SANKAR FOUNDATION EYE HOSPITAL
Commited to the Community

VISIONARY INSIGHTS

Volume 1 : Issue 3 : September 2024 Monthly In-house Newsletter of Sankar Foundation

EDITORIAL

Eye Donation : Illuminate Lives with the Gift of Sight

In a world where millions suffer from visual impairment, the noble act of eye donation stands as a beacon of hope and compassion. Eye donation is not just a medical procedure; it is a profound gesture that can transform lives, offering the priceless gift of sight to those in need.

For recipients, receiving a corneal transplant can mean the difference between a life of darkness and a life filled with light and color. It can improve their ability to perform daily activities and participate in social and professional life. Corneal blindness (CB) is one of the leading causes of blindness in India and globally, affecting around 8 million people worldwide

Encouraging Medical Research: Donated eyes can also be used for medical research and education, helping to advance the field of ophthalmology and develop new treatments for eye diseases. Promoting eye donation can help create awareness about the importance of organ donation in general, encouraging more people to become donors and save lives.

The data shows that Approximately 23% of the Indian population is suffering from eye problems, with a significant number of people affected in urban and tribal populations. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the recommended ratio of ophthalmologists to people is 1:20,000. However, in India, the estimated ratio is 1:100,000. This shortage of ophthalmologists has led to increase of avoidable blindness in the country.

Eye Donation Movement in India : Eye Donation Movement started in India way back in the late 40s. The Late Dr RES Muthiah started the very first eye bank in India and the first corneal transplantation took place successfully by him in India in 1948. From

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"Sankar Foundation Wishes its Board of Trustees, Doctors & Staff A Very Happy Dusserah"

Performance @ a Glance

Total Eye Surgeries 4,58,297 Since Inception

Total OP Screened 26,66,463 Since Inception

Atmakuri Sankar Rao's services earn widespread accolades

- Founder's Day Celebrated

Sri Krishna Kumar Trustee garlanding the statue of Sankar Rao

The corporate dignitaries and Foundation officials paying floral tributes to Sankar Rao.

Sankar Foundation celebrated the 93rd birth anniversary of its Founder Atmakuri Sankar Rao as "Founder's Day" on 2nd September in its campus. Sri Atmakuri Krishna Kumar, Trustee and Sri K Radhakrishnan, GM (Admn & Operations) HODs garlanded the statue of Sankar Rao and paid floral tributes to him to mark the occasion.

On the occasion, Sankar Foundation saw the

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Atmakuri Sankar Rao's services earn widespread accolades

presence of major corporate sector officials Sri Naveen Makheja MD & CEO, South Asia LPG Company, Sri Atul Kumar Srivastava, GM, L&T, Sri LS Rao, Chief GM, GAIL, Sri MVS Murthy, GM, GAIL, Sri SVSSN Raju, Regional Manager, Inox Air Products, Sri N Venkat Rao, MD, Nekkanti Sea Foods, Dr Rokkam Rammanohar, Former DRDO scientist, Sri Kesva Majji, Barzilai Foundation. Speaking on the occasion, the dignitaries appreciated the services rendered by the foundation to the society in eliminating of avoidable blindness and assured that they will continue to support the foundation in future also in its journey towards excellence in eye care management.

The corporate dignitaries and Foundation officials pose for a group photo

Foundation Officials, doctors and staff paying tributes to Sri Sankar Rao.

Best performers were honored to mark the occasion.

Sankar Foundation organized a meeting in which around 230 representatives of NGOs, Vision Centres and its supporters based in three districts of Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram and Visakhapatnam were present. The best performers were felicitated by the dignitaries for their support and services to the community.

Addressing the gathering, Sri Krishna Kumar recalled the vision and commitment of his father and expressed his gratitude to the Sankar Foundation partners who always supported the foundation since many years. Sankar Foundation achieved a milestone of performing a record number of 4,52,240 eye surgeries so far, he added. Sri K Radhkrishnan, GM (Admn & Operations) thanked the corporate representatives for reposing their faith in the hospital and also for their continuous support. The hospital is providing best of medical facilities and patients will be taken care of with quality treatment, he added. The participants were high praise for Sankar Foundation for their continuous support.

Earlier, Dr T Raveendra, Prof Krishna Prasad, Dr Nasrin, Dr Sirisha, Dr Krishna and Dr Suparna highlighted the latest facilities in the hospital through their presentations. Sri V Ramesh Kumar, DGM (PC & CR) highlighted the services and activities of SF in his presentation. Sri Appala Raju, Senior Manager (Out Reach) welcomed the gathering.

Pediatric Ophthalmology Special

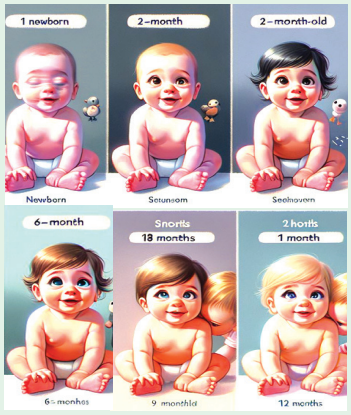
Vision Development : Newborn to 12 Months

A baby's vision goes through many changes during their first year of life. Your pediatrician will check your infant's vision at each well-child visit. They make sure your baby's vision is developing as it should. Knowing what to expect can help you watch and enjoy your child's visual development.

Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital has an exclusive Pediatric Ophthalmology Department to treat children of all ages by very senior doctors.

A Word About Premature Babies We base the vision development milestones below on your baby's due date, not based on the date they were born Pre-Term babies are the ones which are usually born Before 37 Weeks

Newborns: Adjusting To Light and Beginning to Focus At birth, an infant is very sensitive to bright light. The pupil usually reacts to light after 29 Weeks , Premature babies Before 32 Weeks dislike bright light and The baby begins to turn its head to di?use light usually after 32 weeks A newborn baby can see something next to them with their



peripheral (side) vision, but their central vision is still developing. The fixation reflex is a pre-requisite of normal visual development and is present at birth, even in preterm babies after 33 weeks gestation 75% of infants fixate by two weeks and 100% by two months. Newborns show fixation preference for moving stimuli, blinking lights, stimuli with colours especially red-green or human face. Near objects are preferred, fixation may not be steady and is interrupted with reflaxations A preference of fixation with one eye over the other indicates poor vision in the non-preferred eye.

- Dr G. Suparna, HOD Pediatrics & Squint Department

From 2 to 4 Months: Focusing and Tracking Moving Objects. For their first 2 months, babies' eyes often do not work together very well. You might notice your baby's eyes appear to be crossed or they may seem to wander out to the sides. In most cases, this is normal and they will eventually correct themselves by 4 months. But if one of your baby's eyes constantly turns in toward their nose or outward away from the nose, talk with your pediatrician. Your Baby will be able to Follow vertically moving objects, Watches mother's face intently for prolonged duration , Watches toys held in front of face, Watches movements of own hands, Reaches out to interesting objects during this Period

From 5 to 8 Months: Reaching, Recognizing, and Recalling Sudden blinking of the Eyes, in order to protect them from potential damage which is the Blink response to visual threat (Menace reflex) can be seen Your child can Grasps objects and will explore with fingers

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Sankar Foundation Team visits Aravind Eye Hospital

Sankar Foundation team with Dr Krishna Das (Centre) at Aravind Eye Hospital.

Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital team headed by Sri K Radhakrishnan, GM (Admn & Operations) along with Dr T Raveendra,Director, CQI & Research & HOD Glaucoma, Dr P Krishna Prasad, Prof & Head, Medical Education, Dr T Krishna, HOD, Retina Department and Sri V Ramesh Kumar, DGM (PC & CR) visited Aravind Eye Hospital in Madhurai recently to study their best practices, facilities and infrastructure in their hospital.

The team interacted with Dr SR Krishna Das, Director, HR, Attending Physician at Glaucoma Services, Head of Clinical Services and Chief Medical Officer, Director-Fellowship and Physician Development Program. Aravind Eye Hospitals and other officials and doctors at Madhurai.

The visit aimed to gain insights into the hospital's operations, patient care systems, and advanced medical technologies. The team was particularly interested in understanding how Aravind Hospital manages its large patient volume efficiently while maintaining high standards of care. This visit is expected to help the Sankar Foundation enhance its own healthcare services by adopting best practices observed at Aravind Hospital.

The team also visited Aurolab and understood the manufacturing process of Intra Ocular Lens (IOL) and also was privileged to witness the strives made in the development of the latest Phaco machine Hummingbird Elite.

Newborn to 12 Months

Babies generally start crawling at around 8 months old, and this further enhances their hand-eye coordination

From 9 to 12 Months: Gripping, Grasping, and on the Go : At about 9 months old, babies can generally judge distance pretty well. This is about when they start to pull themselves up to stand. Your child can differentiate visually Between objects of different Sizes and can pick up small objects during this period

By 12 months old, most babies are crawling and trying to walk : Steps To Make Sure Your Child's Eyes and Vision Develop Properly Eye or vision problems can delay a baby's development. It is important to find these problems as early as possible so you can get them the help they need to grow and learn properly.

Parents should take these important steps:

- Watch for problems like inward or outward turning eyes or significant delays in tracking moving objects. Bring them to your pediatrician's attention.
- Get infant/child eye screenings as recommen ded to catch any vision problems early.
- Ask your pediatrician for age-appropriate activities you can do with your baby to help
- develop their vision.

DO YOU KNOW?

Who is the father of eye glasses?

One of the first recorded pair of glasses were made in 1284 by Salvino D'Armate in Italy. The lenses were made of glass or a crystal like stone with a handle to hold them up to your eyes (scissor glasses frame and later lorgnette glasses).

Who invented bifocal glasses?

Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin, who died 200 years ago, is generally credited with the invention of bifocals.

Where was the first eye surgery?

The first reported surgical removal of a cataract from the eye occurred in Paris in 1748 when French ophthalmologist Jacques Daviel performed the first extra capsular cataract extraction.

What is the best eye color?

Gray Eyes topped the chart with an average rating of 7.4, followed by blue and green eyes each scoring an average of 7.3. When broken down by gender, men ranked gray, blue, and green eyes as the most attractive, while women said they were most attracted to green, hazel, and gray eyes.

How many cells are in the eye?

While it's challenging to provide an exact number, it's estimated that the human retina contains around 126 million rod cells for low-light vision and about 6 million cone cells for color and daylight vision. Rods are responsible for vision at low light levels (scotopic vision). They do not mediate color vision, and have a low spatial acuity. Cones are active at higher light levels (photopic vision), are capable of color vision and are responsible for high spatial acuity.

How many muscles are in the eye?

The human eye has six eye muscles. They are split into two primary groups: the recti muscles and the oblique muscles. The four recti muscles are the lateral rectus, the medial rectus, the inferior rectus, and the superior rectus while the two oblique muscles are the inferior oblique and the superior oblique.

How many veins are in the eyes?

Among many other important parts, your eye contains one main artery and one main vein. These both branch out to supply blood to the rest of the eye. Normally, these branches are invisible.

(Inputs: **K Bangar Raju,** Dy General Manager (PR & Liaison)

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EVENTS

Sankar Foundation and NITANP to Collaborate on Groundbreaking AI Based Research

Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital (SFEH) and the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalligudem have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on Artificial Intelligence (AI) based research in the field of eye care. The aim of this collaboration is to leverage the mutual strengths and expertise of both parties and to advance the frontiers of science and technology in the service of the field of Ophthalmology. The MOU was signed on 5th September and is valid for 5 years.

The scope of the MOU includes, the NITANP and SFEH shall enter into collaborative research work for development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based screening algorithms for Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) and glaucoma as initial phase. The domain experts from SFEH shall be responsible for sharing the data required for development of AI based screening algorithms. The researchers and faculty form NITANP shall be responsible for developing of Algorithms for DR and glaucoma screening.

Exchanging MOU documents

The work shall be coordinated by Dr K Sri Phani Krishna from NIT on behalf of NITANP and Dr T Raveendra from Sankar Foundation on behalf of SFEH.

The **MOU copies were exchanged by Prof BS Murty, Officiating Director, NITANP-Tadepalligudem and Dr T Raveendra, Director, CQI & Research, SFEH** in the presence of Dr G Ravi Kiran Sastry, Dean (Research & Consultancy, Dr V Sandeep, Associate Dean and Dr Sri Phani Krishna from NIT and Prof P Krishna Prasad, Director, Medical Education, Dr T Krishna, Head, Retina Services, Sri K Radha krishnan, GM, Sri V Ramesh Kumar, DGM (PC& CS) from Sankar Foundation.

This MOU marks a significant step forward in the efforts to improve eye care services and promote technological advancements in the healthcare sector. Both Sankar Foundation and NIT Tadepalligudem are committed to working together to achieve their shared goals and make a positive impact on society.

Sankar Foundation Achieves Strong Performance During Half Yearly of 24-25

Sankar Foundation has demonstrated exceptional performance across all areas of its operations during the first half of the fiscal year 24-25. The foundation's commitment to providing quality eye care services to the under privileged sections of society has been unwavering, and this dedication has yielded impressive results.

Operational Highlights: The foundation has seen a significant increase in outpatient department (OPD) performance, with a notable rise in the number of patients served. The surgery performance has also been commendable, with a total of 15,714 surgeries performed during April-September 24, and 13,194 cataract surgeries under various schemes.

Community Outreach: Sankar Foundation continues to make a substantial impact on the community by providing free services to poor and needy patients at no cost. This commitment to social responsibility is evident in the foundation's outreach programs and community camps.

Future Outlook: With a vision to become a center of excellence in eye care and a mission to eradicate avoidable blindness, Sankar Foundation is poised to continue its upward trajectory. The foundation's strategic initiatives and community-focused approach are expected to drive further growth and impact in the coming months.

Base Hospital	
✳ Total Eye Surgeries	15,714
✳ Cataract Surgeries	13,194
✳ Retina Surgeries	571
✳ Glaucoma Surgeries	115
✳ Cornea Surgeries	1353
✳ Pediatric Surgeries	51
✳ Orbit & Oculoplasty	328
✳ Total OP Screened	1,02,616
BRANCHES	
Srikakulam	
OP screened	11,567
Surgeries	2,917
Maddilapalem	
OP Screened	8067
Surgeries	699
Gajuwaka	
OP Screened	6601
Surgeries	161
Madhurawada	
OP Screened	3747
Surgeries	68
Total 276 Outreach free eye camps conducted & screened 17,612 patients.	

Enhancing Patient Care: Innovative Initiatives at Sankar Foundation

Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital is dedicated to delivering exceptional eye care services to all our patients. Our patient-centered initiatives are crafted to enhance care, improve outcomes, and ensure accessibility for everyone. Below are some of the key initiatives we have implemented:

"R.Suryanarayana: Geddaveedhi, Vizag: The hospital provides very good services."

Comprehensive Eye Care Services: We offer a wide array of services, including thorough eye examinations, medical treatments, and surgeries with state-of-the-art equipment. Our experienced team of ophthalmologists and support staff is committed to providing the highest standard of care. With "Patient First" as one of our core values, we ensure that each patient receives personalized attention, with treatment plans tailored to their specific needs.

Community Outreach Programs: Sankar Foundation's mission is to serve the community, especially the underprivileged. Community outreach camps form a vital part of this mission, bringing essential eye care services to underserved populations. These camps play a crucial role in early detection and treatment, significantly reducing preventable blindness in North Coastal Andhra Pradesh.

"Buchamma, Podugupalem, Anandpuram: The hospital staff treated me like a family member."

"S.Annapurna, PM Palem, Vizag: Sankar Foundation has instilled confidence in us with their excellent treatment. The nursing staff are friendly and very cooperative."

Affordability and Sustainability: While maintaining high standards of care, we strive to offer cost-effective services. Paying patients at our hospital not only receive world-class treatment but also support those in need, ensuring that we can continue to serve both with excellence. Our sustainability initiatives help us maintain financial health, enabling us to serve our patients effectively and efficiently.

We recognize and reward the achievements and professional development of our staff and students, fostering a culture of

"V. Appayamma, Chattivani palem, Gajuwaka: We were surprised to see that this is a very big hospital. The sisters in the OT are very nice & the doctors counseled me, alleviating our fears."

excellence and innovation within the hospital. Our specialists provide care for a range of eye conditions, including Cataracts, Age-Related Macular Degeneration, Diabetic Retinopathy, Floaters, Dry Eye, Corneal transplants, Glaucoma, Amblyopia (Lazy Eye), Astigmatism, Pediatric eye conditions, and Squint corrections, among others.

Role of Nursing Staff in patient care: Nurses are the vital link between doctors and patients, playing an essential role in patient care at Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital. They are actively involved in a wide range of duties, from assisting in surgeries to providing pre- and post-operative care, administering medications, and

Our nursing staff is the heart of our healthcare team and ensures every patient feels cared for and valued.

participating in outreach camps. Given that 70% of our patients come from underserved areas, the role of our nursing staff is even more critical. Educating patients about post-operative care and ensuring they attend follow-up visits are key to maintaining their eye health.

Training and Professional Development: Sankar Foundation offers training programs to equip nurses with the skills they need to meet the growing demands of patient care. Nurses must continuously adapt, expand their practical skills, and take on administrative responsibilities, such as maintaining accurate patient records and ensuring compliance with statutory norms.

Challenges in Nursing Care: Nurses at Sankar Foundation face significant challenges, including managing the high volume of patients. Our hospital has served over 2.66 million outpatients, which places immense pressure on our nursing staff. Another challenge is staying updated with the latest advancements in eye care technology and procedures.

To help nurses perform their duties efficiently, the hospital ensures they have access to the necessary tools and equipment, reducing the physical and mental strain associated with their work. Sankar Foundation also fosters a supportive environment focused on managing stress and preventing burnout, ensuring our nursing staff can thrive while delivering exceptional care.

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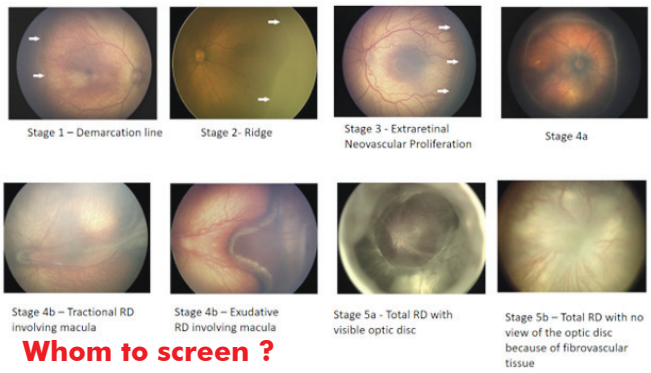
Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP)



Dr Krishna Teja Palla
Consultant, Vitreo Retinal Surgery

Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) is a potentially blinding eye disorder that primarily affects premature infants. ROP is a disease of retinal vascular and capillary proliferation affecting premature infants undergoing oxygen therapy.

Oxygen treatment results in pathologic growth of vessels in the developing retina that causes retinal detachment and macular folds and may lead to permanent damage to the retina. With the increase in the survival of preterm babies, ROP has become the leading cause of preventable childhood blindness throughout the world.

History :

ROP first emerged between 1940s and 1950s, when it was called retrolental fibroplasia. RLF was the term first coined in the year 1942 by Terry and was defined as a progressive disorder seen exclusively in premature infants of low birth weight, where in a fibrous tissue is formed behind the lens, resulting in blindness and severe visual impairment.

Statistics of ROP in india :

Of 3.5 million premature births in India, approximately one in six (about 600,000) children are born at <32 weeks gestational age (GA). Estimating that about 40% of these receive neonatal care and 80% of them survive, about 200,000 children are at risk of developing ROP in India every year.

Dr Palla Krishna Teja screening a premature baby

Whom to screen ?

- In India, babies with birth weight ? 1750 grams and/or gestational age of ? 34 weeks is used as a cut-off for ROP screening.
- Bigger babies with a gestational age of 34 to 36 wk gestation or a birth weight between 1750 and 2000 g should also be screened, if child has a stormy neonatal course.
- Screening ultimately aims at prompt case detection and optimal treatment for ROP, thereby reducing the incidence, severity and overall burden of childhood blindness

When to screen ?

- It should start by 31 weeks post-conceptional age or 4 weeks after birth, whichever is later. In developing countries some babies may develop early aggressive posterior ROP (A-ROP). Thus, to enable early identification and treatment of AP-ROP, infants < 28 weeks or < 1200 grams birth weight should be screened relatively earlier at 2-3 weeks of age.

Risk factors for ROP:

Premature birth is the most significant risk factor, as the retinal blood vessels are not fully developed at birth. Other than this, low birth weight, severe respiratory distress syndrome, Anemia, Neonatal sepsis, Thrombocytopenia, Multiple blood transfusions and Apnea.

Stages of ROP:
ROP is classified into five stages

- Treatment modalities:
- Early diagnosis is crucial for effective management of ROP.
- Treatment options for ROP depend on the severity of the condition. Mild cases may resolve on their own without intervention. However, more severe cases may require following treatments to prevent further progression and retinal detachment.
- Indirect laser photocoagulation: gold standard, time tested and successful means of treatment since many years
- Anti-vascular endothelial growth factors drugs : (Bevacizumab/ ranibizumab/ Aflibercept)
- Combined therapy (anti vegf injection followed by indirect laser photocoagulation)
- Cryotherapy (no more the treatment of choice)

Surgical management

- It is reserved for advanced stages of ROP (stages 4 and 5).
- Stage 4 A ROP - lens sparing vitrectomy or scleral buckling (best anatomical and visual outcome)
- Stage 5 ROP - vitrectomy with lensectomy or open sky vitrectomy
- Visual outcome for stages 4B and 5 is very poor and can lead to permanent visual impairment

Take home message:

- A simple screening test done within a few weeks after birth by an ophthalmologist can avoid this preventable blindness.

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Startling Revelations

Myopia will affect 740m children and teenagers by 2050, research findings

More than one in three children and teenagers worldwide are shortsighted, according to the largest study of its kind, prompting calls to discourage screen time and increase physical activity.

Shortsightedness, or myopia, is an eye condition where someone cannot see objects far away clearly. It is usually corrected with glasses or contact lenses.

Experts are unsure why it occurs but studies have shown that children who use computers or smart devices for long periods are at greater risk. Some say that spending more time outdoors can help.

The most comprehensive global analysis to date reveals a dramatic increase in myopia over the last 30 years, with the toll of myopia among children and teenagers set to top 740 million cases by 2050.

Girls, and children or teenagers living in urban areas, are more likely to develop the condition, according to the analysis published in the British Journal of Ophthalmology.

Asia had the highest regional prevalence of myopia, the new study found, with it seven times higher than the prevalence in Africa. The regional prevalence in Asia could reach 69 per cent by 2050.

Myopia typically starts in early childhood and tends to worsen with age, according to the researchers led by Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China. The condition has emerged as a major public health concern, they added.

The most recent global review of its prevalence went up to 2015. To obtain a more up to date picture, to inform healthcare policy and preventive efforts, the researchers estimated the current and future prevalence of myopia up to 2050 among people aged between five and 19.

They drew on all relevant research and government reports published to June 2023. They included a total of 276 studies, involving more than five million children and teenagers and almost 2 million cases of myopia from 50 countries in Europe, North and South America, Asia, Africa and Oceania.

Screen use has been linked to myopia in children.

The data was then pooled from all the studies, accounting for geographical and other variables.

The analysis revealed a rise in prevalence from 24% in 1990-2000 to 25% in 2001-10, followed by sharper increases to 30% in 2011-19, and 36% in 2020-23.

Based on the figures and trends up to 2023, global myopia prevalence is projected to reach about 40% by 2050, exceeding 740 million cases, up from 600 million in 2030, the researchers estimated. It is expected to be higher among girls and young women than boys and young men, and higher among 13 to 19-year-olds than among six to 12-year-olds.

The Covid pandemic may have played a role in the sharp increase after 2020, the researchers said. "Emerging evidence suggests a potential association between the pandemic and accelerated vision deterioration among young adults," they wrote.

Sex differences in prevalence might be explained by the fact that girls reach puberty faster than boys and tend to spend less time outdoors and more time on close-range activities, the researchers suggested. They called for more physical activity and less screen time for all children and teenagers.

The researchers acknowledged limitations to their findings, including differences in the design and methodology of the studies included in their pooled data analysis.

"Despite these known limitations, given the large sample size included, our estimates of the prevalence of myopia are considered to be close to the precise number," they wrote, adding: "It is crucial to recognise that myopia may become a global health burden in the future."

What measures can be taken to prevent myopia?

Jawaid, a consultant pediatric ophthalmologist, said that there are some simple ways to help prevent myopia, such as working at a distance of 30 cm from a book or a screen and spending time outdoors.

"We always encourage children to get at least an hour, maybe two hours a day of outdoor time in the pre-school age, because we know that's linked with reduced levels or reduced incidence of myopia," he said. The study authors say that young individuals should practice eye-protective measures. They recommend increasing physical activity and decreasing time watching TV, playing computer games, and being online. They also called on authorities to reduce the burden of too much homework as well.

(The Research findings were highlighted in THE GUARDIAN (England based popular daily 25th September 2024) sourced from the British Journal of Ophthalmology)

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Media Highlights

ఆత్మకూరి శంకరరావు సేవలు అభినందనీయం

శంకరరావు చిత్రపటం వద్ద నివాళులర్పిస్తున్న కృష్ణకుమార్, తదితరులు

నిడదవోలు : శంకర్ ఫౌండేషన్ వ్యవస్థాపకుడు ఆత్మకూరి శంకరరావు సేవలు అభినందనీయమని పలు కార్పొరేట్ సంస్థల ప్రతినిధులు కొనియాడారు. శంకరరావు 88వ జయంతి సోమవారం నాయుడుతోటలోని ఉన్న శంకర్ ఫౌండేషన్ కంటి ఆస్పత్రిలో ఘనంగా నిర్వహించారు. ముందుగా శంకరరావు చిత్రపటానికి ఫౌండేషన్ ట్రస్టీ ఆత్మకూరి కృష్ణకుమార్, తదితరులు పూలమాలలు వేసి ఘనంగా నివాళులర్పించారు. అనంతరం నిర్వహించిన సమావేశంలో కృష్ణకుమార్ మాట్లాడుతూ తన తండ్రి శంకరరావు దార్శనికతను గుర్తు చేసుకున్నారు. శంకర్ ఫౌండేషన్ ఆధ్వర్యంలో ఇప్పటి వరకు రికార్డు స్థాయిలో 4,82,240 కంటి శస్త్ర చికిత్సలు చేసినట్లు వెల్లడించారు. జనరల్ మేనేజర్ కె.రాధాకృష్ణ మాట్లాడుతూ ఆత్యాధునిక వైద్యసేవలు అందిస్తున్నామని తెలిపారు. వైద్యులు డాక్టర్ రవీంద్ర, ప్రొఫెసర్ కృష్ణ ప్రసాద్, డాక్టర్ నవీన్, డాక్టర్ శిరీష, డాక్టర్ కృష్ణ, డాక్టర్ సువర్ణ తదితరులు అందిస్తున్న వైద్య సేవలను వివరించారు. కార్యక్రమంలో సాంకేతిక ఎడిటర్ కంపేని ఎండీ, సీఈవో నవీన్ మహేష్, ఎడిలండ్ జనరల్ మేనేజర్ అతుల్‌కుమార్ శ్రీవాస్తవ, గెయిల్ ఫీల్డ్ జనరల్ మేనేజర్ ఎల్‌వీ.రావు, నెక్సంటి సీఫుడ్స్ ఎండీ ఎన్.వెంకటరావు, సైంటిస్ట్ డాక్టర్ రొయ్యం రామ మనోహర్, ఆస్పత్రి డీజీఎంలు రమేష్‌కుమార్, బంగారురాజు, వీఐవో గోపాల్, ఏజీఎం కరుణాబు పాల్గొన్నారు.

NIT inks MoU with Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital

PNS ■ ELURU

This collaboration aims to enhance early detection of glaucoma, a serious eye condition that can lead to blindness. Research under Dr. Sri Phanikrishna Karri from the Electrical Engineering Department at NIT AP will leverage artificial intelligence to develop an app for diagnosing glaucoma, facilitating timely consultations with eye care professionals, especially in rural areas lacking adequate medical facilities

National Institute of Technology Andhra Pradesh (NIT AP) has formalised a partnership with Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital, Visakhapatnam, through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The signing ceremony occurred at IIT Hyderabad, with NIT AP's in-charge Director Dr. B.S. Murthy and Dr. T. Ravindra, CQI and Research Director of Sankar Eye Hospital, representing their respective institutions.

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Dr. Murthy emphasized the significance of this MoU for fostering collaboration among doctors, NIT faculty, and research students, allowing them to share insights and utilize advanced equipment.

This agreement marks the 29th MoU signed by NIT AP with various organizations for research and student development initiatives, informs NIT Dean Research and Consultancy Prof. G.R.K. Sastry.

This MOU has been inked in the presence of Sankar Eye Hospital Medical Education Director P. Krishna Prasad, Retina Services Department Head Dr. T. Krishna, General Manager K. Radhakrishnan, DGM A. Ramesh Kumar and others.

శంకర్ ఫౌండేషన్‌కు దాతల సాయం మరువలేం

నాయుడుతోట(దేవగుంట), న్యూస్‌టుడే: నాయుడుతోట శంకర్ ఫౌండేషన్ కంటి ఆసుపత్రి అభివృద్ధికి దాతల సహాయ సహకారాలు మరువలేమని ఫౌండేషన్ ట్రస్టీలు ఆత్మకూరి కృష్ణకుమార్, కె.రాధాకృష్ణన్ అన్నారు. శంకర్ ఫౌండేషన్ కంటి ఆసుపత్రి వ్యవస్థాపకులు ఆత్మకూరి శంకర్రావు జయంతి సోమవారం ఘనంగా నిర్వహించారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమానికి ట్రస్టీలు, ఫౌండేషన్‌కు సహకరించిన పలువురు దాతలు, స్వచ్ఛందసంస్థల ప్రతినిధులు విచ్చేసి ఇప్పటి వరకు ఆసుపత్రి ద్వారా అందించిన సేవలను కొనియాడారు. ఈ ఫౌండేషన్ ద్వారా నేటి వరకు నాలుగు లక్షల ఏభై రెండు వేల శస్త్రచికిత్సలు చేసి ప్రజల మన్ననలు పొందినట్లు డీజీఎంలు రమేశ్‌కుమార్, బంగార్రాజు పేర్కొన్నారు. ఆసుపత్రి వైద్యులు రవీంద్ర, కృష్ణప్రసాద్, నవీన్, శిరీష, కృష్ణ, సువర్ణ, తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

శంకర్రావు చిత్రపటం వద్ద నివాళులర్పిస్తున్న ఫౌండేషన్ ట్రస్టీలు, పలువురు ప్రతినిధులు

EYE DONATION RALLY

Sankar Foundation organized an Eye Donation rally on 6th September. The rally was flagged off by Dr P Jagdeeswar Rao, DH &HO and Dr V Meenakshi, DPM-DBCS & Suptd, Govt Regional Eye Hospital as part of Eye Donation Fortnight to create an awareness on the importance of eye donation.

Eye Donation : Illuminate Lives with the Gift of Sight

then on a movement started for donation of eyes. The prime concept of Eye Bank Association of India (EBAI) is to motivate the people for eye donation. Since then, a vast propaganda throughout the country is going on for eye donation. The community should come forward shedding all inhibitions. EBAI has envisaged a master plan of action to regulate eye bank activities. Under this plan eye donation movement is catching up in the country.

Eye banking plays a crucial role in facilitating Corneal Transplantation (CT) and ocular research. Many countries have adopted regulatory frameworks, quality assurance programs, and technological advancements to enhance the efficacy and safety of CT. According to the Eye Bank Association of India (EBAI), various infrastructural and organizational frameworks of eye banks (EBs), aid in establishing guidelines and standards for EB practices. Initiatives by the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) have significantly contributed to eye donation rates and improved access to donor corneas.

As part of Eye Donation fortnight campaign, Sankar Foundation is consistently conducting eye donation rallies in the city to spread an awareness among the public and in-patients in the hospital about the eye donation. Sankar Foundation has been actively associating with the District Administration and Medical & Health Department in conducting eye donation campaigns.

According to National Library of Medicine a global survey of Corneal Transplantation and Eye Banking quantified the considerable shortage of corneal graft tissue, with only 1 cornea available for 70 needed. Corneas were procured in only 82 countries. Only the United States and Sri Lanka exported large numbers of donor corneas. About 53% of the world's population had no access to corneal transplantation.

Efforts to encourage cornea donation must continue in all countries, but it is also essential to develop alternative and/or complementary solutions, such as corneal bioengineering.

Let us come together to promote eye donation and ensure that no one is left in darkness. Together, we can make the gift of sight a reality for countless individuals, bringing light and joy into their lives.

K. Bangar Raju

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