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Quote

Look at the sparrows; they do not know what they will do in the next moment. Let us literally live from moment to moment.

- Mahatma Gandhi

Editorial

This newsletter brings you various academic and service oriented activities of Aravind to establish its excellence and effectiveness in the field of Global Eye Care. International nurses day and world retinoblastoma awareness week are observed in Tirunelveli and Coimbatore respectively.

Many senior doctors of AECS took part in symposiums and seminars. Dr.R.D.Ravindran delivered an inspiring speech at the National Symposium on Excellence in Training. Dr.P.Sundaresan was touring from China to Israel to US in this month and delivered talks, discussed future potential collaborations and presented a poster (ARVO 2016).

Kids of the Aravind staff in Madurai, had a great experience in their summer camp called 'Kodai Kondattam' which included Folk Dance, Drawing, Yoga, Trekking, Puppet show etc.

Staff of LAICO went on a tour to Thekkadi and had a joyful break from their routine.

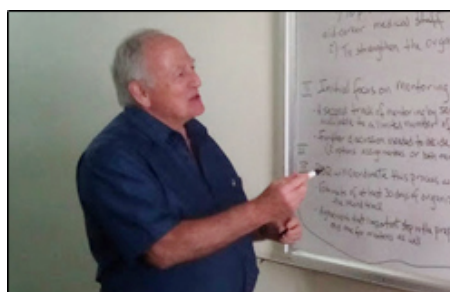
Several informative and interesting events and news for you to cherish.

News about these and many more feature in this issue.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Mentorship Development Programme

Aravind – Madurai, 2nd May, 2016



A workshop to develop Mentorship Programme for Doctors was organized at Madurai. Senior medical officers from Madurai were invited to be a part of the discussion. The workshop was designed and facilitated by Mr. Larry Hulbert (Organization development expert and coach) and Dr. Devendra Tayade. There was a healthy discussion to define the purpose and approach where everyone agreed that mindset has to be aimed at uncovering, reinforcing and helping mentees to build on their greatest strengths.



State Bank Officers Donated a Medical Equipment

Aravind Madurai – 12th May, 2016



State Bank Officers of Madurai attended a meeting in Madurai Aravind Eye Hospital to donate medical equipment – “Heidelberg spectral is OCT”. Dr.Kim, CMO of Madurai AEH detailed the role of this equipment.

Mr.G.Srinivasan, the president of GOVEL Trust welcomed the officials and received the sponsorship from SBI, Bank. Mr.Ramesh Babu, the chief general manager of SBI, delivered the special address. The Executive Director of AECS Mr.R.D.Thulasi Raj thanked the officials.



A Day for Nurses

Aravind – Tirunelveli 12th May, 2016



International Nurses day was celebrated in Tirunelveli on the 12th of May. Special programmes were organized at the evening. Sr.Pankaja Rani, supervisor, OPD welcomed the gathering and Sr. Chitra Devi did the anchoring. A speech about Florence Nightingale was delivered by Sr.Kiruba, Sr.Ishwarya and her team explained the roles and responsibilities of the nurse, by a skit.

Dr.R.Ramakrishnan, CMO and Dr.Meenakshi, Deputy CMO addressed the meeting.



Kodai Kondattam

Aravind Madurai May 2 - 17, 2016



Kodai Kondattam - the Summer camp for the children of the staff of Aravind Eye Hospital in Madurai and Aurolab was organized for two weeks at Aravind-Madurai. 77 children aged between 6 and 14 attended the camp. From 9 in the morning to 5 in the evening, the days were packed with lively activities – that included Oyilattam (a folk dance), Australian foot ball, trekking and swimming. The camp was concluded with a grand valedictory function on Tuesday evening which was attended by all the parents of the children and Aravind senior staff.



A Press Meet to Release the Research Finding on Cataract

Aravind – Madurai, 24 May 2016



A new study conducted by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Aravind Eye Hospital and All India Institute for medical sciences, found that Indian women who cook with biomass fuels such as wood, crop residues and dried dung instead of cleaner fuels such as gas were nearly 50% more likely to have cataracts. This research finding was released in a press meet conducted on 24th May at AEH, Madurai.

Reporters from several English and Tamil Newspapers attended the press meet and the news was published in several major newspapers.



A New Showroom for the Aravind Optical

Aravind - Madurai, 26, May 2016

A new showroom was inaugurated for the sales of Opticals in the ground floor at A Block in the paying OP building, Madurai.



Dr.R.D.Ravindran Addressed the National Symposium

Aravind - Madurai, 27th May 2016

The second national symposium on Excellence in Training was conducted in the Vigyan Bhawan at New Delhi on the 27th of May 2016. Dr.R.D.Ravindran, chairman of AEH, Madurai, addressed the symposium and inspired the

participants with his motivational speech.



Fifth Workshop on Instrument Maintenance Course

Aravind Salem, 27 – 29, May 2016



Aravind Eye Hospital at Salem organized Fifth Workshop on Instruments maintenance. Twenty four participants from eight different hospitals in and around Salem, Karur & Namakkal districts attended this course. The participants were invited with a warm welcome by Dr.Anuja. Dr.Manohar Babu set the context for the workshop. Mrs.Susila of CBE Instruments Department presided over the training program for three days. The team serviced more than 40 Ophthalmic equipments and the instruments brought by the participants to the workshop. Dr.Manjunath distributed the certificates to the participants.



World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week

Aravind - Coimbatore, 21st May, 2016



For the second year in succession, to highlight and spread awareness on Retinoblastoma, Aravind Eye Hospital, Coimbatore, held an interactive programme on Saturday, the 21st of May, at the hospital premises. It began with a welcome address by Dr. Parag Shah, who spoke elaborately regarding this dreadful disease causing needless blindness. Dr. Viji Rangarajan explained in layman's terms about the rehabilitation of these cases with a detailed presentation.

This was followed by an interactive session where Dr. Parag and Dr. Viji patiently answered queries of anxious parents. Mrs. Bindu, a volunteer from AROH, counselled the parents in Malayalam and discussed the prospect of starting a Parents Support Group.

A vote of thanks by Ms. Ramyadevi was followed by exciting games for the children (passing the parcel, balloon team games, etc.) and ended with a singing competition.

An impromptu birthday party was held to celebrate a child's birthday in a unique manner. Later gifts were distributed to all the children. This was followed by lunch. 150 people (41 retinoblastoma survivors, their families, volunteers and general public) participated in this very informative and eventful day.



Sichuan Academy of Medical Sciences & Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital

Chengdu, Sichuan, China, April 20-27, 2016

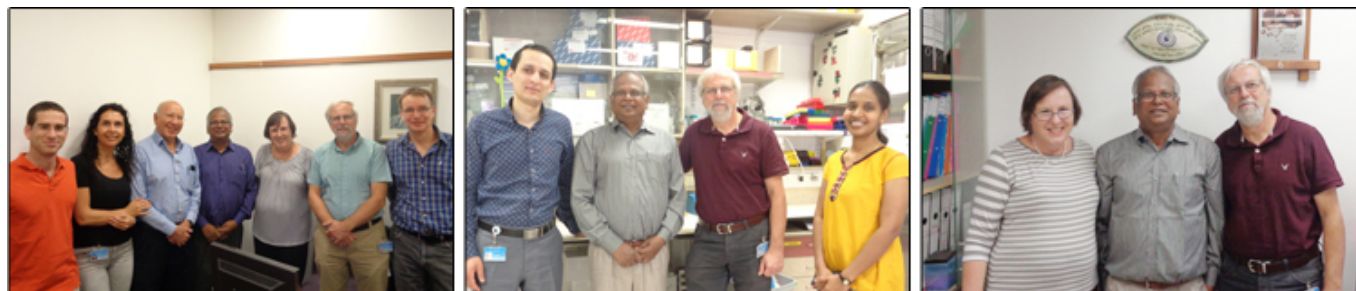


Dr.P.Sundaresan was invited to deliver a talk on Molecular genetics of Inherited eye diseases and gene discovery through Next Generation Sequencing. He also gave a guest lecture in Sichuan Provincial Key Laboratory for Human Disease Gene Study. In addition, he interacted with research students and his collaborators especially Dr. Zhenglin Yang Dr. Xianjun Zhu at Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital, Chengdu and discussed about on going and future collaborative projects.



Dr.P.Sundaresan visits Israel

Jerusalem, Israel, May 13-28, 2016



Under the deputation of Scientists in the agreement of scientific cooperation (Indo-Israel programme), Dr.P.Sundaresan visited the Hadassah Hebrew University Medical center, Department of Ophthalmology, Jerusalem, Israel. As part of the visit Dr.P.Sundaresan gave a departmental research talk and met Ophthalmologists and researchers including Prof. Pe'er, Dr. Yahalom, Prof. Chowers, Prof.Banin, Prof. Dror Sharon and Dr. Anat Blumenfeld. On these meetings Dr.P.Sundaresan discussed future potential collaborations.



14th Research Advisory Committee Meeting

Aravind Madurai 27- 28, May 2016

The 14th Research Advisory Committee meeting of Aravind Medical Research Foundation was held on 27th and 28th May 2016. At this meeting the faculty members of AMRF presented their work and received feedbacks. This meeting included a poster session too. It was inaugurated by Dr.D.Karunakaran, Professor & Head, Department of Biotechnology, IIT, Chennai. Twenty four posters made by students of AMRF and Clinicians from Aravind were exhibited for the competition. Dr.Sundar, Professor & Head, Department of Biotechnology, Kalasalingam University and Dr. S.Thiyagarajan, Faculty Scientist, Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology (IBAB) Bangalore were invited to assess the posters. The selected best poster will be considered for Prof. VR. Muthukkaruppan Endowment Award for the year 2015.



MLOP Tours to Strengthen their Commitment (2016)



MLOPs from the first year to more than five years went on tour, on different days in March, April, May 2016, for recreation and team building. All of them enjoyed their trip, had a lot of fun and relaxation.

The first and second years went on a half day trip to Alagar Kovil in three groups on three different days. A large number of III & IV year students went to Kodaikanal in four groups on four days. They enjoyed one full day in visiting various places in Kodaikanal. Rest of them went to Srirankam and had fun visiting Kallanai dam and Mukumbu dams.

MLOPs who are in AECS for above five years, went in two groups to visit, Pegasus in Pondicherry and spent two days there. These trips helped them to exchange their innovative ideas and strengthen their relationship. The team building approach was rebuilt through various games, they played in the tourist spots.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED ELSEWHERE

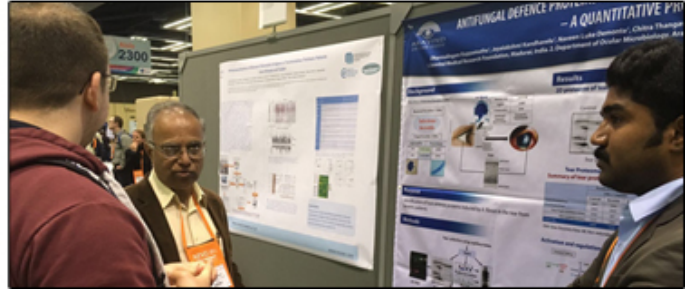
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)

Seattle, Washington May 6-9, 2016

Dr.P.Sundaresan presented a poster entitled "Identification of six gene variants in Indian Primary Open Angle Glaucoma patients" in the ARVO 2016 meeting. He interacted with eminent scientists and his collaborators and discussed about the trouble shots in the on-going projects and future collaborative projects as well as he participated in the Asian Eye Genetics Consortium meeting.

After the ARVO meeting (May 6-9, 2016) Dr.P.Sundaresan visited the Department of Physiology and Biochemistry, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York and met Drs. K.Varadaraj and Sindhu Kumari and discussed about cataractogenesis in mouse and human.

From Aravind Medical Research Foundation, Prof.K.Dharmalingam, Director-Research, Dr.P.Sundaresan, Senior Scientist and Mr.Naveen, Proteomics Department attended the meeting. Theme of the meeting is "Research: A vision for hope". About 10,000 people attended the meeting. Some of the upcoming areas of research such as Gene



Therapy for Retinal Disorders, Genome Editing, Stem Cell Biology, Proteomics and Metabolomics were discussed at length. A large contingent of scientists and clinicians from Aravind Eye Care System attended the meeting. Mr.Naveen presented a poster entitled "Antifungal defence proteins induced in tear fluid of mycotic keratitis patients – A quantitative proteomics study.

Dr.P.S. Vivek

- *Comparison of intraoperative injection of Mitomycin (MMC) versus conventional sponge-applied MMC during double site phaco-trabeculectomy*

Dr.Haripriya

- *Aravind Pseudoexfoliation (XFS) Study (APEX): 3 year post-operative results" in the ARVO 2016 Meeting. Attended the ARVO/Champalimaud Vision Award Lecture.*

Dr. Manish

- *Role of Intravenous Methyl Prednisolone in closure of recent post traumatic full thickness macular hole-A case series*

Dr.Siddharth

- *Evaluation of macular and peripapillary choroidal thickness using enhanced depth imaging spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) in patients with essential hypertension*

Dr.R.Venkatesh

Paper Presentation:

- *Environmental Life Cycle Assessment and Costs of Phacoemulsification at Aravind Eye Hospital in Pondicherry, India*

Poster Presentation:

- *Comparison of New Visual Disturbances after Superior vs Nasal/Temporal Laser Peripheral Iridotomy: a prospective randomized trial*

- *The photographer's learning curve: Image quality over time in non-mydriatic fundus photographs taken with a portable camera*

- *Intraocular pressure reduction following phacoemulsification vs. manual small incision cataract surgery: A randomized controlled trial*



American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS)

New Orleans May 6-10, 2016



Dr. Haripriya

Instructional Courses Faculty

- Course 07-304 *Preparing for Surgical Missions: Video Course on Manual-SICS Technique and Panel Discussion of Humanitarian Work by Members of the ASCRS International Foundation*
- *iTrace Educational Symposium New Orleans Downtown Marriott @ the Convention CTR 859 Convention Center Blvd., River Bend 2 Ballroom, New Orleans,*
- Course 09-306 *Femtosecond Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery: Where Are We Today?*
- Course 09-404 *Challenging Phacoemulsification Cases: Combining Techniques and Technology*
- Course 10-211 *High Volume, High Quality, Cost-Effective Cataract Surgery for the Developing World*

Paper Sessions Panelist

- *ASCRS Paper Session 2-E CATARACT: Cataract Surgery Complications*
- *Efficacy of Intracameral Moxifloxacin Endophthalmitis Prophylaxis at Aravind Eye Care System*
- *Aravind Pseudoexfoliation Study: 3-Year Postoperative Results*

ASCRS Skills Transfer Lab: Co-instructor

- *STS-5 ECCE/SICS*

Dr.R.Venkatesh

Paper Presentation

- *IOP Lowering after Cataract Surgery: Randomized Trial Comparing Phacoemulsification and Manual Small-Incision Cataract Surgery Instruction Course*
- *Femtosecond Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery: Where are we today?*
- *High Volume, High Quality, Cost-Effective cataract surgery for the developing world*

Video Presentation

- *My Second Inning with Femtosecond Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery*
- *Eye on Emissions: Carbon Footprint of Cataract Surgery in Aravind Eye Hospital*
- *Traumatic Cataract Memoirs*
- *Vacuum-Assisted whole-Globe Holder: New Simple, and Cost-Effective Device for wet-Lab Training*

Dr.K.Veena

Instruction Course

- *High Volume, High Quality, Cost-Effective cataract surgery for the developing world " Basics of SICS"*

Poster Presentation

- *Seeing the World through new lens - Siblings Screening to tackle childhood refractive error with sibling motivation card"*

Dr.Seema Ramakrishnan

Instruction Course-

- *High Volume, High Quality, Cost-Effective cataract surgery for the developing world"*
- *Management of surgically induced astigmatism and conversion*

Video Presentation

- *Vacuum-Assisted whole-Globe Holder: New, Simple and Cost-Effective Device for Wet-Lab Training Paper Presentation*
- *Comparison of the Effect of Nepafenac 0.1% and Ketorolac Tromethamine 0.4% on Post-Phacoemulsification Macular Thickness: Prospective Randomized Study*

Visited UCSF Cornea Clinic and Proctor foundation with Dr Tom Leitman, Dr. David Hwang and Dr. Jennifer Rose Nussbaumer from 11th May to 17th May 2016

Visited Dr David Chang's operating room on 12th May 2016

Visited UCLA Jules Stein Eye Institute and observed under Dr Anthony Aldave and Dr. Sophie Deng from 18th May to 24th May 2016



LAICO HAPPENINGS

Hospital Administrator and Managers

Aravind – Laico 7th April to 6th May 2016



The 32nd batch of one month course for Eye Care Hospital Administrators and Managers was conducted. Seven participants from India, Bangladesh, Ethiopia attended the course. We have so far trained 299 participants from 33 countries.



Needs Assessment Visit to PUN HLAING SILOM HOSPITAL

Yangon, Myanmar, 10-14 May 2016



LAICO team including Mr.Sanil Joseph, Senior Faculty and Dr.Manoranjana Das, Cornea Consultant, AEH, MDU visited PUN HLAING SILOM HOSPITAL, Yangon, Myanmar from 10th to 14th May, 2014. The purpose of the visit was to do Needs Assessment as part of the consultancy project that LAICO is going to engage with the hospital. The team also visited few other hospitals in Yangon to understand the healthcare/eye care scenario in the country, since this is going to be the first LAICO consultancy project in Myanmar.



LAICO TOUR

Aravind – Laico May 21- 22, 2016



It was a memorable trip to Kumuly and Thekkady for the staff members of LAICO. In all 32 staff members joined the tour. On the way to Kumuly the team had been stopped by a vineyard and had the breakfast under the vines. After reaching Kumuly, everyone went to visit a spice garden which is followed by a scintillating performance of Kalaripayattu. Post-dinner, there was a campfire night with music and games. On Sunday the team went to Parunthu paara a fantastic hill resembling an eagle and a valley view-point. Afternoon everyone enjoyed a boat ride in the Thekkadi tank,, watching wild animals like bison, wild boars and deer. It was a great weekend, bringing in the team more closer and provided a meaningful break from the routine.



UP Government Team Visits

Aravind Madurai May 19 – 21, 2016



A team of 5 members from State Blindness Control Society, Government of Uttar Pradesh visited Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai. The objective of the visit is to learn about setting up telemedicine supported vision centres in Uttar Pradesh. During their stay they visited Vision centre at Alanganallur and had a detail discussion on the operations of that centre. They also interacted with Our Executive Director Mr R.D Thulasiraj, Vision Centre management team, IT Team, Field workers and Managers of key support systems like Opticals, Stores and Instrument Maintenance. The Ophthalmologists Dr. Sanjay Kumar and Dr. Mohammed Aktar also visited the paying operation theatre to observe cataract Surgeries and the OT flow. The team went back with a commitment of developing a plan for setting up 4 Vision centres in 4 districts as a Pilot project.

Dr. Y. K. Patak - State Programme officer, NPCB and Mr H.B Misra – Chief Optometrist interacted with the field workers and Mrs Shoba- Stores Manager.



TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Enrolments for May 2016 at Aravind Eye Care System		
Course title	Training Centre	Enrolments for May 2016
Residency programs		
Master of Surgery in Ophthalmology	Madurai	12
Diploma in Ophthalmology	Madurai	8
Long Term Fellowship Programmes - For Ophthalmologists		
Glaucoma	Coimbatore	1
	Pondicherry	1
	Madurai	2
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	Coimbatore	1
	Madurai	1
Retina - Vitreous	Tirunelveli	1
Short Term Courses - For Ophthalmologists		
Clinical Observership Program In Diagnosis and Management Of Glaucoma	Madurai	1
	Coimbatore	1
	Pondicherry	1
	Tirunelveli	2
Phacoemulsification	Pondicherry	2
	Coimbatore	2
	Tirunelveli	1
Small Incision Cataract Surgery	Madurai	3
	Pondicherry	1
Fundus Fluorescein Angiography & Ultrasonography	Madurai	1
Lasers in Diabetic Retinopathy	Madurai	2
	Pondicherry	1
	Coimbatore	3
Training for Ocularist	Madurai	1



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AUROLAB NEWS

Indian society of Reconstructive and Microsurgery (ISRM)

Kochi, May 13-14th



ISRM – Indian society of Reconstructive and Microsurgery was held at Kochi during May 13-14th. Aurolab participated with a stall and promoted products such as Microsurgical sutures, Aurogreen, and Antiseptics and disinfectants. Approximately 120 delegates attended the conference. Mr. Selvaganapathy, Mr. Premanand, Mr. Karthick and Mr Prem kumar were represented Aurolab during the conference



Toric CME

Kolkata May 28, 2016



Aurolab organised a CME on Auroflex Toric in Hotel Big Boss, Kolkata on 28-5-2016. The CME was attended by 22 doctors, Aurolab staffs and Dealers. Dr.Arup Chakrabarti, Chakrabarti Eye Care centre, Trivandrum & Dr.Archana Khetan, Priyamvada Birla eye hospital were shared their experience on Auroflex Toric IOLs.

The CME covers the diagnosis of astigmatism, patient selection, counselling, pre & intra op marking, alignment & post op evaluation. It also highlighted the features of Auroflex Toric and Truedge technology to prevent PCO.

The speakers were honoured with a memento by Dr. Bhaskar Roy Chowdury & Dr. Asim Sil.



US FDA Audit

Aurolab May 30th -June 2nd

USFDA inspection has been completed successfully from US Investigator and the inspection was carried out in Suture needle division for FDA approved products i.e Nylon, Silk and PGA products.



MONTHLY PATIENT STATISTICS

May - 2016

Hospitals	Madurai	Theni	Tirunelveli	Coimbatore	Pondicherry	Dindigul	Tirupur	Salem	Udumalpet	Tuticorin	Total
HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT VISITS											
Paying (New & Review)	62,824	8,026	29,824	37,659	29,535	6,445	4,049	11,538	3,048	5,183	1,98,131
Free (Direct walk-in)	16,260	1,856	6,559	10,689	8,252	7	565	712	1,013	785	46,698
OUTREACH OUT PATIENTS											
Regular Eye Camps	5,927	827	2,799	5,393	3,281	NA	NA	760	NA	186	19,173
Diabetic Retinopathy camps	203	NA	NA	526	240	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	969
Refraction Camps	301	414	584	399	1,299	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,997
Mobile	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	61	NA	NA	61

Refraction Unit

School Screening camps	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Paediatric Camps	NA	166	NA	209	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	375
Vision Centres	16,559	4,769	8,457	1,428	4,302	NA	468	NA	1152	NA	37,135
Community Eye Clinics	3,959	1,785	2,547	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	8,291
Total OP Examinations	1,06,033	17,843	50,770	56,303	46,909	6,452	5082	13071	5213	6154	3,13,830

SURGERIES

Paying	3,600	401	1,374	1,812	1,523	259	117	614	167	227	10,094
Free (Direct)	3,956	229	937	1,854	866	89	107	124	185	98	8,445
Camp	1,250	121	843	1,825	827	NA	22	145	2	42	5,077
Total Surgeries	8,806	751	3,154	5,491	3,216	348	246	883	354	367	23,616

Note: NA - Not Applicable



ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM

Admin