



eyelights



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The Week- Nielsen survey declares Sankara Nethralaya as the "Best Hospital in Ophthalmology" for year 2014



Ophthalmology

- 1 Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai
- 2 AIIMS (Dr Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences), New Delhi
- 3 L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad
- 4 Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai
- 5 Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh
- 6 Vasani Eye Care Hospitals
- 7 Christian Medical College, Vellore
- 8 Centre for Sight, New Delhi
- 9 Narayana Nethralaya, Bengaluru
- 10 Disha Eye Hospital, Kolkata



Recognitions & Awards

“Best Hospital in Ophthalmology” for year 2014 by The Week - Nielsen



The highly prestigious “The Week-Nielsen” survey for rating the best hospitals in the country has declared Sankara Nethralaya as the “Best Hospital in Ophthalmology” once again. The survey was conducted on stringent quality measures by experts, covering 15 cities from September to October 2014.

Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr T.S.Surendran



The Strabismus and Paediatric and Ophthalmology Society of India crowned one of its illustrious members Dr. T.S.Surendran, Director-Paediatric Ophthalmology & Vice-Chairman, Sankara Nethralaya and President Strabismological Society of India with a “Lifetime achievement award” on 14th December 2014 at Pushkar, Rajasthan.

A research paper on the molecular diagnostic tests PCRs for rapid diagnosis of tuberculosis, from Sankara Nethralaya is adjudged as the best published paper in bacteriology.



The research paper by Dr. K.Lily Therese, HOD & Sr. Prof. L&T Microbiology Research Centre, KNBIRVO was adjudged as the best paper in bacteriology published in the Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology for year 2013, at the XXXVIIIth National Conference of the IAMM held at SMS Medical College, Jaipur between 17th and 19th October 2014 and the presenter was honoured with a Medal.

Sankara Nethralaya Academy students bag merit scholarships from TechMed Healthcare, Chennai

Techmed healthcare organized a state level quiz competition for the “LIFE SCIENCE AWARD, 2014” on 18th October, 2014. Sankara Nethralaya Academy students, Ms Santhanalakshmi and Ms Suganya (III yr B Sc MLT students) and Ms Logeshwari (Completed B Sc MLT and working as Intern in Clinical Lab at SN Main) were among the top 20. Ms.Santhanalakshmi's team - I prize, Ms. Suganya's team - II prize.



Sankara Nethralaya's Head of Low Vision Clinic receives prestigious honour from the American Academy of Optometry 2014, Denver

Ms. Sarika Gopalakrishnan, Head of the Low Vision Care Clinic, Sankara Nethralaya was honored as a 'Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry' at the AAO meeting 2014, held at Denver, USA.



The Vision Research Foundation is honoured with an 'Academic partnership Award' by its Collaborative research partner

The Kamalnayan Bajaj Institute for research in Vision and Ophthalmology (VRF) the research arm of Sankara Nethralaya was recognized by Deakin University its prestigious overseas collaborative partner in the areas of Nanomedicine and Nanotechnology with a "10 years of Academic Partnership" award. The award was given away by Professor Jane Den Hollander, Vice Chancellor and President of Deakin University and received by Dr S.Krishna Kumar, Incharge – Radheyshyam Kanoi Stem Cell Research Foundation, Deputy Director, Nanobiotechnology, Vision Research Foundation at a glittering function held on the 9th of November 2014 at New Delhi.



Sankara Nethralaya confers high honours on its 36th Foundation Day



"Sankara Ratna" awardee Sri.V.V.Ranganathan, "M.S.Subbulakshmi" awardees Sri. Raja Rathinam and Sri Jayaraman, Auto Tech Industries, along with Shri Bharath Joshi, British Deputy High Commissioner, renowned vocalist 'Bombay' Jayashri, Dr.SS Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya

The Temple of the Eye entered its 37th year of service to humanity with great pride and joy on the 6th of September 2014, the day marked the conferring of the Sankara Ratna and Smt M.S. Subbulakshmi awards to the great people who have shared its dream, supported its cause and celebrated its achievements. Dr T.S.Surendran, Vice-Chairman, took the audience on an interesting walk down memory lane, remarking in his characteristic lighter vein that the long hours of duty kept the pioneers of the institution within its premises much after day fall so they could see neither the Sun nor their Son.

This was followed by conferring of the Sankara Ratna award to Shri V.V.Ranganathan by Shri Bharath Joshi, British Deputy High Commissioner at Chennai and the Srimathi M.S. Subbulakshmi Award to Shri S.Rajaratnam and Shri K.S.Jayaraman, Directors, Autotech Industries and long time friends and supporters of Sankara Nethralaya by renowned vocalist Srimathi Bombay Jayashri. Delivering the acceptance speech Shri V.V.Ranganathan recalled that Dr SS.Badrinath gave the go ahead for his work 'Insight' only after repeated entreaties that it would be a story on Sankara Nethralaya and the people who helped in bringing it to its glorious stature. Delivering their acceptance speech, Shri Jayaraman and Shri Rajaratnam expressed their joy at being conferred with the award for their services to an institution which they adored. The day witnessed the inauguration of the baccalaureate in ophthalmic dispensing by the Chief Guest Shri Bharath Joshi.

Sankara Nethralaya's knowledge dissemination arms celebrate their proud moment!



Jubilant graduates at the ESO Graduation ceremony

The 26th annual graduation ceremony of the Elite School of optometry, the CU Shah institute of ophthalmic science and the Vidyasagar institute of bio-medical science was celebrated with great zest and vigour at the Sri V.D.Swami Auditorium on the 6th of October 2014. Delivering the welcome address Dr. Rajeswari Mahadevan, Head of the Contact lens department and faculty member at the Elite School of Optometry declared with pride that the Chief Guest of the day Dr. Suresh Vishwanathan was a proud student of the 1990 batch at the Elite School of Optometry. Delivering the Chief Guest's address Dr.Suresh Viswanathan, Chair of the Biological and Vision Science at the State University of New York College of Optometry (SUNY) and a proud alumni of the Elite School of Optometry quoted from acclaimed poet Robert Frost's lines prompting to choose the road less travelled when it came to choosing one's career. The illustrious alumni member's clear message to the graduating students was 'Do not ask yourself the stock question 'What do I want to be? Instead ask yourself 'Whom do I want to be like for the rest of my life?'



Ms. M.K. Janani receiving the 'Smt. Sreerangamma N.Narayana and Smt. Radhamani N.Anantha Endowment Award"



Dr. M.Sowmya receiving the ' Professor S.Krishnamoorthy Rao Gold Medal Award"



Ms. D.Sudha receiving the 'Swarnalatha Punshi" Award"

Sankara Nethralaya's devout call to defy Diabetic Retinopathy



'World Diabetes day' - special comprehensive eye check up for diabetics

With India emerging as the global leader in the number of diabetics with a staggering figure of over 65 million diabetics, it is little wonder that it is increasingly referred to as the Diabetic capital of the World. This year, with the theme of “Save your vision; Take action; consider a complete eye examination including Retina”, World Diabetes Day got to a vibrant start with a bustling crowd thronging the corridors of the 5th floor of Jagadguru Kanchi Sri Chandrasekarendra Netra Nilayam, the venue of Sankara Nethralaya's free diabetes/diabetic retinopathy screening and counseling camp from 9 am, on Nov 14.

The sessions included random sugar and BP check up, Vision and eye pressure assessments, fundus imaging, consultation and counselling with senior vitreo retinal surgeons Dr. Rajiv Raman and Dr G.Suganeswari. The day also witnessed vibrant awareness creation activities like poster presentations, screening of video clips on Diabetes and eye disorders, risk management and treatment to restore vision. Dr. Rajiv Raman and Dr. G.Suganeswari delivered invigorating talks on the threat of eye ailments due to diabetes, severity of retinopathy and visual impairment, management of optimal levels of sugar, BP and lipids, therapeutic and surgical treatment methods to take care of Diabetic retinopathy.

The pioneer in eye care reiterates its commitment to keep preventable blindness at bay



Patient undergoing comprehensive eye check up on World sight Day

With an undaunting resolve and commitment to “No more avoidable blindness”, the theme of this year's World Sight Day, Sankara Nethralaya and the Lion's Club of Chennai Central Madras joined hands to celebrate “World Sight Day” on October 9, 2014, at the Aruna Diabetic Centre, Arumbakkam, Chennai in view of the damaging impact of diabetes on eyesight. Pioneering the cause of “helping to see the world better” Sankara Nethralaya's tele-ophthalmology team with Dr. Deepak Bijwani, Ophthalmologist organised a day long camp at the Diabetic centre under the aegis of Dr. A Paneer Selvam, Diabetologist, Aruna Diabetic Centre.

The Rotary Club of East Madras joins the battle against the cancer of the eye

The Terry Fox Foundation the Canada based body espousing the cause of its illustrious champion against cancer, Terrance Stanley Fox conducts the 'Terry fox Run- A Marathon of hope' the world over to raise funds for cancer research and treatment. This year the Terry Fox Run was organized by the Rotary Club of Madras East at the IIT-Madras expressing their solidarity with the battle against cancer.

The proceeds of the run were handed over to Dr SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus by Shri VGP.Ravidas, President and Shri Badrinarayanan, Chairman, Rotary Club of Madras East. Expressing his sincere thanks Dr S.S.Badrinath recalled that SN started a study with the Terry Fox Research Institute to look for biomarkers in the blood a year ago and researchers are hopeful of identifying critical biomarkers for early diagnosis of retinoblastoma.



“Terry Fox Marathon Run” proceeds being donated for research on Retinoblastoma

Tributes and fond recollections of a great teacher and good friend mark the observation of the 7th Dr K.P.Misra Endowment Oration



Columnist Sri. S. Gurumurthy being honoured at Dr KP Misra Endowment

present day education in the country did not shape the youth of the nation to be good citizens or realize the greatness of their land. He made an emphatic appeal to shake off their colonial hangover and servile attitude. Giving the acceptance speech Dr Arati Priti Misra, wife of Dr K.P.Misra described her late husband as a Karmayogi.

The annual event conducted to honour the world acclaimed teacher and propagate the ancient glory of Utkal (Orissa) and Bhubhaneswar temple started with the lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest and speaker of the day, eminent columnist, crusader of social causes and political analyst Sri S.Gurumurthy, Dr SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya, Dr Arathi Priti Misra, wife of late Dr. Misra, eminent Nephrologist Dr. MK.Mani and Smt Vani Jayaram.

Speaking on his long association with Late Dr. Misra, Dr M.K Mani, Chief Nephrologist, Apollo Hospitals recalled Dr. KPM as an outstanding orator, concerned, caring and most approachable doctor. Chief guest Sri S.Gurumurthy started his oration with a strong note that

Medical Errors A Reality Check

Sankara Nethralaya, true to its tradition, observed the 19th Sri. V.Venugopal Endowment lecture, paying rich tributes to one of its principal architects at the Sri VD Swami Auditorium on 29th November 2014.

“Live Losier” meaning “Do no harm” – quoting the Hippocratic Oath Dr.N.Radhika, Senior Consultant, Cornea Department introduced the Chief Guest Dr Bala Ramachandran as a Pediatric Consultant & Head - Intensive Care & Emergency Medicine, Medical Director, Kanchi Kamakoti CHILDS Trust Hospital and certified with Fellowship in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine from Children's Medical Center, Dallas and American board of Pediatrics, USA.

Dr Bala Ramachandran in his Presidential address – “Medical Errors – a reality in medicine today” started from defining medical errors to extensively traverse on the types of errors that occurred in diagnosis, at surgery due to omission or commission, failure of medical equipments, errors due to medication that triggered adverse effect that may be preventable or non preventable. Encouraging participation at all levels, setting “safety standards” as administrative goal, Systematic safety processes were few methodologies that may be put in place to prevent medical errors, he said. The interesting day came to an end with a warm Vote of Thanks by Shri V.Govind, grandson of Late Shri V. Venugopal, thanking SN for the high regard shown to his family members.



Dr Bala Ramachandran, Medical Director, Kanchi Kamakoti CHILDS Trust Hospital, Sri V Govind, Dr Radhika, Sr. Consultant with Dr SS Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus

21st Mahaperiyava Aradhana observed with great piety and devotion at Sankara Nethralaya



Brahmasri K V Seshadrinatha Sastrigal at the Maha Periyava Aradhana

Sastrigal described 'Deivathin Kural', a compendium of lectures covering the gamut of Dharma Sastras. He explained that Shatha Bhusani, a monumental work by Mahamahopadyaya Noorni Ananthakrishna Shastri, in response to Shatha Dhusani, a compilation of criticism on Advaita philosophy by Visishtadvaiti Swami Desikan, received global acclaim with Paramacharya's blessings.

As an institution imbibing the word and spirit of its hallowed mentor Kanchi Mahaperiyava, in every action and deed, the Sankara Nethralaya family observed the 21st Aradhana of the Jagadguru with great piety, at the Sri.V.D.Swami Auditorium. Dr. Meenakshi S, Director, Academics, welcomed the gathering and the Chief Guest of the evening, Brahmasri K.V. Seshadrinatha Sastrigal, an erudite Vedic scholar par excellence, Ayurvedic Practitioner of great repute and illustrious former Principal of the Madras Sanskrit College.

Speaking on 'Periyava Mahimai' the humble sishya hailed Paramacharya as the Avatharapurusha and Mahapurusha, who radiated wisdom unto others. Sri Seshadrinatha

Keracon 2014- Cornea Society of India's 2nd annual meet creates waves



Keracon 2014 – 2nd National meet at Mahabalipuram, Chennai

The Cornea Society of India was formed as a professional body to monitor the latest findings and developments, encourage research, joint study and a vibrant exchange of information and knowledge in the field of Cornea from the world over. Dr Geetha Iyer, Senior Consultant at the CJ Shah Cornea Services and Dr. G.Sitalakshmi Memorial Clinic for Ocular Surface Disorders, Sankara Nethralaya is a founder member and Treasurer of the body.

Keracon 2014 the society's second national meet was held between the 19th -21st December 2014 at Mahabalipuram, Chennai, India- with Dr Geetha Iyer as the Co-Organizing Secretary.

Sankara Nethralaya's Cornea Fellows also submitted posters and white papers which won kudos at the event.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1.Unusual Corneal Infection- Pythium Keratitis – Poster | 2.COMET for surface reconstruction – Poster |
| 3.MOOKP-An Over A decade Experience – Paper | 4.Our Experience with Boston Kpro and its Variants – Paper |

The in-depth and well researched talks and contributions made were very well received and drew high appreciation.

5th Nethra Vidya Series Session On Binocular Vision And Vision Therapy

The fifth session on “Demystifying the Near vision complex – A simple approach to practicing Binocular vision” was conducted at the Sri V.D. Swami Auditorium on 12th October 2014 with a video on how to savour each and every moment be it work or play or family life and followed by sessions on Diagnosis of Binocular vision problems and prescribing prisms by Senior Optometrist Ms. Revathy, Diplopia – Make it Single by Ms. Rizwana.

The key speakers were Dr. Krishnakumar – Principal (Elite School of Optometry) on “Binocular vision and Occupational visual demands – what you need to know?” and Mr. S.Viswanathan – Deputy General Manager – Optometry & Opticals on “Myopia control – where do we stand?”



Participants at Binocular Vision & Vision Therapy Session

Faculty from the ABDO College, Kent, UK throw new light on Ophthalmic dispensing



Faculty from ABDO College, UK interacting with Students

The SN Academy added a feather to its cap when it conducted the first interactive session between Ophthalmic Dispensing students and a team of faculty from the Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO), UK.

The UK team was represented by Shri. T.Pavanakumar, Chief Finance officer, Ms. Miranda Richardson, Asst Director of Professional Examinations, Ms. Diane Nash and Mr. Paul Schimell, Examiners from ABDO College, Kent, UK. Welcoming the gathering Dr. Anuja R Singh, HOD – Optometric Education, said this is a first of its kind program of international standards in India. Observing that the UK team of examiners were meticulous, she advised the students to imbibe the same qualities. Speaking next, Shri

Pavanakumar of ABDO College pointed out that the statistics in India on spectacle dispensing is very poor and by pursuing this course successfully, a student can go and work in the UK.

Sankara Nethralaya and the Bharathi Medical & Research Foundation help to bring the light of vision to the home town of India's visionary poet



Participants celebrating the 132nd anniversary of Mahakavi Bharathiar

Sankara Nethralaya joined hands with the Bharathi Medical & Research Foundation, Mumbai to conduct an eye screening/surgical camp at Ettayapuram the birthplace of Mahakavi Bharathiar in celebration of the 132nd birth anniversary of the revolutionary freedom fighter. The eye surgery camp was conducted through the most advanced “Mobile Eye Surgical Unit” (MESU) the operation theatre on wheels.

The Raja of Ettayapuram most generously extended his support to the noble initiative. The 11th of December the poet's birthday started with the screening of a movie and playing of Shrimathi MS.Subbulakshmi Amma's inspiring songs on him, followed by a reverential procession of the 'Chikku Palagai' or the book rest used by the great poet by Dr. SS.Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus and Dr.Vasanthi Badrinath to the S.M.AVUDIYAMMAL THIRUMANA MADAPAM the venue of the proceedings. The palagai was honoured with flower petals. Chief Guest at the function Dr S.Natarajan, Founder & CEO of Aditya Jyot Hospital, Mumbai gave a spirited speech recalling the greatness of the poet. Speaking on the occasion a visibly moved Dr SS.Badrinath, recalled the evergreen lines of the poet's immortal song, “Nalladhor Veenai” or “a well tuned Veena” which produces mellifluous tunes, underlying that their talents and skills should be channelized in a proper manner.

Rotary Club extends a generous gesture to Cornea Department

The 9th of December 2014 became a red letter day in the annals of Sankara Nethralaya's history when Rotary International President Gary C K Huang and the first lady Madame Corinna visited the main campus of Sankara Nethralaya to dedicate the prestigious Rotary Global Grant to aid the phenomenal work being carried out at the Dr. G.Sitalakshmi Memorial Clinic for Ocular Surface Disorders.



Rotary International President Gary C K Huang at the Rotary Global Grant function

Addressing the gathering Dr. Aloysius, Director of International Services, Rotary Club of Penang, who had flown all the way from Penang, Malaysia for the occasion observed that it was a wonderful event. Reading the Presidential message on behalf of Rotary President Woon Bee Kim, Rotary Club of Alor Star, Rtn. Jaganath Ramaswamy, quoted that they were honoured and thankful to be a part of the international project with Sankara Nethralaya. Unveiling the Rotary Global Grant plaque in dedication to Dr. G.Sitalakshmi Memorial Clinic for Ocular Surface disorders, along with Dr.SS Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, the Chief Guest of the day, President, Rotary International, Gary CK Huang congratulated Rotary Club of Guindy for their remarkable achievement. Showering praise on Dr. Geetha Iyer and Dr.Baskar Srinivasan's contributions to the Cornea dept, Dr S.S Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, observed that “every single human being shall have the right to eyesight”, to the thunderous applause of the audience.



Sathvaro Radhe ShyamNo – Dance Ballet on Leelas of Krishna

showcased their solidarity by raising significant funds from Corporates, Philanthropists, Well wishers and donors for continuing their dynamic activities to serve the indigent patients.

Nobility through Charity

There are no excesses in nobility and charity. When deeds are true, it binds the heart and goes beyond. In yet another act of utmost compassion, the Sankara Nethralaya Women's Auxiliary (SWAN) exhibited the camaraderie that they have fostered on to themselves with Sankara Nethralaya, by a benefit program – Sathvaro Radhe Shyamno, a magnificent dance drama cultural bonanza depicting “Radha Krishna Leelas” by Hiren Parpani and team, the icon masters of fine arts and dance.SWAN volunteers

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You may kindly send your comments to

balas@snmail.org or eyelights@snmail.org

Join our Mission for Vision



DONATION SCHEME	AMOUNT IN INR
1. One time on a designated date	
Single Cataract Surgery	Rs. 3,750
Single Major Surgery such as Retina, Glaucoma	Rs. 10,000
2. Single day free service	
40 Surgeries per day	Rs.1,50,000
3. Year after year on a designated date	
Single Free Cataract Surgery	Rs.40,000
Single major Surgery (Retina, Glaucoma)	Rs.1,50,000
4. Tele-ophthalmology	
A single day screening of 200 rural poor for vision care	Rs.15,000
5. Corpus Fund	
For Community outreach program	Any amount

Donations are exempt under Section 80G

For more details, contact

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Websites : www.sankaranethralaya.org,

www.supportsankaranethralaya.org,

www.omlog.org, www.omtrust.org

Soliciting your Support



Image of A.Sivasailam Block, Chennai

Sankara Nethralaya your cherished institution needs your direct support and assistance through your valuable friends and contacts to fulfill its eye care initiatives at Chennai and Kolkata which would be two giant steps in its journey towards a blindness free world. Donations to Medical Research Foundation are 50% tax exempt under Section 80G and 100% under Section 35AC of the Income Tax Act. Donations to Vision Research Foundation are 175% exempt under Section 35(I) (ii) of the Income Tax Act.



Image of Rajar Haat project, Kolkata

Insight- A passion for compassion Read a great book, fulfill a greater cause!

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.

