



eyelights



Number:86

November 2022



75 Healthcare **CHANGEMAKERS** IN INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE



Dr. S. S. Badrinath

Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya

on the cover of HEAL FOUNDATION'S 'Coffee Table Book'

SN Doorstep Eye care for Elders and Differently Abled (SN DEED)

On the auspicious occasion of India's 75th Independence Day, 15th August 2022, Sankara Nethralaya's Doorstep Eye care for Elderly and Differently-abled (SN DEED) was inaugurated by Dr. Ravi, Retd DGP., in the august presence of Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice Chairman and Director of Pediatric Ophthalmology, Sankara Nethralaya. The project was ably guided and assisted by Dr. R. Krishnakumar, Freelance Optometrist and Visiting Faculty, Sankara Nethralaya and by the Optometry Department of SN.

Among the elderly, eye diseases are common and the resulting visual impairment leads to depression, falls, admission to hospitals and increased mortality. With the rise in elderly population of India, it is all the more important to improve eye care services offered to them. Experiences have shown that senior citizens find it difficult to visit eye care centers to access proper eye care services because of their dependency on others. Therefore, Sankara Nethralaya's DEED initiative of offering eye care services at the comfort of their homes would effectively reach those who are in need of this service. Through this initiative, patients who need further care and treatment can avail of their services at the hospital through Fast Track channel.

Sankara Nethralaya's DEED Eye Examination includes:

- Detailed History taking of ocular and systemic illness including falls
- Vision check
- Lensometry (Glass power check)
- Refraction (*Eye power check*)
- Extra ocular Movement
- Pupillary Examination
- Intra Ocular pressure (*Eye pressure check using Tonopen*)
- Anterior Segment evaluation (*Hand held slit lamp Biomicroscope*)
- Posterior segment (*retina*) evaluation (*using Non Mydriatic Fundus camera*)
- Counselling
- Management
- Glass prescription
- Optical dispensing
- Teleconsultation
- Referral



Voice of patient

Patient Name: Saroja Raman (83 years old)

"Felt we were in the hospital with all the procedures done in detail. Wish this project reaches to public and serves all elders"

If a patient requires further intervention from Ophthalmologists, the SN DEED coordinator will facilitate a teleconsultation with an ophthalmologist or appointment will be scheduled at the hospital.

For appointment with SN DEED (Eye care at home for your beloved elders and /or Differently abled family members kindly contact the Coordinator. Contact Phone No: **9380240750 (9 am to 5.00pm)**

Dr. Amrutha Mahalakshmi Endowment Award established for Best Cornea Fellow



On 30th of July 2022, the first Dr. Amrutha Mahalakshmi Endowment Award for Best Cornea Fellow in memory of Late Dr. Amrutha Mahalakshmi was instituted by the CJ Shah Department of Cornea Services on her 33rd Birth Anniversary. The budding ophthalmologist had just completed her fellowship in the CJ Shah Department of Cornea Services, when tragedy struck.

The family of Dr. Amrutha magnanimously came forward to name an award in memory of their daughter dedicated to the Department of Cornea Services. A simple ceremony was held at A. Sivasilam block, JKCNC that was compered by Dr. Meena Lakshmi pathy, Senior Consultant. Dr. Amrutha's parents, Mrs. & Mr. Anandan, Dr. Suryaprakash (Vishnu Eye Clinic), Dr. Murali, and her husband, Mr. Teja were present on the occasion.

Dr. Girish S. Rao, President, Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice Chairman & Director, Dept. of Paediatric Ophthalmology, Dr. Prema Padmanabhan, Distinguished Senior Consultant, Dr. Rama Rajagopal, Director, Dr. Radhika N., Deputy Director, Dept. of Cornea Services and several distinguished consultants were present to pay homage to their beloved colleague. Dr. Girish S. Rao presented to Mrs. and Mr. Anandan a bouquet, while Dr. Pramod Bhende presented a memento to Dr. Amrutha's husband.

Dr. Rama Rajagopal introduced the award and vividly recollected Dr. Amrutha's memories. Among the 6 competing fellows, who were all excellent in their own right, the decision to select one for the fellow was really a tough one quoted Dr. Rama Rajagopal.

Then, Dr. Prema Padmanabhan took the podium and thanked Dr. Amrutha's parents for setting up the award and also praised the performance of the 6 fellows. Dr. Radhika N., recollected about Dr. Amrutha who was soft-spoken and confident though she was petite. Further she added that she was one of the best fellows in the department. Also, Dr. Geetha Iyer, Dr. Niveditha Narayanan and Dr. Meena Lakshmi pathy spoke fondly of the late fellow and shared their memories of the young ophthalmologist.

Furthermore, her family members also shared their memories. Dr. R. Surya Prakash, her uncle, remembered her dedication and hard working nature. Mr. Teja also thanked everyone for sharing their thoughts of his departed wife.

Finally, Dr. T. S. Surendran and Dr. Girish S. Rao expressed their thanks to the family of the late Dr. Amrutha. Then the awards were distributed.



Dr.Sunita Pandey received the “Dr. Amrutha Mahalakshmi Endowment Award” for the Best Outgoing Fellow from Mrs. and Mrs. Anandan and Dr. Prema Padmanabhan. Dr. Swetha Ravichandran won “The Outstanding Fellow” award presented by Dr. Rama Rajagopal and Dr. Radhika N.

The other candidates who received their fellowship completion awards in this ceremony were:

Dr. Nimisha Nagpal received her award from Dr. Bhaskar Srinivasan and Dr. Mamta Agarwal.

Dr. Nikhil Navneet received the award from Dr. Geetha Iyer and Dr. Niveditha Narayanan.

Dr. Varsha Bhambhani received the award from Dr. Meena Lakshmipathy and Dr. Shweta S Agarwal.

Dr. Karan Nathani who was on duty at Kolkata, was also to receive this award.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Shweta Agarwal.



Force Motors Donates Vehicle to Sankara Nethralaya

On 24th August 2022, a mini bus was formally handed over to Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai by a benevolent Donor – Sri Abhay Firodia, Chairman of Force Motors Ltd in a simple ceremony. This vehicle will be used to convey community care patients from the community care facilities to their doorsteps..

Sri Abhay Firodia had donated the vehicle in memory of his father, Late Sri Navalmal Firodia, founder of Force Motors. He was accompanied by his wife Mrs. Abhay Firodia and son Sri Prasan Firodia, Managing Director, Force Motors Ltd. The vehicle was handed over to Sankara Nethralaya in the presence of Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice Chairman and Director of Paediatric Ophthalmology, Dr. Prema Padmanabhan, Distinguished Senior Consultant, Department of Cornea Services and Senior Management of Sankara Nethralaya.

Dr. T. S. Surendran felicitated Sri Abhay with a traditional South Indian silk shawl and Dr. Prema Padmanabhan honoured Smt. Abhay also on this occasion.

We, at Sankara Nethralaya are immensely thankful to Sri Abhay Firodia and his family for their generous gesture in helping community care patients to access quality eye care facilities in our institution.

Lions Club of Central Madras & Sankara Nethralaya conduct State Level Chess Tournament for the Visually Impaired.



The Low Vision Clinic, Sankara Nethralaya and Lions Club of Central Madras had organised the 2nd State Level Chess Tournament at Sankara Nethralaya, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 06, for the visually impaired chess players on 6th of August 2022 from 8 a.m. onwards. The tournament was conducted with the help and technical support from the Tamil Nadu Braille Chess Association. It was conducted to commemorate the hosting of 44th Chennai Chess Olympiad and 52nd Charter Nite Celebrations of Lions Club of Central Madras. The day long tournament ended with the prize distribution ceremony in the evening that was held at the KNBIRVO Block of Sankara Nethralaya.

The Tournament was conducted under three categories:

1. Open Category - with 10 cash awards totalling Rs.7,000/-
2. Women Category - with 3 cash awards totalling RS.2700/-
3. School Students' Category - under 17 Boys and Girls totalling Rs.5,300/-

Around 50 participants took part in the tournament from all over Tamilnadu. It has to be noted that for the very first time, competition was conducted in the women's category at the state level.

Lions Club dignitaries who attended the inauguration included Lion Mohammad Naveen, District Governor, Lion Thirumurugan S., and Lion Rangarajan. Master Mohammad Jamir, chess player warmly welcomed everyone to the Chess tournament on behalf of the Chess players. Technical support for the event was provided by Mr. Vignesh R., General Secretary, Tamilnadu Braille Chess Association. He is an international FIDE rated chess player, Arbiter and Chess coach. He has arbitrated many international Chess tournaments as well.

The event was sponsored by Mr. Dilip, Mrs. Vijaya Dilip and Mr. Karthikeyan, CEO of worth Trust, Ranipet. Mr. Karthikeyan also attended the inaugural function.

The atmosphere at the tournament venue was very enthusiastic and many participants had travelled overnight to participate in this tournament.

The honoured Chief Guest for the evening prize distribution ceremony was Dr. J. Radhakrishnan, IAS, Principal Secretary for Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection. Mr. Vijaykumar, Lion Thirumurugan S., Lion Rangarajan, and Lion Mohammad Naveen also graced the function.

Dr. Girish Shiva Rao, President, Medical Research Foundation (Sankara Nethralaya's parent body), Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice Chairman & Director, Department of Paediatric Services, along with other consultants, optometrists and staff were present at the function.

The Chief Guest, Dr. Radhakrishnan appreciated that this tournament is being held coinciding with the 44th Chess Olympiad 2022 and stressed the need to promote the Braille Chess.

The dignitaries present on the occasion congratulated everyone who had participated and appreciated their energy and dedication to the game.

The prize winners were:

Under 17 category:

John Harris, *Kendra Vidyalaya (HVF) School*

Divakar M., *Sethu Bhaskara Matric. Higher Secondary School*

Divesh I., *Vellore*

Naresh S., *Ebenazar Jaganathan Marcus Higher Secondary School*

Bharath P. and Mohammed Jamer R., *Sethu Bhaskara Matric. Higher Secondary School.*



Women's category:

Sivaparvathi S., *Sethu Bhaskara Matric. Higher Secondary School*

Varshaa D., *Thiruvallur*

Jayalakshmi, *Salem*

Chithra C., *Coimbatore*

Dakshika T., *Sethu Bhaskara Matric. Higher Secondary School.*



Open category:

Gopi R., *Govt. Arts College, Nandanam*

Saikrishna S. T., *Income Tax Department*

Santhosh A., *Presidency College*

Rubin A., *Thanjavur*

Selvakumar Shanmugasamy, *Cuddalore*

Gokulraj, *Tiruvannamalai*

Chandra Sampath, *Vellore*

Jayaprakash R., *Tiruppur*

Rajkamal S., *Salem*

Praveen Kumar B., *Presidency College.*



Many of the participants were FIDE rated international chess players and it was a great experience to watch these players in action.

Sankara Nethralaya thanks Lions Club of Central Madras for making this event a grand success and Lion Hari Narayanan for coordinating and conducting this tournament at such a short notice.

Dr. Rashima A., HOD, Low Vision Clinic and the LVC team were pivotal for the successful conduct of the tournament.

The Third Dr. Rajeswari Mahadevan Memorial Scientific Session



Dr. Rajeswari Mahadevan is a name that is etched in the field of contact lens practice in India. Fondly remembered as Dr. Raji, with two decades of experience in the field of contact lens (CL) and international acclaim, she had been a trendsetter in various innovations in CL practice and specialty CL practice in India. In her fond memory, Sankara Nethralaya initiated “Dr. Rajeswari Mahadevan Memorial Contact Lens Oration” on her birthday, September 9 since 2020.

On September 9, 2022, the third Dr. Rajeswari Mahadevan Memorial Scientific Session took place virtually and featured keynote addresses and research presentations in the area of contact lenses. This time, we had eminent national and international speakers addressing on Scleral Lens Practice in India by Optom Prasad Sawant, Sawant optometry clinic, Case-based approach in Scleral Lens Fitting by Dr. Maria Walker, University of Houston, Contact lens solutions and materials: concepts to minimize Contact Lens Discomfort (CLD) by Dr. Lakshman Subbaraman, Associate Director, Alcon and Eye Print PRO -Impression technology in Scleral lens by Prof Christine Sindt, University of Iowa. The response and the feedback that was received for each talk were remarkable.

There were oral scientific presentations, e-posters, and scientific reviews presented by many delegates from across the country. Apart from the contests on photo/video, a quiz on contact lens for the optometry students was initiated for the first time. Judges from India and abroad including Dr. Anitha Arvind, Dr. Rashima A, Dr. Pradipto Bhattacharya, Dr. Jaya Sownjanya Reddy, Optometrist Irene Sophia, and Optometrist Jothibalaji evaluated the entries. The event was attended by the President of the Medical Research Foundation Dr. Girish S. Rao, Dr. N. Anuradha, Principal of Elite School of Optometry and Dr. A Rashima, Head of Occupational Optometry services, Optom S Madhumathi, In charge of the Contact Lens at Sankara Nethralaya and the entire department of the contact lens.



Cash prizes were announced to the award winners in each category and the details of the winners are listed below

Award winners	
Quiz Team	<i>Manipal college of health Professionals MS. Nirmal Ghalley, Mr. Kareem S, Ms. Rinzin Wangmo</i>
Photography	<i>Mr. Vigneshwar A G M.Optom,Elite School of Optometry,SASTRA university</i>
Scientific Article Review	<i>Mr. Krishna Shah M.Optom, The Sankara Nethralaya Academy, MGR university</i>
E-Poster	<i>Ms. Karpagavalli S Senior Optometrist-Dept.of Contact Lens, Sankara Nethralaya</i>
Oral Presentation	<i>Ms.Vanessa Barnes Contact Lens Fellow, The Sankara Nethralaya Academy</i>

A brief on the Department of Contact Lens - During the Years 2020-2022

- Seen nearly 15,000 cases, including Specialty contact lens cases,
- Trained about 5 Fellowship students and 8 Postgraduates from the department of Contact lenses.
- About 10 peer-reviewed journal publications
- 3 Optometrists Received FIACLE status (Fellowship in the International Association for Contact Lens Educators)
- Received Prestigious IACLE Travel Award - 2022

Sankara Nethralaya Organizes Rally on National Eye Donation Day



On the occasion of “National Eye Donation Day”, Sankara Nethralaya (SN), and SN’s C. U. Shah Eye Bank had organized a rally on September 8th, 2022 at Dr. V. G. Appukutty campus, Guindy. Every year, India observes “National Eye Donation Fortnight” and this year it was held from August 25th to September 8th, 2022. During these two weeks, eye donation awareness activities were organized throughout Chennai to educate the public.

This year, Sankara Nethralaya's C. U. Shah Eye Bank in collaboration with the Elite School of Optometry had organised a march for creating an awareness for eye donation. Joining the 12 km rally were the Chief Guest Mr. Nanda Kumar, Addl. Commissioner of Income Tax, Indian Revenue Service (IRS), Dr. Anuradha N., Principal, Elite School of Optometry (ESO), Dr. Rama Rajagopal, Director, Dr. N. Radhika, Deputy Director, Department of Corneal Services, Dr Veena Baskaran, Incharge -Community Ophthalmology, the students of ESO, The Sankara Nethralaya Academy (TSNA) and the staff of Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai.

The Chief Guest, Mr. Nanda Kumar, was felicitated by Dr. Rama Rajagopal. Special Guest, Mr. Raman of Dasaya Trust (NGO) was also present to encourage the enthusiastic participants. Also, Mr. Nandakumar appreciated the efforts of Sankara Nethralaya and Elite School of Optometry in organizing the event. He stressed the need for the community service and said that the visually challenged needed opportunities to prove themselves. Dr. Rama Rajagopal advised the audience to remember the noble cause of eye donation throughout the year. She reminded everyone that eye donation did not disfigure the donor and only the cornea would be donated.

During the fortnight, consultants from Sankara Nethralaya’s Department of Cornea Services, Dr. R. R. Sudhir, and Dr N Radhika gave interviews on major Tamil News Channels to raise awareness on eye donation. They highlighted the fact that anyone can pledge their eyes regardless of their age. While the term "eye donation" is commonly used, there is no whole eye transplantation. Only corneal tissue is donated and a single person’s cornea could restore eye sight to 4 people. They emphasised that Corneal or eye donation is one of the 'universal' donations where donors are not restricted by blood type, age, eye colour and eyesight.

The Sankara Nethralaya Academy Hosts 2nd Datacon 2022



In partnership with The International Association for Healthcare Data Analytics, The Sankara Nethralaya Academy had hosted a two-day conference on Healthcare Data Analytics on 27th and 28th of August 2022 in hybrid mode. The theme of the conference was how Data science could be used for improving quality, safety and research in Healthcare. The Consortium of Accredited Health care Organisation (CAHO) and Schülke and Maithree, a NGO for special children were co-sponsors of the event.

The pre-conference symposium was conducted at The Sankara Nethralaya Academy, Dr. V. G. Appukutty campus, Guindy on 27th August 2022. There were two separate tracks, one for students at the beginners' level and another for Healthcare professionals. The pre-conference workshops were attended by more than 75 participants in both virtual and in-person mode.

The Chief Guest, Dr. Thennarasu Maruthamuthu, M.Sc, PGDBS, Ph.D., lit the lamp and inaugurated the proceedings in the presence of Dr. Anuja R. Singh, Principal and HOD, G. Senthilkumar, Asst. Professor, Management Studies, TSNA and the organizing committee of the symposium.

For students and beginners, the pre-conference symposium included topics from both the basic and advanced level. It covered topics like Statistical Overview, Data Preparation via SPSS Software, Data Management and Transformation, Sample Size Calculation, Reliability and Validity Test, Correlation and Regression Analysis, General Linear Model and Log Linear Model etc.,

For the healthcare professionals, topics such as Introduction to Survey on Patient Safety Tools, AHRQ Survey Tools, Data Collection Methodology, Data Accreditation and Standards, Internal and External Benchmarking Standards, Score Card, Dashboard and Story Board by Using Tableau and Power BI Business Intelligence Software were explored.

On the second day of the conference, three sessions were conducted on aspects of quality, safety and research. The sessions started at 8.30 am in the morning emphasising on the role of Data Analytics in Healthcare Quality Management. Eminent healthcare quality experts like Mr Arun Govind, Ms Dalia Kozhaya, Mr Thom Dammrich and Dr Thennarasu spoke on topics like using Data in Business and Healthcare, Strengthening Data Collection and Healthcare Quality Improvement, Continuous Quality Improvement and to Reduce Variability in Healthcare Quality Competencies.



The conference was inaugurated by Dr Girish S Rao, the President. The Chief Guest, Dr Ramanan R., Director of Collegiate Education and Retd. Principal, Presidency College, the Guest of Honour, Dr. Jothi Kumar R, Dean of Faculty, Science and Humanities, SRM Institute of Science and Technology and Special Guest Dr P. Venkatesan, Senior Deputy Director (Retd.) have conveyed their good wishes for the conference and stressed on the need for a data driven culture.

The 2nd session was themed on Improving Patient Safety through Visual Analytics and Data Science. Mr. Johnievic Valdez, Ms. Marwa Noureldein, Dr. Manjusha Dhule and Dr. V V Jaichandran gave insightful talks on the role of artificial intelligence on patient safety, risk management in healthcare, visualizing, analysing and predicting patient waiting time by using graphical tools and thus developing a data driven culture in patient management. The talks were very informative and was well received by the participants.

Lastly, the third and the final concluding session focused primarily on the use of Statistics and Software in the field of Medical and Health Research. Leading ophthalmologists, Dr Rajeev Raman and Dr R R Sudhir spoke on the use of big data analytics in healthcare research and transformation of data into information and knowledge. Dr. Mani Bhaskaran shared his valuable expertise as a moderator on one of the sessions. Dr. Venkatesan P., retired Senior Scientist from ICMR spoke on the technique of Survival Analysis in Public Healthcare Research. Dr. Sendaresan Raman gave an interesting talk on transforming Healthcare by using artificial intelligence and machine learning. The event concluded with a question and answer session in which the audience participated enthusiastically.

Mr. G. Senthilkumar, Assistant Professor (TSNA) and Organizing Secretary gave the vote of thanks and also summarized the valuable information shared during the two-day symposium. Around 110 participants had attended the conference with more than 75 people joining virtually.



Sankara Nethralaya (KBSN), Rajarhat, Kolkata launches Vision Enhancement Clinic



On 27th August 2022, the Sankara Nethralaya Vision Enhancement Clinic (VEC) was inaugurated at Sankara Nethralaya (KBSN), Newtown, Kolkata. The VEC utilizes the functional ability of an impaired individual to improve their quality of life. It was launched in the distinguished presence of Dr. Girish S. Rao, President, Dr. Manoj Datta, Ms. Sudha Mohan, Senior Manager – HR, Ms. Payel Das Ghatak, HOD- General Optometry, Mr. Venkataramanan Ramasethu, Manager – General Optometry, Ms. Bony Das- Administrative- in-charge, Mr. Anik Sarkar and Ms. Pousali Pattanayak, Optometrists.

The VEC is committed to advocate and provide services to the needy, so as to improve their visual skills and abilities using their residual vision. Once the patient has been identified and referred, a team of rehabilitation professionals will provide therapy to these patients with visual impairments to improve their functioning level in their day to day activities.

Sankara Nethralaya Orange Vision Centre Arrives at Valasaravakkam



The Sankara Nethralaya Orange Vision Centre in Valasaravakkam, was inaugurated on Vijayadashami, 05 October 2022. The Orange Vision Centre was launched with the support of Rotary Club of Chennai IT City, and the Rotary Foundation for the benefit of the residents of Valasaravakkam and surrounding neighbourhoods. The Gopaldasamy Family Charitable Trust, which is based out of the USA, has munificently contributed towards the Orange Vision Centre. The Orange Vision project covering South and North India was conceived by the Rotary Club of IT City to bring affordable eye examination to every nook and

Present at the simple inauguration were Chief Guest, Ms. Rajalakshmi Gopaldaswamy, Gopaldasamy Family Charitable Trust, who inaugurated the premises. Dr. S. V. Chandra Kumar, Project Director, TN Blindness Control Society, RTN Radha Srinivasan, Rtn Dr. Senthilnathan – President of IT City, Mr. Aravind Parthasarathy, Mr. G. P. Sarathy, Rtn PDG Muthu Palaniyappan, and other distinguished members of Rotary Club took part in the inaugural function.

Dr. Girish S. Rao, President, Sankara Nethralaya, Dr. N. Anuradha, Principal, Elite School of Optometry, Dr Sripriya Krishnamoorthy, Senior Consultant, Mr. Suresh Kumar, General Manager, Administration & Operations, from Sankara Nethralaya were present to offer their felicitations and support at this event.

The Sankara Nethralaya Orange Vision Centre offers Comprehensive Eye Examinations at New #10, Old #69 Thiruvallur Street, Valasaravakkam, Chennai – 600087 between 9 am to 5pm. (Sunday Holiday). Call 044- 3501 0071 | 35010072 to book your appointments.

Dr. M. Ravi, Retired CoP Hoists Flag on 75th Independence Day Celebrations



August 15th, 2022 was a very special day for Sankara Nethralaya family as this was the first time after the pandemic that such a large crowd was able to gather together. Dr. Sharada R., Associate Professor, invited the Chief Guest, Dr. M. Ravi, Retd. Commissioner of Police- Tambaram, Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice Chairman and Director of Paediatric Ophthalmology, Dr. Ronnie George, President and Director – Research, Director, Dept. of Glaucoma Services, and Mrs. Sita Mittal, SWAN volunteer, onto the dais.

Dr. T. S. Surendran welcomed everyone to the 75th Indian Independence Day and introduced Dr. M. Ravi, IPS, to the audience. He said Dr. Ravi is famous for his role in capturing the ‘Biscuit Bandits,’ and toured various countries like China, UK, USA, Spain, France, Belgium, Holland, New Zealand, and Singapore under the United Nations Development Program to study the system of policing that resulted in the setting up of Model Police Stations. He was instrumental in enlisting 40,000 volunteers for the "Friends of Police" Programme in Villupuram District. Dr. T. S. Surendran elaborated on the achievements of Dr. M. Ravi to much applause and acknowledged the chief guest’s all-round accomplishments as a family man.

Dr. T. S. Surendran congratulated all the winners of merit awards and urged the rest of the SN family to work hard to secure these awards in the future. He then felicitated Dr. M. Ravi and Mrs. Sita Mittal, Sankara Nethralaya Women’s Ancillary (SWAN) volunteer.

The Chief Guest addressed the gathering, thanking Dr. T. S. Surendran for his kind introduction. He congratulated everyone on celebrating the 75th Independence Day. He recalled that India gained independence at midnight, 15th August 1947. He said that Sankara Nethralaya owes its current reputation to Dr. S. S. Badrinath and his charitable service rendered to thousands of patients. Dr. Ravi said the goal of the 75th Independence Day was to gain social freedom through which we can gain social and economic growth.

Without Sankara Nethralaya, thousands of patients would not have any other recourse. He said that eyes were more important and only those without vision, the consultants and the staff know the challenges faced. He stated that doctors, particularly ophthalmologists are living gods, and highlighted Dr. Prema Padmanabhan’s 40 years of service.

He complimented Mr. Chellasamy I. K., Chief Security Officer on the correct implementation formalities of the flag hoisting. He ended by thanking the gathering for the opportunity to address them.



Dr. Sharada announced the Mayor of New York's Proclamation of Sankara Nethralaya Day in the USA during Sudha Ragnathan's concert on June 19th 2022. She also announced the launch of the SN Doorstep Eye care for Elders and Differently Abled (SN DEED) after the program.

The highlight of this year's Independence Day celebrations was honouring of SN's stalwarts who had put in 40 years of selfless service. Dr. M. Ravi honoured Dr. T. S. Surendran, Vice President and Director of Paediatric Ophthalmology, Dr. Prema Padmanabhan, Distinguished Senior Consultant, Department of Cornea Services, and Dr. Bhaskaran S, Director – Internal Medicine and Honorary Secretary, Vision Research Foundation who was awarded in absentia.

The service awards were then given out for those who have served for 35 years, 30 and 20 years of service. Other Awards such as, 'Women Of The Year' and 'Best Department Of The Year' were distributed to the well deserving recipients.

The celebrations ended with the launch of the SN DEED initiative.



44th Foundation Day Celebration ROSHNI 2022 at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai, 04th Sep, 2022



Every year, our Sankara Nethralaya family celebrates foundation on September 6. This year was especially memorable as this was the first in-person celebration since the pandemic. ROSHINI 2022 was held at Chennai and Kolkata with the staff participating in cultural events

44th Foundation Day Celebration ROSHNI 2022 at SN Kolkota, 11 Sep, 2022



Ayudha Puja



Eye Donation Awareness Meeting



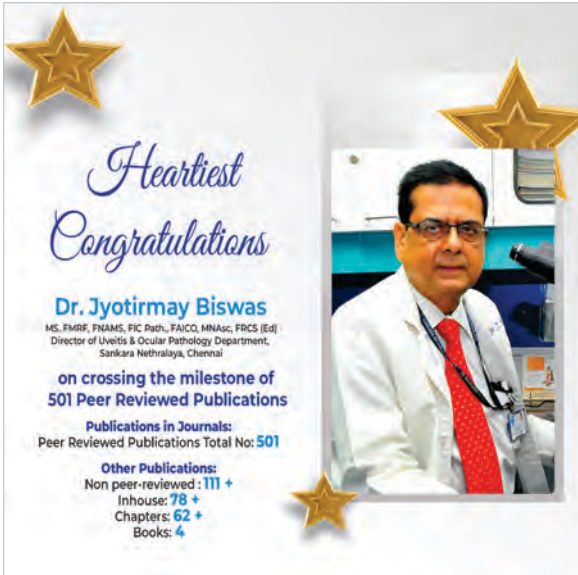
Sudarshana Homam at SN Main, 15 Oct, 2022



HAPPY CHILDRENS DAY



Awards



Heartiest Congratulations

Dr. Jyotirmay Biswas
 MS, FMRP, FNAMS, FIC Path, FAICO, MNAsc, FRCS (Ed)
 Director of Uveitis & Ocular Pathology Department,
 Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai

on crossing the milestone of
501 Peer Reviewed Publications

Publications in Journals:
 Peer Reviewed Publications Total No: **501**

Other Publications:
 Non peer-reviewed: **111 +**
 Inhouse: **78 +**
 Chapters: **62 +**
 Books: **4**



Heartiest Congratulations

Dr. Gazal Patnaik
 Associate Consultant, Department of Uvea Services,
 Sankara Nethralaya, Rajarhat

On Receiving the
Dr. R.C. Meher Free paper Award
 at the EIIOC Mid Conference 2022

Title:
 Histopathology, Immunohistochemistry and
 Molecular Biology in Eviscerated and Enucleated
 Specimen of End Stage Ocular Inflammatory
 Diseases

Co-authors:
 Dr. Jyotirmay Biswas



Heartiest Congratulations

Ms. Janani S
 Optometrist - Occupational Optometry Services

Dr PP Santanam Medal

Best Paper Presentation at the 69th Annual State Conference of the Indian Association of Occupational Health, Tamilnadu Branch, 25 Sep 2022



Heartiest Congratulations

Ms. Ishwarya S
 Optometrist - Occupational Optometry Services

Golden Jubilee Medal

Best Paper Presentation at the National Conference of the Indian Association of Occupational Health, Presented by Indian Association of Occupational Health Tamilnadu Branch, 25 Sep 2022

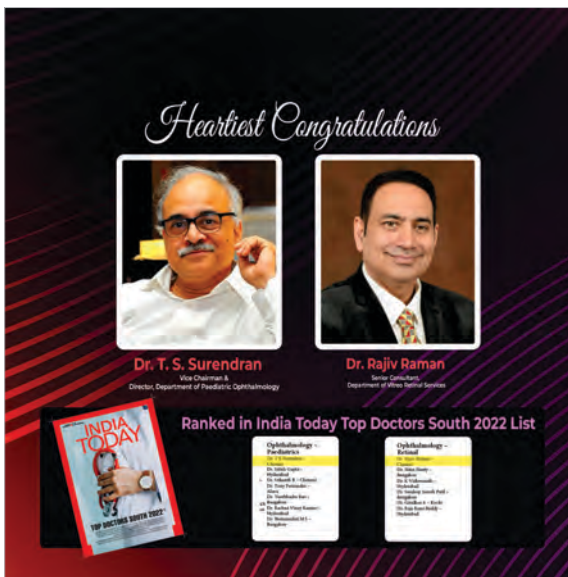


Heartiest Congratulations

Dr. Jaichandran V V
 Deputy Director of Anaesthesiology
 Sankara Nethralaya

His innovation, "Real-time view Mannequin for Practising Needle blocks," developed along with Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT-M, Chennai was adjudged as the **BEST INNOVATION'22**

14th International Congress of Anaesthesiologists - South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation - Association for Anaesthesiologists (SAARC AA 2022)



Heartiest Congratulations

Dr. T. S. Surendran
 Vice Chairman &
 Director, Department of Paediatric Ophthalmology

Dr. Rajiv Raman
 Senior Consultant,
 Department of Ocular Surface & Tear Film

Ranked in India Today Top Doctors South 2022 List

Ophthalmology - Paediatric	Ophthalmology - General
1. Dr. T. S. Surendran	1. Dr. Rajiv Raman
2. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan	2. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan
3. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan	3. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan
4. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan	4. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan
5. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan	5. Dr. S. S. Sankaranarayanan

Help a Poor Person Regain His Sight

Dear Well-wisher

Greetings from Sankara Nethralaya,

I hope this issue of Eyelights India finds you in good health. The past 6 months have been fulfilling for Sankara Nethralaya's community services as we are reaching out to more and more deserving patients who had been unserved due to the pandemic. We are grateful for supporters such as yourself who extended a helping hand even in the toughest times.

Childhood blindness is a major public health concern in India. A recent review from AIIMS estimates the prevalence of childhood blindness in India as 1 child per thousand with anywhere from 2 to 13 children per thousand suffering from visual impairments. We passionately believe that all children deserve to have the gift of sight and access to the best possible children's ophthalmic services regardless of socio-economic backgrounds.

Our Department of Paediatric Ophthalmology is a pioneer in treating eye issues in the delicate age groups of neonates to teens. The paediatric ophthalmology department performs delicate and complicated surgeries including squint correction (strabismus), paediatric cataracts, paediatric glaucoma, and traumatic cataracts, etc., for which multiple surgeries are required. Unlike cataracts or other eye related problems in adults, children require follow-up surgeries, and frequent follow-ups.

The average cost of a paediatric ophthalmic surgery is minimum Rs. 25,000/- and it varies according to the type of procedure a child needs with the number of follow-ups based on the individual needs of the child patient. As the parents quickly run out of resources and are left helpless since the cost of additional procedures proves too much to bear, we frequently step in and offer cost-free surgeries and follow-up care to the children in need.

In last 5 years alone, the department of Paediatric Ophthalmology has performed over 9000 cost-free paediatric surgeries, providing free follow-up care as well. Between 2017 and 2022, 3556 Retina-Vitro-Retinal surgeries were performed on child patients from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

With your support, we can give these needy children the ability to be valuable citizens and become independent adults.

You can help save a child's vision by contributing Rs. 25,000/- for a paediatric ophthalmic procedure. Each child who comes to us deserves to have their vision saved and your support towards paediatric eye surgeries will go a long way in helping indigent children to regain their vision.

Donations to Medical Research Foundation are exempt under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. Cheque / DD can be drawn in favour of "Medical Research Foundation."

With Warm Regards and Best Wishes

Dr. Girish S. Rao

President

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Please mail your feedback to us at
eyelights@snmail.org

Join our Mission for Vision



DONATION SCHEME

AMOUNT IN INR

1. One time on a designated date

Single Cataract Surgery	Rs. 5,000
Single Major Surgery such as Retina, Glaucoma	Rs. 17,500

2. Single day free service

Approximately 40 Surgeries per day	Rs.2,00,000
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3. Year after year on a designated date for 12 years

Single Free Cataract Surgery	Rs.50,000
Single major Surgery (Retina, Glaucoma)	Rs.1,50,000

4. Tele-ophthalmology

Sponsoring the Tele-ophthalmology camp for one day	Rs.20,000
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5. Corpus Fund

For Community outreach program	Any amount
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6. Mobile Eye Surgical Unit

Rural Camp - 10 Days	Rs 10,00,000
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7. Naming a room

Rs 10,00,000

Kindly draw your cheques in favour of

"Medical Research Foundation"

Donations are exempt under Section 80G

For more details, contact

Ms. Kavitha B,

Manager, Resource Mobilization

Sankara Nethralaya

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Websites : www.sankaranethralaya.org,

www.supportsankaranethralaya.org,

www.omlog.org, www.sankaranethralayausa.org



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We seek your kind patronage for 'Insight' the poignant narration of Sankara Nethralaya's growth to a world class humanitarian eye care institution and success of a social enterprise by noted biographers Shri. George Skarias, Shri. VV.Ranganathan and Ms Meera Prasad, with interesting inputs from eminent personalities. 'Insight' is a most enjoyable and informative book and a wonderful gifting option for all age groups and occasions. Entire sales proceeds go towards providing cost free eye care to the poor and needy. Please pick your copy of this great literary work of compassion at the SN main centre, Higginbotham's and Rasi Silk emporiums at Anna Nagar, Mylapore and Nanganallur.

