to prevent its progression and a step-by-step guide to setting up a myopia clinic. The programme also focused on amblyopia management and explored clinical assessment and treatment approaches for accommodation anomalies.

An AOP explaining about optical management to the participants of the Paediatric and Strabismus symposium





Participants of the CME on Phaco Summit



Ceremonial lamp lighting during the Syn-Neurons 2025

CME on Phaco Summit - From Basics to Breakthroughs

Aravind-Salem, 22nd June 2025

The CME on phacoemulsification featured a range of speakers presenting on modern cataract surgery techniques, complication management, and surgical advancements. A key highlight of the CME was an interactive debate on "Phaco Vs. SICS in Complex Cases."

Syn-Neurons 2025 - Neuro-Ophthalmology Update

Aravind-Tirunelveli, 19-20 July 2025

The workshop aimed at fostering a systematically integrated approach to Neuro-Ophthalmology, offering evidence-based updates. It covered a wide spectrum of topics such as paediatric care, genetics, neuroimaging techniques, and featured hands-on training sessions.

Diagnostic Skill Transfer Course (DSTC) - Sharpen Your Diagnostic Edge!

Aravind-Pondicherry, 20th July 2025

The course offered participants a valuable opportunity to enhance their diagnostic acumen, covering a wide range of topics, including Fundus Fluorescein Angiography (FFA), Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT), corneal topography, glaucoma screening, and neuro-ophthalmology.

Training the Trainers' Workshop

Aravind-Chennai, 24th July 2025

Conducted by Dr. Karl Golnik from the Barrow Neurological Institute, this workshop focused on strengthening teaching skills in medical education. It featured various aspects, including engaging teaching methods, assessment strategies, managing challenging residents, and other key areas of medical training.

A clinical demonstration during the Diagnostic Skill Transfer Course



Participants of the Training the Trainers' Workshop with Dr. Karl Golnik





Participants of the CME on GLOW - Glaucoma Learning & Outreach for Wellbeing



A wetlab session during the workshop on Secondary IOLs Demystified

CME programme on GLOW - Glaucoma Learning & Outreach for Wellbeing

Aravind-Madurai, 9th August 2025,
Aimed at helping private practitioners develop expertise in glaucoma management, the CME featured a series of lectures on the fundamentals of glaucoma, along with observational training in patient investigative procedures.

Uvea 4 All - Infectious Uveitis

Aravind-Pondicherry, 17th August 2025
Bringing together internal faculty and external experts to share insights on evaluating and managing infectious ocular inflammations, the programme covered topics such as collaborative ocular tuberculosis study (COTS), AI-powered uveitis & proton registry and more.

CME on Unified for Young Eyes

Aravind-Tirupati, 24th August 2025
This multidisciplinary CME brought together ophthalmologists, paediatricians, neurologists, paediatric neurologists, and optometrists, to strengthening the collaboration across specialities. The workshop stations covered basic ocular examination, Corticocerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) screening, early intervention strategies, and environmental modifications.

Workshop on "Secondary IOLs Demystified"

Aravind-Pondicherry, 14th September 2025
The focused workshop brought together residents, fellows, and faculty for a full day of intensive academic learning and skill development. The highlight of the workshop was the hands-on wetlab, where participants practiced techniques under expert guidance, blending theoretical knowledge with real-time skill building.

Exploring Orbitology: Orbital Infections and Inflammation

Aravind-Pondicherry, 26th October 2025
The day offered rich academic learning that blended theory and practice, with Dr. Milind N. Naik from

At the CME on Unified for Young Eyes





At the CME on Exploring Orbitology: Orbital Infections and Inflammation



Ceremonial lamp lighting during the Kera Eye Cone 2025

L V Prasad Eye Institute elaborating on "*Specific orbital inflammations: Thyroid eye disease spectrum and management.*"

Kera Eye Cone 2025

Aravind-Tirunelveli, 9th November 2025
The CME focused on corneal ectatic disorders, with special emphasis on keratoconus, its diagnosis, management, and recent advances in treatment, creating a vibrant platform for learning and discussion. It also featured an exclusive live video demonstration of Corneal Allogenic Intrastromal Ring Segments (CAIRS).

Mastering the Art of Scleral Buckling: Precision & Perfection

Aravind-Madurai, 9th November 2025
Organised for Vitreo-Retina fellows, the symposium featured scientific sessions on scleral buckling, focusing on safe anaesthesia, management of complications, paediatric challenges, combined SB + PPV indications, and buckling in recurrent retinal detachment after vitrectomy.

Keraventure 2025

Aravind-Pondicherry, 16th November 2025
Aimed at advancing the understanding and management of keratitis, the conference featured case discussions along with a debate. The keynote address by Dr. M. Srinivasan, Director Emeritus, AECS, titled "*Managing corneal ulcers: Insights from my 50-year experience,*" offered invaluable perspectives on the management of corneal ulcers.

Vision for Life: Preventing Blindness in Preterm Children

Aravind-Madurai, 23rd November 2025
The symposium aimed to equip ophthalmologists, neonatologists, and trainees with updated knowledge

Inaugural event during the symposium on Mastering the Art of Scleral Buckling: Precision & Perfection



Participants of the symposium on Vision for Life: Preventing Blindness in Preterm Children





At the workshop on Strabismus and Orthoptics



Hands-on session using virtual reality simulator at the workshop on Master MSICS Techniques

and practical insights from prevention and screening to advanced management and long-term care of Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP).

Master the Basics: Workshop on Strabismus and Orthoptics

Aravind-Chennai, 23rd November 2025
Conducted in collaboration with the AIOS Scientific Committee, this Ophthalmology Pathshala programme was designed to bridge theoretical understanding with clinical practice in strabismus and orthoptics for postgraduates, fellows, and general ophthalmologists.

Workshop on Master MSICS Techniques

Aravind-Madurai, 7th December 2025
Organised for internal doctors and participants from various medical colleges, the workshop featured intensive training in Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (MSICS), including specialised hands-on sessions utilising the HelpMeSee Virtual Reality simulator.

5thAnnual Conference of Indian Paediatric Glaucoma Society (IPGS 2025)

Aravind-Madurai, 12-13 December 2025
Hosted by AECS, the conference brought together 99 participants, including international and Indian experts, and featured nearly 50 presentations on childhood and developmental glaucoma, focusing on genetic associations, early diagnosis, and effective management.

Surgical Skills Enhancement Programme

Aravind-Coimbatore, 17-18 December 2025
In association with Alcon, Aravind - Coimbatore organised a programme for final-year vitreoretinal fellows to enhance surgical skills and clinical decision-making in vitreoretinal surgery, covering ergonomics, diagnostics, intraocular fluids and gases, and advances in vitrectomy systems.

During the annual conference of the Indian Paediatric Glaucoma Society (IPGS 2025) at Aravind - Madurai



A training session during the Surgical Skills Enhancement Programme





Dr. S. Aravind at the ReFocus 2026 - The Refractive Surgery Colloquium



At the CME on Nerve Palsies Amblyopia and Asthenopia

Technology Skill Transfer Course (TSTC)

Aravind-Pondicherry, 21st December 2025
The CME equipped students and mentors with skills in technology-enabled teaching, AI tools, presentation techniques, and video editing to enhance teaching and communication through the effective use of technology.

ReFocus 2026 - The Refractive Surgery Colloquium

Aravind-Chennai, 25th January 2026
The colloquium drew leading surgeons to discuss advancement in evidence based refractive and presbyond laser blended vision, empowering practicing ophthalmologists and fellows with practical knowledge and skills for sustainable eye care practice.

CME on Nerve Palsies Amblyopia and Asthenopia

Aravind-Coimbatore, 15th February 2026
The CME featured expert sessions on KM Screen diagnostics, Digital Hess, Orthoptics, and Bynocs therapeutics, integrating traditional paediatric ophthalmology with digital innovations. It also included dry labs on manual and digital orthoptics and a wetlab on strabismus training using model eyes developed by Aurolab.

CME on Secondary IOL & Wetlab

Aravind-Salem, 22nd February 2026
The CME for practicing ophthalmologists and medical delegates featured an interactive debate on decision-making in aphakia, expert sessions on secondary IOL surgical techniques, and a hands-on wet lab that provided practical training and skill enhancement.

Seminar on Evidence to Excellence

Aravind-Tirunelveli, 22nd February 2026
Conducted by Aravind Library, the seminar highlighted the importance of high-quality research in advancing medical knowledge and improving patient care. The programme featured insightful sessions on Academic Publishing, Literature Search, Research Design, etc.

A wetlab session during the CME on Secondary IOL & Wetlab



Dr. R.Kumaragurupari at the seminar on Evidence to Excellence





At the Glaucoma Conclave 2026

Glaucoma Conclave 2026: An Update on Non-Surgical Management of Glaucoma

Aravind-Pondicherry, 23rd February 2026

The conclave featured sessions on medications and technology in glaucoma care, covering medical management, newer anti-glaucoma medications, molecular insights, adherence, nanodroppers, implants, and neuroprotection.

Vision Rehabilitation Update for Doctors, DNB postgraduates and Optometrists

Aravind-Coimbatore, 27th February 2026

Organised as part of Low Vision month, the session focused on adult low vision management, digital resources, rehabilitation guidance, training for severe vision loss, and strengthening referral pathways for persons with visual challenges.

GLOW CME

Aravind-Coimbatore, 23rd March 2026

The glaucoma seminar and gonioscopy workshop for general ophthalmologists covered glaucoma

Dr. J. Anuja being honoured at the IMA CME





A clinical demonstration during the GLOW CME

epidemiology, target IOP, OCT and visual field analysis, medical management, patient communication, and demonstrations of dynamic and manipulative gonioscopy.

Indian Medical Association (IMA) CME

Aravind - Salem, 29th March 2026

Aravind-Salem, in association with the IMA, Salem, organised the CME programme aimed at enhancing knowledge sharing among medical professionals and highlighting the latest developments in eye care and treatment practices.

CME on Retina 4U 2026: Retinopathy of Prematurity

Aravind-Pondicherry, 29th March 2026

The CME, themed "Tiny Babies, Timely Decisions: Tackling ROP," focused on screening protocols, timely interventions, and latest management strategies for retinopathy of prematurity to improve paediatric outcomes.

A panel discussion during the CME on Retina 4U 2026: Retinopathy of Prematurity



10th Edition of CANN

The 10th Edition of Coimbatore Aravind's Neuro-Ophthalmic Newsletter (CANN), has been published by the Neuro-Ophthalmology Department of Aravind-Coimbatore, coinciding with the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the AECS. This special edition honoured Dr. G. Natchiar, Director Emeritus, AECS, a true visionary whose pioneering spirit laid the foundation for neuro-ophthalmology in India. As a resident-focused issue, it includes two original studies by trainees along with insightful case reports contributed by postgraduates.



10th edition of CANN newsletter

Research writing in progress at the annual writathon 2025



Writathon

The annual Writathon event promotes research activities across Aravind in terms of writing, learning, and knowledge-sharing. It brings researchers together to achieve specific writing goals within a set timeframe. This year, the event, held at Aravind-Pondicherry on 17th October 2025, received over 30 submissions, including articles, videos, case reports, case series, image essays, letters to the editor, and clinical images. The best works have been submitted for acceptance and publication in prestigious journals.

Library Week

To enhance awareness and use of library resources, the Aravind Library and Information Centre, Madurai, organised Library Week at Aravind-Madurai. Conducted in two phases for Residents and AOPs during October-November 2025, the programme featured interactive events such as photo quizzes, skill tests, treasure hunts, and oral quizzes covering ophthalmology and general topics.

Engaging activities for doctors during the library week events





International & All India Conferences attended by Aravind staff

Annual Meeting of the American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) 2025

USA, C, 25-28 April 2025

Dr. R. Venkatesh

- *A novel suture-tube device for sutureless intrascleral fixation of IOL Haptics: A suture to ditch the suture! (Film)*

Dr. Haripriya Aravind

- *First, do no harm (Film)*
- *Efficacy of repeat hydro dissection after phacoemulsification in facilitating cortex removal: A randomised controlled trial (Paper)*

Dr. Devendra Maheshwari

- *Comparison of early outcomes of gonioscopy-assisted transluminal trabeculotomy Vs tanito microhook trabeculotomy with phacoemulsification (Paper)*
- *Anterior Segment OCT: A holster for MIGS surgery (Film)*

Dr. Sathy Ravilla

- *Shared medical appointments in paediatric ophthalmology (Paper)*

Dr. Nimritha

- *To determine macular ganglion cell loss by SD-OCT in OHT, POAG suspects, POAG & to access If GCIPL is superior to PRNFL (Poster)*
- *Role of peripheral vision centres in fight against glaucoma (Film)*
- *To evaluate clinical and surgical management for choroidal detachment in triple and tube surgery (Poster)*
- *Early outcomes of GATT combined with phacoemulsification in primary angle closure glaucoma in Indian eyed for 1 year (poster)*

Dr. Divya Manohar

- *Lessons in cataract surgery: What the developing world can teach (Film)*

Dr. Anuja

- *Comparison of treatment outcomes of intrastromal and intracameral voriconazole when combined with 9 MW Vs 18MW pack-CXL in fungal keratitis (Paper)*
- *Evaluating and comparing the accuracy of Barrett II universal formula in emmetropic, hyperopic and myopic Indian eyes with other formulae (Paper)*
- *Paediatric keratoconus: Are we seeing only the tip of the iceberg ? (Film)*

Dr. Ganesh Venkataraman

- *Canaloplasty: The cost effective 360 degree solution (Film)*

Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan

- *Flanged SFIOL my way: A novel technique with a specially designed needle suture combo (Paper)*

Dr. Ashok Varthan

- *Master lens zonular complex dynamics and become a phacoemulsification pro (Film)*

Dr. Sankaranathan

- *Rhexis: The saviour (Film)*

Dr. Anitha Venugopal

- *Gore-tex: A magic sheet for ocular surface disease (Film)*
- *Evaluating Gore-Tex as a novel treatment for symblepharon in patients with ocular surface chemical injuries: A retrospective study (Paper)*
- *Asymmetry and severity of keratoconus in down syndrome: A cross sectional Analysis of ocular tomographic parameters (Paper)*
- *AI-powered detection of eye-rubbing behaviour for keratoconus analysis in down syndrome using wearable devices (Paper)*

Dr. Logeshwari

- *Evaluating the efficacy of zero-shot large language models in the extraction of microbial keratitis descriptors (Poster)*

Meeting of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)

Nepal, 29th April - 1st May 2025

Thulasiraj

- *Integrating cataract and RE programmes*
- *Achieving the eCSC & eREC global targets: An introduction and perspective*
- *Refractive error: Sharing positively disruptive solutions*

Dhivya Ramasamy

- *Impact of vision centres on universal eye health (Talk)*
- *Addressing the training gap for allied ophthalmic personnel (Poster)*

At the annual meeting of the American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery 2025



26th Congress of the International Society for Geographical and Epidemiological Ophthalmology

Nepal, 27-28 April 2025

Yesunesan

- *Creating evidence through data-driven decision-making to achieve optimal cataract surgical outcomes (Paper)*

Dhivya Ramasamy

- *Study of visit pattern of patients with diabetes across all levels of care (Paper)*
- *Health readiness among patients in South India: Access, proficiency, and attitudes towards mobile-based tools (Poster)*

Jerrome Selvaraj

- *Glaucoma prevalence in India: Trends over two decades and future projections to 2050 (Paper)*

Sanil Joseph

- *Effectiveness and feasibility of artificial intelligence-based opportunistic screening for diabetic retinopathy in Australian real-world settings (Paper)*

Vinoth Kumar

- *Impact of tech-enabled vision centres in achieving 2030 global eye health targets (Paper)*
- *Methods for a population-based Comprehensive Eye care Workload Assessment (CEWA) study in Southern India (Poster)*
- *Impact and cost-benefit of community-based vision centres in treating eye injuries: A retrospective study across eight South Indian districts (Poster)*

Syed Ali A.

- *Understanding factors influencing cataract surgery uptake: The role of demographics, systemic conditions, and geographic distance in a tertiary eye hospital in South India (Paper)*

Mohammed Gowth

- *Does distance from base hospitals affects referral uptake at vision centres? (Paper)*

Udayakumar B.

- *Salience effect of clinical interventions and disease progression in follow-up adherence of patients with diabetic retinopathy (Paper)*
- *Factors affecting follow-up adherence of glaucoma patients (Poster)*

Dr. Annamalai O.

- *A scoping review to evaluate the evidence for family screening in glaucoma (Paper)*



Aravind team with Suzanne Gilbert at the ISGEO meeting

Suganya R

- *Pre-operative visual acuity evaluation among camp patients across 16 hospitals in 9 states: A comparison of urban and rural outcomes (Paper)*

Annual Meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) 2025

USA, 3-8 May 2025

Dr. P. Sundaresan

- *Functional analysis of GUCY2D mutant: An intrinsic cause of Leber's congenital amaurosis (Poster)*

Sanil Joseph

- *Enhancing artificial intelligence-based diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy via universal cross-camera image adaptation (Poster)*

Dr. Senthilkumari Srinivasan

- *Hsa-MiR-483 -3p regulates the extracellular matrix proteins via TGFβ2/SMAD4 signalling in the Glucocorticoid-responsive human trabecular meshwork cells (Paper)*

19th National Conference on Community Ophthalmology - VISION 2020

Ahmedabad, 11-13 July 2025

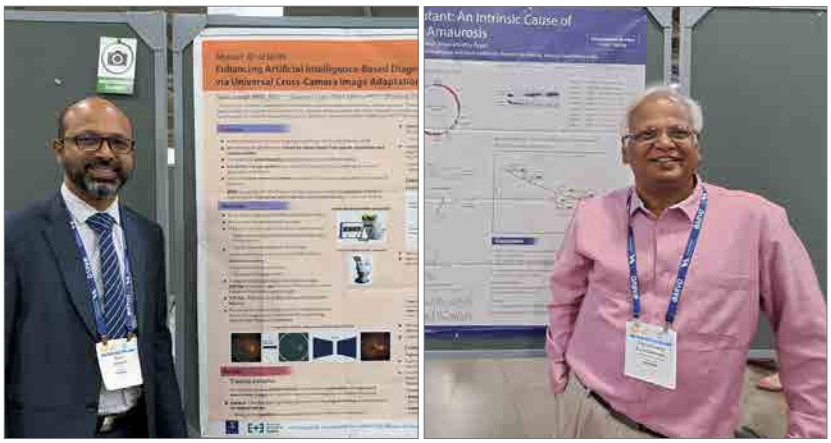
Dhivya Ramasamy

- *Role of paramedic training in addressing eCSC and eREC (Invited Speaker)*
- *Aravind experience in making spectacle dispensing cost-effective (Invited Speaker)*

Mohammed Gowth

- *Cloud based eye care databases for research and public health (Talk)*
- *Role of VCs in improving eREC and eCSC (Talk)*
- *Sustainability in eye care: How vision centres reduce carbon footprint in eye care (Talk)*

Dr. Sanil Joseph and Dr. P. Sundaresan at the ARVO Meeting 2025





Aravind team at the 19th national conference on Community Ophthalmology - VISION 2020

Dr. Sahithya
- *Outreach for children with special needs (Talk)*

Seran I
- *`Eicher's truck drivers screening project using mobile refraction van at Salem (Talk)*

Santhosha Ganesh
- *Patient-led motivation model as a catalyst for family screening: An investigation of prevalence and awareness of glaucoma among first-degree relatives (Paper)*

Alstin Francis Evanisevick P.
- *A comparative analysis of refractive errors in rural and urban school children (Poster)*

Hariesh Kumar
- *To study the effectiveness of post operative review camps to ensure compliance and quality of visual outcome in cataract operated patients (Paper)*

Meghala
- *Role of AI enabled fundus imaging in identifying posterior eye conditions in vision centre (Paper)*

Vikky Kumar M
- *Effective Refractive Error Coverage (eREC) through community outreach: Aligning with vision 2030 goals (Paper)*

11th World Glaucoma Congress

USA, 25-28 June 2025

Dr. Indira Durai
- *Genetic screening for myocilin (MYOC) mutations in families of Juvenile Open-Angle Glaucoma (JOAG) patients in a South Indian population (Poster)*

Dr. Megha
- *Smartphone applications for glaucoma patients and the visually impaired (Poster)*

Dr. S. Kavitha
- *Glaucoma practice outside the US (Talk)*
- *Pearls for acute angle closure management (Talk)*
- *Tubes in difficult scenarios (Chairperson)*
- *Leveraging LLMs to unpack the black box of shared medical appointments and patient engagement (Poster)*

Dr. R. Sharmila
- *Nanophthalmos with glaucoma (Talk)*
- *Glauco guard: AI based glaucoma risk prediction tool to guard your vision (Poster)*
- *Comparing the surgical outcomes of combined KDB phacoemulsification versus NPDS phacoemulsification for advanced glaucoma with coexisting cataract (Poster)*
- *Visual and surgical outcomes of combined non penetrating deep sclerectomy and phacoemulsification in eyes with severe and end stage glaucoma (Poster)*
- *Analysis of 're-surgeries' following primary glaucoma surgical intervention in a tertiary care centre (Poster)*
- *When things look bleak, there is always a silver lining: The quadruple procedure in Microspherophakia (Film)*

Dr. A. Vijayalakshmi
- *Glaucoma in post-corneal transplants eyes (Talk)*

Dr. H. Kasthuri Bai
- *Comparison of IOP measurement between rebound tonometer and pulsair non-contact tonometer in the paediatric population (Poster)*
- *Safety and efficacy of Micropulse in paediatric eyes with refractory glaucoma (Poster)*
- *Outcomes of combined phacoemulsification with 5-0 prolene Gonioscopy assisted transluminal trabeculotomy Versus Phaco Trabeculectomy in Primary Angle Closure Glaucoma (PACG) (Poster)*

Aravind team at the 11th World Glaucoma Congress



- *Enhancing early glaucoma detection through family screening to reduce glaucoma related blindness: A high-volume Indian project (Paper)*

Dr. Devendra Maheswari
- *Non -penetrating deep sclerectomy (Talk)*
- *Glaucoma drainage device session (Chairperson)*
- *Outcomes of GATT in POAG versus PACG (Poster)*
- *ASOCT in glaucoma (Video)*

Dr. Nimrita Nagdev
- *Role of peripheral vision centres in fight against glaucoma (Video)*
- *Outcomes of GATT in mild-moderate and advanced glaucoma (Poster)*

10th Asia Pacific Tele-Ophthalmology Society (APTOS) Symposium

Japan, 27-28 June 2025

Dr. Kowsalya
- *Effectiveness of teleophthalmology enabled primary eye care centres in diagnosis and management of neuro-ophthalmic conditions (Paper)*
- *Leveraging primary eye care centres for myopia detection and management: A digital approach to eyecare (Paper)*
- *How to begin and sustain teleconsultation (E-poster)*

31st Annual Meeting of ARVO-India 2025

Chennai, 26-27 July 2025

Dr. Gowri Priya Chidambaranathan
- *Towards a stem cell-based therapy for patients with primary open-angle glaucoma (Keynote Lecture)*

Dr. Bharanidharan Devarajan
- *Enhancing genomic discovery with a novel computational framework for eye disease-specific pathogenic variants (Talk)*

Dr. P. Sundaresan
- *Genetics, molecular and cell biology session (Moderator)*

Dr. S. Senthilkumari
- *Regulatory role of micrornas in Wnt signalling pathways associated with steroid-induced ocular hypertension: An insight from Ex Vivo studies (Poster)*

Dhanu Prakash Muthupandi
- *Distinct tear fluid macrophage Migration Inhibitory Factor (MIF) and inflammatory mediator profiles in uveitis patients (Poster)*

Anusha Erulandi
- *Altered tear fluid immuno-inflammatory profiles in patients with scleritis (Poster)*

Mathan L
- *Proteomic analysis of plasma Small Extracellular Vesicles (SEVs) in patients with Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) in the Indian population (Poster)*

Dr. Daipayan Banerjee
- *Plasma and vitreous extracellular vesicle-derived retinol binding protein 3 as a molecular signature of proliferative diabetic retinopathy (Poster)*

Shiva Sankari Sundar
- *Leber congenital amaurosis: Genetic spectrum and genotype-phenotype correlations for precise molecular diagnosis (Poster)*

Hari Vignesh S
- *Exploring mitochondrial genetic variants in primary open angle glaucoma (Poster)*



Dr. Kowsalya at the 10th Asia Pacific Tele-Ophthalmology Society Symposium

Karthik Alagarsamy
- *Localisation of multiple isoforms of human tear lysozyme in the extracellular vesicle (Poster)*

Kanthimathi R
- *Spatial transcriptomic analysis of adult human retinal pigment epithelium (Poster)*

Lakshmi Devi Priya J
- *Demonstrating the anti-fibrotic property of Relaxin-2 (RLN2) in TGF-ß2 induced fibrosis model of glaucoma using human organ cultured anterior segment (Poster)*

Thushmitha P
- *Alteration in the YAP signalling pathway in cataractous human lens epithelium (Poster)*

Sneha Nair
- *Unravelling MicroRNA Signatures in human trabecular meshwork stem cells: Implications with ageing and in glaucoma (Poster)*

At the 31st annual meeting of ARVO-India 2025



Kanmani M

- *Development of an integrated RPA-EXO probe assay for low complexity and rapid detection of fungal DNA in ocular infections (Poster)*

Hariharan Gnanam

- *Isolation and characterisation of extracellular vesicles from aspergillus flavus cultures exposed to stress (Poster)*

Praveenkumar R

- *MiRNA profiling reveals novel mechanistic insights on the role of neurotrophin signalling in pseudomonas aeruginosa keratitis (Poster)*

Shreya Dinesh

- *Comparative host transcriptome analysis to identify core and pathogen-specific immune response in fungal keratitis (Poster)*

Dr. Swagata Ghosh

- *Distinct corneal gene expression profiles associate with differential disease trajectories in fusarium and aspergillus keratitis (Poster)*

Balaji

- *CRISPR-Based RID-Myc Assay versus conventional culture in a postoperative fungal Endophthalmitis cluster: Diagnostic and therapeutic implication (Poster)*

9th Annual Conference of the Indian Retinopathy of Prematurity (iROP) Society

Jaipur, 19-20 July 2025

Dr. Renu P. Rajan

- *Therapeutic impact of an Indian bevacizumab biosimilar on type 1, hybrid, and aggressive retinopathy of prematurity (Paper)*

34th Annual Conference of the Glaucoma Society of India (GSI)

Bhopal, 2-14 September 2025

Dr. S.R. Krishnadas

- *Burden of glaucoma in India: Projecting glaucoma in India through 2020 and 2050 (Speaker)*
- *VAST session: Epidemiology of glaucoma, medical auditing in glaucoma (Panellist/ Chair)*

Dr. George V. Puthuran

- *Glaucoma Skill Transfer Programme (GSTP): Glaucoma drainage device (Faculty)*
- *Tube occlusion, fenestration and anchoring AADI (Talk)*
- *Bleb manipulations: Massage, releasable suture release, laser suturelysis (Talk)*
- *Pre-existing hardware: Eyes with encircling band / scleral buckle (Talk)*
- *Doing your tube right (Talk)*
- *Tubes: A touch job (Chairperson)*

Dr. R. Sharmila

- *Unravelling the mystery of caterpillar hair in the anterior chamber angle (Video)*
- *Target IOP - Predictive modelling: Using data to set smarter targets (Talk)*
- *UBM Technique (Talk)*
- *Secondary Glaucoma: After buckle, silicone oil, gas and intravitreal injections (Give and take session) (Talk)*

Dr. Manju R. Pillai

- *Initial surgery for primary congenital glaucoma: A paradigm shift (Co-Chairperson)*
- *Standard ab-externo trabeculotomy / combined trabeculotomy-trabeculectomy for PCG (Co-Instructor)*
- *Beyond sight (Video)*
- *UKGTS in POAG: Newer RCTs in glaucoma (Speaker)*
- *OHT, suspect, NTG (Co-Chairperson)*

Dr. Raji Koshy Daniel

- *Screening for glaucoma in children with retinopathy of prematurity (ROP): A pilot study (Paper)*

Dr. Prem Kumar

- *Neovascularisation of posterior capsule in chronic uveitis (Photo Talk)*

Dr. Nusrath Parambil

- *The oil trail (Photo Talk)*

Dr. Tosha Abhaygujarathi

- *Illusion Within: AADI tube and the phantom suture (Photo Talk)*
- *Not all angle closures are alike: A hidden effusion in Nanophthalmos (Poster)*

Dr. Niharika Chaurasia

- *Bubble in bubble (Photo Talk)*

Dr. Sravya Chinta

- *Managing uveal effusion in Nanophthalmos: A case-based approach (Video Talk)*

Dr. Faiza Ibrahim

- *Bleed behind the beam (Video Talk)*

The 4th Global Ophthalmology Summit

USA, 15-17 August 2025

Dr. Virna Shah

- *Integration and utility of a binocular pupillary response camera in low-resource settings, high-volume eye care centres in south India (Poster)*

25th Euretina Congress

Paris, 4-7 September 2025

Dr. Naresh Babu

- *Long term anatomical and functional outcome of repeat vitrectomy with platelet*

At the annual conference of the Glaucoma Society of India (GSI)



rich plasma for refractory and re-opened full thickness macular hole: A prospective study (E-Poster)

- *Live and intact: A novel surgical technique for intravitreal gnathostoma extraction (Video)*
- *Intravitreal cysticercosis: A cystic conundrum in retinal detachment surgery (Video)*
- *Intra silicone oil methotrexate injection in the resolution of sub silicone oil hemorrhage in diabetic tractional detachment: A prospective randomised study (E-Poster)*

Dr. Haemoglobin

- *An atypical retinitis post Pars Plana Vitrectomy (E-Poster)*
- *A subtenon injection gone wrong (Video)*
- *A young diabetic tractional retinal detachment (Video)*

Dr. Renu P Rajan

- *Therapeutic impact of an indian bevacizumab biosimilar on type 1, hybrid and aggressive retinopathy of prematurity (E-Poster)*
- *Comparative outcomes of intravitreal chemotherapy regimens in retinoblastoma: A retrospective cohort analysis (paper)*

Dr. Muthukrishnan

- *The Melanocytoma paradox: Exploring the clinical and OCT characterisation in a series of 41 eyes (Paper)*
- *Evaluation of anatomical and functional outcomes of relaxing retinectomy in recurrent retinal detachment: A retrospective observational study (Paper)*

Dr. Sivadarshan

- *Chronic myeloid leukemia and its impact on proliferative retinopathy in diabetic patients: A twin health to retinal health*
- *Worm in the eye !! Is it dead yet? (E-Poster)*
- *An enigmatic tale of toxic posterior segment syndrome(E-Poster)*

7th Annual Conference of the Indian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (INOS)

Jaipur, 6-7 September

Dr. Mahesh Kumar

- *Idiopathic intracranial hypertension.*

Dr. Kowsalya

- *Orbit quandaries session: Orbit vs neuro-ophthalmology (cases)*



At the 7th annual conference of the Indian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (INOS)

Dr. Balraj

- *Evaluating the impact of body mass index on visual prognosis in idiopathic intracranial hypertension*

9th Alexandria Retina Meeting 2025 of the Alexandria Vitreoretinal Society (AVRS)

Egypt, 9-12 September 2025

Dr. Naresh Babu

- *Retina light house expert's videos lessons in the dark room (Talk)*
- *Critical situations in vitreoretinal surgeries (Panellist)*
- *Choroidal osteoma with hemorrhagic pigment epithelial detachment (Moderator)*
- *Unusual, uncommon, strange: Intravitreal gnathostomiasis and exorcising the worm (Moderator)*
- *Surgical challenges in 360 degree GRT (Chairperson & Speaker)*

15th National Conference on Cornea and Eye Banking - Annual Convention of Eye Bank Association of India (EBAI)

Nagpur, 12-14 September 2025

D. Saravanan

- *Community Projects for eye donation: Possible way to do?*
- *Tissue Issues: Challenges in different set ups (Panellist)*

35th Annual Conference of the Oculoplastics Association of India (OPAI)

Kolkata, 19-21 September 2025

Dr. Usha Kim

- *Ptosis symposium (Chairperson & Speaker)*

Dr. Meghana Tanwar

- *Functional and aesthetic eyelid tear repair (Paper)*

Dr. Maneksha

- *Orbital foreign bodies (Case)*
- *Thyroid symposium (Panellist)*

D. Saravanan at the 15th national conference on Cornea and Eye Banking



Dr. Usha Kim at the OPAI Conference



45th Annual Conference of the Maharashtra Ophthalmological Society (MOSCON 2025)

Goa, 3-5 October 2025

Dr. Sujay Sanjay Jaju

- *Advancing diagnostics in IIH: A trimodal investigation of optic nerve sheath measurements (Paper)*

American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) 2025 Meeting

USA, 18-20 October 2025

Dr. R. Kim

- *Integrating AI into clinical practice: Experience from Aravind Eye Hospital (Speaker)*

Dr. Manju R. Pillai

- *Barriers to follow-up in childhood glaucoma in Tamil Nadu (Speaker)*
- *Mastering childhood glaucoma surgical techniques (Speaker)*

Dr. R. Sharmila

- *Tips and tricks for safe surgery in Nanophthalmos (Speaker)*
- *Paediatric MSICS (Speaker)*

Dr. R. Revathi

- *Grand rounds with infectious keratitis experts: What you should know (Panellist)*

Dr. Kunal

- *Rare cases infectious keratitis MSICS-SSTC (IC)*

Dr. Christy

- *Best practices to broaden the impact of global partnership (Panelist)*
- *Grand rounds with Infectious keratitis experts: What you should know (Co- Instructor)*

56th Annual Scientific conference of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) 2025

Australia, 14-17 November 2025

Dr. Rodney J. Morris

- *Tele-Ophthalmology and its impact (Invited faculty)*

34th Annual Conference of the Vitreo Retina Society of India (VRSI 2025)

Goa, 31st October - 2nd November 2025

Dr. R. Kim

- *Introduction of Nataraja Pillai Oration Awardee*



Dr. Rodney J. Morris at the RANZCO 2025

Dr. Naresh Babu

- *Future in VR (Medical / Surgical)*
- *Preventing PVR: Myth or miracle? (Speaker)*
- *Video-Based Complications - What went wrong / was it me or the disease?*
- *Intra-silicone oil methotrexate for resolution of pre-retinal bleed in complex diabetic tractional retinal detachment*
- *Scleral buckling controversies*
- *Short-term endotamponade with perfluorocarbon liquids for giant retinal tear-associated retinal detachment (Talk)*

Dr. Renu P. Rajan

- *Comparative outcomes of intravitreal chemotherapy regimens in retinoblastoma: A retrospective cohort analysis (Talk)*

Dr. Athul S. Puthalath

- *Time-Lapse Tomography (TLT): Neural interpolation of serial OCTs for dynamic retinal imaging (Talk)*
- *Delving deep into ILM detachment: Sectoral analysis and prognostic implications in acute CRAO*

Dr. V. Muthukrishnan

- *IOFB: Clinical profile and surgical outcomes (E-Poster)*
- *Microbial spectrum and antibiotic sensitivity in explanted buckle (E-Poster)*

Dr. T. P. Vignesh

- *Curcumin CSR management (E-poster)*
- *Management of CSCR with a large PED (E-Poster)*

Dr. Neeti Agrawal

- *Short-term PFCL endotamponade in the management of giant retinal tear-associated retinal detachment: A retrospective analysis (Talk)*

Dr. Shreyas S. Gore

- *Taming the giant (E-video)*

Dr. Saravanan

- *Macular tear associated with macular coloboma (Talk)*

Dr. George Manayath

- *From molecule to management: A Global Expert Symposium (Co-Chairperson)*

Dr. Palmeera

- *Oxalate retinopathy, CNVM with RPE hyperplasia, and deep cup maculopathy (E-Posters)*

Dr. Prema S

- *Pseudoglioma and multimodal imaging of the clinical variant of retinoschisis (E-Posters)*
- *Stretch the unstretchable: In vivo plasmic generation (Video)*

Dr. Abhishek Das

- *Illuminating young lives: Transformative insights into paediatric intraocular tumours in India (E-Poster)*
- *The enigma within: Navigating the labyrinth of intraocular T-Cell lymphoma (E-Poster)*
- *RB or no RB? A diagnostic challenge (E-Posters)*

Dr. Sreelakshmi P

- *Perspective on CRISPR-based diagnostic platform in the management of fungal endophthalmitis (Paper)*
- *Spectrum of retinal hypoxia in a patient of attempted hanging (E-Poster)*

Dr. Anju Jose

- *Establishing an Institutional Registry for IRD in South India: Lessons from the ARIDE programme (Paper)*

Dr. Sriram

- *Subretinal Macular Haemorrhage in Retinal Vein Occlusion (E-Poster)*
- *Management of optic nerve head capillary hemangioma with surface fibrosis (Challenging Case)*

Dr. N. Lohita

- *Multimodal imaging and long-term outcomes of Lepto-Choroid PCV in Indian Eyes (Paper)*

Dr. Shweta J

- *MacTel Type 2 with bidirectional network extending as ERN and SRNYM (Challenging Case)*

- *Beyond enucleation: Vision-sparring sclero-uvectomy for CB nedulloepithelioma (E-Video)*

Dr. Ajay Jossy
- *Tractional PED: CSCR (Subfoveal TPED) (E-Poster)*

Dr. Anu Joseph
- *A case of post abortion retinits: An unsolved mystery (E-Poster)*

Dr. Ayushi Verma
- *Post-cataract pachychoroid surprise (E-Poster)*
- *Managing pediatric retinal detachment in an eye with macular coloboma (E-Video)*

Dr. Yogapriyanka
- *Double trouble: SINS vs infectious scleritis (Poster)*
- *CNVM with RPE hyperplasia and deep cup maculopathy (E-Poster)*

Dr. Bidisha
- *Chorioretinectomy in PDR surgery (Video)*

Dr. Vivek K. Jha
- *Coexistent IRVAN and ROP in a preterm infant: A challenge (Paper)*
- *Demographic and clinical insights into optic nerve head melanocytoma: A single-centre study of 52 Indian Eyes (E-Poster)*

Dr. Syed Mohideen Abdul Khadar
- *Optimising medical retina practice*

Dr. Swanand Pradhan
- *The Macular Signature Post IOL: Central macular thickness post IOL surgery in non-diabetics vs diabetics with and without DR: A prospective study (E-Poster)*

Dr. Jeet Patel
- *Tale of two long IOFB (E-Video)*
- *A rare visual spectrum: Multimodal imaging in adult-onset vitelliform disease with secondary choroidal neovascular membrane (E-Poster).*

Dr. Sivaranjani
- *A stitch too deep: Managing scleral perforation during buckle surgery for retinal detachment (E-Video).*
- *Bilateral choroidal metastases as the initial presentation of bronchogenic carcinoma: An ocular window to systemic diseases (E Poster).*
- *Outcomes of combined scleral buckle with pars plana vitrectomy versus vitrectomy alone in pseudophakic rhegmatogenous retinal detachment (E-Poster)*

Dr. Vybhavi Kaushik
- *Unilateral focal choroidal excavation and choroidal neovascular membrane in rubella retinopathy (E-Poster)*
- *Toxic posterior segment syndrome induced by silicon oil post retinal detachment surgery (E-Video)*

Dr. Khan Mohammed Arif
- *AI-driven diagnostics vs. clinician assessment in diabetic retinopathy: A comparative analysis at a secondary eye care centre (E-Poster)*
- *Retinal clues to a systemic culprit: Unmasking APS through ccular ischemia (E-Poster)*

Dr. Manavi
- *Future in VR (Medical / Surgical) newer drugs and routes of administration for sustained response in managing macular edema (Talk)*
- *The complexities of angle closure glaucoma associated with bestrinopathies (E-Poster)*
- *Proteomics of macular hole PIWIL1 as a potential regulator of retinal integrity (E-Poster)*

7th Annual Congress of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2025

Brunei Darussalam, 6-8 November 2025

Dr. D. Chandrasekhar
- *From clinic to exams: OSCE on uvea (Speaker)*
- *From scan to station: FFA / B-Scan (Speaker)*
- *Counselling and consents for surgeries & procedures (Speaker)*
- *Validation & recall (Speaker)*

Dr. Sasikala Elizabeth
- *From clinic to exams: Case OSCE - paediatric ophthalmology and squint (Speaker)*
- *From scan to station: Diplopia and HESS chart (Speaker)*
- *Surgical pearls: Paediatric cataract surgeries (Speaker)*
- *Ocular care for vulnerable patients (Speaker)*
- *Myopia management in the Indian paediatric population*

Aravind team at the 34th annual conference of the Vitreo Retina Society of India (VRSI 2025)





At the annual conference of KERACON 2025



At the 7th annual congress of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2025

5th National Annual AIOA Conference (AIOACON 2025)

Guwahati, 7-9 November 2025

Dr. A. Ravichandar

- *Red flags in paediatric ophthalmic anaesthesia (Talk)*

13th Annual Conference of the Cornea Society of India (Keracon) 2025

Goa, 19-21 December 2025

Dr. Mangala

- *Introduction and clinical importance of microbiology in keratitis (Talk)*
- *Infectious keratitis update session (Panellist)*

Dr. Jeyanthi

- *Retrospective analysis of contact lens-related infiltrate (E-Poster)*

Dr. Divya Nachammai

- *Clinical application of RIDMyC assay in the diagnosis of smear- and culture-negative fungal keratitis (Paper)*

Dr. Shreya Podder

- *Rare encounters: Two cases of atypical mycobacterial keratitis (E-Poster)*

Dr. Annada Nambiar

- *Insider or outsider: Who's the culprit? (E-Poster)*

Dr. Tejaswi Prasad P V

- *Predicting trouble: What drives graft infections after TPK? A prospective study at tertiary eye hospital (Paper)*

Dr. Divya Manohar

- *Clinical application of RIDMyC assay in the diagnosis of smear- and culture-negative fungal keratitis: A rapid molecular tool advancing the frontiers of diagnostics (Paper)*

Dr. Christy

- *Spotlight: Cataract surgery in corneal disease*

Dr. Premjith

- *Corneal OPD stimulation (Video)*

18th Asia Pacific Vitreo-Retina Society (APVRS) Congress 2025

Philippines, 12-14 December 2025

Dr. V.R. Saravanan

- *Tackling fractional retinal detachment in IRVAN syndrome (Video)*

5th Annual Conference of Indian Paediatric Glaucoma Society (IPGS 2025)

Madurai, 12-13 December 2025

Dr. Ganesh V. Raman

- *Deep sclerectomy in childhood glaucoma in the Indian paediatric population (Talk)*

At the annual conference of Indian Paediatric Glaucoma Society (IPGS 2025)



Dr. Premanand Chandran

- *Follow-up evaluation of patients treated for childhood glaucoma (Talk)*

Dr. George Varghese Puthuran

- *GDD primary and as repeat surgery, indications, precautions and challenges (Video)*

Dr. Noorul Hidaya

- *Inherited aniridia and glaucoma spectrum of clinical presentations in successive generations (Poster)*

Dr. Kesav

- *Gapo Syndrome: Genetic analysis (Poster)*

Dr. Faiza Ibrahim

- *Congenital hereditary endothelial dystrophy: To treat as glaucoma or not? (Poster)*

Dr. Karthik Iyer

- *Challenging differential diagnosis for glaucoma in children (Poster)*

Dr. Sahana

- *A tale of spots, stains ad sight: PPV type lla (Poster)*

Dr. Sravya Chinta

- *Multicentric evaluation of clinical and demographic profile in childhood glaucoma across Tamil Nadu (Poster)*

Dr. Tosha Abhay Gujarathi

- *Ectropion uveae with Buphthalmos in neonate: A distinct and aggressive subtype on congenital glaucoma (Poster)*

5th World Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) Congress 2025

Italy, 4-7 December 2025

Dr. Parag K. Shah

- *Big baby ROP (Talk)*

Drishti 2025 - The Annual Conference of the Kerala Society of Ophthalmic Surgeons (KSOS)

Kerala, 28-30 November 2025

Dr. D. Chandrasekhar

- *Dry lab on Retinoscopy, guiding participants through hands-on skill development (Chief Instructor)*

Dr. George Manayath

- *Choroid in Focus: Non-invasive imaging biomarkers in pachychoroid spectrum diseases*

Dr. Ganesh V. Raman

- *Complications of MIGS & Special situations requiring special attention - glaucoma management (Invited Speaker)*

Dr. Sandra Ganesh

- *Setting Up a Myopia Clinic (Talk)*
- *Botox in Strabismus (Talk)*
- *Cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) Interventions (Talk)*

Dr. Bennet Chacko Mathew

- *Red eye reloaded (Co-instructor IC)*
- *Azadirachta Indica: An Indigenous approach against demodectic ocular surface disorders (Paper)*

RIO -2026 (Research Institute of Ophthalmology)

Egypt, 22 - 23 January 2026

Dr. Naresh Babu

- *Surgical Retina: Updates in management of retinal detachment: Topic : Surgical management of IOFB*
- *Intrasilicone oil methotrexate in complex diabetic vitrectomies*
- *Short-term PFCL endotamponade in complex RRD: Staged surgical approach*
- *Scleral patch graft in optic disc pit maculopathy*
- *Battling the parasite: Surgical excision of intravitreal cysticercosis*
- *Surgical retina diabetic retinopathy panel (Panellist)*
- *Surgical retina: How do I do it (Panellist)*

41st Annual Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress 2026

China, 5-8 February 2026

Dr. Kim R

- *AI-enabled telemedicine screening in India*

Dr. Usha Kim

- *Distinct genomic signatures in bilateral ocular mantle cell lymphoma (Speaker)*
- *Optic nerve sheath fenestration: A decisive surgical step against visual collapse- Retrospective observational study (Speaker)*
- *Our 25 years of retinoblastoma care in tertiary eye care centre: Retrospective observational study (Speaker)*

Dr. Meghana Tanwar

- *Snip or not to snip canaliculitis management: Intracanalicular antibiotic instillation & Punctalk snip (Speaker)*

Dr. Naresh Babu

- *Clinical profile and surgical outcomes of postoperative candida cluster endophthalmitis*

Dr. Bhavani

- *A no-retinopathy trans- scleral approach to remove subretinal napkin ring in proliferative vitreoretinopathy (Video)*

At the 41st annual Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress 2026

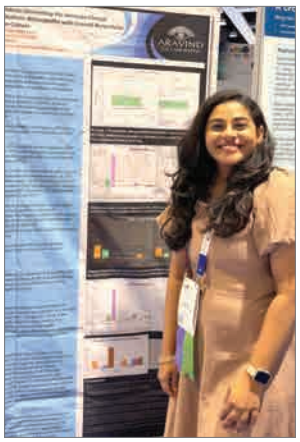
Dr. Meghana Tanwar



Dr. Prema



Dr. P. Sangavi Samritha Selvi



Dr. Kothapally Saiteja



- *Clinico: Microbiological profile and treatment outcome of endophthalmitis following intravitreal injection (Physical)*

Dr. Nivedita

- *Assessment of retinal lesion in diabetic retinopathy using two wide field fundus imaging systems*

Dr. Vinitha L. Rashme

- *Visual and oncological outcomes of cataract surgery after Retinoblastoma: A decade of experience from South India (Poster)*

Dr. Prema

- *Paediatric endophthalmitis: Clinical profile and surgical outcome following vitrectomy in a South Indian cohort (Paper)*
- *Plus is not role indicator: Imaging predictors of ROP progression: Analysis of 42,000 babies (Paper)*
- *Chorioretinectomy for PDR (Video)*

Dr. P. Sangavi Samritha Selvi

- *Optic nerve crushed by a cerebral time bomb: Sudden monocular vision loss from a giant intracranial aneurysm (Video)*
- *Coil the weak, embolise the threat, stent the stream: The interventional radiology way in securing sight and preserving life (Poster)*
- *From Retina to nerve: Unravelling the intricate clinical association of diabetic retinopathy with cranial nerve palsy in a South Indian cohort (Poster)*
- *Seeing through divides geographic, socioeconomic, and state-level disparities in optic neuritis patients at a south Indian tertiary centre (E-Poster)*

Dr. Kothapally Saiteja

- *Uncommon and under-recognised: Case series of T-cell primary vitreo-retinal lymphoma (Paper)*
- *Idiopathic intracranial hypertension and anaemia nexus explored (Poster)*

Dr. Elackiya Manimaran

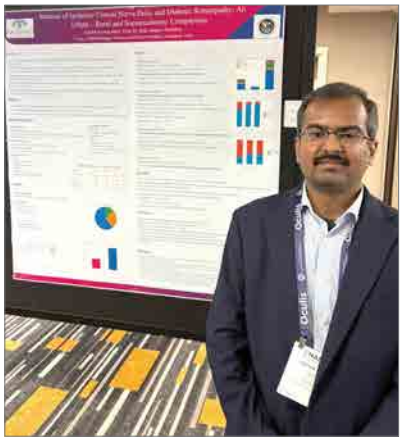
- *The impact of outdoor exposure, near work and circulating biomarkers (Vitamin D3, Dopamine and Serotonin) on Myopia onset and progression (E-Poster)*
- *Association of body mass index and demographic differences with simple myopia in south Indian children (Poster)*

Dr. Ajeeth Samuel

- *Age-stratified microbial trends in orbital infections: Implications for empirical antibiotic therapy*



Dr. Ganesh V. Raman being honoured at the annual Glaucoma Conclave (OSWB)



Dr. Karthik Kumar at the annual meeting of North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS)

Dr. Harinikrishna B

- *Predictors and barriers in the uptake of referral services from secondary eye care to tertiary eye care centres in southern India*

Dr. Lisa Sunny

- *A conundrum of cladosporium endophthalmitis*
- *The myriad presentations of the master masquerader*
- *Famciclovir to the rescue in a case of paediatric acute retinal necrosis*

Dr. Bhavani Sankaran

- *Clinic-microbiological profile and treatment outcomes of endophthalmitis following intravitreal injection: A retrospective analysis of 27 eyes*

Dr. Radhika T

- *Intraocular abscess caused by fusicolla: A plant fungus*

Dr. Tejaswi Prasad P.V.

- *Predicting trouble: What drives graft infections after TPK? A prospective study at tertiary eye hospital*

Dr. Nithya Sridharan

- *Bilateral marcus jaw winking phenomenon with high myopia: A unique observation in a 3-Year-old patient without ptosis*

Dr. Kunal

- *Low cast pterygium burr (Video)*
- *New path towards patient counselling: An innovative approach (poster)*

Dr Apurva

- *Gateway to safe GATT (Video)*
- *Comparative study of 2 techniques of capsular opening in intumescent cataract: Tomy rhexis and mini rhexis (Poster)*

Annual Glaucoma Conclave of the Ophthalmological Society of West Bengal (OSWB)

Kolkata, 29th March 2026

Dr. Ganesh V. Raman

- *Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) and Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery (MIGS) (Keynote Address)*
- *The evolving role of MIGS in glaucoma management (Keynote Address)*

North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS) Annual Meeting

USA, 20-24 March 2026

Dr. Karthik Kumar

- *Advancing diagnostics in idiopathic intracranial hypertension: A tri-modal investigation of optic nerve sheath measurements (Poster)*
- *Patterns of ischemic cranial nerve palsy and diabetic retinopathy: An urban-rural and socioeconomic comparison (Poster)*

International Society of Ocular Oncology (ISOO) Congress

Brazil, 17-21 March 2026

Dr. Abhishek Das

- *Visual outcomes and predictors of vision in retinoblastoma: An analysis of 426 eyes in an Indian cohort: (Paper)*

- *Cloaked in inflammation: Unveiling T-cell lymphoma (Paper)*
- *Refractory RB or DIR? (Case)*
- *Topotecan to the Rescue? (Moderator)*

Dr. Shreya Podder

- *Poverty and prognosis: Conquering bilateral recurrent OSSN against socioeconomic odds (Case Presentation)*
- *From diagnosis to recovery: Clinical spectrum and outcomes of OSSN in 75 eyes at a single tertiary care centre in India (Paper)*



Dr. Abhishek Das and Dr. Shreya Podder at the International Society of Ocular Oncology (ISOO) Congress

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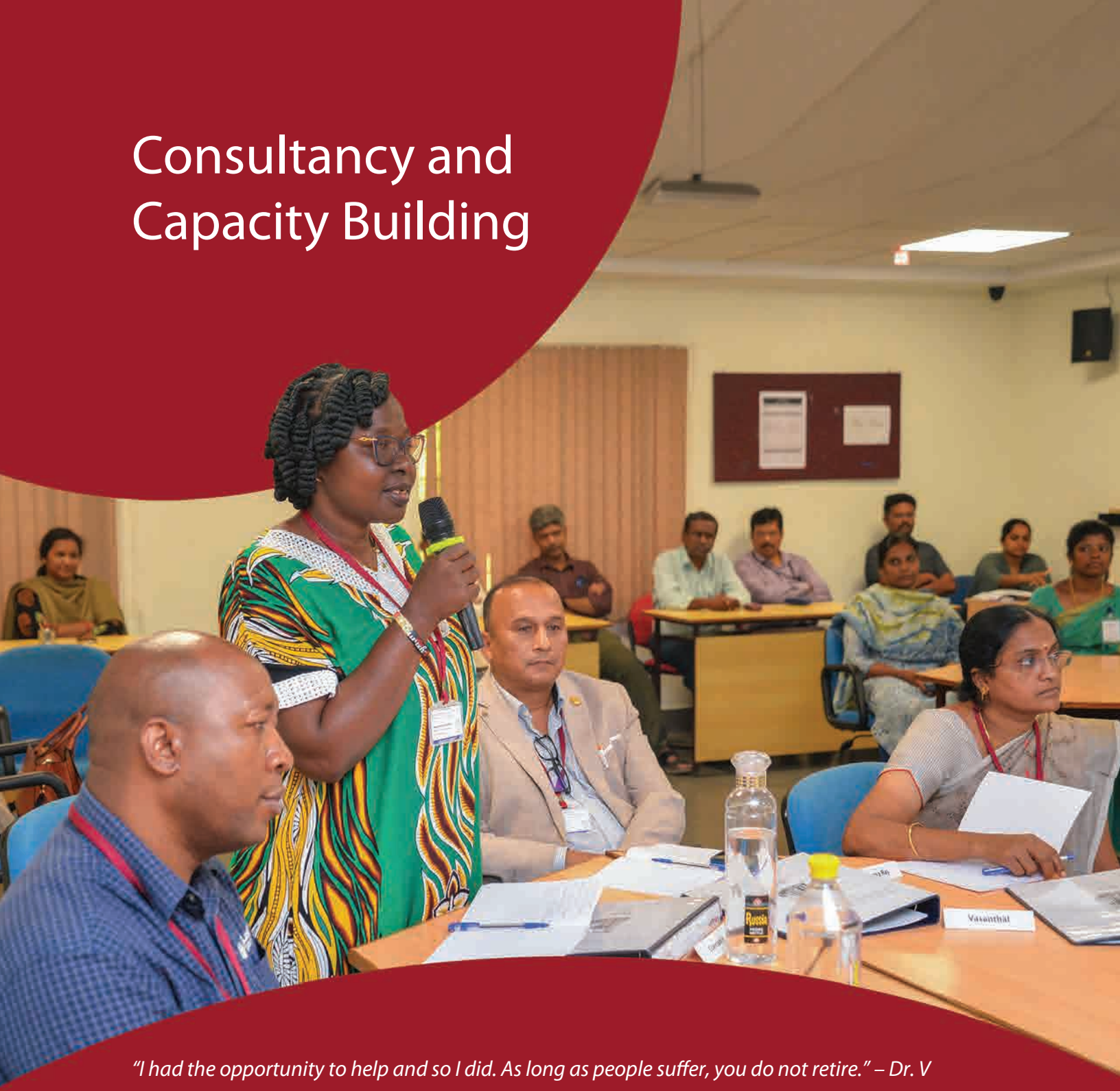
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Consultancy and Capacity Building



"I had the opportunity to help and so I did. As long as people suffer, you do not retire." – Dr. V

True to this philosophy, he never hesitated to share Aravind's model of eye care delivery, believing that no one should suffer from needless blindness and wishing that every patient could have access to quality eye care. Carrying this vision forward, LAICO continues to draw lessons from the Aravind model in order to share best practices through mentoring and capacity-building initiatives. By strengthening the capacity of eye hospitals across the globe, LAICO expands Aravind's impact far beyond its own institutions.

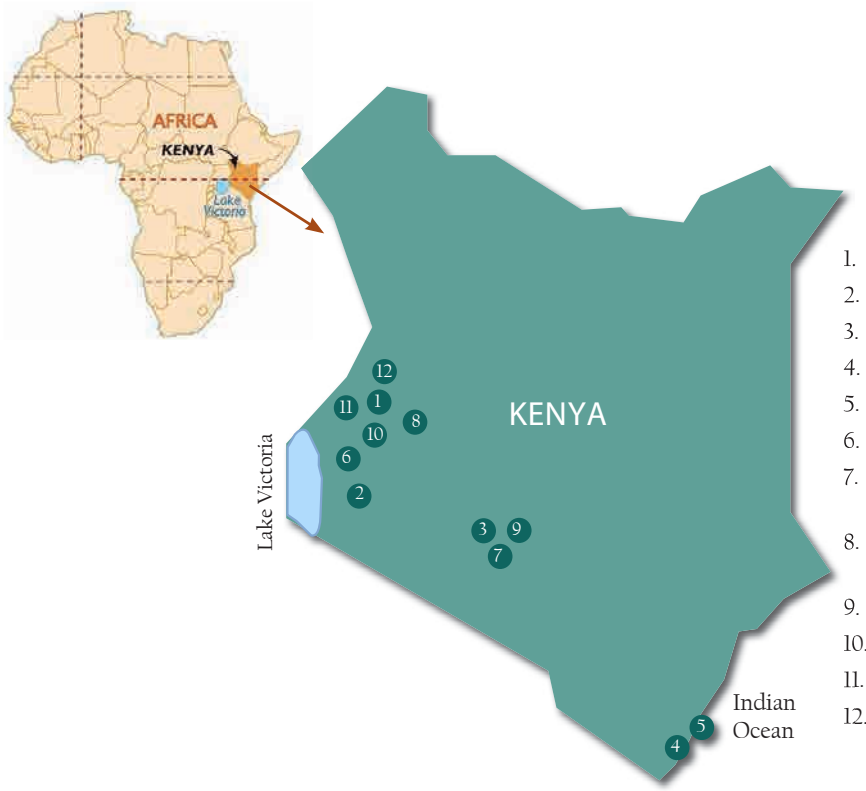
New Mentoring Initiatives

Kenya Cataract Project (KCP)

LAICO, with the support of Bloomberg Philanthropies, has launched a two-year programme in Kenya, partnering with public and private eye hospitals across the country. Initiated in 2025, the project aims to enhance the effectiveness of cataract services and support cataract surgeries over a two-years period, with a strong focus on underserved communities through comprehensive outreach initiatives. Partnered with 12 private eye hospitals across Kenya, the programme places emphasis on improving cataract surgical outcomes through system strengthening.

The launch event of the Kenya Cataract Programme (KCP) was held on the 6-7 July 2025 at Nairobi presided over by Dr. Monicah Bitok, National Eye Care Coordinator at the Ministry of Health, Kenya in the

Locations of partner hospitals in Kenya



1. Eldo Eye Centre, Eldoret
2. Innovation Eye Centre, Kisii
3. Kenya Society for the Blind, Nairobi
4. Kendu Eye Centre, Kericho
5. Lions Medical Centre, Mombasa
6. Lions SightFirst Eye Hospital, Kisumu
7. Lions SightFirst Eye Hospital Loresho, Nairobi
8. Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital Eye Unit, Eldoret
9. Royal Eye and Ear Hospital, Nairobi
10. Sabaja Eye Hospital, Vihiga
11. Samaritan Eye Hospital, Bungoma
12. Transcend Eye Hospital, Kitale

LAICO team at the launch event of the Kenya Cataract Project in Nairobi



presence of Thulasiraj Ravilla, Dr. R.D. Ravindran and R.D. Sriram and members of the LAICO faculty team.

Since the programme launch, until March 2026, these 12 partner institutions had performed 6,911 cataract surgeries (23% of the project target) through outreach services.

As part of building a strong network and perspective, 13 representatives from the above listed partner institutions attended the 'Management Priorities in Eye Care Delivery (Head's Course)' training at LAICO in January 2026. Further, a mid-term partners' meeting was held at LAICO Madurai following the training, revisiting the goals and strategies of the individual partners.

Proposed project activities

1. Surgical support for cataract surgeries: The project will reimburse participating hospitals for the cost of cataract surgeries performed under the project. In addition, hospitals will receive consumables proportional to the volume of eligible cataract surgeries completed as part of the project.
2. Nationwide Eye Health and Cataract Awareness Campaign: In collaboration with participating eye hospitals and the Ministry of Health, the project will work to improve awareness on general eye health, cataracts, and the benefits of early cataract surgery. These campaigns will use radio talks, trainings to health workers and print materials and videos
3. LEAP Initiative Enhancing Cataract Surgical Quality: A 10-month quality improvement programme will be implemented, supported by a cataract quality monitoring tool and the necessary training.
4. Establishment of a Cataract Surgical Training Centre and Training of Eye Care Professionals: A cataract surgery training centre will be established in Kenya to build local training capacity and ensure a steady supply of well-trained surgeons.
5. Fellowships in Eye Care Sub-specialties: Kenyan eye care professionals will have opportunities for specialised training in cataract, retina, paediatric ophthalmology, and glaucoma. These fellowships will build local expertise, strengthen the management of surgical complications, and improve care for conditions such as childhood cataracts, ensuring long-term sustainability of eye care services in Kenya.

Other Mentoring Events

Need assessment visits

A team from LAICO, comprising senior faculty members and ophthalmologists, carried out need assessment and follow-up visits to strengthen partnerships with the following hospitals:

- Goutami Eye Institute, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, *Dr. B.S. Ganesh Babu, Senior Faculty, LAICO*
- Akhand Jyoti Eye Hospital, Purina *Dr. R. Suresh Kumar, Senior Faculty, LAICO*
- India Eye Institute, Noida, Uttar Pradesh *Dr. R. Suresh Kumar, B. Udayakumar, Senior Faculty LAICO, and Dr. R. Janani, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Services, Aravind-Salem*
- Lions Eye Hospital, Raniganj, West Bengal *Dr. R. Suresh Kumar*
- Lions Eye Hospital, Katihar, Bihar *Dr. R. Suresh Kumar and Sanjay, Assistant Administrator, Aravind-Madurai*

Vision building and strategic planning workshop

LAICO initiated a three-year capacity-building project in collaboration with SightSavers to strengthen eye care service delivery across five underserved districts in India. A key component of the project is the District Planning Initiative, which aims to develop context-specific strategies and action plans to improve the delivery and uptake of eye care services.

As part of this initiative, LAICO organised a four-day vision building and strategic planning workshop from 30th May to 2nd June 2025. The workshop brought together representatives from partner hospitals along with the Sightsavers team, the District Programme Managers (DPMs) and the LAICO team.

The workshop focused on identifying strategic priorities and strengthening capacities in key areas, including public-private partnerships, sustainable outreach models, improving cataract surgery uptake, and quality assurance and sterilisation standards.

Inauguration of a new facility at Cape Coast Teaching Hospital (CCTH), Ghana

With the support of Cure Blindness Project, LAICO and Aravind-Pondicherry played a pivotal role in planning and establishing a new eye care facility at Cape Coast Teaching Hospital in Ghana. The facility was inaugurated on 26th March 2026. Dr. Krishna Chaitanya,



Dr. R. Venkatesh at the opening of the new facility at Cape Coast Teaching Hospital (CCTH), Ghana

Thamizhkumaran, Sr. Revathi and Sr. Ananthi from Aravind-Pondicherry were present on-site for about a month, working closely with the CCTH team to operationalise the facility. They also performed the first surgeries during the week following the inauguration.

LEAP: Enhancing cataract surgical outcomes - Batch II (In-person learning session)

The three-day in-person learning session, held from 6-8 November 2025, brought together ophthalmologists, administrators, and paramedical personnel from partner eye hospitals. The session aimed to support participating institutions in achieving a post-operative visual acuity of 6/12 or better in at least 90% of cataract-operated eyes at the latest follow-up visit (21-45 days after surgery). The learning session focused on finalising evidence-based clinical protocols for cataract surgery, developing strategies to improve post-operative follow-up rates, and designing driver diagrams to guide quality improvement efforts toward the programme goal. The session was attended by 16 participants from Global Hospital Institute of Ophthalmology, Rajasthan, Nirala Eye Hospital, Jharkhand, Reiyukai Eiko Masunaga Eye Hospital, Nepal, Tulsi Eye Hospital, Maharashtra, and Raniganj Lions MJM Eye Hospital, West Bengal.

Observation visit to the vision centres Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya, Chitrakoot

At the request of the SEVA Foundation, Mohammed Gowth, Senior Faculty, LAICO, undertook an observation visit to the Vision Centres of Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya, Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh on 24-30 May 2025. During the visit, he observed and shared recommendations on the functioning of the vision centres, including patient flow, clinical processes, supply chain management, and monitoring systems.

Strengthening low vision and vision rehabilitation services in Vietnam

As part of its collaboration with Orbis Vietnam, LAICO supported the strengthening of low vision and vision rehabilitation services through a series of capacity-building initiatives. Between June and September 2025, nine professionals, including ophthalmologists, optometrists, and nursing assistants, from partner hospitals completed a three-month training programme at Aravind-Madurai. The training covered low vision assessment, low vision aids, digital resources, early intervention, and Cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) assessment.

Building on this initiative, Dr. B. Sahithya, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Services, Aravind-Madurai, and

Delegates from partner eye hospitals during the In-person learning session



Mohammed Gowth with the Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya team, Chitrakoot






Dr. Sahithya, Mohammed Gowth, and Sr. Jegadeswari during their visit to Vietnam

Sr. Jegadeswari from Aravind-Madurai, along with Mohammed Gowth, visited Vietnam to assess service needs, demonstrate the establishment of a low vision clinic, and conduct training on low vision and vision rehabilitation. The team engaged with four institutions: the National Institute of Ophthalmology, Vietnam, Van Thau Eye Hospital, Hai Phong Hospital, and Hanoi Medical University.

As part of the initiative, a fully functional low vision clinic was established at Van Thau Eye Hospital. In addition, a one-day workshop titled Improving Low Vision Services in Vietnam was conducted, bringing together 35 participants from eight eye hospitals.

Teaching and Training

Aurosiksha

Towards enhancing training of AOPs, Aurosiksha offers training resources, online courses and access to continuous education. The initiative has expanded to include self-paced learning courses. To support this transformation, the Aurosiksha Learning Management System (LMS) has been upgraded. The enhanced platform will integrate courses, quizzes, webinars, and microlearning resources into a single ecosystem and also usable as a mobile app, improving accessibility and the overall learning experience. While Aurosiksha is progressing toward an annual subscription model for self-paced learning, existing trainer resources will continue to remain free of cost.

During the year, three self-paced courses were developed: Counselling for Diabetic Retinopathy, Community Eye Health Workers, and Asepsis and Sterilisation for Cataract Surgery. The Aurosiksha LMS continued to support AOP training across AECS, recording 14,634 total users, including 3,332 new registrations. The platform also facilitated 10 departments, with 2,093 trainees enrolled and 2,868 employees onboarded for continuous skill recertification.

Aurosiksha's digital learning initiatives witnessed significant global engagement. A total of 11 online quizzes were conducted, attracting an average of 799 participants per quiz. The weekly Siksha Bites microlearning series published 49 learning bites, achieving an average impression rate of 1,411 per post and continuing to engage learners through social media. During the year, four webinars were conducted with a total participation of 641 attendees from 39 countries. The webinar series featured 17 expert speakers, including 13 faculty members from AECS and four external experts, providing diverse perspectives and enriching the learning experience for participants worldwide.

Aurosiksha continues to be used by Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital which has integrated the Aurosiksha LMS into its training programmes for their Certified Ophthalmic Personnel.

Leadership and practice development Programme for private practitioners

This year marked the launch of the Leadership and Practice Development Programme for private practitioners, introduced at the request of the Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association (TNOA). Two batches were conducted during the year, benefiting around 80 practising ophthalmologists from Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh. The programme focused

on strengthening leadership and practice management skills, covering key areas such as demand generation, financial management, ownership building, and clinical quality improvement.

Ophthalmic instrument maintenance Training

From 24-29 November 2025, AECS, in collaboration with Cure Blindness, Ethiopia, conducted an Ophthalmic Instrument Maintenance Training at Berhan Aini Hospital, Asmara, Eritrea. The programme was facilitated by Prof. N. Manickam, and N. Kasthuri from Aravind's Biomedical Engineering Department. Participants received hands-on training in the working principles, dismantling, reassembly, and maintenance of ophthalmic instruments through demonstrations and practical sessions. Subsequently, from 9-20 March 2026, an on-site instrument maintenance training was conducted in Papua New Guinea, organised by The Fred Hollows Foundation, New Zealand. The programme was held in Port Moresby for 12 participants and Madang for 14 participants, including one ophthalmologist at each location.



N. Kasthuri providing hands-on training in instrument maintenance at Berhan Aini Hospital, Eritrea.

Consultations and Workshops

Workshop on influencing change

As part of the October events, an internal workshop on Influencing Change was organised at LAICO, on 30th September 2025 led by Colin Williams (UK), an experienced leadership and management consultant. Participants shared experiences about managing change, engaged in mutual learning by discussing challenges and successes, and identified specific steps to implement back at work. A total of 33 participants, including Managers, Doctors, and AOPs from all Aravind centres, attended the programme.

At the workshop on Consulting Skills



Workshop on consulting skills

As part of the October Summit, a workshop on Consulting Skills was organised for LAICO Faculty on 2-3 October 2025 and was facilitated by Colin Williams. The peer group workshop aimed to enhance Aravind's consulting capabilities through peer learning and reflection, providing a platform to share experiences, explore practical models, and practice strategies to strengthen the impact of mentoring efforts.

National-level workshop on integrated primary eye care through telemedicine-enabled vision centres

The workshop held on 3-4 November 2025, brought together State programme Officers of National Programme for Control of Blindness from 12 Indian States to exchange ideas and best practices for strengthening primary eye care delivery through technology. Dr. R. Joshi, ADGHS - NPCB & VI, delivered a talk on "The Scope for Primary Eye Care



At the WHO Regional Meeting on Eye Health: Towards Better Vision, held at Madurai

in India – Future." Dr. Chandrakumar, State Project Director from Government of Tamil Nadu was present to share the work being done in the state.

State programme directors shared the design of their respective integrated primary eye care models. Discussions focused on enhancing accessibility and quality of primary eye care through telemedicine, strengthening collaboration between stakeholders for integrated service delivery, and exploring innovative approaches to expand vision centre networks across regions.

WHO - Regional Meeting on Eye Health: Towards Better Vision

The World Health Organization South-East Asia Regional Office (WHO SEARO) organised the Regional Meeting at GRT Hotel, Madurai on 10-12 November 2025, with Aravind hosting the event. A total of 60 participants representing nine countries from the Southeast Asia region took part in this consultation. The meeting brought together delegates from Ministries of Health, WHO country and regional offices, WHO Collaborating Centres for Eye Care, and NGOs. The discussions focused on reviewing progress related to effective cataract surgical and refractive error coverage, diabetic retinopathy screening and SPECS 2030, a global initiative addressing refractive errors, and outlining the way forward to achieve the 2030 global eye health targets.

Health Service Research

The Health Services Research Division at LAICO leads research initiatives across the AECS, aimed at improving the delivery, accessibility, and effectiveness of eye care services. During 2025-2026, the division focused on generating evidence to strengthen universal eye health coverage, particularly through the evaluation of Vision Centres, telemedicine, and other innovative service delivery models. Major studies examined the impact of Vision Centres on eye care utilisation, service coverage, uptake of care following ocular injury, and reduction of visual impairment in rural South India.

The division also continued to support partner hospitals and organisations in conducting epidemiological and operational research by providing training in research methods, digital data collection, data management, statistical analysis, and scientific reporting. Key collaborative projects included a Rapid Assessment of Refractive Error (RARE) survey among Rohingya displaced populations in Bangladesh, a Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB) survey in Zanzibar, and Cure Blindness-supported studies on eye injuries in Ethiopia and outcomes of small-incision cataract surgery in campaign-based versus hospital-based settings across Sub-Saharan Africa.

To foster a culture of research and critical inquiry among non-clinical staff, LAICO continued its weekly Journal Club, which serves as a platform for scientific discussion and critical appraisal of published literature. During the year, 48 sessions were conducted, including 12 led by participants from external institutions, reflecting the programme's growing national and international reach.

The division also coordinated the documentation of WHO South-East Asia Regional Meeting proceedings which were subsequently published by WHO.



At the inaugural event of the Epidemiological and operational research workshop

Additional research activities undertaken during the year included a meta-analysis comparing iCare and Goldmann applanation tonometers, a multicentric validation study of a hand hygiene checklist customised for eye care organisations, an evaluation of a telemedicine-based screening programme for retinopathy of prematurity involving 12,890 eyes, and an assessment of mobile health readiness among patients attending a tertiary eye hospital in South India.

As part of its capacity-building efforts, the division hosted an international webinar titled *Effective Data Management for Research and Hospital Operations* in March 2026 as a precursor to the annual REDCap workshop in April 2026. The webinar attracted nearly 80 participants from around the world.

Doctoral Achievements



Dr. Sanil Joseph, Research Consultant, LAICO, completed his doctoral degree at the University of Melbourne, Australia, following the successful PhD completion seminar held at the Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA), Melbourne on 29th June 2025. His research work, titled "*Artificial Intelligence-based Opportunistic Screening for Diabetic Retinopathy in Real-world General Practice and Endocrinology Clinics*," was carried out partly at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, and CERA, Melbourne, Australia under the supervision of Prof. Mingguang He, Dr. Zhuoting Zhu, and Thulasiraj Ravilla.



Dr. B.S. Ganesh Babu, Senior Faculty, LAICO, completed his doctoral degree from Maastricht University, Netherlands, following the successful defence of his thesis held on 13th November 2025. His research, titled "*Evidence-Based Management in Eye Hospitals: Drivers, Practices, and Organizational Outcomes*," examined the operational dynamics and transactional processes of eye care hospitals, providing valuable insights to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of eye care management practices. He carried out his research under the supervision of Prof. Dr. G.G. van Merode, Prof. Dr. C.A.B. Webers, and Dr. H.J.M.M. Mertens, Maastricht University/Maastricht UMC+.

Research



"To see all as one; to give sight for all," - Dr. V

AMRF's core activities reflect a continuing journey towards the goal of providing vision for all. Going beyond the existing possibilities of eye care, the institute seeks to explore new frontiers and find answers to the many unanswered questions in ophthalmology. AMRF undertakes major research initiatives in support of Aravind's efforts to investigate the root causes of eye diseases, evaluate treatment options, and explore solutions to reduce blindness through basic, clinical, and health services research. These efforts reflect Aravind's commitment to developing innovative and sustainable solutions to reduce the burden of blindness.

Molecular Genetics

Genetics plays a major role in ophthalmology by enabling the identification of genetic variations that cause inherited eye diseases. This helps in better diagnosis, understanding disease progression, and developing more precise treatments. The research in the department of Genetics is currently focusing on conditions such as Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON), Leber's Congenital Amaurosis (LCA), and Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma (POAG).

LHON is a maternally inherited mitochondrial disorder that affects the optic nerve. Over the past year, 40 clinically diagnosed LHON patients were screened. Genetic changes were identified in 9 patients in mitochondrial DNA. In addition, 17 patients showed changes in nuclear genes, indicating that both mitochondrial and nuclear genes may play a role in causing this disease.

LCA is a severe inherited eye disorder that leads to vision loss from birth or early childhood and is one of the main causes of childhood blindness. With new treatments like gene therapy becoming available, identifying the exact genetic mutation is very important for proper treatment and care. Whole-exome sequencing was carried out in 37 LCA patients, and disease-causing genetic variations were found in 30 patients. The most commonly affected gene was GUCY2D, found in 6 patients. In the remaining 7 cases, whole-genome sequencing may help to detect changes in intronic regions of the genes.

POAG is a multifactorial, neurodegenerative eye disease that damages the optic nerve and can lead to permanent vision loss. The eye continuously produces a fluid called aqueous humour, which helps maintain pressure and drains through a tissue called the Trabecular Meshwork (TM); problems in this drainage system can occur due to cellular stress and energy imbalance. To understand this disease pathogenesis, the research team is currently working on mitochondrial dysfunctions and their role in Retinal Ganglion Cell (RGCs) damage. In this reporting period, 30 POAG cases were analysed, and five specific mitochondrial DNA changes were identified that may be linked to cell damage and vision loss.

Genetics of ocular tumours

Ocular tumours are not only sight threatening but also can cause death. With the recent developments in clinical and genetic research, early prediction is possible and can save life, eye and preserve the vision. The major focus of research in the department of molecular genetics include retinoblastoma and lymphoma. Methods such as Sanger sequencing, next generation sequencing, and Multiplex Ligation Dependent Probe Amplification (MLPA) were employed for early diagnosis of Retinoblastoma (RB) and improved disease prognosis of lymphoma.



Molecular genetic analysis of inherited ocular diseases

Last year, RB1 genetic testing was performed in 29 patients including 20 unilateral and 9 bilateral RB during this year. Among them, 15 children were diagnosed with RB, while 14 were follow-up patients. Except for one bilateral patient, all the others harboured germline mutations. Among the unilateral patients, only one of them had somatic mutation identified from the tumour. None of the blood samples of unilateral patients had any RB1 alterations. Genetic counselling was provided to the affected families. Increased risk was reported in bilateral patients with mutations and low risk in unilateral patients without mutations in blood.

In order to reduce the RB tumour burden, chemotherapy is the mainstay of the treatment. About 30% of the patients do not respond to current chemotherapeutic regimen and it is essential to develop a disease model that truly represents the tumour microenvironment. Patient-derived spheroid cultures were established that faithfully represent the original tumour at both molecular and clinical levels. Chemoresistance was addressed through a targeted therapeutic approach.

An integrative multi-omics analysis has identified novel genetic alterations in ocular lymphoma, supported by corroborative evidence from gene expression profiling. These findings establish a foundation for

improved prognostic insights and may aid in identifying potential therapeutic targets to enhance treatment outcomes in ocular lymphoma.

Proteomics

Fungal keratitis

Extracellular Vesicles (EVs) of Fungi are nanostructured vesicles, surrounded by intact lipid bilayer and involve intercellular communication, virulence, pathogenesis and environmental adaptation etc. The cargo of the EVs includes proteins, lipids, and nucleic acids, which facilitate the host-pathogen interactions. The current study focuses on the proteomics of the secretome and the EVs from A. flavus saprophyte (ATCC26) and clinical isolate (MTCC 13369) grown in solid and liquid culture conditions in different media. EVs showed enrichment of some specific pathways compared to the secretome. The functional implication of this enrichment indicates that the exosome cargo has the ability to affect the interaction and outcome specifically. The ability of the EVs to enter and alter the host cells indicate that enriched pathways are of significance in host pathogen interaction. Further studies showed that the EVs can be taken up by corneal epithelial cells leading to the alteration of the function of the recipient cells.

Diabetic retinopathy project

Diabetic retinopathy is a common and potentially blinding complication of diabetes that often develops silently in its early stages. Many patients remain unaware of retinal damage until vision is affected, highlighting the need for reliable biomarkers that can help identify individuals at risk of severe, vision-threatening disease before irreversible damage occurs. In this study, scientists investigated Retinol-Binding Protein 3 (RBP3), a retina-derived protein known to play a protective role in diabetic retinopathy. Although previous studies have shown that RBP3 levels decrease as the disease worsens, it is usually very difficult to detect directly in blood, limiting its clinical usefulness.

To address this challenge, they focused on Small Extracellular Vesicles (SEVs) — tiny membrane-bound particles released by cells into body fluids that can carry proteins in a stable, protected form. SEVs were isolated from both vitreous (eye fluid) and blood samples using centrifugation and ultracentrifugation. These vesicles were then characterised using Nanoparticle Tracking Analysis (NTA) to assess their size and concentration, Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) to confirm their structure, and immunoblotting to verify vesicle-specific marker proteins. The scientists also performed mass spectrometry-based proteomic analysis to identify proteins present in vitreous-derived SEVs, followed by immunoblotting and ELISA to validate the presence and levels of RBP3 in both vitreous and plasma-derived SEVs.

Using this approach, the study revealed that RBP3 levels were reduced in SEVs isolated from the vitreous of patients with Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy (PDR). Importantly, the scientists also showed that RBP3 could be detected in blood-derived SEVs, where its levels progressively decreased with worsening stages of diabetic retinopathy and were lowest in patients with PDR. These findings suggest that SEV-associated RBP3 may serve as a minimally invasive blood-based biomarker for severe diabetic retinopathy, with future potential in screening and risk prediction.

Pterygium project

Pterygium is a common ocular surface disease in which a fleshy growth develops from the white part of the eye and extends onto the cornea, sometimes affecting vision. It is particularly common in people with long-term sunlight exposure, such as outdoor workers and farmers in tropical regions. Currently, surgery is the only treatment, and there are no approved medicines to stop the disease or reduce recurrence.

At AMRF, a study used RNA sequencing and mass spectrometry–based proteomics to examine changes in genes and proteins in human pterygium tissue compared with normal conjunctival tissue. This approach showed that pterygium is associated with oxidative stress, abnormal extracellular matrix remodelling, and fibrotic (scarring) changes. The study then tested whether these pathways could be modified using statins, which are commonly prescribed cholesterol-lowering drugs. Using primary human conjunctival fibroblast and pterygium fibroblast laboratory models, together with Western blotting, immunofluorescence, proliferation, cytotoxicity, and wound-healing assays, the study revealed that statins reduced fibrotic activation and slowed fibroblast growth and migration. Overall, the findings suggest that pterygium may behave like localised scarring and abnormal wound repair, and that existing medicines such as statins may be worth further study as possible non-surgical treatments.

Keratoconus project

The previous research done with the identification of mechanisms of action of a novel chemical cross-linker to halt keratoconus progression in patients led to the start of a new investigation funded by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for identifying tear microRNA molecules affected during the stages of keratoconus progression. Preliminary investigation using the technique of real-time PCR revealed the higher expression of microRNA 92a-3p in tears of keratoconus patients. In further studies, tear microRNA profiles in various stages of keratoconus and the microRNAs affected in the keratoconus corneas by the application of the novel chemical cross-linker would be investigated.

Glaucoma project

In a recent study from the lab, myocilin gene mutation N480K was detected in 20 members of a family having Juvenile-Onset Open-Angle Glaucoma (JOAG). Wild type myocilin is usually secreted by the trabecular meshwork cells to carry out its physiological functions in maintaining intraocular pressure, but a mutation in myocilin gene leads to intracellular aggregation and resultant cellular cytotoxicity. The physiological role of N480K mutation was unknown. In a preliminary study, wild type myocilin secretion in culture medium was identified by transfection studies in HEK293T cell line and primary conjunctival fibroblasts derived from conjunctiva of patients undergoing cataract surgery. In future studies, trabecular meshwork cells will be used to study the functions of wild type and N480K mutant myocilin.

Ocular pharmacology

Relaxin project

The AMRF team evaluated human relaxin (RLX2) for its ability to lower Intraocular Pressure (IOP) and provide anti-fibrotic effects. This research utilised an ex vivo glaucoma model where elevated IOP was induced by TGFβ2 in Human Organ Cultured Anterior Segments (HOCAS). The results of this study revealed that TGFβ2 treatment caused reduction in outflow facility and the presence of human relaxin (RLN2) enhanced the outflow facility by 24% and 22% post 3 days and 24 hours treatment respectively. The enhancement in outflow facility was substantiated with the reduction of fibrotic markers – FN, COL1A, Alpha SMA and enhanced MMP2 activity. The mechanism by which relaxin reduces the fibrosis induced by TGFβ2 treatment is underway using nCounter nanostring assay.

TULIP's mechanistic project

Reduction of IOP remains the only proven strategy to slow glaucomatous progression. Despite advances in pharmacologic, laser and surgical interventions, long-term disease control is often limited by adherence challenges, ocular surface toxicity, and the durability of existing treatments. Therapeutic Ultrasound to Lower Intraocular Pressure (TULIP) is a noninvasive, low-power ultrasound platform designed to modulate aqueous humour dynamics without thermal or structural tissue damage. Unlike Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT), which relies on controlled cellular injury to induce biologic remodeling, ultrasound biomodulation aims to influence cellular signaling, extracellular matrix behaviour, and neuro-autonomic pathways while preserving ocular tissue. It is observed that TULIP treatment showed a significantly higher cytokines levels and mTOR suggestive of cytokine-driven tissue remodeling as a mechanism. Therefore, TULIP is a safe, non-invasive therapy with potential to preserve retinal structure and function, making it a promising option for glaucoma treatment.

Microbiology

The lab studies eye infections and inflammatory diseases to improve diagnosis and treatment and reduce vision loss. It uses modern molecular and immune-based methods to understand how infections affect the eye and how the body responds. In fungal keratitis, RNA sequencing and miRNA analysis were used to study infected corneal tissues, identifying key immune responses and differences between fungal infections, and helping find markers linked to disease severity. In Pseudomonas aeruginosa keratitis, the gram-negative bacteria, miRNA profiling and network analysis were used to study infected samples, identifying specific miRNAs that increase inflammation, delay healing, and contribute to corneal damage. Furthermore, in multidrug-resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa infection, extracellular vesicle studies and miRNA analysis were used to study host–bacteria interaction, showing that host-derived let-7 miRNAs can entre bacteria and reduce their biofilm formation, which may help improve treatment response.

In ocular inflammatory diseases such as uveitis and scleritis, tear-based immune analysis and genetic studies were used to study patient samples, identifying markers such as IL-6 and MIF that can help in non-invasive diagnosis and monitoring of disease.

Bioinformatics

The lab supports eye research by analysing large biological and clinical data using computational tools to better understand diseases and improve diagnosis. In retinoblastoma, RNA sequencing and splicing analysis were used to study tumour samples, identifying abnormal gene variants that affect protein function and may contribute to cancer progression. In glaucoma, clinical data collection and database development were used to organise patient information, creating a structured dataset that supports better understanding of disease patterns and future prediction models. In multiple eye disease studies, next-generation sequencing analysis and in-house computational tools were used to analyse large datasets, improving the speed and accuracy of identifying disease-related genetic changes.

Stem cell biology

Adult stem cells are present in almost all tissues of the body and play an important role in maintaining tissue integrity. Understanding the basic biology of the stem cells in the eye, particularly their location, microenvironment, and molecular regulators that decide the fate of these stem cells, are important to elucidate the changes in these stem cells with ageing as well as in diseased condition. The major focus of research during last year had been on elucidating the molecular mechanisms that are associated with the maintenance of stemness in human trabecular meshwork (TM), retinal pigment epithelium and lens epithelium. Using donor tissues from the Eye Banks of AECS, an advanced technique – spatial transcriptomics of TM and retinal pigment epithelium was carried out. Single cell transcriptomic data from published literature was analysed for lens epithelium. The results confirmed the location of stem cells as well as the molecular factors and signaling pathways that are involved in the maintenance of stemness. In addition, alterations in the molecular regulation of TM stem cells was observed in donor eyes with primary open angle glaucoma. Further studies are being carried out to analyse the changes in retinal pigment epithelial stem cells in age-related macular degeneration. The above studies are essential to develop better stem cell based therapies.

As an alternative to stem cell transplantation, stem cell secreted factors, specifically small extracellular vesicles/exosomes, are being used in regenerative medicine. These nanovesicles carrying physiology altering cargo in them, regulate the function of the target cells and are immunologically naïve. The methodology to isolate clinical-grade exosomes from human TM stem cells and adipose derived stem cells has also been established. Further studies are essential to evaluate their role in restoring normal tissue homeostasis and in reducing the intraocular pressure in glaucomatous animal models.

Infrastructure development

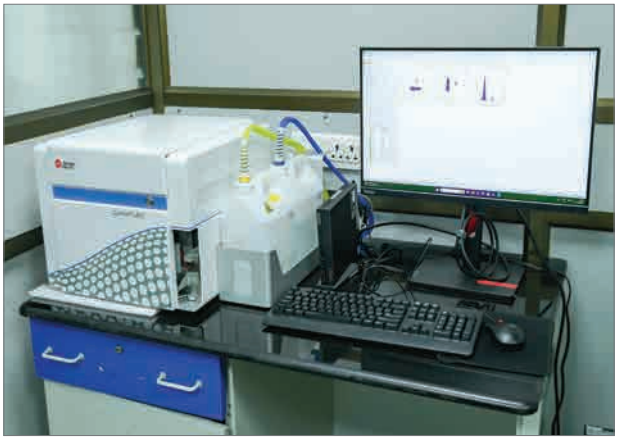
Last year, AMRF installed a Leica STELLARIS Stimulated Emission Depletion (STED) confocal microscope at a cost of about Rs. 5 crores. This device is a confocal point-scanning system designed for STED nanoscopy, with an enhanced resolution of up to 30 nm.

The new Leica STELLARIS stimulated emission depletion confocal microscope





Frozen tissue sectioning using the Leica Cryostat



The Beckman CytoFLEX flow cytometer

The high spatial resolution allows researchers to track exosomes at the single-vesicle level, providing a much clearer understanding of their localisation in tissue, uptake, and stability. In addition, the STELLARIS STED has an extended detection range of up to 850 nm, enabling the separation of a wider range of spectrally overlapping fluorophores and thereby facilitating the analysis of marker expression at the cellular and tissue levels.

Similarly, another device, a flow cytometer, was added to the lab. The Beckman CytoFLEX flow cytometer, equipped with the Violet Side Scatter (VSSC) option, can be used for the measurement of extracellular vesicles. This instrument allows the characterisation of sub-micron particles and is extremely useful for the functional characterisation of extracellular vesicles.

AMRF opened its third Regional Research Centre (RRC) at Aravind-Coimbatore, on 27th August 2025, adding to the existing centres at Tirunelveli and Pondicherry. The concept of RRC was initiated under the visionary leadership of Dr. P. Namperumalsamy, Chairman Emeritus, AECS, to encourage greater involvement of clinician-scientists in research. Although he passed away a month before the inauguration, the event was held on the very date he had chosen, making it a fitting tribute to his legacy. In honour of his lifelong commitment to advancing eye care through research, the new centre has been named as 'Dr. P. Namperumalsamy Regional Research Centre'.

Last year, new projects were initiated across all RRC's, supported by Indian and international funding agencies. The ongoing projects aim to study the molecular basis of various eye diseases such as keratoconus associated with Down syndrome, glaucoma, and viral keratitis. Retinal diseases are being studied at clinical, demographic, and molecular levels to identify predictive and diagnostic biomarkers.

Guests and senior leadership during the inauguration of Dr. P. Namperumalsamy Regional Research Centre at Aravind-Coimbatore





Participants of the Mini Symposium on Eye Health and Diabetes



Hands-on training during the Extracellular Vesicles workshop

Conferences/Workshops conducted by Aravind Medical Research Foundation

Workshop on "Extracellular Vesicles: Biology and Applications"

6-8 October 2025

The three-day workshop was organised bringing together faculty members, Ph.D. scholars, and M.Sc. students, representing 11 institutes from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Telangana. The workshop provided extensive hands-on training on the isolation of EVs from plasma and commercial milk using ultracentrifugation. Participants also learned EV characterisation using Nanoparticle Tracking Analysis (NTA), protein isolation and profiling by SDS-PAGE, and marker evaluation through Western blotting. In addition, a demonstration session was held on mass spectrometry for EV proteomic analysis. Participants also witnessed live demonstrations of how these technologies can be applied to EV research.

Mini Symposium on Eye Health and Diabetes

30th March 2026

A mini symposium designed for Master's students in Life Sciences, Biotechnology, and Pharmaceutical Sciences, offered them an in-depth understanding of the critical links between diabetes and eye disorders, along with current and emerging clinical perspectives, while emphasising the importance of preventing eye complications associated with diabetes. The symposium was attended by PG students from various institutions in and around Madurai, Karaikudi, and Krishnankoil.

PhD Awarded



P. Saranya

Immunology and Stem Cell Biology

Thesis: Characterisation of adult human lens epithelial stem cells in the maintenance of tissue homeostasis and their functional status in cataractous lens

Guide: Dr. Gowri Priya Chidambaranathan

PhD awarded by Alagappa University



Susmita Chowdhury

Genetics

Thesis: Molecular genetics of juvenile X-linked retinoschisis in South Indian population

Guide: Dr. P. Sundaresan

PhD awarded by Alagappa University



A. Waseema

Immunology and Stem Cell Biology

Thesis: Identification, characterisation and maintenance of stem cells in adult human retinal pigment epithelium

Guide: Dr. Gowri Priya Chidambaranathan

PhD awarded by Alagappa University



Swathi Chadalawada

Microbiology

Thesis: Identification of dysregulated microRNAs in ocular fluids as diagnostic markers for intraocular tuberculosis

Guide: Dr. D. Bharanidharan

PhD awarded by Madurai Kamaraj University

Ongoing projects

Basic research

Understanding disease mechanisms and translating insights from fundamental research into patient care remain the key objectives driving basic research at AMRF. The institute continues to collaborate with partners to explore opportunities for translating research findings into meaningful clinical applications. The ongoing research includes:

- *Adult stem cell derived exosomess: a cell-free therapy for glaucoma*
- *A scalable system for the production of human induced pluripotent stem cell derived functional retinal pigmented epithelial cells*
- *Attenuation of drug-resistance in Ocular Multidrug-Resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa using human corneal miRNA cargo of Extracellular Vesicles*
- *Decoding the unknown Genetic Etiology to Ameliorate the Molecular Diagnosis of Leber's Congenital Amaurosis*
- *Development and validation of a non-invasive point-of-care diagnostic tool for fungal keratitis*
- *Early detection of Open Angle Glaucoma in Diabetes patients with increasing age and family history of glaucoma*
- *Epidemiological and molecular insights into the Estrogen-Molecular chaperone axis in cataract prevalence and progression in Menopausal Women*
- *Evaluation of IOP lowering property and Anti-fibrotic property of Relaxin on TGFβ2-induced Elevated IOP EX vivo model of glaucoma using Human Organ Cultured Anterior Segment (HOCAS)*
- *Evaluating the clinical potential of small extracellular vesicle-derived RBP3 in Diabetic Macular Edema: Inflammation modulation and Anti-VEGF response prediction*
- *Functional repair of mutant RB1 by CRISPR-mediated gene editing in retinal tumor cells of bilateral RB patients*
- *Identification of regulatory tear microRNAs during keratoconus progression and evaluation of affected microRNAs in keratoconus corneas by the application of a theraupeutic cross-linker*
- *Investigation of nuclear genes involvement in a Mitochondrial Disorder: Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy*
- *Mitochondrial Association with Transcriptomic signatures for Trabecular Meshwork Damage in Glaucoma: A tissue-specific omics approach*
- *Molecular Genetics in Ocular diseases: Laneway for Personalized medicine especially Leber's Congenital Amaurosis (LCA) and Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON)*
- *Multicentric Diagnostic and Therapeutic Evaluation of a Rapid Molecular Platform for Fungal Endophthalmitis and Metagenomic Sequencing to characterize the Microbial Spectrum in Endophthalmitis*
- *Ocular Macrophage Migration Inhibitory Factor-based stratification and prognostication of patients with vision threatening ocular inflammatory conditions*
- *Prospective Study Analysing the Role of Cytokine- Mediated IOP reduction in POAG /OHTN Patients Receiving Therapeutic Ultrasound for Glaucoma (TUG) Treatment*
- *Role of dopamine and serotonin levels in myopia development and progression*

Clinical research

Aravind Eye Hospitals continue to undertake a wide range of prospective and retrospective clinical studies, encompassing investigator-initiated academic research as well as nationally and internationally funded collaborative projects. These include both observational and interventional studies aimed at addressing important clinical questions and evaluating innovative approaches to eye care. The overarching goal is to generate robust evidence that can strengthen clinical practice, improve patient care and inform decision-making in ophthalmology.

All clinical research at Aravind is conducted in accordance with the New Drugs and Clinical Trial Rules, 2019, and the guidelines of the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH), upholding high standards of scientific rigour, ethics and patient safety.

Cataract

- *Aravind Pseudoexfoliation Study (APEX II)*
- *Assessing Cataract Patients' Refractive Distance Preferences: A Multicentre Study*
- *Comparison of Endothelial Cell Loss Following Cataract Surgery Performed Using Active Sentry and OZil Handpiece*
- *Investigating the Efficacy and Safety of Sub-Tenon's Anesthesia (STA) in Various Intraocular Surgeries (SICS, Phaco, and Combined Procedures)*
- *Prospective, multi-centered, single arm study to evaluate safety and effectiveness of Aurolab's trifocal IOL in cataract patients*
- *Refractive Outcomes with Toric Intraocular Lens (IOL) Implantation Following Pterygium Surgery*
- *To evaluate the safety and performance of new acrylic hydrophobic intraocular lens*
- *To evaluate the safety and performance of Hydrophilic foldable Intraocular lens in patients undergoing cataract surgery.*

Cornea

- *Analysis of Tear protein profile in Herpes simplex viral keratitis Corneal Impression Membrane (CIM) Sampling for microbial keratitis diagnosis*
- *Assessment of efficacy of Peribulbar anesthesia for Therapeutic Keratoplasty and the Risk Factors associated with Poor Intraoperative Anesthesia for Therapeutic Penetrating Keratoplasty and its Outcomes*
- *Comparison of Natural History and Progression of Keratoconus in Down Syndrome Compared with non-Down syndrome individuals: A prospective longitudinal cohort study*
- *Comparative Evaluation of Corneal Biomechanical Parameters Following SMILE and PRK Using Corvis ST*

- *Differential Tear-based molecular profiling of Keratoconus in Down syndrome and normal individuals: A cross-sectional comparative study*
- *Effect of clinical photo documentation in the management of corneal ulcer Intelligence Smartphone Imaging Trial-(INSIGHT)*
- *Fungal ulcer Augmented treatment with Natamycin and CYclosporine (FANCY) Trial – pilot study*
- *Prospective Comparative Observational Study on the Clinical Features, Microbial Profile and Outcomes of Patients with Corneal ulcers referred from vision centers vs Primary Tertiary Center Visit*
- *Identifying Barriers to Timely Keratitis Care: A Prospective Questionnaire Based Survey*
- *Integrating Eye-Rubbing Behavior and Tear Biomarkers to Predict Keratoconus Progression in Down Syndrome and in Normal individuals*
- *Kerascan plus: Validation of combined Smartphone-based Placido imaging, Pachymetry, and Keratometry for detection of Keratoconus in Normal and Down syndrome individuals*
- *Prospective analysis of Corneal structural and biomechanical parameters using Oculus (Pentacam cornea OCT) and Corvis ST in patients with Vernal keratoconjunctivitis*
- *PUTT (Parasitic Ulcer Treatment Trial)*
- *Rose Bengal Electromagnetic Activation with Green light for Infection Reduction (REAGIR) Study*
- *Rose Bengal Electromagnetic Activation with Green light for Infection Reduction II (REAGIR II) a pilot study*
- *Retrospective Cohort Study to Evaluate Predictive Demographic and Clinical Features of Treatment Failure in Fusarium Keratitis in South India*
- *Research Study on the Impact of Early Medical Attention on Recovery from Corneal Injury*
- *Smartphone based community screening of anterior eye diseases in rural India*
- *Tear Proteomics in Down syndrome individuals with and without keratoconus*

Glaucoma

- *A cross sectional study on comparison of lens parameters and choroidal thickness across spectrum of primary angle closure disease and normal population*
- *A Comparative Evaluation of Patient-Reported Quality of Life Using a modified questionnaire based on Indian Visual Function Questionnaire (IND-VFQ-33) along with Glaucoma Symptom scale (GSS) Following Combined Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery and Phacoemulsification vs Trabeculectomy with Phacoemulsification in Patients with Glaucoma in Southern India*
- *A novel frameshift insertion variant in the TCOF1 gene associated with Treacher Collins Syndrome*
- *Assessment of the role of regular voice messages, audio-visual reminders using adherence monitors, and one on one counselling on the adherence to topical medications in patients with glaucoma - A non-randomized study*
- *A Videographic Observational Evaluation of Goldmann Applanation Tonometry's Contact with the Ocular Surface*
- *A Prospective Comparative Randomised Study On 180 Versus 360 Degree Gonioscopy Assisted Transluminal Trabeculotomy With Phacoemulsification Outcomes In Mild To Moderate Open Angle Glaucoma Patients in a Tertiary Eye Care Centre*
- *A Prospective, Longitudinal Study to Identify Preoperative and Early Postoperative Anterior Segment OCT (Texture Analysis) Predictors for 1-Year Surgical Failure following Trabeculectomy*
- *Comparing the surgical outcomes of combined Kahook dual blade versus tanito microhook trabeculotomy with phacoemulsification in eyes with moderate to advanced glaucoma-A randomised controlled trial (K-Lot Trial)*
- *Comparison Of Outcomes Between Interventional Valve Enhancing Trabeculotomy (iVEnT) And Gonioscopy Assisted Transluminal Trabeculotomy(Gatt)*
- *Combined With Phacoemulsification In Mild To Moderate Primary Open Angle Glaucoma Patients-A Prospective Interventional Study*
- *Comparison of Outcomes of Small Incision Cataract Surgery With Bent Ab Interno Needle Goniectomy And Small Incision Cataract Surgery*
- *Comparing the Outcomes of Phacoemulsification Combined With Ab-Interno Tanito Microhook Trabeculotomy Versus Phacoemulsification Alone In Primary Angle Closure Glaucoma Patients-A Multi-Centric Randomized Prospective Observational Study*
- *Comparing the Quality of life outcomes between combined Phaco – Trabeculectomy and MIGS-Phaco*
- *Comparison Of Latanoprost With Latanoprost And Voriconazole In Patients With Exfoliation Syndrome And Elevated Intraocular Pressure: A Randomized Controlled Trial*
- *Comparison of minimum rim width at Bruchs membrane opening using Spectral Domain Optical Coherence Tomography in myopic eyes with and without glaucoma in a South Indian Population*
- *Clinical and demographic profile of childhood glaucoma in Tamilnadu*
- *Clinical features, management, and outcomes of intraoperative suprachoroidal haemorrhage during glaucoma surgeries: 12-year experience of a tertiary eye centre*
- *Evaluation of Nanodropper-mediated Microdrops vs. Conventional Drops of Proparacaine HCL 0.5% (Nano Prop study)*
- *Evaluation of Nanodropper-mediated Microdrops vs. Conventional Drops of Netarsudil 0.02% (Nano Net study)*
- *Evaluating a novel AI-based fundus camera device for screening glaucoma in the setting of a comprehensive ophthalmology clinic*
- *Enhancing Early Glaucoma Detection through Family Screening to Reduce Glaucoma Related Blindness*
- *Family screening of Glaucoma*
- *GlaucHome Test: Home-Based Perimetry Testing Using a Smartphone App and virtual reality headset (VRH) – Validation study*
- *Improving follow-up adherence for glaucoma patients*
- *Investigating the role of ANGPTL7 in Glaucoma*
- *Interventions and outcomes following malignant glaucoma: A retrospective analysis*
- *Long Term Outcomes of Patients with Acute Angle Closure Attack Presenting to a Tertiary Eye Care Centre: Retrospective Analysis*
- *Molecular regulators associated with the maintenance of human trabecular meshwork stem cells in relation to their reduction in aging and glaucoma*
- *Mitochondrial Association with Transcriptomic Signatures for Trabecular Meshwork Damage in Glaucoma (MG study)*
- *Outcomes of primary retropupillary iris claw intraocular lens implantation for complicated cataract surgery: a retrospective observational study*
- *PACE Study – Prospective AADI Versus Clearpath Evaluation*
- *Prospective study analyzing the role of cytokine mediated IOP reduction in POAG*

/OHTN patients receiving TUG Treatment (TUG 2 study)

- Prospective study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of ICath device in Illuminated Microcatheter Assisted Transluminal Trabeculotomy (iMAT) Versus Combined Trabeculotomy and Trabeculectomy in patients with Primary Congenital Glaucoma.
- Screening of Juvenile Open Angle Glaucoma (JOAG) Patients and Their Family Members for Myocilin Gene Mutations
- Screening for glaucoma in children with Retinopathy of Prematurity: A Pilot Study
- Surgical outcomes of Both Eyes Short interval combined cataract with Trabeculotomy surgeries
- To assess the diagnostic capability of minimum rim width at Bruch's membrane opening using Spectral-domain Optical Coherence Tomography in patients with glaucoma and normal eyes in a south Indian population
- To evaluate the efficacy and safety of Aurolab Artificial Drainage Implant (AADI) on intraocular pressure reduction in paediatric patients with refractory glaucoma.
- Validation of In-Camera Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality Visual Field Testing at 7 Vision Centers in India
- With Trabeculectomy In Open Angle Glaucoma Among Outreach Population

Neuro Ophthalmology

- Evaluating the Impact of Body Mass Index on Visual Prognosis in Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension
- Traumatic Optic Neuropathy Treatment study (TONT study)
- Unraveling Cortical Visual Impairment: Etiological and Prognostic Insights from a Tertiary Healthcare Facility

Orbit

- Evaluation of Lacrimal drainage system in patients with pseudoexfoliation syndrome in a tertiary care center in southern India.

Paediatric Ophthalmology

- Comparing the effectiveness of different counselling methods for strabismus surgery in paediatrics: A study of image-based, animation-based, and verbal counselling
- Diagnostic Protocol for Perceptual Visual Difficulties in Children with Cerebral Visual Impairment
- Eye Screening with Portable Vision Screeners for Children with Learning Disabilities
- Re-imagining Education–Accelerated Development (READ) – Pilot Study
- Feasibility of a Software Application for Use in Assessment of Cerebral Visual Impairment
- Long-Term Visual Outcomes and Postoperative Complications in Pediatric Cataract Surgery: A retrospective study
- Ocular abnormalities in congenital ptosis: A retrospective study
- Pattern, indication and clinical outcome of Intraocular lens explanation in a Tertiary eye care center
- Prevalence of Keratoconus in Children with Astigmatism of 1 Diopter or greater
- Retrospective Analysis of Surgical Outcomes of Secondary Intraocular Lens Implantation With or Without Posterior Capsule Capture in Paediatric Eyes Following Primary Open Globe Injury Repair
- Spectrum of Eye Diseases in Children Aged 0-3 Years at a Tertiary Eye Care Hospital in Southern India
- To investigate the safety and efficacy of PTFE suture in Scleral fixation of modified CTR/ CTS for Ectopia lentis in paediatric cases

Retina

- Age Related Macular Degeneration Benchmark Imaging Dataset
- A Phase III, Prospective, Randomized, Parallel group, Double-blind, Multicenter Study to Compare the Efficacy, Safety, and Immunogenicity of Lupin's Aflibercept with Eylea® in Patients with Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration.
- A Phase 3 , Randomized, Double-Blind Parallel Group, Multicenter study to Compare Efficacy, Safety, Pharmacokinetics, and Immunogenicity of BP05 Versus EU-Approved Lucentis® in Patients with Wet (Neovascular)Age-Related Macular Degeneration
- A prospective comparative study to evaluate safety and efficacy of Aurolab's Multispot green Laser 525nm in Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy patients
- A Prospective Comparative Observational Study to Assess Retinal Layers Using Aurolab's Retinal Optical Coherence Tomography versus Heidelberg Engineering Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)
- A Randomized, Double-Masked, Parallel-Group, Multicenter Clinical Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of AVT29 Compared with Eylea High Dose (HD) in Participants with Diabetic Macular Edema.
- A study on the differential expression of Piwi-interacting RNAs (piRNA) and altered Piwi-like protein interactions in Diabetic Retinopathy and other retinal conditions
- BLU (Blue Light Unit) Patch – The Future of Smartphone-Aided Blue Light Photography in Tele-Ophthalmology
- Comparison of intraocular lens tilt following scleral fixation using the Scharioth and S-FIX techniques assessed by Anterior Segment Optical Coherence Tomography
- Comparing Large Language Models (LLMs) in Determining Efficacy of Interpretation of Exome Sequencing Reports for Patient Understanding
- A Double-Masked, Parallel-Group, Randomized, Multicenter Clinical Study to Compare the Efficacy and Safety of Intas Ranibizumab with Lucentis® in Patients with Neovascular (Wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration.
- Diagnostic Prediction Models for Community-Based Diabetic Retinopathy Screening in India – External Validation Study
- Structured Post-marketing Surveillance to Collect the Safety Data of Intravitreal Aflibercept Injection (IVT-AFL) in Patients with Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration During Real-World Clinical Practice.
- Efficacy of Subthreshold Micropulse Laser Therapy for Persistent Subretinal Fluid after Vitreoretinal Surgery
- Comparison of Efficacy of Autologous Platelet-Rich Plasma versus Amniotic Membrane Transplantation versus Inverted Internal Limiting Membrane (ILM) Flap for Large Macular Holes: A Prospective Interventional Study
- A Phase 3, Multicenter, Prospective, Randomized, Double-Masked, Parallel-Group Study of EYP-1901 (Vorolanib Intravitreal Insert), a Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor (TKI), Compared to Aflibercept in Subjects with Wet AMD.
- A Phase 1/2a Multi-Center, Dose-Escalation, Dose-Expansion Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Eyecyte-RPE™ when Administered as a Single-Dose Subretinal Injection in Subjects with Geographic Atrophy Secondary to Dry Age-Related Macular Degeneration.
- Endophthalmitis Infectivity Imaging Validation Tool Study.
- A Phase IIIb, Multicenter, Open-Label,

Single-Arm Study to Investigate Faricimab Treatment Response in Treatment-Naïve, Underrepresented Asian Indian Patients with Diabetic Macular Edema.

- *Evaluation of Efficacy of Intra-Silicone Oil Methotrexate Versus Intra-Silicone Oil Topotecan as an Adjuvant to Pars Plana Vitrectomy for Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment with Proliferative Vitreoretinopathy – A Prospective Interventional Study*
- *A Phase 3, Multicenter, Prospective, Randomized, Double-Masked, Parallel-Group Study of EYP-1901 (Vorolanib Intravitreal Insert), a Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor (TKI), Compared to Aflibercept in Subjects with Wet AMD.*
- *Evaluating the Clinical Potential of Small Extracellular Vesicle-Derived RBP3 in Diabetic Macular Edema: Inflammation Modulation and Anti-VEGF Response Prediction*
- *Enhancing Proptosis Measurement Accuracy: A Pilot Comparative Study of Manual Versus ExoMount-Mounted Hertel's Exophthalmometer*
- *Evaluation of Retinal Image Quality, Lesion Detection and Diabetic Retinopathy AI Performance Using a New Automated Non-Mydriatic Tabletop Fundus Camera: A Prospective Validation Against a Reference Standard System*
- *Long-term Effects of Semaglutide on Diabetic Retinopathy in Subjects with Type 2 Diabetes.*
- *Knowledge Aptitude and Practices (KAP) study of Diabetic patients towards Diabetics and on diabetic retinopathy in a tertiary care centre in South India*
- *A Phase III, Prospective, Randomized, Parallel-Group, Double-Blind, Multicentre Study to Compare the Efficacy, Safety, and Immunogenicity of Lupin's Aflibercept with Eylea® in Patients with Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration.*
- *Long-Term Outcome of Intravitreal Expansile Gas and Bevacizumab Injection for Polypoidal Choroidal Vasculopathy-Induced Subfoveal Hemorrhage*
- *A Phase-3, Double-Masked, Two-Arm, Multiple-Dose, Parallel-Group, Randomized, Multicentre, Active-Controlled Comparative Clinical Study to Evaluate the Efficacy, Safety and Immunogenicity of Aflibercept Intravitreal Injection Compared with Eylea® in Participants with Diabetic Macular Oedema.*
- *Multicentric Diagnostic and Therapeutic Evaluation of a Rapid Molecular Platform for Fungal Endophthalmitis, and Metagenomic Sequencing to Characterize the Microbial Spectrum in Endophthalmitis*
- *A Phase 3, Multicenter, Double-Masked, Randomized, 3-Arm, Parallel-Group Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Intravitreal OTX-TKI (Axitinib Implant) in Participants with Non-Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy (NPDR).*
- *A Phase 3, Multicenter, Double-Masked, Randomized, Parallel-Group Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Intravitreal OTX-TKI (Axitinib Implant) in Subjects with Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration.*
- *Paediatric Endogenous Endophthalmitis: A Decade of Surgical Management and Microbiological Insights*
- *Pars Plana Vitrectomy for Retinal Detachment and Vitreous Hemorrhage after Treated Retinoblastoma: A 20-Year Institutional Experience (2003–2022)*
- *Validation of a New Ultra-Widefield Scanning Laser Ophthalmoscopy-Based Fundus Camera.*
- *Pilot Study to assess the efficacy of Oral Lamivudine for Diabetic Macular Edema.*
- *Rapid Evaluation and Diagnosis of External Ocular Lesions to Aid in Tele-Ophthalmology*
- *A Prospective, Multicentre, Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel, Active-Controlled, Phase III Study to Compare the Efficacy, Safety, and Immunogenicity of Aflibercept of Shilpa Biologicals Private Limited (SBPL) with EYLEA® in Subjects with Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration.*
- *Surgical Outcomes of Tractional Retinal Detachment in Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy: A Comparative Study Between Post-Pan Retinal Photocoagulation and Treatment-Naïve Eyes*
- *Transpupillary thermotherapy for juxtapapillary and subfoveal choroidal hemangiomas*
- *Validation of a New Ultra-Widefield Scanning Laser Ophthalmoscopy-Based Fundus Camera*
- *Transpupillary thermotherapy for juxtapapillary and subfoveal choroidal hemangiomas*
- *Prevention of Blindness Using Digital Technologies at Primary Care Centres.*
- *Validation to Implementation: Integrating Rapid Identification of Mycoses using CRISPR (RID-MyC), a Novel RPA-Coupled CRISPR/Cas12a-Based Diagnostic Tool, into the Diagnostic and Therapeutic Workflow for Fungal Endophthalmitis*

Uvea

- *A Phase III, Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Masked, Sham-Controlled Study to Investigate the Efficacy, Safety, Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacodynamics of RO7200220 Administered Intravitreally in Patients with Uveitic Macular Edema*
- *Clinical utility of PCR in initiating anti-tubercular therapy for Ocular tuberculosis: A Retrospective Analysis*
- *Multi-omics Strategies to Improve Clinical Outcomes in Uveitis LOTUS– Leveraging Ocular Tissues in Uveitis Study*

Health services research

The Research Division at LAICO continues to undertake health services research across the AECS, with a focus on strengthening the delivery, accessibility and efficiency of eye care. Key areas of research include access to quality care, expanding universal eye care coverage through vision centres, and evaluating emerging technologies such as telemedicine and artificial intelligence. The division also conducts population-based studies to understand the prevalence of eye diseases and patterns of service utilisation, along with systematic reviews and meta-analyses to generate evidence for improving clinical and health service practices.

- *Eye injury rates and community cost savings through vision centers: Evidence from southern India*
- *Impact of Vision Centres on achieving universal eye health coverage: prevalence, coverage and utilisation of eye care services in Southern India: Comprehensive Eye Care Workload Assessment survey in Theni district*
- *Leveraging tele-ophthalmology for Myopia Detection and Management at Vision Centres*

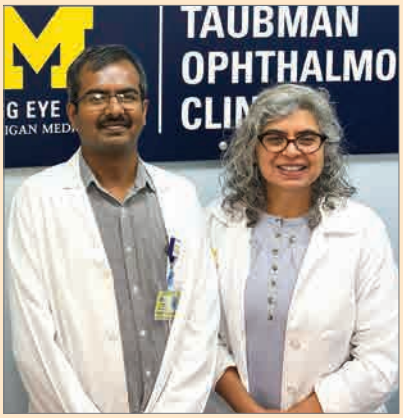
- *"Evaluating the Impact of Vision Centres on Reducing Visual Impairment in Rural South India: A Population-Based Comparative Study*
- *Refractive Error Situation Analysis Tool (RESAT) Survey to assess the current eye care landscape across Tamil Nadu, conducted in collaboration with the Government of Tamil Nadu in 2025*
- *Re-Imagining Education for Accelerated Development in India (READ-India): A Randomized Controlled Trial*
- *Utility of primary care Vision Centres in increased uptake of formal eye care following ocular injury in rural South India: Comprehensive Eye Care Workload Assessment survey in Theni district*

Building Research Capacity through the NIH D43 Fogarty Fellowship

Supported by the NIH D43 Fogarty Fellowship, three doctors completed their MicroMasters from the University of Michigan during 2025-26:



Dr. Indira Durai
Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind -Thanjavur
Area: Clinical Epidemiological Research
Her research focuses on the correlation of disease progression and outcomes with the demographic profile, clinical presentation, genomic architecture, inheritance patterns, and natural history of JOAG in the Indian population. It also evaluates the outcomes of MIGS versus trabeculectomy, the psychosocial and socioeconomic impact of JOAG, and strategies to improve family screening among affected patients.



Dr. Karthik Kumar Mani
Medical Consultant, Neuro-Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Coimbatore
Area: Clinical Epidemiological Research
His research focuses on the clinical and radiological profile of optic neuritis, relapse patterns, the cost-effectiveness of maintenance therapies, the association between micronutrient deficiencies and structural and functional outcomes, and a focused subgroup analysis of double-seronegative optic neuritis.



Dr. Naveen Radhakrishnan
Medical Consultant, Cornea & Refractive Services, Aravind-Pondicherry
Area: Clinical Epidemiological Research and Biostatistics
His research focuses on predictors of poor prognosis in infectious keratitis and factors affecting the outcomes of therapeutic keratoplasty.

Ophthalmic Supplies and Equipment



"Modern technology combined with spiritual consciousness is the need of the day."- Dr. V

Aurolab was established in the spirit of service. What began with the indigenous manufacture of affordable intraocular lenses (IOLs) to help countless patients regain their sight has grown into a global mission. Today, Aurolab manufactures a wide range of ophthalmic products, supplies, and equipment that are distributed across 160 countries worldwide. The company continues to innovate, introducing new models and styles of lenses to meet growing demand, while expanding its infrastructure to address emerging needs. Throughout this growth, its focus remains committed to maintaining high standards of quality and making eye care affordable and accessible.

Infrastructure development

Aurolab inaugurated its advanced US FDA-compliant Eye Drops Manufacturing Facility on 5th October 2025, marking a significant step in strengthening global eye care and supporting India's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision. The facility was formally inaugurated by Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India. This state-of-the-art unit spans 75,000 sq. ft., enhancing production capacity to 36 million bottles annually and reinforcing Aurolab's commitment to international quality standards, sustainability, and the "Make in India" initiative.

Further strengthening its manufacturing capabilities, Aurolab inaugurated a new Spectacle Frame Division on 7th April 2025, dedicated to producing affordable, high-quality, and flexible frames for children. The facility was inaugurated by P. Ramachandran, Business Advisor, Eyewear and Fellow of the Institute of Directors (IOD).

The new facility positions Aurolab among the leading ophthalmic pharmaceutical manufacturers in the region. It also reflects the organisation's strong commitment to sustainability, featuring a 286-kW rooftop solar plant, comprehensive water recycling systems, and the verdant Aurofarm ecosystem, which hosts more than 40 species of birds.

To enhance operational capacity and improve staff welfare, several expanded facilities and key infrastructure projects were inaugurated on 8th December 2025, the crèche which was functioning in the staff hostel since 2007, has been shifted to a newly dedicated building. In addition, a new canteen dining hall and staff dining hall were set up to improve dining and social facilities. The new Optics Division and Domestic Business Office were also inaugurated, laying a strong foundation for future growth and continued excellence. All these developments reflect the organisation's mission to "See New Possibilities."

New facility inaugurations at Aurolab

Eye drops manufacturing facility





Dining facility



The new optics division



New spectacle frame division



Domestic business office



Crèche facility

New products

Last year, Aurolab introduced several products aimed at enhancing vision care and surgical precision. The Ace Vision Hydrophilic Phakic IOLs were launched in January 2026, offering advanced optic designs for the correction of high refractive errors, along with support for natural aqueous circulation and smooth implantation.

Designed to provide excellent visual clarity and long-term stability for spectacle-free vision, its variant, Ace Vision Toric, offers dual correction for refractive errors and astigmatism, combining refractive precision with effective astigmatism management for sharper and more stable outcomes.

Further, the Magnus IOL, powered by Optical Enhancement Technology, was introduced, delivering clear vision across far, intermediate, and near distances with stable optical performance. Similarly, the Hummingbird Elite, a premium phacoemulsification system, was launched, featuring advanced phaco modes, automated safety functions, ultra-fast vitrectomy, ergonomic design, and USB connectivity, supporting superior outcomes in cataract surgery.

On 12th March 2026, both the Magnus IOL and Hummingbird Elite were unveiled at the All India Ophthalmological Society Conference held in Jaipur.



Ace Vision Hydrophilic Phakic IOL



Ace Vision Toric



Magnus IOL



Hummingbird Elite

Regulatory affairs

Aurolab achieved several compliance and quality milestones during the reporting period. In January 2026, the Manufacturing Licence for Class B Medical Devices was obtained, covering HPMC 2.1, Ocular Coherence Tomography, and Orbital Sphere, along with Certificates of Pharmaceutical Products (COPP) for 10 items. These approvals enabled registrations across multiple countries, including the successful registration of the Slit Lamp in Syria.

February 2026 marked the receipt of the prestigious WHO-GMP certification for Latanox, the registration of Aurosleek in Ethiopia, and the successful completion of supplier audits for OBL customers, reinforcing Aurolab's trusted partnerships.

In March 2026, additional endorsements for Latanoprost products (Latanorm-RT and Latina-RT) were secured. Aurolab also attended an online training session on USFDA Quality Management System regulations, equipping participants with essential knowledge for effective implementation.

Participants of the brainstorming session held at Kodaikanal



Marketing

Marketing plan for 2026 - 2027

Aurolab's Therapeutic Marketing Team organised a brainstorming session from 2-4 January 2026 at Poppy's Hotel, Kodaikanal, to develop a robust Marketing Plan for FY 2026-27. The team presented its strategic proposals, while managers shared valuable insights and recommendations. The session brought together diverse perspectives, combining strategic vision with practical ideas to develop a comprehensive plan to guide Aurolab's growth in the coming year.

A proud moment for Aurolab was the recognition of an inspiring patient impact story facilitated by Aurolab's International NGO & Promotion Team, which was featured by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) as part of its Vision Save Stories initiative.

Eight-year-old Semira Jemal from Ethiopia, who had been living with bilateral cataracts and could only see "grey smudges," regained her sight through a surgical outreach initiative conducted by the Cure Blindness Project at Boru Meda General Hospital. Through the implantation of Aurolab's high-quality and affordable intraocular lenses (IOLs), her vision was fully restored, enabling her to return to school with confidence and renewed hope.

This recognition by IAPB highlights Aurolab's mission of delivering accessible ophthalmic solutions and demonstrates its life-changing impact on underserved communities worldwide.



Conferences & scientific engagements

The Aurolab team conducted and participated in 74 scientific and business events across the country. These included 23 Hospital-Based CMEs, 6 National Conferences, 7 Regional Conferences, 16 Specialty Conferences, and 22 State Conferences.

Beyond exhibition participation, Aurolab actively promoted hands-on learning by organising 24 Wet Lab and Dry Lab stations, providing comprehensive support with consumables and equipment to enhance the surgical training experience. As part of the scientific sessions held at various conferences, 10 renowned ophthalmologists shared their surgical experiences and clinical outcomes using Aurolab products. In addition, 32 scientific sessions featured presentations by leading national experts, highlighting the clinical performance, applications, and innovations of Aurolab's product portfolio.

CMEs, and Training Programmes

KOTA CME – Eye Connect 2025

Themed "Eye Connect: Clinical Insights & Advancements in IOL Technology," this programme, held on 31st August 2025, aimed to strengthen clinical knowledge exchange and reinforce partnerships with the ophthalmic community. Participants experienced hands-on learning using advanced equipment. Around 65 doctors participated.

Glaucoma implantation – Special session

This training session, held on 1st September 2025 at C.H. Nagri Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad, aimed to strengthen surgical skills and enhance the delivery of advanced glaucoma care. The programme included a detailed explanation of the AADI 250 implant technique, a live surgical demonstration, a wet lab for hands-on training, and interactive Q&A discussions.

Special training for eye hospital counsellors

Aurolab's Zonal Training Managers (ZTMs) conducted specialised training for eye hospital counsellors across North, South, East, and West India. The training focused on: Effective patient communication, Product and treatment understanding, Practical application in hospital settings.

At Kota CME - Eye Connect 2025





An activity-based learning at counsellors connect



Participants of the workshop on AI

Key states covered included Bihar, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh. These efforts strengthened professional capability, trust, and collaboration between Aurolab and healthcare partners.

Counsellor Connect

Aurolab conducted "Counsellor Connect," a structured training programme for eye hospital counsellors. This initiative supported better patient guidance and enhanced care experiences by focusing on both technical knowledge and patient communication skills. Participants gained greater confidence in clearly explaining treatment options to patients. Each session was attended by approximately 30 counsellors.

Human resource development

To foster collaboration and drive collective growth, a selection process was conducted on 29th May 2025 to identify new team leaders from the production division.

The selected employees were expected to lead teams, work closely with managers, support problem-solving and team development. In addition, several key activities were conducted across departments to facilitate both professional and personal growth.

Exploring the future of business: Workshop on AI

Focusing on the scope of AI in the business environment, the workshop held on 25th April 2025, aimed at promoting a culture of continuous learning and innovation. The session was led by Ram Mohan, Chief Strategy Officer, Identity Digital Inc., USA, who brought his vast experience and expertise in the field of AI.

Annual planning meeting

Aurolab conducted its annual planning meeting on 6 -7 May 2025. Employees at Level 1 and 2 actively participated in aligning goals and strategic plans for the upcoming year. Over 35 employees explored operational processes and potential opportunities as part of this collaborative exercise.

Participants of the Digital marketing strategy training programme



Consultation meeting

On 13th May 2025, Aurolab convened a consultation meeting for the first time, with experienced ophthalmologists from the AECS, focused on gathering insights to fuel innovation in product development and technology. With around 15 participants, the meeting served as a meaningful platform for expert guidance and reinforced Aurolab's commitment to advancing eye care solutions.

Digital marketing strategy training

On 17th May 2025, a session was conducted for the Marketing team by Ramkumar, an expert in Digital Marketing and MarTech. The training helped participants enhance their digital skills and deepen their understanding of digital marketing strategies.

Financial management training

Aimed at empowering employees with essential financial planning and management skills, this training initiative, held on 25th May 2025, underscores Aurolab's commitment to holistic employee development, including financial well-being.

Equipment training programme

A comprehensive Equipment Training Programme was conducted on 29-30 May 2025 to empower the equipment team and field staff with practical knowledge and operational skills. The programme covered all aspects, from installation to maintenance, ensuring the team to deliver excellence at every stage of service.

Assessor training and certification programme

A one-and-a-half-day Assessor Training and Certification programme was conducted on 21-22 January 2026, equipping participants with tools and frameworks for objective and consistent talent assessment, supporting succession planning and leadership development at Aurolab.

Skit programme

As part of the TPM promotional activities, Aurolab organised a TPM awareness Pillar-Wise Skit Programme on 30th January 2026 to build an understanding of TPM and its eight pillar concepts through role-playing and dramatisation. The eight pillers include, 5S Pillar, Jishu Hosen Pillar, Planned Maintenance Pillar, Quality Maintenance Pillar, Kobetsu Kaizen Pillar, Development Management Pillar, Education & Training Pillar, and Safety, Health & Environment Pillar.

Behavioural Event Interview (BEI) programme

The programme was conducted on 22-23 January 2026, followed by BEI Training for production team leaders on 20-21 February 2026. The sessions strengthened competency-based interviewing skills and provided structured tools for fair and consistent candidate evaluation, particularly for bulk hiring processes.

Bird watching event

On 15th February 2026, Aurolab organised a Bird Watching Event at its Green Campus within the certified Aurofarm for its production staff. With over 7,300 trees and 52+ bird species, the campus supports rich biodiversity in Madurai and Sivaganga. The initiative promoted environmental awareness, wellness, and teamwork, aligning with Aurolab's sustainability goals.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) training session

On 26th February, Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) members attended a POSH training session led by Vasanthakumari Jayaraman, Empanelled PoSH Trainer with the Ministry of Women & Child Development, covering key aspects of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act and reinforcing Aurolab's commitment to a safe and compliant workplace.

Kaizen culture training

On 18th March 2026, Aurolab hosted Kaizen Culture Training with 30 participants from various

Employees participating in Aurolab's bird-watching event





Participants of the POSH training session



Senthil Balaji receiving an award from Thiru C.V. Ganesan, Hon'ble Minister for Labour Welfare and Skill Development

departments. The session introduced workplace culture concepts, waste identification using 3M's and TIMWOODS, and practical tools such as 5 Whys, 5W1H, and ECRS. Participants also explored Zenin Sanka (teamwork for collective growth) and the seven key result areas driving organisational excellence.

Tailoring classes for production staff

As part of a skill development initiative and to promote continuous learning, Aurolab organised tailoring classes for production staff. Tailoring Certificate Ceremonies were held in July 2025 and January 2026 to recognise successful completion.

Social Responsibility Activity

Recognising the importance of educational planning, Aurolab conducted a Higher Education Guidance programme for employees' children who had completed Grades 10, 11, or 12. The event featured various sessions on educational opportunities, navigating higher education choices, and engaging game activities. Awards were also presented to students who excelled in their 10th and 12th grade examinations. Over 20 children participated in this enriching session.

Awards

Excellence in Maintenance Management Award
Aurolab won the Platinum Award for Best Organisation (Overall Maintenance Management) at the 7th CII National Maintenance Circle Competition, held virtually on 17th March 2026.

Occupational Safety & Health Excellence Award
Senthil Balaji from the Pharmaceutical Department won the Third Prize in the Occupational Safety & Health Excellence Award (Uyarntha Uzhaipalar Virudhu) at the State Safety Awards 2026, organised by the Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health and the National Safety Council (Tamil Nadu Unit), held on 8th January 2026 at the Anna Centenary Library, Chennai.

Tailoring students along with their teacher and their certificates



Excellence in Maintenance Management Award



Aurolab at various national and international ophthalmic conferences

Sadguru Seva Sangh Conference



Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress)

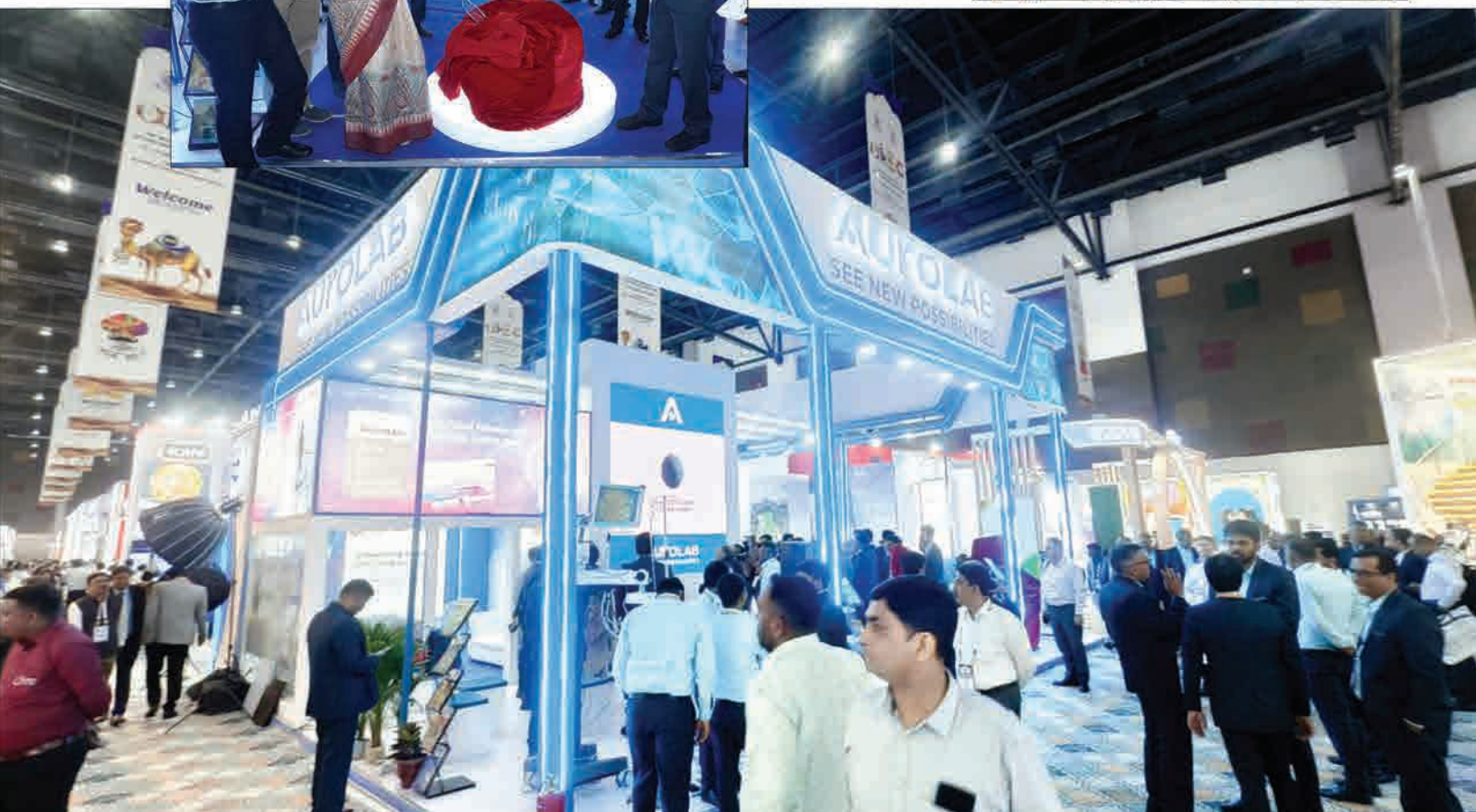


All India Ophthalmological Conference (AIOC)



Delhi Ophthalmological Society (DOS) Conference





Information Technology

"Information Technology is very powerful and, if deployed rightly, would play a major role in the betterment of our society." - Dr. V

Guided by this vision, AuroiTech enables eye hospitals to deliver seamless and patient-centric services, making eye care more accessible and hassle-free. The division extends its support by developing digital solutions tailored to the unique needs of each hospital. Through continuous innovation, it helps build a robust digital ecosystem that enhances the quality, efficiency, and reach of eye care.

NEW INITIATIVES

Dhrishti, Aravind's patient care mobile app, now features a new mobile pre-registration option, enabling patients to pre-register via their phones, reducing wait times, eliminating paperwork, and streamlining the registration process.

To further promote patient use, promotion desks have been set up at all tertiary centres, as well as at Aravind-Theni, to increase the uptake of the application. Managed by the MRD teams and IT staff, these desks assist patients in downloading and using the app.

During the last year, Auroitech onboarded a total of 10 unique clients across 14 locations, bringing the total number of clients to 21. Through eyeNotes, Auroitech contributes significantly to increased patient safety and improved efficiency across these hospitals.

Projects

Aravind-Orbis Novel Outreach Project

Aravind-Pondicherry launched the CARE Project on 14th February 2026 with support from Orbis International as a three-year pilot initiative to develop a novel outreach model. The project uses tablets equipped with the OnSight application developed by Auroitech, functioning offline and integrated with portable diagnostic devices to strengthen community-based screening.

During the Re-orientation training on VC EyeNotes for Government of Tamil Nadu vision centres







Dr. R. Kim at the Faculty development workshop on emerging technologies held at Aravind-Madurai

Using digital data management systems along with anterior and posterior segment imaging, the project aims to improve early detection, strengthen referral pathways, and ensure effective post-operative follow-up. The implementation plan targets expansion from 25% outreach camp coverage in the first year to 100% coverage across all Pondicherry service areas by the third year. As of March 2026, 10 pilot camps had been conducted, screening a total of 1,560 patients.

Conferences/Workshops Conducted

Re-Orientation Training on VC EyeNotes for Government of Tamil Nadu Vision Centres

The Government of Tamil Nadu State Blindness Control Society (TNSBCS), in collaboration with Aravind, has been running 35 vision centres since 2019. Aravind provides ongoing technical support in the form of orientation, training, and software implementation. As part of continuous follow-up, a one-day re-orientation training programme was organised at three Aravind Eye Hospitals in Madurai, Salem, and Chennai, on 26th, 29th, and 30th July 2025 respectively, under the direction of Dr. S.V. Chandrakumar, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Project Director, TNSBCS, Chennai. The main objective of the training was to familiarise participants with the new platform transition from Web VCMS to VC EyeNotes and to provide hands-on training.

Faculty development workshop on emerging technologies

Aravind through its Auroitech, organised a Faculty Development Workshop on 9-10 August 2025 for faculty members and heads of departments from various esteemed educational institutions. The workshop aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry by introducing real-world applications of Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and other emerging technologies. It equipped participants with insights to mentor students more effectively and align academic learning with evolving industry needs. Highlights included sessions on AI and Machine Learning in Healthcare, Cybersecurity, Data-driven Decision Making, and Emerging Technologies in Public Health & Medical Imaging. Faculty also explored real-time healthcare applications and discussed opportunities for curriculum integration and collaborative research.

Employee Empowerment

"With a firm belief in approaching work from a spiritual perspective, I have strived to be open to the divine force. We can serve humanity in our normal professional lives by being more generous and less selfish in what we do. You don't have to be a 'religious' person to serve God. You serve God by serving humanity." - Dr. V

As partners in the fight against needless blindness, Aravind's 5,000+ employees provide invaluable support to patient care across diverse capacities and roles. A unique work culture that blends tradition and spirituality with the continuous adoption of technological advancements has been a key factor in Aravind's progress.

In keeping with this ethos, Aravind engages its employees in continuous learning and well-being initiatives that help build a stronger team, foster a renewed spirit of service, and strengthen bonds among colleagues. These initiatives reaffirm their shared commitment to serving the community

Building a healthy workplace

Staff welfare and well-being across all Aravind centres were strengthened through initiatives that promoted motivation, continuous learning, physical health, self-development, and workplace safety. These initiatives were reflected in a range of programmes, including:

Aravind-Coimbatore

- *The annual Book Exhibition was held on 3-4 October 2025 in collaboration with New Century Book House, encouraging reading among AOPs and children.*
- *A session on work-life balance was conducted on 4th November 2025 to support staff well-being.*
- *Strong emphasis was also placed on safety and professional development through programmes such as A Safety Session for Maintenance Teams was conducted on 20th November 2025 to reinforce safe work practices.*
- *A Safety Awareness Session for Security and Escalator Staff was held on 12th December 2025 to enhance operational safety.*
- *A karate and self-defence session for women was organised on 9th January 2026 to promote confidence and safety.*
- *A session on women's safety at work and ICC awareness was conducted on 17th February 2026 to strengthen awareness and empowerment among staff.*
- *An Occupational Safety Orientation for AOPs was conducted on 20th March 2026 to promote workplace safety awareness.*
- *An Orientation Programme for Security Personnel and Lift Operators was organised on 29th March 2026 to strengthen professional preparedness.*
- *The Distance Education Programme is currently supporting 64 AOPs in pursuing higher education.*

Aravind-Chennai

- *"Tvisha: Bloom Within" was conducted on 30th September 2025, addressing work-life balance and personal well-being.*

Aravind-Madurai

- *The Tamil play "Aram Seiya Virumbu," based on stories from Silappathikaram, was staged on 7th February 2026 to promote cultural values and inspiration.*

Aravind-Pondicherry

- *An insightful talk was organised on 23rd October 2025 as part of cultural and inspirational initiatives.*
- *The three-day Annual Parameters Audit was conducted from 9-11 January 2026 to strengthen quality and performance standards.*
- *The facility coordination and gardening team was recognised on 23rd February 2026 for securing third place among 261 institutions at the 36th Farm Fest 2026, reflecting their dedication to maintaining a green campus.*

Aravind-Salem

- *A motivational session was conducted on 29th May 2025 to inspire and engage staff.*
- *A Thirukkural-themed programme on "Hospitality and Empathy" was conducted on 3rd June 2025 to reinforce values of compassionate care.*
- *An appreciation event for cleaning and security staff was organised on 4th June 2025 to recognise their invaluable contribution.*



Dr. David Chang engaging in a meaningful exchange of ideas during the Cataract retreat held at Aravind-Chennai



During the Glaucoma Retreat at Aravind-Tirunelveli

- *A Fire Safety Awareness programme was conducted on 28th March 2026 to improve emergency readiness.*

Aravind-Tirunelveli

- *An Outdoor Play Area for AOP hostelers was inaugurated on 7th May 2025 to encourage physical activity and recreation.*
- *An educational guidance session on higher education opportunities was conducted on 7th August 2025 to support staff development.*
- *A motivational session titled "Not just a routine job... a journey to transform lives" was held on 10th January 2026 to inspire purpose-driven service.*
- *An inspirational programme, "Lighting Lives Beyond Limits," was conducted on 9th February 2026 for outreach and project teams.*
- *A session on ESI benefits was organised on 20th March 2026 to increase awareness of employee welfare provisions.*

Retreats

The Cataract Retreat at Aravind-Chennai on 7th April 2025 brought together key stakeholders to discuss current practices and future directions in cataract care, with Dr. David Chang contributing valuable insights on emerging technologies and innovative care models. The Retreat for the Department of Cornea and Refractive Surgery at Aravind-Thanjavur on 6-7 September 2025 focused on strategic planning for the next five years, while the Glaucoma Retreat at Aravind-Tirunelveli on 11-12 October 2025 reviewed current practices and recent developments in glaucoma management.

The Paediatric Retreat at Aravind-Coimbatore on 1-2 November 2025 encouraged learning and collaboration among paediatric ophthalmologists. The HR Retreat organised by Aravind-Madurai on 27-28 February 2026 focused on staff development, productivity, and organisational effectiveness.

Participants involved in a group discussion at the Cornea Retreat held at Aravind-Thanjavur



Dr. P. Vijayalakshmi sharing her insights on paediatric eye care during the Paediatric retreat held at Aravind-Coimbatore



Arangam

The 3rd Aravind Intramural Conference, Arangam, held at Aravind-Madurai on 9-10 October 2025 as part of the October Summit 2025, promoted learning, innovation, and continuous improvement among staff across all Aravind centres. The conference received over 484 submissions organised under four tracks - CARE, FOCUS, HEAL, and TRAIN - covering areas such as patient care, clinical practices, refraction, low vision care, teaching, and skill transfer. A total of 239 presentations, including oral, poster, video, and quiz events, were showcased, with 63 participants receiving prizes. Learning stalls and poster exhibits encouraged interdisciplinary interaction and knowledge sharing.










Beyond eye care

Resident Social Responsibility programme

As part of the Resident Social Responsibility (RSR) programme, residents from Aravind-Madurai, along with members of Suvadugal conducted community outreach activities at Kakaipadiniyar Girls Higher Secondary School and Velliveethiyar Corporation Girls Higher Secondary School, Madurai, on 7th & 8th August 2025. The sessions focused on eye health and hygiene, women's health, self-belief, empowerment, and the importance of financial independence. School kits containing notebooks, stationery, tiffin boxes, water bottles, and uniforms were distributed to 15 students from Classes 10 and 11, while an additional 20 students who had lost one or both parents also received support kits.




Residents further extended their service through the Vaanavil initiative to the Rehabilitation Centre for Blind Women in Trichy. On 1st January 2026, an exhibition-cum-sale of handicrafts was organised providing visually challenged women with an opportunity to showcase their talents and support sustainable livelihoods. The event raised over Rs. 4.11 lakh.



Staff engaging in singing during Auro Connect at Aravind-Coimbatore



Ophthalmic Equipment Enhancement Programme at Aravind-Coimbatore

Angaadi - Pondicherry

Angaadi 2026 was organised on 12th January 2026 as a fundraising sales event where staff contributed unused items for sale. Along with food stalls, games, and Pongal celebrations, the event strengthened community spirit, with all proceeds supporting Aravind's service initiatives.

Nadi Utsav - Chennai

Nadi Utsav, a talent-based cultural event for first-year AOP trainees, was held on 5-6 February 2026. Participants were divided into four teams named after Indian rivers: The Ganga, the Yamuna, the Narmada, and the Brahmaputra, and competed in activities such as rangoli, riddles, singing, dance, drawing, and theme-based events, showcasing their creativity and teamwork.

Auro Connect - Coimbatore

A monthly recreational initiative from February 2026 onwards, aimed at strengthening teamwork, encouraging creativity, and providing staff with a refreshing break from routine work schedules. Employees were divided into twelve teams, with each team taking turns to organise monthly activities. The event includes, singing, dance, yoga, and interactive games.

Ophthalmic equipment training programme

A four-day Ophthalmic Equipment Enhancement Programme was conducted at Aravind-Coimbatore from 7-10 January 2026 to strengthen the skills of ophthalmologists and ophthalmic technicians through hands-on training aimed at improving diagnostic accuracy and patient care.

During the Angaadi event held at Aravind-Pondicherry





Dr. P. Namperumalsamy sharing an insightful reflection during the CME on Retina Investigations Decoded



Prof. N. Manickam leading a session during the CME on Instruments and Equipment Maintenance

CMEs, CPEs and Workshops for AOPs and Admins

CME on Retina investigations decoded 2025

Held at Aravind-Madurai from 11-13 April 2025, the CME focused on advancements in retinal investigations, covering OCT, FFA, OCTA, ERG, EOG, B-Scan, and ASOCT through theory sessions and discussions.

Workshop on Enhancing refraction skills

Conducted at Aravind-Coimbatore on 14th April 2025 for first-year trainees, the workshop strengthened essential clinical skills such as hand hygiene, instilling eye drops, and measuring visual acuity.

Design thinking workshop

Aravind staff participated in the three-day residential Design Thinking workshop, held at the 8012 FinTech Design Center, School of Design Thinking, Chennai from 25-27 June 2025. Through immersive sessions, collaborative exercises, and case studies, participants gained practical skills in user-centred innovation, product design, and process thinking.

Workshop on Patient-centered care

Conducted at Aravind-Tirunelveli on 5th August 2025, the workshop used lectures and games to strengthen understanding of patient-centred care practices.

Workshop on Enhancing teaching and learning skills

Held at Aravind-Tirunelveli on 12th August 2025, the workshop improved teaching and learning methods for trainers and trainees through interactive activities and healthcare-based examples.

Aravind team during the Design Thinking workshop





An AOP engaging in a discussion during OP and IP CME at Aravind-Madurai



Kannamma Ravindran leading a motivational session on resilience

CME on Instruments and equipment maintenance

Organised at Aravind-Madurai from 22-24 August 2025, the programme included sessions on equipment maintenance, EMR integration, calibration techniques, and hands-on training for instrument technicians.

Anterior vitrectomy (V-Drill) workshop

Conducted at Aravind-Madurai on 3-4 October 2025 in collaboration with Alcon, the workshop enhanced OT AOPs' understanding of anterior vitrectomy settings and surgical complication management.

Out-patient and In-patient CME

Conducted at Aravind-Madurai, on 5-7 September 2025, the two-day CME programme for OP and IP staff focused on strengthening clinical knowledge, patient care, and service quality.

Operation Theatre (OT) CME

Conducted at Aravind-Madurai on 19-20 September 2025, the CME programme focused on strengthening knowledge and best practices. Sessions covered patient safety, OT workflow, infection prevention, documentation, instrument care, CSSD, emergency preparedness, and quality standards. Interactive discussions and practical activities enhanced perioperative care skills.

Optical and Pharmacy CME

Conducted at Aravind-Madurai on 10th November 2025, the programme focused on operational efficiency, patient safety, ADR reporting, and strengthening collaboration between departments.

CME for Facility coordinators and catering team

Held at Aravind-Madurai on 13-14 November 2025, the CME featured sessions on hospitality, event management, communication, teamwork, and new

Participants of the Operation Theatre CME





Participants of the Medical Records Department CME



Dr. R. Kim viewing the displays at the exhibition organised during the Physician CME

innovations. A total of 23 Facility Coordinators from across all Aravind centres participated in the programme.

Medical Records Department CME

Held at Aravind-Madurai on 21st November 2025, the CME highlighted quality improvement, patient flow management, and the importance of accurate medical records.

Personnel Department CME on SPARK

Conducted at Aravind-Madurai on 5-6 December 2025, the CME covered NABH requirements, payroll processes, EPFO updates, and labour law amendments.

CPE for Coordinators, technicians, supervisors and tutors

Organised at Aravind-Pondicherry on 3-4 January 2026, the programme strengthened teamwork, quality standards, and patient-centred care practices.

Transport Department drivers' training camp

A one-day training programme for transport drivers was organised at Aravind-Madurai on 11th January 2026 to strengthen knowledge and skills in safe driving, traffic regulations, vehicle maintenance, fuel efficiency,

S.G. Ramanathan highlighting the department's key parameters at the Transport Department Drivers' Training Camp



Participants of the CME for Facility Coordinators





Participants of the CPE on Standardising Strategies for Improving Efficiency at Aravind-Madurai



Participants of the CPE on Supply Chain Accuracy and Its Impact on Patient Safety

passenger safety, professional conduct, and responsible service.

CME for the Physician team

The General Medicine services of AECS organised a CME on 28th February 2026, focussing on history taking, systemic examination, emergency management, and reducing errors in blood pressure measurement, temperature checking, and ECG recording.

CPE on Standardisation & efficiency improvement

Conducted at Aravind-Madurai on 13-14 February 2026, the programme focused on accountability, ethical practices, timelines, and patient-centered service.

CPE on Supply chain accuracy and patient safety

Held at Aravind-Madurai on 13-14 February 2026, the CPE emphasised process excellence, accountability, and user-focused service within the Stores Department.

Maintenance Department CPE 2026

Organised at Aravind-Madurai on 7th & 14th March 2026, the meet focused on safety, maintenance performance, new technologies, and sharing operational experiences.

Enhancing clinical excellence through Optometry & Ophthalmic technology (OPTO Tech)

Conducted at Aravind-Tirunelveli on 29th March 2026, the CME strengthened clinical and technical skills through theory sessions and hands-on training in diagnostics, refraction, and patient care. The CME was attended by 92 participants, including faculty members, optometrists from other hospitals, and trainees.

Participants of the Maintenance Department CPE Meet (First Batch)



Participants of the Maintenance Department CPE Meet (Second Batch)





At the CME on Enhancing Clinical Excellence through Optometry & Ophthalmic Technology (OPTO Tech)

Workshop on Digital storytelling

As part of Mike Myers Memorial Event, Digital Storytelling in Health Communication was organised by Aravind Communications at Aravind-Madurai on 26th September 2025. The workshop included a session by Dana Berger, Creative Director and Documentarian from the USA, and provided videographers, video editors, photographers, graphic designers, instructional designers, doctors, and counsellors with valuable insights into the role of digital storytelling in healthcare communication.



Dana Berger conducting a hands-on session on Digital Storytelling in Health Communications





Photographs by Aravind photographers and doctors on display during the Photography Exhibition

Photography exhibition

A photography exhibition titled Mike Myers Memorial Photography Exhibition was organised at Aravind-Madurai from 4-7 October 2025 to honour Mike Myers, an Aravind volunteer and photography consultant who passed away on 4th October 2024. The exhibition featured portraits of Mike, photographs taken by him and selected works of Aravind photographers. Their ophthalmic images featured on journal covers, and memorable moments capturing Aravind's journey.

My Life My Pride

My Life, My Pride is a staff development initiative of AECS designed for AOPs to help them become physically and emotionally stronger while supporting their overall well-being and personal growth. The programme focuses on physical fitness, emotional resilience, vocational skills, and personal development. It is built around three key pillars: Life Skills, Counselling, and Extra-Curricular Activities, offering a holistic approach to employee empowerment.

Counselling programme

The programme provides support at two levels: Personal Counselling and Peer Group Counselling. At Aravind-Chennai, personal counselling was provided on an ongoing one-to-one basis for trainees and employees, benefiting 375 participants. At Aravind-Pondicherry, a dual-mode approach combining group sessions and structured individual counselling supported 37 participants.

At Aravind-Madurai, the Peer Counselling Programme, named Mithram, was launched to train a selected group of employees to support their peers facing personal and work-related challenges. The programme was initiated on 11th July 2025 with a workshop led by Dr. Synthia Mary Mathew, Retired Professor of Psychology from Lady Doak College, Madurai. The workshop focused on key areas such as self-awareness, interpersonal development, relationship management, and constructive feedback. Subsequently, two follow-up sessions were conducted on a quarterly basis to strengthen the peer counsellors' counselling skills and enhance their effectiveness in supporting colleagues.

Life skills programme

The "Thalir Thiran Thittam" Life Skills Programme was integrated into the AOP curriculum and is conducted for first- and second-year AOP trainees across all tertiary and secondary Aravind centres. The programme covered 70 topics through activity-based learning methods. Professionally trained facilitators conducted sessions using interactive activities, video-based learning, and guided discussions. A total of 1,155 trainees participated across all centres.

Extra-curricular activities

This initiative encourages voluntary participation and offers AOPs a wide range of opportunities in vocational skills, sports, performing arts, language development, and cultural activities. These programmes are conducted across all centres and are designed to foster discipline, creativity, teamwork, leadership, and professional confidence. Participants are also encouraged to take part in competitions organised by other institutions. Their achievements and prize-winning performances not only showcased their talents but also enhanced their confidence and motivation for personal and professional growth.

During the last year, a total of 2,488 AOPs benefited from the various activities organised as part of the My Life, My Pride initiative

Activity	Centres	Participants
Spoken English	13 Centres	2,054
Tailoring	Madurai, Coimbatore, Tirupati, Tirunelveli, Theni, Dindigul, and Pondicherry	129
Typewriting	Coimbatore	60
Aari Work	Coimbatore	9
Taekwondo	Tirupati, and Tirunelveli	34
Silambam	Chennai, and Dindigul	29
Throw Ball	Chennai, and Pondicherry	42
Dance (Oyilattam & Valli Kummi)	Coimbatore, Tirupati, and Chennai	79
Readers' Club	Chennai, and Pondicherry	52



Karate performance by AOPs at Aravind-Tirupati



Aari work class for AOPs at Aravind-Coimbatore



An AOP showcasing her tailoring works at Aravind-Tirupati



Takewonda performance by AOPs at Aravind-Tirupati



Typewriting class for AOPs at Aravind-Coimbatore



Vallikummi Arangetram at Aravind-Coimbatore



Tailoring instructor presenting the certificate to the trainee in the presence of Dr. Usha Kim and G. K. Veni



Spoken English class for AOPs at Aravind-Tirunelveli

Aravind Centre for Eye Care Innovation (ACEi)

- Driving Innovation for Better Eye Care

"Much has been done, but much remains to be done…." – Dr. V

Innovation has always been an integral part of Aravind, driving more and more improvements in patient care, service delivery, and operational excellence. Building on this legacy, ACEi has continued to strengthen its role as Aravind's dedicated platform since 2018. It functions as a catalyst in nurturing ideas, translating clinical challenges into practical solutions, and fostering a culture of innovation across the organisation.

Infrastructure Development

Eyedeas Lab, a dedicated environment for ideation, rapid prototyping, product development, and collaborative innovation, was set up at LAICO building and inaugurated on 28th June 2025. Established under the Empowering ACEi Project, the lab significantly enhanced ACEi's capacity to transform innovative concepts into affordable, scalable, and clinically relevant solutions. Preparations began for establishing the EYERIS Lab, the innovations lab, at Aravind-Chennai, technical staff underwent intensive one-month training at the Eyedeas Lab and Aurolab to strengthen in-house expertise in product design, engineering, and prototyping.

On 5th February 2026, the Aravind Eye Care System signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the PolyU Research Centre for SHARP Vision (RCSV), Hong Kong, China, to jointly develop and clinically validate EyeAgent, an artificial intelligence-powered clinical decision-support platform for ophthalmology. This partnership represents an important step toward integrating advanced AI technologies into eye care.

New initiatives

So far, ACEi collaborated with nine universities and start-ups, developed 28 prototypes, and generated 12 research and innovation outputs presented or published. These initiatives reinforced the department's mission of promoting frugal innovation while addressing real-world clinical and operational challenges.





Inauguration of the Eyedeas lab at Aravind-Madurai



Launch of Eye Mount 360

Regulatory affairs

To strengthen institutional support for innovation and intellectual property, the ACEi–Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Committee was constituted during March 2026. The committee will guide patenting, technology transfer, commercialisation, and protection of innovations developed across Aravind.

From idea to reality (Product development)

Several innovative products advanced substantially during the year. Amongst, Eye Mount 360 was officially launched in collaboration with LVPEI BioNEST Incubator, during the 84th Annual Conference of the All India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS 2026) held in Jaipur on 12–15 March 2026, and a patent application was filed.

KeraScan device being demonstrated on a patient



KeraScan, a portable keratoconus screening device, emerged as one of the flagship developments. Originally conceived through a clinical collaboration led by Dr. Anitha Karthikeyan, Johns Hopkins University, the concept was transformed by Eyedeas Lab into a portable, low-cost, webcam-based Placido disc corneal topographer. Through engineering redesign, 3D printing, and rapid prototyping, the device became suitable for community-based and paediatric screening, enabling early detection of keratoconus in high-risk populations.

Another significant innovation was GonioGlobe, a structured gonioscopy training and simulation model. Recognising the challenges associated with learning the highly subjective clinical skill, ACEi developed an affordable silicone eye model with interchangeable iris-angle plates that simulate normal and pathological angle configurations. The model enables repeated, risk-free practice for residents, fellows, and glaucoma surgeons while standardising training for angle-based procedures.

ACEi also developed practical solutions to improve clinical workflow and patient care. The A-Scan Probe Holder, designed using 3D printing technology, addressed operational issues by securely holding the probe after use while preventing cable interference and accidental damage. The LIDORA Eye Ointment Applicator was designed to help elderly patients, children, and individuals with limited dexterity apply ophthalmic ointments safely, accurately, and hygienically. Prototype refinements also continued for the 3D-Printed Prosthetic Eye, incorporating improved iris printing techniques, enhanced colouring, and transparent resin coatings to achieve a more realistic appearance.

Operational innovation remained another important focus area. Improvements to the Water Management System included the development of an ultrasonic flow-meter-based monitoring system with dashboard integration, enabling accurate water measurement, enhanced traceability, and improved system reliability. Similarly, the Eyeball Holder underwent design modifications to provide improved vacuum stability and enhanced safety during eye bank procedures and surgical training. Development also progressed on the Slit Lamp Sensor, a LiDAR-based plug-and-play device that automatically controls slit lamp illumination based on clinician presence, improving energy efficiency and



Doctors and engineering students working together to develop an innovative solution during the Hackathon 2026 at Aravind-Pondicherry



3D design, rapid prototyping

workflow without requiring modifications to existing equipment.

A technical visit to Chemzest Silicone Company, Chennai, further strengthened product development efforts by identifying suitable silicone materials for ophthalmic simulation models, including GonioGlobe and the Squint Surgery Simulation Model.

Events

A two-week training programme on 3D Design and Printing was conducted from 2-13 September 2025 for six Instrumentation (Biomedical Engineering) interns, providing hands-on experience in 3D design, printing, and printer operation. The training covered the fundamentals of 3D printer operation, printer usage and maintenance, the PrusaSlicer application, CAD design using Autodesk Fusion 360, and the use of Vernier calipers. The programme supports the vision of establishing Eyedeas Labs across all Aravind Eye Hospitals by strengthening in-house capabilities in 3D design, rapid prototyping, and innovation.

The Hackathon 2026, conducted at Aravind-Pondicherry from 2–4 January 2026, brought together doctors, engineers, and students to solve clinical, surgical, patient care, and training challenges. From 169 problem statements, 27 challenges were shortlisted, attracting 260 applications from nine institutions. Winning teams received prizes of up to Rs. 50,000, while several promising ideas progressed toward prototype development through mentorship from ACEi.

Aravind Inspiring Innovator Award (AIIA)

The culture of innovation was further strengthened through the Aravind Inspiring Innovator Award (AIIA) 2026, which recognised outstanding innovations from across the organisation. At the Awards Ceremony held during Hospital Day at Aravind-Pondicherry on 23rd February 2026, the Time-Lapse Tomography (TLT) project received the Top Award, while Intraoperative Fluorescein Angiography (IOFA) secured the First Runner-up position. IDORA and Lazeyetrack were jointly recognised as Second Runner-up innovations, highlighting the diversity and quality of innovations emerging from clinicians and trainees across Aravind.

Recognitions and Achievements

RECOGNITIONS

NABH Digital Health Standards Award

New Delhi, 17th September 2025

The Aravind Eye Care System (AECS) has been recognised as the first complete group of eye hospitals to achieve the NABH Digital Health Standards at the NABH Patient Safety Conference.

Yeoman Service Award

Alleppey, 17th December 2025

For its yeoman service to the public in eliminating needless blindness and restoring vision to millions, Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli was recognised with an award by the Lions Club of Mannar.

Best Performance of the Year Award

Salem, 18th December 2025

Aravind Eye Hospital, Salem was awarded with the Best Performance of the Year Award by Eicher Motor Limited at the Eicher Driver Care Programme.

Farm Fest 2026

Pondicherry, 31st January 2026 - 1st February 2026

The Aravind-Pondicherry Housekeeping and Gardening team secured 3rd Place Overall among 261 participating institutions at the 36th Farm Fest 2026, organised by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of Puducherry. The Team has won 11 prizes across multiple garden categories.



Holmes Lecture Award to Dr. R.D. Ravindran

Awards at the 40th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress

New Delhi, 3-6 April 2025

Dr. R.D. Ravindran, Chairman, AECS, was honoured with the prestigious Holmes Lecture Award in recognition of his exceptional contributions to preventive ophthalmology, especially in the prevention of blindness in the Asia-Pacific region.

Dr. R. Kim, Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Aravind-Madurai was honoured with the S.S. Badrinath Endowment Lecture Award.

Membership in the International Intraocular Implant Club (IIIC)

USA, 25-28 April 2025

Dr. Haripriya Aravind, Chief, Intraocular Lens & Cataract Services, Aravind-Chennai, has been

Thulasiraj Ravilla, and Dr. D. Chandrasekar, receiving the NABH Digital Health Standards Award



Dr. R. Kim receiving the S.S. Badrinath Endowment Lecture Award



A. Hemachandran receiving the Yeoman service award on behalf of Aravind-Tirunelveli





Dr. V. Narendran, being felicitated by Thiru R.N. Ravi, Governor of Tamil Nadu, at the Governor's Think to Dare Series – 19



Dr. Venkatesh Prajna receiving Late Shri Pushkarlal Ji Om Prakash Ji Tibrewala Oration 2025



Membership in the International Intraocular Implant Club (IIIC)



Doctors' Day Award presented to Dr. R. Meenakshi



Srini being honoured with the Evangelist 100 Award at the Foundry CIO100 Awards & Symposium



Dr. R. Ramakrishnan being honoured with the Doctors' Day Award at the IMA meeting



Dr. Haripriya Aravind receiving the 2025 APACRS Certified Educator Award



Dr. R. Venkatesh receiving the Dr. Rajesh Ganesuni Innovations in Ophthalmology Lecture 2025 Award

Winners of the Farm Fest 2026





Dr. Haripriya Aravind receiving Dr. G. Sundram Ramaraju Cataract Lecture 2025 Award

Dr. B. Manohar Babu receiving the Dr. G. Venkataswamy Endowment Award at the USICON 2025





Dr. Kalpana Narendran receiving the Lifetime Luminary Award at the IMA Women Doctors Wing Awards Programme



Dr. R.D. Ravindran receiving the Stanley Award 2026



The Global Digital Health Summit, Expo & Innovation Award 2025 to Dr. R. Kim



Dr. J.L. Sharma Memorial Oration Award to Dr. R. Kim



Dr. Manju Vinythera receiving the Distinguished Service to Community Award from Tmt. Vanathi Srinivasan



AIOS - Lalit Verma (LV) Pearl Award to Dr. R. Venkatesh



AIOS Endowment Award to Dr. S.R. Rathinam



Dr. Usha Kim receiving the Prof. Dr. Chhayakanta Mahapatra Oration Award



Dr. Gowri Priya receiving the Dr. Vidya Ravi Memorial Award for Women Scientist at NCB



Dr. Parag K. Shah being recognised in the Guinness World Record for participation in the largest live-streamed AI in Healthcare lesson on YouTube





Dr. D. Chandrasekhar and Dr. M. Divya being elected as Members of Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association

nominated to the IIIC at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) 2025.

Special Honour at Governor's Think to Dare Series - 19

Chennai, 13th July 2025

Dr. V. Narendran, CMO, Aravind-Coimbatore, was felicitated by Thiru R.N. Ravi, Governor of Tamil Nadu, at the Governor's Think to Dare Series - 19 held at Raj Bhavan, Chennai, in recognition of his invaluable service.

Doctors' Day Awards

Tirunelveli, 20th July 2025

Dr. R. Ramakrishnan, Advisor, Aravind-Tirunelveli, and Dr. R. Meenakshi, CMO, Aravind-Tirunelveli, were honoured with Doctors' Day Awards by the Indian Medical Association (IMA).

Elected Members of Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association (TNOA)

13h August 2025

Dr. D. Chandrasekhar, Consultant & Lead for NABH Compliance, AECS, Aravind-Coimbatore, was elected as the Honorary General Secretary of TNOA for the 2025-2028.

Dr. M. Divya, Chief, Cataract, Cornea & Refractive Services, Aravind-Thanjavur, was elected as a Managing Committee Member of TNOA for the 2025-2028 term

APACRS Certified Educator Award 2025

Ahmedabad, 21-23 August 2025

Dr. Haripriya Aravind received the award at the 37th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (APACRS).

Late Shri Pushkarlal Ji Om Prakash Ji Tibrewala Oration 2025

Hyderabad, 22-23 August 2025

Dr. N. Venkatesh Prajna delivered the Late Shri Pushkarlal Ji & Om Prakash Ji Tibrewala Oration 2025 talk on "Eminence Vs evidence: Interpreting the grey sones in clinical practice" at LV Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad.

CIO 100 Special Awards at the Foundry CIO100 Awards & Symposium

Bengaluru, 17-19 September 2025

Srini, Chief Technology Officer, Auroitech, was honoured with the CIO 100 Special Awards: Data Security Maestros, and The Evangelist 100 Award, which recognise CIOs and CTOs for rethinking digitalisation, driving innovation, and strengthening resiliency in an AI-driven world, backed by strategic initiatives that enhance value creation and accelerate organisational growth.

Awards at the 10th Andhra Pradesh Ophthalmic Society (APOS) Annual Conference

Guntur, 19-21 September 2025

Dr. R. Venkatesh, CMO, Aravind-Pondicherry, was honoured with the Dr. R. Rajesh Ganesuni Innovations in Ophthalmology Lecture Award 2025, while Dr. Haripriya Aravind was honoured with the Dr. Sundararama Raju Cataract Lecture Award 2025 for Best Scientific Presentation and Best Team in the Ophthalmic Premier League.

Title: How can we ensure high-quality eye care

The Global Digital Health Summit, Expo & Innovation Award 2025

Mumbai, 19-21 September 2025

Dr. R. Kim was honoured with the Award, at the 4th Edition of the Global Digital Health Summit.

Dr. Vidya Ravi Memorial Award for Women Scientist

Trichy, 28th September 2025

Dr. Gowri Priya Chidambaranathan, Scientist, Immunology & Stem Cell Biology, AMRF, was honoured with the award for proving existence of stem cells in trabecular meshwork and its deficiency leading to glaucoma, at the National Conference on Advances in Burns Treatment - Thermal and Radiation.

Dr. G. Venkataswamy Endowment Award

Jammu, 3-5 October 2025

Dr. B. Manohar Babu, CMO, Aravind-Salem, was honoured with the Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of uveitis, at the 26th Annual Conference - Uveitis Society of India (USICON) 2025.

Title :My journey as an ophthalmologist

Prof. Dr. Chhayakanta Mahapatra Oration Award

Odisha, 22nd November 2025

Dr. Usha Kim, Chief, Orbit, Oculoplasty, Ocular Oncology & Ocular Prosthetics Services, Aravind-Madurai, was honoured with the award at the Annual Conference of Odisha State Ophthalmological Society 2025.

Appreciation Award

Salem, 18th December 2025

Boopathi S., Optometrist, Aravind-Salem, received an Appreciation Award in recognition of his enthusiastic participation and meaningful contributions, at the Eicher Driver Care Programme.

Dr. J.L. Sharma Memorial Oration Award

Ambala, 17-18 January 2026

Dr. R. Kim was honoured with the Award at the 20th Annual Conference of the Haryana Ophthalmological Society (OPHTHAFEST 2026) and the Ambala Ophthalmological Society.

Stanley Award 2026

Chennai, 25th January 2026

Dr. R.D. Ravindran was honoured with the Stanley Award 2026, recognising his excellence in the professional field and his remarkable contributions to Stanley Medical College. The award was conferred by the Stanley Alumni Association (SAA), Stanley Medical College, Chennai.

ASCRS Foundation Prestigious Chang-Crandall Humanitarian Awards 2026

5th February 2026

Dr. R. Venkatesh, and Dr. Haripriya Aravind, have been selected by the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) Foundation Board as recipients of the prestigious Chang-Crandall Humanitarian Awards 2026. The award recognises their outstanding humanitarian work in the field of cataract blindness and disability.

Guinness World Record

25th February 2026

Dr. Parag K. Shah & Dr. Shivkumar Chandrashekharan, Chief, IOL & Cataract Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli, were part of the Guinness World Record attempt by the National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS), New Delhi, for the "Most viewers of an Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare lesson live stream on YouTube," which recorded 17,999 doctors as simultaneous viewers during the live session.

Meritorious Award

Karnataka, 11-22 February 2026

Dr. R. Kim was honoured with the Meritorious Award at the Advances in Retinal Imaging Surgery & Electrophysiology (ARISE) 2026, organised by the Retina Institute of Karnataka. This award was conferred in recognition of a lifetime of excellence in retinal care and unwavering dedication to teaching and mentorship.

Rani Mangammal Award

Theni, 8th March 2026

Sr. Seeniammal, AOP HR Manager, Aravind-Theni, was honoured with the Rani Mangammal Award by the Naidu Chamber of Commerce and Industries (NCCI), Theni, during the NCCI Family Meet held in observance of International Women's Day - NCCI Family Meet 2026.

Award at the 84th Annual Conference of the All-India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS) 2026

Jaipur, 12-15 March 2026

Dr. R. Venkatesh was honoured with the AIOS - Lalit Verma (LV) Pearl Award 2026, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to education, research, and leadership in Ophthalmology.

Dr. S.R. Rathinam, Chief / Principal, Uveitis Services, Aravind-Madurai, received the Endowment Award for delivering the AIOS P. Namperumalsamy Endowment Lecture, titled: *How did we find out the cause of an epidemic fever and uveitis? Leptospirosis in India.*

Boopathi S. receiving an Appreciation Award at the Eicher Driver Care Programme



Rani Mangammal Award to Sr. Seenimmal



Indian Medical Association Women Doctors Wing Awards

Aravind-Coimbatore, 29th March 2026

Dr. Kalpana Narendran, Chief, Cataract & Paediatric Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Coimbatore, was honoured with the Lifetime Luminary Award, while Dr. Manju Vinythera, Medical Consultant, City Centre, Aravind-Coimbatore, received the Distinguished Service to Community Award, in recognition of their dedicated service and outstanding contributions to community healthcare.

ACHIEVEMENTS

40th APAO Congress

New Delhi, 3-6 April 2025

Runner up at the Asia Pacific Ocular Imaging Society (APOIS)-APAO Imaging Competition - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary, Medical Officer, General Ophthalmology, Aravind-Madurai

Best Paper of Session

- Dr. Sameer Chaudhary; Title: *Sudden visual loss in pineal gland tumour*

Indian Journal of Ophthalmology (IJO) Silver Award

- Dr. Prabhu Baskaran, Medical Consultant, Retina-Vitreous Services, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Closure rate and recovery of subfoveal microstructures following conventional internal limiting membrane peeling versus per fluorooctane-assisted inverted flap for large macular holes: A randomised controlled trial (In Flap Study)*

Best Paper Award

- Dr. Haripriya Aravind; Title: *Endothelial cell loss following phaco in eyes with Pseudoexfoliation: A ten-year comparative study*
- Dr. Usha Kim; Title: *Vision salvage in retinoblastoma: A ten-year clinical review, &* Title: *Our SMS strategy for molecular diagnosis of retinoblastoma*

Aravind doctors winning awards at the 40th APAO Congress:

Dr. Haripriya Aravind, receiving the best paper award



Dr. Usha Kim receiving the International Hero Award



Best Publication in IJO - 2024 to Dr. P. Sundaresan



International Hero Award to Dr. Sharmila





Jed-Eyes Winners: Dr. Smrithi, Dr. Sahithya, and Dr. Priyadharshini

Best publication in IJO 2024 awardees - Dr. Naresh Babu, Dr. Avik Dey Sarkar, Dr. Muthukrishnan, with Dr. R. Kim



APAO Achievement Award

- Dr. K. Naresh Babu, Chief, Retina & Vitreous Services, Aravind-Madurai, & Dr. Haripriya Aravind

Best Scientific Paper Award

- Dr. Sanil Joseph, Consultant - Research, LAICO; Title: *Enhancing AI-based diabetic retinopathy diagnosis through universal CRO-camera image adaptation*

Best Publication in the IJO for the year 2024

- Dr. P. Sundaresan, ICMR Emeritus Scientist, AMRF; Title: *Genotypic and phenotypic diversity in X-linked retinoschisis: Findings from a South Indian patient cohort*
- Dr. K. Naresh Babu, Dr. Avik Dey Sarkar, Medical Consultant, Retina & Vitreous Services, Aravind Madurai, Dr. Muthukrishnan V, Medical Consultant, Retina & Vitreous Services, Aravind Madurai; Title: *A retrospective analysis of surgical outcome in sutureless glueless scleral fixation of foldable intraocular lens*
- Dr. Prabhu Baskaran, Medical Consultant, Retina-Vitreous Services, Aravind-Chennai; Title 1: *Comparative analysis of outcomes of two (popular) techniques of haptic exteriorisation in scleral fixation intra-ocular lens surgery: A retrospective study; & Title 2: S-FIX: A sutured way of doing suture less SFIOL surgeries* beyond *X-NIT; and* IJO Reviewer Commendation Certificate

International Hero Award

- Dr. Sharmila, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Madurai, for winning the best video award at AIOS New Delhi on quadruple procedure
- Dr. Usha Kim; Title: *Rapid and cost-effective molecular diagnosis of retinoblastoma*

Best Poster Podium Presentation

- Dr. Eliza Anthony, Medical Consultant, Uveitis Services, Aravind-Chennai.; Title: *Paracentral acute middle maculopathy like lesions associated with ocular and systemic inflammation*
- Dr. Hari Bhadari Anand, DNB Resident, Aravind-Pondicherry; Title: *Comparing post-operative endophthalmitis in operating rooms with and without laminar airflow & HEPA filtration*
- Dr. Usha Kim; Title: *Genetics and Retinoblastoma: All you need to know*

IJO Reviewer Commendation Award

- Dr. Anand Rajendran, Chief, Retina Vitreous Services, Aravind-Chennai
- Dr. Vikas Menon, Orbit, Oculoplasty, Ocular Oncology & Ocular Prosthetics Services, Aravind-Chennai

First Prize in Think Under the Apple Tree

- Dr. Anamika Paul, Glaucoma Fellow, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Perkins Applanation: An ergonomic approach.*

Trophy for being a Finalist

- Dr. Anahita Shroff, DNB Resident; Title: *Ab interno stenting* (Presenter)

Two teams from Aravind were among the eight shortlisted finalists out of 80 teams from across the country in the Teachers of Tomorrow event.

Team: Jed-Eyes (Winners)

- Dr. Sahithya Bhaskaran, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Services, Aravind-Madurai (Mentor), Dr. Priyadharshini PV, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai, & Dr. Smrithi Sony Thampi, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai

Team: Eye-Vengers

- Dr. Sameer Chaudhary (Mentor), Dr. Nishwath Balakrishnan, Resident, MS. Ophthalmology, Aravind-Madurai, & Dr. Vedant Sharma, Resident, MS. Ophthalmology, Aravind-Madurai

Annual Meeting of the ASCRS 2025

UAS, 25-28 April 2025,
ASCRS 2025 Film Festival Award

- Winner - Dr. R. Venkatesh; Title: *Bleed blue: Dye today to evaluate the effectiveness of Ab-interno glaucoma surgeries*

Dr. R. Venkatesh, Dr. Sathya T. Ravilla, Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan, Dr. Haripriya Aravind, Dr. Devendra Maheswari and Dr. R. Sankarananthan with their awards at the ASCRS 2025 meeting





- Runner-Up - Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan, Chief, Cataract-General Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *What not to do - Part I*
- Winner - Dr. Sathya T. Ravilla, Chief, Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Services, Aravind-Tirupati; Title: *Aberrations for dummies!*
- Runner-up - Dr. Seema Ramakrishnan, Medical Consultant, Cornea Services, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Convertible irrigation aspiration: A zero-cost innovation for cortex removal in difficult situations*

Best Paper of the Session

- Dr. Devendra Maheswari, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *Comparative study of surgical outcomes in Gonioscopy assisted transluminal combined with phacoemulsification in POAG vs PACG*
- Dr. R. Sankarananthan, Medical Consultant, Cataract & Uvea Services, Aravind-Salem; Title: *Impact of virtual reality simulator-based training in reducing complications in cataract surgery: A comparative analysis*

High Impact Pearl Award in Cataract Symposium

- Winner-Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan

26th Congress of the International Society for Geographical and Epidemiological Ophthalmology (ISGEO) 2025

Nepal, 27-28 April 2025

Dr. B.S. Ganesh Babu, Senior Faculty, LAICO won the Best Paper Award for the Podium Presentation titled, *Novel approach for enhancing Effective Cataract Surgical Coverage (eCSC) and effective Refractive Error Coverage (eREC): Lessons from a pilot initiative at Aravind Eye Hospital (AEH), India.*

All-India Brain Teasers Big Q Competition (Online Platform)

8th June 2025

Runner-up in Pan-India Inter-Collegiate PG Quiz Finals - Dr. Abhishek G., Dr. Krutin Jugal Shah, Dr. Chandravadan, and Dr. Kothapally Saiteja, DNB Residents, Aravind-Coimbatore



Dr. V.P. Aravind Krishna receiving the Industry Special Recognition Award at LVPEI Innovation Day



Dr. Niswath Balakrishnan receiving the Second prize in Eye Invent Hackathon 2025

LVPEI Innovation Day - Start-up Challenge 2025 of the AIOS - ARC

Hyderabad, 27-28 June 2025

Second Prize in AIOS-LV Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) Eye Invent Hackathon 2025

- Dr. Priyanka, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai, & Dr. Niswath Balakrishnan, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai; Innovation title: *Glaucometer: A home IOP monitoring device with smartphone connectivity*

Industry Special Recognition Award

- Dr. Aravind Krishna V.P., MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai, Dr. Athul S. Puthalath, Medical Consultant, Retina Services, Aravind-Madurai, and Dr. Smrithi Sony Thampi; Innovation title: *Eyemount 360: A dynamic eye mount designed to enhance wet lab training.*

11th World Glaucoma Congress

USA, 25-28 June 2025

- Second prize in Film Festival - Diagnostics Educational Category- Dr. Swati Upadhyaya, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Pondicherry; Title: *Bleed blue: See it to believe it!*

Dr. Ganesh Babu receiving the best paper award at the ISGEO Conference



Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kader with his prize-winning photograph at the 11th World Glaucoma Congress



- TOP 10 in the Photo/Images Exhibit - Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kader, Glaucoma Services Aravind-Tirunelveli; Photo title: *The great escape of the optic nerve head 'Reversal of Cupping': Post GATT*

Dr. Nimrita Nagdev, Consecutive travel grant award WGC (2023, 2025)

Intraocular Implant & Refractive Society of India (IIRSI) Convention

Chennai, 5-6 July 2025

- Runner-Up in IIRSI Film Festival 2025 Award - Dr. V.P. Aravind Krishna; Title: *Eye Mount 360 - Revolutionising surgical training*
- Winner in Clinical Image in the Posterior Segment Category - Dr. Abhishek G., DNB Resident, Aravind-Coimbatore; titled: *Retinal Tornado: The Fury of a Giant Retinal Tear*

7th Retina Imaging Congress 2025

Trivandrum, 4-6 July 2025

Dr. Athul S. Puthalath won the Best Paper Award for his paper titled, *Time-Lapse Tomography (TLT): AI-augmented interpolation of serial OCTs for dynamic visualisation of retinal disease progression.*

10th State Annual Conference - Ekashila TOSCON 2025

Telangana, 11-13 July 2025

Dr. Kothapally Saiteja won the Best Paper Award for his paper titled, *Cloaked in inflammation: Unveiling T-Cell intraocular lymphoma* (Case Series).



Dr. V.P. Aravind Krishna receiving the Runner-Up Prize the IIRSI Film Festival



Dr. Athul S. Puthalath receiving the Best Paper Award at the 7th Retina Imaging Congress 2025

19th National Conference on Community Ophthalmology - VISION 2020

Ahmedabad, 11-13 July 2025

Best Paper Award

- Winner - I. Seran, Manager, Patient Care, Aravind-Salem; Title: *Seva-supported project to address uncorrected refractive error in weavers and silversmiths of Salem District, TN*
- Winner - Rajesh S., Manager, Community Outreach & Eye Bank, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Comparative efficacy of vision centres and comprehensive eye camps in detecting speciality cases*

Poster Presentation

- First Prize - Vikky Kumar M., Manager, Administration, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *Biometry challenges: Understanding measurement variability pre and post-investigation*
- Third Prize - I. Seran; Title: *Two incremental changes which resulted in zero patient identification errors at AEH Salem!*

9th Annual Conference of the Indian Retinopathy of Prematurity (iROP) Society

Jaipur, 19-20 July 2025

- Dr. Vignesh Elamurugan, Medical Consultant, Retina-Vitreous Services, Aravind-Madurai, won second prize in New Ideas for ROP Research (Rapid Fire) category for his research work titled, *Topical application of Ringer's lactate for phase 1 ROP.*

Awards at Vision 2020 conference:

Best paper award to I. Seran



Best poster award to M. Vikky Kumar



Best paper award to S. Rajesh





Young Investigator Award at the 31st annual meeting of ARVO-India 2025: Dharshini Nandakumar and Gopika S. Kumar

31st Annual Meeting of ARVO-India 2025

Chennai, 26-27 July 2025

Young Investigator Award

- Gopika S. Kumar, Project Associate, AMRF; Title: *Pigmentation loss reflects EMT and functional decline in iPSC-derived RPE cells* (Oral presentation)
- Dharsini Nandakumar, Project Assistant II, AMRF Regional Research Centre, Coimbatore; Title: *Prospective evaluation of RID-MYC assay for POC diagnosis and clinical management in smear and culture-negative keratitis with IVCM correlation* (Oral presentation)

Travel Fellowship

- Shivasankari, Junior Research Fellow, Department of Genetics, AMRF

Second Prize in Quiz Competition

- S. Jayashree, Research Manager, S. Karvannan, Research Scholar, & G. Balaji, Project Assistant II, AMRF Regional Research Centre, Coimbatore

72nd Annual Conference of TNOA & Pondicherry Ophthalmologists' Association - CHERRYCON 2025

Pondicherry, 1-3 August 2025

Third Place in Shark Tank for Innovation

- Dr. Sahithya Bhaskaran; Title: *Percepto: CVI screening app*

Best Poster Podium Presentation

- Dr. Sabarinath A., Medical Officer, General Ophthalmology Services; Title: *A deep dive into childhood glaucoma*
- Dr. Mounika P., Medical Officer, General Ophthalmology Services; Title: *Navigating cataract surgery in Post-RK eyes*
- Dr. Aravind Krishna V.P.; Title: *Echoes from the past: Late recurrence of retinoblastoma*
- Dr. Diviyan Abraham, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *Blinded by the blades: A case of bilateral ocular trauma following drone injury*
- Dr. Debolina Deb, Medical Consultant Retina & Vitreous Services, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Oguchi disease in Indian patients: Imaging the elusive mizuo phenomenon*
- Dr. Anupama Janardhanam, Medical Consultant, Paediatric & Strabismus Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *Paediatric vascular occlusions due to protein C and S deficiency*
- Dr. S.R. Preethi, DNB Resident, Aravind-Pondicherry; Best Poster Podium in Neuro-Ophthalmology

TNOA Captain Subramanian Video Award

- Dr. Sameer Chaudhary; Title: *Haptic heartbreak: IOL exchange following haptic fracture in posterior polar cataract*
- Winner in Just a Minute (JAM) - Dr. Aravind Krishna V.P.; Title: *Accessibility tools for the visually challenged in smartphones and computers*

TNOA TOPS Award (Best Free Paper)

- Dr. Muthukrishnan V.; Title: *Paediatric endogenous endophthalmitis: Analysis of clinical spectrum and outcomes in 32 eyes*
- Dr. Sivadarshan, Medical Consultant, Retina Vitreous Services, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Chronic myeloid leukemia and diabetes: A dangerous synergy for proliferative retinopathy*

TNOA Prof. C. P. Gupta Award

- Dr. Anupama Janardhanam; Title: *Clinical and demographic study of Posterior Deformational Plagiocephaly (PDP) in paediatric patients*

Dr. K. Selvakumari Award

- Dr. A. Balraj, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Pondicherry

Dr. M.N. Award

- Dr. R. Harini, DNB Resident, Aravind-Pondicherry

TNOA Dr. M.R.S Ramakrishnan Award

- Dr. Anupama Janardhanam for Best Free Paper in Paediatric Ophthalmology

Best Free Paper Award

- Dr. Evangeline D., MS Resident; Title: *Optic neuritis associated with Myelin Oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody: A case series*
- Dr. Krutin Jugal Shah; Title: *Uncovering gaps in cluster fungal endophthalmitis: A multi-centre case series*
- Dr. S. Sivaranjani, Medical Consultant, Retina Vitreous Services, Aravind-Pondicherry

CHERRYCON Best Paper Presentation

- Dr. Sudha K.S., MS Resident; Title: *Case series: External ophthalmomyiasis due to Oestrisovis in South India*

- Dr. Krutin Jugal Shah; Title: *Role of interventional radiology in neuro ophthalmology*

Best Photograph Non-Ophthalmology category

- Dr. Gopikrishna, MS Resident

Best Paper of the Session

- Dr. Lakshana M.L., Medical Officer, General Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Distance sensitive retinoscopy with ultrasonic sensor for enhanced accuracy*

Third prize in YOSI Quiz - Dr. C. Sumitha, Glaucoma Fellow, Aravind-Pondicherry

Elite School of Optometry (ESO) - International Vision Science and Optometry Conference

Chennai, 15-17 August 2025

Jegatheeswari J, Tutor-Refraction, Aravind-Madurai, won the Best & Overall Best E-Poster Presentation for her poster titled, *Impact of prismatic correction on field of binocular single vision in incomitant strabismus.*

7th Annual Conference of the Indian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (INOS)

Jaipur, 6-7 September 2025

- Best Paper Award - Dr. Deepika Ranganatham, Medical officer, General Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Importance of pattern ERG as adjunct to visual evoked potential in ethambutol induced optic neuropathy*
- First Place in Case Presentation - Dr. Madhumitha Gopal, Medical Consultant, Neuro-Ophthalmology Services, Aravind- Chennai; Title: *When the remedy turns to malady: Carboplatin-induced optic neuropathy*
- Second Place Poster Podium Presentation - Dr. Madhumitha Gopal; Title: *The functional and psychological impact of ethambutol-induced optic neuropathy*



Dr. Deepika Ranganatham and Dr. Madhumitha Gopal at the INOS Conference

2nd Annual Conference of the Young Ophthalmologists Society of India (YOSICON 2025)

New Delhi, 5-7 September 2025

- YOSI Rising International Star Award 2025; Dr. Sameer Chaudhary & Dr. Hari Bhadari Anand; Dr. Kunal Mandlik, Medical Consultant, Cornea & Refractive Surgery Services, Aravind-Pondicherry and Dr. Nimrita Nagdev, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli
- YOSI Research Excellence Award 2025 - Dr. Kunal Mandlik
- YOSI Surgical Excellence Award 2025 - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- First place: Clinical Case Competition – Neuro - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- First place:Clinical Case Competition – Miscellaneous - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- First place: Video Competition - Cataract 2 - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- First place: Ophthalmic Wars - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- EYECONIC Fitness Award - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- First Runner-up - IOL Battle - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- First place - Cataract Chitra Competition - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary
- Winners - DOS YOPL - Dr. Sameer Chaudhary & Dr. Nandita Trivedi, Fellow, General & Cornea Services, Aravind-Madurai
- Second Prize in YOSI Art - Dr. Mounika P; Title: *Eyes Berg: Unveiling the subclinical mass of diabetic retinopathy*
- Winner - Expressions: Yosi Art; Dr. Mounika P; Theme: World through eyes of young ophthalmologist
- Best video in the general category - Dr. Aravind Krishna V.P.; Title: *EyeMount 360*
- Runner Up - Ophthalmic Wars - Dr. Aravind Krishna V.P.,

YOSI Rising International Star Award 2025 at YOSICON 2025:

Dr. Kunal Mandlik *Dr. Hari Bhadari Anand*





- Runner Up - Ophthalmic Premier League (OPL) - Dr. Aravind Krishna V.P.,
- Winners in YOSI iRock quiz competition - Dr. Smrithi Sony Thampi & Dr. Priyanka Krishnakumar, MS Residents, Dr. Aravind Krishna V.P
- Consolation prize -YOSI Essay Writing Competition 2025 - Dr. Charishma P., MS Resident; Title: *AI in Ophthalmology*
- Best Dance Performance YUVA NITE - Dr. Nandita Trivedi
- First Prize: Nurture Eye Nature Contest Reels - Dr. Megha G
- First Prize: Nurture Eye Nature Contest Photography - Dr.Megha G
- Judges Choice TOP Video -YOSI World Youth Day - Dr. Megha G

34th Annual Conference of the Glaucoma Society of India - GLAUCOTAAL 2025

Bhopal, 12-14 September 2025

Best Paper Award

- Dr. Devendra Maheswari; Title: *Two-year outcomes of Tanito microhook trabeculotomy in primary open-angle glaucoma*

Winner in Glaucoma Photo Talk - Dr. R. Sharmila & Runner-up in Squid Game

Best Poster Award

- Winner - Dr. Yamini K & Dr. Prasanna V, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *When blebs don't need Mitomycin: A case series of Iatrogenic blebs*
- Runner-up - Dr. Megha G.; Title: *Smartphone application for glaucoma patients and the visually impaired*

Best Video Talk

- Dr. Prasanna V; Title: *Microincisional trabeculectomy: Five steps to success*

Runner-up in Best Free Video category

- Dr. Anamika Paul & Dr. Neethu Mohan, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Perkins applanation: An ergonomic approach*





Paper Presentation Awards at Medverse Hospital Growth Summit 2025: Dinesh Kumar and Karthick Kumar

- Runner-up in Glaucoma Quiz - Dr. Prasanna V

GSI CSOS Quiz Toppers

- Rank-2: Dr. Premanand Chandran, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Coimbatore
- Rank -1: Dr. Sujay Jaju, Clinical Research Fellow, Aravind-Coimbatore
- Rank -2: Dr. Shebsan Mohammed, Secondary DNB, Aravind-Coimbatore

23rd Mid Term Conference of Jharkhand Ophthalmological Society 2025 (JHOS)

Virtual, 14th September 2025

Dr. V.P. Aravind Krishna won Third Place in Online Hackathon; Title: *Eye Mount 360*

Medverse Hospital Growth Summit 2025

Salem, 20-21 September 2025

Paper Presentation

- First prize -Dinesh Kumar Ramraj; Title: *Emerging Role of Hospital Administrators in Monitoring Department Functions through Critical KPIs*
- Second Prize - Karthik Kumar Sivakumar; Title: *Closing the loop: How administrators turn recurring issues into lasting solutions*

45th Annual Conference of the Maharashtra Ophthalmological Society (MOSCON 2025)

Goa, 3-5 October 2025

Best Paper

- Dr. Sujay Sanjay Jaju, PG Resident, Aravind-Coimbatore; Title: *Clinical*

Aravind team at MOSCON 2025



utility of CRISPR-based RID-MyC assay in smear- and culture-negative fungal keratitis (Co-author: Dr. Siddharth Narendran)

Best Poster

- Dr. Sujay Sanjay Jaju; Title: *Aborted suprachoroidal haemorrhage presenting as pseudomelanoma: Don't get psyched out!* (Co-authors: Dr. Angeetha M.R., Dr. Parag K. Shah)
- Dr. Sujay Sanjay Jaju; Title: *Comparing safety and efficacy of bevacizumab, ranibizumab, and ranibizumab biosimilar in ROP* (Co-authors: Dr. Puja Maitra, Medical Consultant, Retina & Vitreous Service, Aravind-Chennai, Dr. Kushal Agrawal, Dr. Abhishek Das, Dr. Prema S, Dr. Narendran V, Dr. Parag K. Shah)

AIOS Ophthalmic Short Video Competition

Aravind-Salem, 10th October 2025

Dr. Megha G., Medical Officer, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Salem, has been listed among the Top 10 in the AIOS Ophthalmic Short Video Competition. She received a Certificate of Merit on the occasion of World Sight Day 2024. Title: *Is screen time always bad?*

AIOS Travel Fellowship Grant

Aravind-Salem

Dr. Megha, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Salem, was selected for the AIOS Travel Fellowship to attend the WGC Conference in Honolulu, USA.

VRSI 2025

Goa, 31st October - 2nd November 2025

- *Dr. Athul S. Puthalath won the Hack the Tech Award; Title: Time-Lapse Tomography (TLT): Neural interpolation of serial OCTs for dynamic retinal imaging.*

Bug Busters 5: Corneal Infection Workshop

Hyderabad, 23rd October-2nd November 2025

Dr. Bennet Chacko Mathew, Medical Consultant, Cornea Services, Aravind-Coimbatore, won Dr. Savitri Sharma Award for Best Paper Presentation in the Scientific Research, titled, *Diagnostic accuracy of the CRISPR-based RID-MyC assay in smear- and culture-negative fungal keratitis.* (Co-author: Dr. Siddharth Narendran)

59th Annual Conference of the U.P. State Ophthalmological Society - GORAKSHEYECON 2025

Uttar Pradesh, 7-9 November 2025

Dr. S. Sivaranjani, Medical Consultant, Retina Vitreous Services, Aravind-Pondicherry, won the Dr. V.N. Raizada Award.

PRIME Summit 2025

Bengaluru, 7-9 November 2025

Hari Vignesh Sekar, Research Scholar, AMRF, received the Travel Grant Fellowship for Poster Presentation titled, *Mitochondrial dysfunction drives primary open-angle glaucoma: Insights from whole mitochondrial genome sequencing.*

World ROP Congress 2025

Italy, 4-5 December 2025

- Best ROP Kaleidoscope Paper Award for Dr. Puja Maitra Title: *Eyes without answers*
- VRSI November Clinical Image Award: Dr. Abhishek G; Title: *Retinal Tornado: The fury of a giant retinal tear*

Retina Surgical Circuit 2025

Bangalore, 6-7 December 2025

Second Prize in E-Video Presentation- Dr. Shrieyas Sundaradas Gore, Retina Fellow, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Live rescue: Exorcising the worm*

5th Annual Conference of Indian Paediatric Glaucoma Society (IPGS 2025)

Madurai, 12-13 December 2025

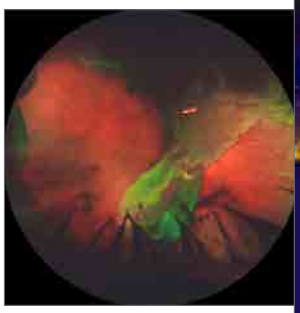
Best Poster

- Dr. Manju R. Pillai, Title: *Beyond sight*
- Dr. A. Vijayalakshmi; Title: *Screening for glaucoma in children with retinopathy of prematurity*

Dr. Bennet Chacko Mathew winning the Dr. Savitri Sharma award at the Bug Busters 5: Corneal Infection Workshop



Dr. Shrieyas Sundaradas Gore winning second prize in E-video at the retina surgical circuit



The rolled-over retina resembles a tornado, depicting a giant retinal tear





Best Scientific Presentation Award to Dr. Jebinth Brayan at EYERCAUD 2026



FAICO Gold Medal Awardees with Aravind SLT members

Glaucoma Mastercut 2025 Conference

Bengaluru, 19-21 December 2025

NN Video Awards

- Dr. Haasini, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *GATT: Three problems, three solutions*
- Dr. V. Prasanna; Title: *When Tanito cleaves more than it ought to*

13th Annual Conference of the Cornea Society of India - Keracon 2025

Goa, 19-21 December 2025

- Second Prize in Photo Presentation-Dr. Seema Prabu, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *The Eye of a Storm: A 4-month-old buphthalmic cornea with a flat anterior chamber and an anteriorly dislocated microspherophakic sutural cataract, resembling an eye within this unfortunate end-stage eye*
- Third Prize in Best of Best Free Paper Session - Dr. Dixitha. V, Cornea Fellow, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Risk factors, treatment, and outcomes of corneal infection with dematiaceous fungi*

Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association (TNOA) Mid-Year Meet "EYERCAUD 2026"

Yercaud, 10-11 January 2026

Best Scientific Presentation Award- Dr. Jebinth Brayan, Medical Consultant, Intraocular Lens & Cataract Services, Aravind-Coimbatore; Title: *Trauma to triumph*

FAICO Gold Medal Awards

New Delhi, 1st February 2026

- Dr. Shreyas S. Gore, Medical Consultant, Retina & Vitreous Services, Aravind-Madurai (Retina)
- Dr. Sameer Chaudhary & Dr. Gariyashee Lakhar, IOL Fellow, Aravind-Madurai (IOL)
- Dr. Abirami Priyadarshini M., Cornea Fellow, Aravind-Madurai (Cornea)
- Dr. Sreelakshmi Nair, Paediatric Fellow, Aravind-Madurai (Paediatric Ophthalmology)

The Ophthalmological Challenge Quiz - The Maharashtra Ophthalmic Society

Mumbai, 8th February 2026

Second prize in EyeQ - Dr. Krutin Shah, PG Resident, Aravind-Coimbatore

Awards at the 41st annual APAO Congress:

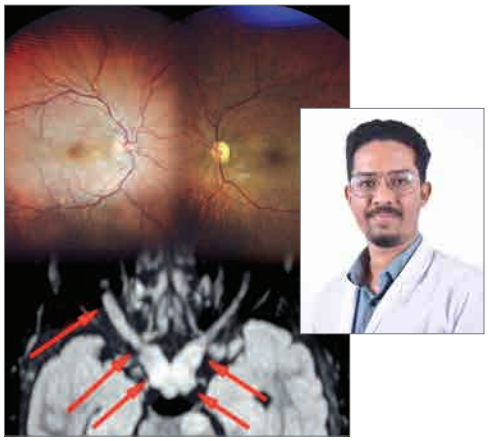
Dr. Sahithya Bhaskaran



Dr. R. Ram Sudarshan



Dr. Abhishek G.



41st Annual Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress

China, 5-8 February 2026

Best Scientific Paper Award

- Dr. Sahithya Bhaskaran; Title: *Percepto: A digital screening tool for cerebral visual impairment*

Merit Award at the APAO-APOIS Imaging Competition

- Dr. R. Ram Sudarshan, Medical Consultant, Retina-Vitreous Services, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *Corkscrew vascular loop*
- Dr. Abhishek G; Title: *Eyes: Stairway to brain's chamber of secrets*

84th Annual Conference of the All-India Ophthalmological Society (AIOC) 2026

Jaipur, 12-15 March 2026

AIOS - K.R. Dutta Award

- Dr. R. Venkatesh; Innovation title: *Strengthening opportunistic screening and management of glaucoma through innovative approaches*

Best Video Award

- Dr. R. Venkatesh; Title: *Bleed Blue: Dye today to evaluate the effectiveness of Ab-interno glaucoma surgeries*
- Dr. Anjali Khadia; Title: *Dumb-bell Technique for Iridodialysis Repair* (Co-authors: Dr. R. Venkatesh, and Dr. Mouttapa Fredrick)
- Dr. Athul S. Puthalath; Title: *Time Lapse Tomography (TLT): AI-enhanced visualisation of retinal disease progression on OCT* (CS Reshmi Award Finalist) (Co-authors: Dr. K. Naresh Babu, & Dr. R. Kim)
- Dr. V.P. Aravind Krishna; Title: EyeMount 360: *Revolutionising surgical training* (CS Reshmi Award Finalist)
- Dr. Neeti Agrawal, Retina Fellow, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *All is not shattered: Showcasing challenging cases of glass intraocular foreign bodies*
- Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan; Title: Torics: *My way* (CS Reshmi Award Finalist)

Best of IJO papers published in IJO 2025

- Dr. Usha Kim; Title: *Ocular adnexal lymphoma: A single-centre observational study of survival outcomes*
- Dr. R. Sharmila & Dr. Vijayalakshmi A., Senior Medical Consultant, Glaucoma Services, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Incidence, aetiopathogenesis and risk factors of GDD explanation following patch free GDD*
- Dr. Devendra Maheswari, Dr. Rinkal Goyal, Dr. Madhavi Ramanatha Pillai, Dr. Shivam Gupta, Dr. Drishti Chautani, & Dr. R. Ramakrishnan; Title: *Outcomes of non-penetrating deep sclerectomy combined with mitomycin C in advanced open angle glaucoma in Indian eyes*
- Dr. Devendra Maheswari, Dr. Shivam Gupta, Dr. Renagappa Ramakrishnan, Dr. Madhavi R. Pillai, Dr. Nimrita Nagdev & Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kader; Title: *Early outcomes of 5-0 prolene gonioscopy-assisted transluminal trabeculotomy in juvenile open angle glaucoma*
- Dr. Sagnik Sen, Dr. Sourav Damodharan, Dr. Prithviraj Udaya, Dr. Muthukrishnan V, Dr. Renu P. Rajan, Dr. Karthik Kumar, Dr. Madhu Sekhar, Dr. Naresh Babu Kannan, & Dr. R. Kim; Title: *Risk Factors and incidence of Macular edema in eyes with retinal vein occlusion after uneventful cataract Surgery: The MEVO study*

Best of IJO 2025

- Dr. Sagnik Sen, Dr. Prithviraj Udaya, Dr. Naresh Babu Kannan, Dr. R. Kim, & Dr. Thandavarayan Kumaragurupari; Title: *Ultrastructural imaging biomarkers in diabetic macular edema: A major review*

IJO Reviewer Appreciation Award for the year 2025

- Dr. Usha Kim; In appreciation of immense contribution to IJO, by voluntary involvement in the peer review process of the journal and for the excellence in the overall quality of scientific review, number and punctuality of manuscripts reviewed.

Top Best publication in IJO 2025

- Dr. Devendra Maheswari, Madhavi Ramanatha Pillai, Dr. Shivam Gupta, Dr. Renagappa Ramakrishnan, Dr. Henrita Gyanchand Narde, Dr. Mohideen Abdul Kader, & Mohammed Sithiq Uduman; Title: *Early outcomes of 5-0 prolene gonioscopy-assisted transluminal trabeculotomy combined with phacoemulsification in eyes of Indian glaucoma patients*

Best Hyde Park Presentation – AIOS

- Dr. T. Radhika, Medical Consultant, Uvea Services, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Scleral abscess leading to sympathetic ophthalmitis: An uncommon presentation*

C. S. Reshmi Award

- Dr. Anjali Khadia, Medical Consultant, Paediatric Services, Aravind-Pondicherry

Dr. Manju R. Pillai, Dr. A. Kowsalya, and Dr. Usha Kim at the AIOS conference 2026



Best Paper of the Session

- Dr. Usha Kim; Title: *Vision salvage in retinoblastoma: A twenty-year clinical review (Community / Social Ophthalmology Award for the year 2025)*
- Dr. Devendra Maheswari; Title: *Surgical outcomes of 5-0 prolene GATT combined with phacoemulsification in POAG versus PACG*
- Dr. Usha Tejaswini, Medical Consultant, Glaucoma, Aravind-Pondicherry (Chief Author); Title: *Prospective evaluation of AI-integrated fundus camera for glaucoma referral in comprehensive clinic* (Col. Rangachari Finalist - Glaucoma 1)
- Dr. K. Naresh Babu; Title: *Unfurling techniques: Subretinal BSS-assisted macular remodelling in epiretinal membrane surgery* (Presenting Author: Dr. Muthukrishnan V)
- Dr. Athul S. Puthalath (Chief Author); Title: *ASTRA 90: Enhancing early fundus examination skills in ophthalmology residents* (Presenting Author: Dr. Vedant Sharma, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai; Co-author: Dr. R. Kim,
- Dr. Rajeshwari Kapoor, DNB Resident, Aravind-Chennai; Title: *Structure-function correlation in chiasmal lesions: A retrospective imaging based study* (Col. Rangachari Finalist Neuro-ophthalmology Session I)

Best Paper Award

- Dr. Jay Oswal, Cornea Fellow, Aravind-Coimbatore, Title: *From shadows to clarity: Ultrasound Biomicroscopy (UBM) in the diagnosis of scleral abscess*
- Dr. Sujay Jaju; Title: *Clinical utility of CRISPR-based RID-MyC assay in smear and culture: Negative fungal keratitis*

IJO Citation Appreciation Award for one of the highest cited articles

- Dr. Sameer Chadhuary; Title: *Ophthalmic manifestations of monkeypox infection*

International Ophthalmic Heroes Award

- Dr. Sameer Chadhuary; (For winning runner up award at APAO-APOIS imaging competition)
- Dr. Abhishek Das, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Coimbatore; (For securing runner up award for winning APAO - APOIS Imaging Competition; Title: Fundus Albipunctatus through fundus auto-fluorescence)

Best Poster Podium

- Dr. Anjana Somanath, Medical consultant, Uvea services, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Mumps: A cause of paediatric uveitis*
- Dr. V.P. Aravind Krishna; Title: *Echoes from the past: Later recurrence of retinoblastoma*
- Dr. Taniya Mariam Nazeer, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *In the shadow of genetic vision loss: A case series on Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy*

Best Poster Award

- Dr. Debolina Deb

Winner - ET Selvam Award

- Dr. Debolina Deb; Title: *Imaging the elusive Mizuo phenomenon in Oguchi disease: A study in an Indian cohort* (Paper Presentation)

Winner of PG Capsule

- Dr. Nandita Trivedi; Title: *Hypertensive retinopathy in Takayasu arteritis secondary to tuberculosis: A case report & review*

Winner (South Zone) at AIOC Utsav (The cultural event of AIOC)

- Dr. Nandita Trivedi

Finalist for Young Researcher Award

- Dr. Nandita Trivedi; Title: *Epidemiological profile of paediatric infectious keratitis cases at a tertiary hospital*

OOPS in Surgery: What's Your Next Move

- Winner - Dr. Prasanna V; Title: *When the room goes silent after PCR, the vitrector sings!* (Video Presentation)

Teachers of Tomorrow

- Second Prize - Dr. Tejaswi Prasad, Medical Consultant, Cornea & Refractive Surgery Services, Aravind-Madurai (Mentor); (Mentees: Dr. Eshwar Rajesh, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai & Dr. T. Shanmathi, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai)

Think Under the Apple Tree

- Winner (4th position of the top 8 awardees) - Dr. Aayesha Khanum; Title: *The sentinel buckle-shunt: An integrated scleral buckle and glaucoma drainage device*
- Consolation prize - Dr. Vedant Sharma, MS Resident, Aravind-Madurai; Title: *Smart patch: A low-cost reat-time adherence monitoring system for amblyopia therapy*

Top Video of the Session

- Dr. Aayesha Khanum, Medical Consultant, Retina Services, Aravind-Tirupati; Title: *The Resurgery report: Vitreoschisis-induced vitreous cortex remnants* (Reshmi Award Finalist)

AIOS - IJO Gold Award

- Dr. Siddharth Narendran, Medical Consultant, Research Department, Aravind-Coimbatore; Title: *Rapid one-tube RPA-coupled CRISPR/cas12a-based RID-MyC assay for the diagnosis of fungal keratitis (Article)*

International Achiever of Ophthalmology Award

- Dr. Shreya Podder, Medical Consultant, General Ophthalmology Services, Aravind-Coimbatore; For the successful completion of "HMX Fundamentals - Genetic course" at Harvard Medical School 2025

Young Research Award - (ARC PG Thesis Competition)

- Dr. Shreedhar Shivkumar, Medical Consultant, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *Gonioscopy assisted transluminal trabeculotomy versus trabeculectomy with phaco emulsification in open angle glaucoma*
- Dr. Rinkal Goyal, DNB Resident, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *Microhook AB interno trabecultotomy versus bent AB interno coniectomy with phacoemulsification in open angle glaucoma*

- Dr. P. Mounika; Title: *Comparison of pre and post pattern Visually Evoked Potential (VEP) changes in Patching versus Dichoptic therapy for Aniosometropic Amblyopia* (Finalist)

Best PG Thesis

- Dr. Sujay Jaju; Title: *Factors affecting geographical disparity in the prevalence of diabetic retinopathy in South India*

IJO Appreciation Award

- Dr. R. Sharanya, Dr. C. Habeeba, Dr. Karthik Kumar, & Dr. Virna M. Shah; Title: *Clinical and radiological presentation of meningiomas*
- Dr. Ruhel Chacko, Dr. Devu Krishna, Dr. Karthik Kumar, & Dr. Virna M. Shah; Title: *The intersection of ophthalmology and neurology: Diagnosing acute strokes through visual symptoms*
- Dr. Vedant Sharma; Title: *ASTRA 90: Aravind slit lamp and training restinal assessment tool* (Corresponding author: Dr. Athul S. Puthalath; Co-author: Dr. R. Kim)
- Dr. Sandra Ganesh, Dr. Rebecca Claire Lusobya, Dr. Muhammed Sithiq Uduman, Reshma Rajan, Nisha Rajendran, Dr. Kripa Sanjeev, & Dr. Kalpana Narendran; Title: *Ocular biometric parameters in South Indian children with myopia: A hospital-based retrospective descriptive analysis*
- Dr. Mrunali M. Dhavalikar, Dr. Manju M., Dr. Ganesh V. Raman, & Dr. Premanand; Title: *Treatment outcomes of pars plana vitrectomy, hyaloidotomy, zonulectomy, and iridectomy in malignant glaucoma at a tertiary eye care centre in South India*
- R. Vinoth Kumar, Research Associate, LAICO; Title: *Eye injury rates and community cost savings through vision centres: Evidence from southern India* (Co-authors: Mohammed Gowth A., Ashwin, Dr. Kowsalya A., M. Iswarya, Dr. Sanil Joseph, & Thulasiraj Ravilla)

Overall Best Cataract Paper & Col. Rangachari Finalist

- Dr. V.R. Vivekanandan; Title: *Outcomes of a novel technique for scleral fixation of a regular PMMA IOL in aphakic patients*

Best Video in YOSI

- Dr. Tushar Agarwal, Retina Fellow, Aravind-Tirunelveli; Title: *The clinical insights academic movement*

Aravind Eye Foundation

April 2025 to March 2026

Through a combination of longstanding programmes and new initiatives, Aravind Eye Foundation continues its commitment to provide quality eye care to underserved populations, support innovative research and solutions that reduce avoidable blindness, and build capacity within and in other eye care organisations. Aravind's main operations are self-supporting – the foundation acts as a catalyst for new efforts, and expanding successful pilots.

This year, the foundation supported 16 new projects to improve care on multiple fronts, including shared appointments to enhance patient education, free medicines for patients with uveitis and glaucoma, self-directed and online training for Aravind's Allied Ophthalmic Personnel, and clinical and operational research.

Overall, this jubilee year reflects Dr. V's singular mission to eliminate needless blindness by ensuring that everyone — regardless of income, geography, or circumstance — has access to compassionate, high quality eye care.

Ensuring all receive care to live a productive life

Eye cancer is life-changing, and its treatment remains one of the most complex and resource intensive services Aravind provides. Through the Ring of Hope, children and adults receive comprehensive care - counselling, imaging, surgery, chemotherapy, genetic testing, and rehabilitation - entirely free of cost.

In 2025-26, Ring of Hope supported 234 new patients and facilitated 1,433 follow-up visits. One of those patients was Maria, who first came to Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, as a toddler, when her parents noticed a white reflection in both her eyes. Maria underwent multiple cycles of chemotherapy, surgeries, and radiotherapy for retinoblastoma. She received custom ocular prosthesis, restoring her confidence and appearance.

Maria has gone on to excel academically, scoring high marks in her 12th standard exams and earning a merit seat for higher education. Now pursuing a B.A. in English, Maria continues to receive rehabilitation and digital literacy training, empowering her to live independently and pursue her dreams.

AEF extends deep gratitude to the SoHum Foundation, the Pani Foundation, Ana and Richard Lerner, and all donors whose generosity has enabled the Ring of Hope to support 1,731 patients from diagnosis to full recovery since 2004.

The Gowri Karuvizhi Kakkum Thittam supports patients suffering from corneal ulcers—an ailment disproportionately affecting farmers and daily wage workers. Since the programme was started in 2021, 1,684 patients received free treatment, medicines, and travel support, ensuring that financial hardship never stands in the way of healing. Those patients enrolled in the programme have better outcomes because of awareness and improved treatment follow-up. Thank you to the Gowri Family for their generosity.



A prosthetic eye being fitted to a child's right eye



A corneal ulcer patient being examined



A patient at the vision centre being examined by a technician



A schoolgirl is being fitted for spectacles

Reaching the underserved and ensuring their eye health

Rural Vision Centres serve as a critical bridge between rural communities and the broader Aravind Eye Care System, ensuring that high quality primary eye care is available close to home and reducing the need for long and costly travel to larger hospitals. With highly trained technicians and tele ophthalmology consultations, vision centres can provide 90% of essential eye care, including surgical follow-up.

The 23 centres supported by the foundation saw over 2,17,652 number patient visits this year, recommended 100,61 cataract surgeries, and delivered 24,337 spectacles, restoring sight, independence, and productivity.

Refractive errors remain one of the most common and easily correctable causes of visual impairment in children. The Spectacles for Scholars Programme plays a vital role in early detection, ensuring that students with vision problems receive timely correction so they can learn, participate, and thrive.

Aravind uses two approaches – a traditional in-school screening with a paediatric ophthalmologist and team of opticians, who examine students and prescribe and deliver eyeglasses on-site, and an integrated programme with Rural Vision Centres in Madurai, Tirunelveli, and Coimbatore.

In both models, children receive free vision screening and those diagnosed with refractive errors receive spectacles at no cost, removing a major barrier for families who might otherwise forego treatment. Follow up visits were strengthened this year to ensure that children continued to wear their glasses and that prescriptions were updated as needed.

In 2025–26, nearly 335,006 students were screened and roughly 14,970 students received free spectacles or were referred for follow-up care for eye conditions. Thank you to the Madison Community Foundation and to individual donors for their continuing support.

Building capacity and resilience to meet the demands of tomorrow

Aravind is the grateful recipient of a multi-year grant from the YieldGiving Foundation, focused on building capacity and fostering innovation in eye care.

The Aravind Centres for Eyecare Innovation (ACEi) nurture creativity and problem solving among all staff members and collaborate with national and international partners to develop new solutions for better eye care. Currently, there are 37 projects under active development, with 11 prototypes in development. Innovations range from low cost diagnostics, workflow automation, and patient education tools. These efforts ensure that Aravind continues to lead in scalable, technology enabled eye care solutions.

A hackathon team explaining their innovative solution



Aravind launched two major initiatives this year to strengthen the skills of its Allied Ophthalmic Personnel who form the backbone of care delivery. Aravind's online training platform is being expanded with new self paced training options, and these competencies are being translated into other languages. Together, these efforts are building a richer, more accessible learning ecosystem that equips ophthalmic staff to deliver high quality eye care across diverse settings and in multiple languages.

As a participant in the Bloomberg Vision Initiative, Aravind is working with 11 hospitals across Kenya to help them increase surgical volume, improve patient outcomes, and build sustainable systems.



AEF team with Aravind's leadership during the Aravind Inspiration Retreat for Healthcare Leaders

Last year, a group of ten healthcare executives, clinicians, and entrepreneurs from the United States visited multiple Aravind centres between 21 and 25 September 2025 as part of a week-long retreat to gain an in-depth understanding of Aravind's mission driven model of healthcare, operational excellence, the innovative role of technology at Aravind, and its efforts to reach the underserved. The team toured Aravind-Chennai, Aurolab (Aravind's manufacturing division), Rural Vision Centres, ACEi, and Nithyatha, the memorial retreat centre dedicated to Dr. V's memory. The experience was further enriched by special guest lectures by Dr. Ethan Berke, CMO, Teladoc Health, Dr. Jeffrey Brenner, CEO, The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, and Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy from Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore.

The progress made this year is possible because of the dedication of Aravind's staff, the trust of the communities served, and the support of donors and partners who share the mission of eliminating needless blindness.

Aravind Eye Foundation is deeply grateful to the many supporters and friends who believe that eliminating needless blindness is not an aspiration, but a necessity. Thank you for being part of Aravind's 50 year journey.

"Much has been done, Much remains to be done."
- from Dr. G. Venkataswamy's journal

ARAVIND EYE FOUNDATION

Partners in Service

Aravind Eye Care System is deeply grateful for the generous support and invaluable contributions of like-minded individuals and organisations in advancing its mission to eliminate needless blindness. Their commitment has strengthened Aravind's efforts and enabled the organisation to bring the gift of sight and hope to countless lives.

For service delivery, training and more

- *Alcon Laboratories Inc, USA*
- *A.L Shah, Pondicherry, India*
- *Aravind Eye Foundation, USA*
- *Carl Zeiss Meditec, Germany*
- *CBM International, Germany*
- *Combat Blindness Foundation, USA*
- *Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, USA*
- *Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, New Delhi, India*
- *Hemalatha Trust, Dharmapuri, India*
- *Indian Overseas Bank, India*
- *International Agency for Prevention of Blindness, UK*
- *Jeco Foundation, Canada*
- *Lavelle Fund for the Blind, USA*
- *Lakshmi Eye Care Support Services (LLP), Tamil Nadu, India*
- *Lions Clubs International Foundation, USA*
- *Manohar Devadoss and Family, Chennai, India*
- *Mike Myers and Family, USA*
- *ORBIS International, USA*
- *Prof. Sachin Gupta, Cornell University, USA*
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- *SightSavers, UK*
- *State Bank of India, India*
- *Standard Chartered Bank & Scope Intl., UK*
- *So-Hum Foundation, USA*
- *Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams, Tirupati, India*
- *Tulsi Chanrai Foundation, Nigeria*
- *University of Michigan, USA*
- *USAID, USA*
- *VISION 2020 - The Right to Sight, New Delhi, India*
- *World Diabetes Foundation, Denmark*
- *World Health Organization, Switzerland*

For research

- *Adhesives and Chemicals,*
- *Alagappa University, Karaikudi, India*
- *Aravind Eye Foundation, USA*
- *Arthur Asirvatham Hospital, Madurai, India*
- *Aurolab, Madurai, India*
- *Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, USA*
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- *Kellogg Eye Center, University of Michigan, USA*
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- *Science and Engineering Research Board, New Delhi, India*
- *Smith Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, San Francisco, USA*
- *Sun Pharma, Mumbai, India*
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- *Tamil Nadu State Blindness Control Society, Chennai, India*
- *Tricell Biologics Pvt. Ltd., Chennai, India*
- *University of Edinburgh, UK*
- *University of IOWA, USA*
- *University of Melbourne, Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA), Australia*

- *University of Notre Dame, Australia*
- *University of Pennsylvania, Washington, USA*
- *University of Ulster, Northern Island, UK*
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- *Velux Stiftung, Switzerland*
- *World Health Organization, Switzerland*
- *Yale University, USA*

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- *Alfaleus Tech Pvt. Ltd., Telangana, India*
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- *Aurolab, Madurai, India*
- *Auroitech*
- *Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati, India*
- *Remidio Innovative Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Bengaluru, India*
- *Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai, India*
- *Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore & Chennai*

Management Support to Eye Hospitals

Aravind Eye Care System provides comprehensive support for establishing and effectively managing eye hospitals across the globe. By offering management and capacity-building services to socially committed partners serving underserved communities in India and other developing countries, Aravind enables them to adopt proven systems, processes, and best practices, thereby strengthening the delivery of high-quality, sustainable eye care.

- *Priyamvada Birla Aravind Eye Hospital, Kolkata, India (since 2001)*
- *Sudarshan Netralaya, Amreli, India (since 2007)*
- *Tulsi Chanrai Foundation Eye Hospital, Abuja, Nigeria (since 2018)*
- *Sitapur Eye Hospital, Uttar Pradesh, India (since 2021)*

Aravind team during their visit to Tulsi Chanrai Foundation Eye Hospital, Abuja





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TUTICORIN - Meenakshipuram West, Near Old Bus Stand, Tuticorin 628 002, Tamil Nadu, India. Phone: (0461) 230 0410
UDUMALPET - 112, Dhalli Road, Opp. Palaniandavar Mills, Udumalpet 642 126, Tamil Nadu, India. Phone: (04252) 356 040
COIMBATORE CITY CENTRE - Cowley Brown Road, R.S. Puram, Coimbatore 641 002, Tamil Nadu, India. Phone: (0422) 254 0400
KOVILPATTI - 4/897, New Appaneri, Padmavathi Garden, Thiruvenkadam Main Road, G.V.N. College (PO), Kovilpatti 628 502, Tamil Nadu, India. Phone: 85258 22027, 85250 66250
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