Dear Members,

Sometimes no news, is perhaps, good news. And we do hope that it turns out true in case of retaining cataract in Ayushman Bharat as a definite call on it is pending with National Health Authority. We learn that NPCB has also requested the National Health Authority to retain cataract in Ayushman Bharat and that seems to be positive.

Our next annual conference - the 16th - will be held on 13 & 14 June 2020 at Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital, Siliguri, West Bengal. Do block your dates as the scientific committee is working to bring in a new flavour to the conference. This year we are holding the conference jointly with Lion’s First Sight Conclave. With two prominent conferences joining hands, Siliguri promises to be an abundance opportunity for eye health fraternity.

It is unfortunate that district authorities have closed the Indore Eye Hospital as now it is effecting the service delivery to the needy rural population.

One of our partners - RNC Free Eye Hospital, Valsad, Gujarat is celebrating their centenary year. They established their hospital in 1920 and have been providing “ophthalmic treatment without any charges from the beginning”. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Wishing you all a prosperous festival of lights. Happy Diwali.

Dr T P Das
President

Phanindra Babu Nukella
CEO
Draft Legislation Bill

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India is proposing to formulate a legislation to address the issue of violence against the healthcare service professionals and damage to property of clinical establishments titled "The Healthcare Service Personnel and Clinical Establishments (Prohibition of violence and damage to property) Bill, 2019".

They sought inputs from the public on their draft. At VISION 2020 INDIA, we shared the draft with all our members on 5 September 2019 seeking inputs.

Non-removal of cataract surgery from Ayushman Bharat Scheme

A letter has been submitted by VISION 2020 INDIA to the Executive Director, National Health Authority on 6 September 2019 to retain cataract surgery under Ayushman Bharat Scheme. We are still awaiting a response. However, in the two subsequent meetings held after our submission, no decision has been taken to remove cataract from the scheme.

Retaining Aadhar for HMIS

We have submitted a representation to NPCB for not removing Aadhar as one of the options of patient ID in HMIS portal. We are awaiting a response.

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

WEBINAR

Managing Medico Legal Cases

Continuing our activities under the Knowledge Hub, a webinar on Managing Medico Legal Cases was conducted on 24 July 2019. Prof. K. V. S. Sarma from NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad was the resource person for this webinar.

The webinar intended to build the capacity of member institutions on managing medico legal issues effectively.

- Enhance knowledge on appropriate human resources or qualified personnel to execute ophthalmic care.
- Understand patient care issues and the possible system to be developed to face legal system.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

SPECs

Keeping in context the importance of Primary Eye Care Services as the first access at community level, a two day training programme on "Standardizing Primary Eye Care Services" was held on 6 & 7 September 2019.

The programme was in association with Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Hospital, Udaipur, who hosted it.

The objective of the workshop was

To build the capacity of VTs/OAs and primary eye care providers on standardizing the primary eye care services among the member hospitals.
Empower Equipment Maintenance Team
The importance for equipment maintenance cannot be overemphasized. If minor issues are addressed on time, it can avoid a machine break down, frequent call/visit of company engineers, increase cost, longer down time, efficiency issues and ultimately patients suffer. Building internal capacity can help hospitals save expenses and turnaround time for maintenance.

EMPOWER - Essential Equipment Maintenance day long workshop on 29 September 2019 addressed just that need. Hosted by Sitapur Eye Hospital, at their hospital, four member team from Alcon conducted the workshop.

Forty delegates from 12 organisations from two States benefitted from the training.

Programme Development

The programme was intended for vision technicians, optometrists, ophthalmic assistants who provide primary eye care services.

Forty four delegates from 13 organisations across 7 States participated in the programme.

Quality Workshop

In our series of Inducing Quality for Eye Care workshop in association with Quality Resource centre, we conducted at Sadguru Sankalp Netra Chikitsalaya, Anandpur, Madhya Pradesh on 23 August 2019. Forty eight delegates participated in the workshop.

Organisation Development

Board Meeting: The 63rd Board Meeting was conducted on 9 August 2019 at Bansara Eye Care, Shillong.
In our training programme we are now opened registration for workshop on Optical Dispensing.

Date: 6 & 7 December 2019 | Venue : Bansara Eye Care Centre, Shillong.

Interested organisations may mail in details to: srivei@vision2020india.org

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>1 &amp; 2 November 2019</td>
<td>Standard Protocols for Operation Theatre Technicians</td>
<td>LVPEI, Visakhapatnam</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 &amp; 7 December 2019</td>
<td>Optical Dispensing</td>
<td>Bansara Eye Care, Shillong</td>
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<td>31 January &amp; 1 February 2020</td>
<td>Patient Care Counselors</td>
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This quarterly newsletter is brought out by:

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