

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

Message from the CEO

We are going through unprecedented times. I am aware that a number of you have had to face hardships, both professional and personal. We at IVI are hopeful that this phase will pass, paving way for new opportunities, partnerships, and programs.

IVI has faced the pandemic with caution, with our staff working remotely and has made a conscious effort to focus more on continuing education of eye health professionals to better equip them to thrive in the future. As you will notice in this newsletter, we have had several professional development webinars and panel discussions on the sector post-COVID-19 and on topics that have been of great interest to the profession.

One of the significant activities that we Foundation). Prior to the lockdown, we have planned for later this year is 'Eye Health in a Changing World', conference that promises to be a great platform for the eye care fraternity to come together over two days virtually. With four

international leaders, a scientific program 2.5 NVG, Fred Hollows Foundation, L&T spanning all major aspects of optometry Construction, and vision care and over 100 virtual General, exhibition booths, it will be a flagship event in the eye care calendar.

We congratulate Jogendra Rathor, Chief Optometrist, Clear Vision Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad, and Ms Shakthi Pradheepa P of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research, Chennai, who won the IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard 2020 and IVI Essilor Young Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy, respectively.

IVI also assisted with COVID-19 related outreach activities, including an awareness campaign as well as donating PPE kits and sanitizers to frontline workers (thanks to the support of Essilor Vision undertook several vision screening projects in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

We are thankful to our current program partners, including Sightsavers, Essilor keynotes, several panel discussions with India Pvt. Ltd., Essilor Vision Foundation,

Australian Consulate-Kolkata, and VisionSpring.



We are also delighted to welcome new partners, including the Luxottica Group and Carl Zeiss India Pvt. Ltd. Thanks for supporting the cause to enable access of a pair of spectacles to every Indian.

- Vinod Daniel

Present and Future of Indian Optical Industry

India Vision Institute, on 4 July, led an industry panel discussion involving Amitava Mendonca, Director, Lawrence & Mayo, Sanjeev Madan, General Secretary, All India Optical Federation, Ashutosh Vaidya, Managing Director, Safilo India Pvt Ltd, Akash Goyle, Country Manager and Managing Director, Luxottica India, Ramachandran P, Evecare Sector Management Consultant & Honorary Advisor, India Vision Institute, and Milind Jhadav, Senior Director, Inclusive Business & Philanthropy, Essilor, South Asia. The participants discussed the status of the Indian Optical Industry and the roadmap ahead



for the future. The panel reinforced that the optical industry is a necessary business at the very core, and that strategically places the sector in a better place under the current scenario. The program attracted 4000 views on social media and 100 online participants.

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Eye Health in a Changing World – International Conference and Trade Fair

Eye Health in a Changing World is the first virtual international conference hosted by India Vision Institute and aims to be a landmark event in the eye health calendar over the years. The conference is planned from 2 to 4 October 2020. The virtual conference will be one of the first events to incorporate every aspect of a physical conference. The Conference will provide optometrists, vision scientists, educators, researchers, students and other eye health professionals with an exciting program.

The program will encompass plenary and parallel sessions, with keynote addresses, panel discussions, oral and poster presentations, and pre-conference focus talks. The program will try to address the recent developments and will also discuss on the future direction of the eyecare sector in the light of changing world and healthcare needs around us. Offering over 40 hours of interactive and live sessions, as an added attraction, the conference will include a trade fair showcasing the products, services, innovations by industries, corporates and institutions.

The conference comprises exciting activities including quizzes, contents for photos, videos, posters, slogans, creative writing and much more.





Scientific Committee

- Dr Jameel Rizwana Hussaindheen, HOD Binocular vision/ Vision therapy clinic, Sankara Nethralaya; Assistant Professor- Elite School of Optometry, Units of Medical Research Foundation, Chennai, India
- Dr Shrikant Bharadwaj, Director & Scientist, Brien Holden Institute of Optometry and Vision Sciences, LVPEI
- Dr Luigi Bilotto, International Optometric Consultant
- Dr Suit May Ho, Optometry & Primary Care Adviser,-Knowledge & Innovation, The Fred Hollows Foundation
- Prof Monica Chaudary, Director, Ansal University
- Jissa James, General Manager, Professional Development, India Vision Institute
- Dr Padmaja Kumari Rani, Network Head, Tele-Ophthalmology, LV Prasad Eye Institute

Communications Committee

- Sachidananda Murthy, Editor, Malayala Manorama and The Week
- Amer Ali Khan, Editor, The Siasat Daily
- Somasekhar M, former Associate Editor & Chief of Bureau, The Hindu Business Line
- Shekhar Nambiar, General Manager, Communications, India Vision Institute

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Association Partners

- Optometry Council of India
- Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
- Vision 2020: The Right to Sight, India
- Optometric Association of Tamil Nanbargal

Independent Optometry Practice

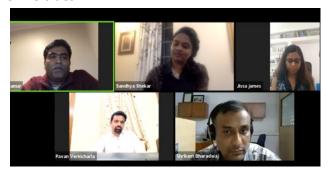
A talk by Kumaran R of Trinity Optics and Founder General Secretary, OATN, on 17 Apirl focussed on "Independent Optometry Practice". The session highlighted the opportunities and challenges of becoming an entrepreneur, the struggles involved and how the journey, as a whole, is a good learning curve. A Q & A session followed the lecture. Online particicipation:100.



Optometry Education Overseas

"Optometry Education Overseas – An IVI Online Session for Optometry Students" discussion on 27 May, gave optometry students aspiring for an overseas post-graduation an opportunity to discuss issues about studying overseas. The forum aimed to help them to the pros and cons of such a learning experience as well as the professional scope after finishing their education.

The panelists answered a range of questions including the importance of a good mentor, gaining work experience and the need for determination, passion and patience while applying for Universities.



The panel included Dr Shrikant R. Bharadwaj, Director, Brien Holden Institute of Optometry and Vision Sciences – Scientist, Prof. Brien Holden Eye Research Centre, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad; Dr Uday Kumar Addepalli, Consultant, Results In Health and Enablement, Netherlands - Lecturer, Makerere University, Uganda & Former Senior Optometry Consultant, Light for the World - East Africa Projects; Dr Pavan K. Verkicharla, Scientist - Myopia Research, Prof. Brien Holden Eye Research Centre - Consultant Optometrist - Myopia Clinic, Brien Holden Institute of Optometry and Vision Sciences, L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad; Ms. Sandhya Shekar, Research Assistant, Visual Performance Institute, Pacific University, Forest Grove, USA. Online participants: 100, Social media views: 268.

COVID-19 - Impact on Primary Eye Care and Optical Industry

A "COVID-19 - Impact on Primary Eye Care and Optical Industry" Discussion Forum on 1 May helped the participants to understand how Primary Eye Care, the Optometry fraternity and Industry will adapt in the COVID-19 world. The forum featured participants from across sectors - academia, practice (hospital based and independent), the not-for-profit and corporate sector



Panelists included: Dr R. Krishna Kumar, Principal, Elite School of Optometry - Optometrist, Occupational Optometry Services, Sankara Nethralaya; Prof. Dr. Monica Chaudhry, Director, School of Health Sciences, Ansal University; Ramachandran P (Ram), Eyewear Business Consultant & Former Group COO, Essilor, South Asia; Dr. S. Viswanathan, HOD, Optometry Department, Sankara Nethralaya; Kunal Shah, Optometrist, Ocularist and Orthokeratologist, Founder, Eyesavers; Dr Sandeep Buttan, Global Technical Lead (Asia); and Dr Vivek Mendonsa, Director (Marketing), Lawrence & Mayo Group, and Trustee IVI. Online participants: 100, Social media views: 268.

Indian Optical Industry: Status and Career Opportunities

A session on "Indian Optical Industry: Status and Career Opportunities" by Ramachandran P, Honorary Advisor, India Vision Institute & Eyecare Sector Management Consultant, on 22 April was the second among the IVI Online Seminar Series. Online participants: 80.



Practice Guidelines for Optometrists during COVID-19

A session on "Practice Guidelines for Optometrists amidst COVID-19" steered by Ms. Lakshmi Shinde, CEO, Optometry Council of India (OCI), evoked good response from the fraternity. Participants included Aditya Goyal, President, ASCO-India, and Snehal Turakhia, Managing Director, Turakhia Opticians. The session summarized the practice guidelines developed by OCI in consultation with other Optometry bodies and subject experts. The session took in questions from the participants and tried to bring clarity on safe practices at workplace ensuring safety of self, patients and peers. Online participants: 60, Social media views 320.



Change Management session for IVI Young Leaders Program Alumni

An online discussion session on 13 June was organized exclusively for the alumni of IVI Young Leaders Program on "Change Management" aimed to equip the participants on tackling change during times of uncertainty with a positive attitude and bring them back to ground realities. The alumni posed questions in regard to economic policies, sustainable practices, human resource management, strategic planning, adopting and adapting to new educational practices etc. Panelists were Steve Borgia, Managing Director, Indeco Hotels, Chandrashekhar G, Consultant Editor, Hindu Business Line, Dr Anuja R Singh, Vice Prinicipal, The Sankara Nethralaya Academy. Social media views: 897.



Your Views on COVID-19 and its Impact Contest

IVI conducted a contest for Optometry students during the second and third week of May encouraging them to think and write about COVID-19 and its impact in their life. Students submitted a brief essay with a catchy slogan. Some 40 Optometry students participated and the winners are Hemkala Ghalley, Sharda University, Sweety Dsouza, Manipal College of Health Professions, Jeetesh Gurnani, Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune, Alekya K, Centurion University of Technology and Management, Vishakapatnam, and Rajkumar V, Centurion University of Technology and Management, Vishakapatnam.

Optometry Education: Now and the Future

Panelists comprising Dr Ramesh S Ve, Associate Professor (Senior Scale) and Head, Department of Optometry, Manipal College of Health Professions, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Aditya Goyal, Principal, Sankara College of Optometry & President, ASCO-India, Dr Krishna Kumar, Freelance Optometrist & Former Principal, Elite School of Optometry, Ms Jissa James, General Manager, Professional Development, India Vision Institute, and Dr Richa Verma, Principal Project Scientist, Human Brain Project, IIT-Madras & Education Consultant, LVPEI, Hyderabad, participated in a discussion forum on 2 July. They discussed the current status of Optometry education in India and what the future holds. online participation: 100, Social media views: 4200, .



COVID-19:Protective Kit Distributed

With support from Essilor Vision Foundation, IVI provided protective kit to the police, sanitary workers and a government hospital in Chennai. The kit included face masks, shields, PPE kit and sanitisers. We have also put up COVID-19 awareness billboards in Tamil and English in our locality in Chennai.



COVID - 19 Awareness Quiz for Children

A COVID-19-related quiz conducted by IVI to raise awareness among school students across India on 22 May evoked a good response with 35 children participating in the contest.

Sowjanya R from Shri B S Mootha Girls Senior Secondary School, Chennai, Shikha Singh from Kendriya Vidyalaya, Manauri, Allahabad and Akshay from Sri Narayana Mission Senior Secondary School, Chennai won the first three places.

IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard 2020

the Year with support from Essilor India Pvt Ltd, continued this year. It evoked a good response with more than 700 Six audience participants in the quiz also participants.



The competitors of the final round included: Ms Preetha Ramprasat, Associate Professor, Vasan Institute of Ophthalmology & Research, Chennai, Jogendra Rathor, Chief Optometrist at Clear Vision Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad, S. Saravanan, Clinical Optometrist at Acchuta Eye Care, Erode, Tamil Nadu, Vedalingam Ganesan, Clinical Optometrist, Aster DM Healthcare, Doha, Qatar.

Jogendra Rathor won the first prize and was awarded a cash prize of 10,000 INR. Ms Preetha Ramprasat, was declared the First Runner-Up followed by Mr S. Saravanan, who emerged as the Second

IVI's national quiz, Optometry Wizard of Runner-Up. They received a cash prize of 5000 INR and 3000 INR respectively. All four finalists were given certificates. won prizes. They included Ramprasat Kanagaraj, Principal, Vasan Institute of Ophtalmology & Research, Chennai, DikshaChaurasiya, BOptom Student, Uttar Pradesh University of Medical Sciences, Etawah, Narash Kumar, Optometrist, Vision Express, Chennai, Seetha Lakshmi,



Optometrist, Dr. Agarwals's Eye Hospital, Chennai, Siva, M.Optom Student at Acchutha Institute of Optometry, Erode, Monesh Kumar, Intern-Optometrist, Vasan Institute of Ophthalmology & Research, Salem.

IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor India Pvt. Ltd for funding the program.

Eye See & I Work

Some underprivileged workers from T.Nagar, Porur, Chintadripet, Urappakkam and K.K Nagar in Chennai and Yeshwanthpur, Karnataka got their vision screened during March 2020, of which 480 were diagnosed with refractive errors and received free spectacles.



IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor Vision Foundation for providing free spectacles.

We also acknowledge the Optometry students of SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Potheri for volunteering in the vision screening programs.

IVI Essilor Young Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy Symposium 2020

The Young Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy Symposium was conducted on 12 May. The selected finalists were: Ms Shakthi Pradheepa P, Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research, Chennai, Anam Ali, CL Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad, Diwaakar K, Dr. Agarwal's IVI's Jissa James were the panelists who Institute of Optometry, Chennai, Ruthra Mani Kanta Kothapalli, Sankara College of Optometry, Bangalore and Salal Mohammed, Uttar Pradesh University of Medical Sciences, Saifai, Etawah. Ms Shakthi won the first prize.

Dr. Jameel Rizwana Hussaindheen, HOD,



Binocular Vision/ Vision Therapy clinic at Sankara Nethralaya & Assistant Professor, Elite School of Optometry, Dr. Shrikant Bharadwai, Scientist & Director, Brien Holden Institute of Optometry and Vision Sciences, L V Prasad Eye Institute and scrutinized the papers, asked questions to the finalists, and decided on the winner. The first prize included a grant of INR 5000 and a Rolling Trophy for the winner's college. The finalists also received a Certificate of Appreciation.



IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor India Pvt. Ltd for funding the program.

Truck drivers screened in Karnataka

IVI continued with the screening of truck drivers under Sightsavers RPG Netranjali project in Karnataka during the early weeks of March 2020. Some 651 truckers were screened at Chamrajpet, Kalasipalayam, Kengeri and Anand Rao Circle. Some 358 who were diagnosed with refractive error were provided with free spectacles.



IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers for funding the program.

Avadi Screening Continues

Continuing with our campaign at Ava di in Chennai's outskirts, IVI screened 244 underprivileged daily wage workers at Thiruninravur on 15 March. Some 172 workers diagnosed with refractive errors received free spectacles.



IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor Vision Foundation for providing free spectacles and also MLA, Avadi, Tamil Nadu Minister for Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture, K Pandiarajan, for funding the program.

What people say about IVI

"It was a good session and thank you to more such interactions." - Akash on the truck drivers screening program. Goyle, Country Manager Managing Director, Luxottica India Present and Future of Oppanel discussion tical Industry

"It was great to have such a program with eminent panelists talking about today's situation and the future of our industry. It was as much informative thought-provoking. as Keep up the good work."- Sanjeev Madan, General Secretary, AIOF Present and Future of Opon tical *Industry* panel discussion

"It was an enjoyable experience and the interaction thought-provoking" **Amitava** Mendonca, and Mayo Director, Lawrence Present and Future of Opon tical Industry discussion panel

"That's achievement number one in 2020, securing the runner-up place

in the IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard of the Year competition. Had a good time participating in the quiz. Kept me on the edge. The online guiz conducted by IVI was the first and one of its kind. It was well organized. Thanks IVI and Essilor! 'A special word of appreciation to IVI for conducting so many useful activities for optometrists, students and children during the lockdown period."

Preetha Ramprasat, Associate Professor, Vasan Institute of Ophthalmology and Research, Chennai.

"It's really good to hear from IVI. YLP gave me such a good platform that I will always be indebted for. The training was excellent and gave us good exposure. And it's really good to hear about the six-month online course. A great idea, in fact." - Pooja Singh, IVI YLP Alumni - 2015 batch

"Thank you, IVI and Sightsavers for conducting vision tests and for the free glasses for truck drivers. I am able see clearly and can read comfortably." - Hufor the opportunity. Look forward lugappa, truck driver, Karnataka -

Watch 'In conversation with Vinod Daniel' video series only on

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Dr Monica Jong - Executive Director, International Myopia Institute; Assistant Professor, University of Canberra.



Country Manager and Managing Director, Luxottica India



Mr Manuraj Sundaram, Lawyer - Madras High Court Chair; Australia India Youth Dialogue; National Media Spokesperson, DMK Party, Tamil Nadu

Current project supporters

















Seeing beyond















L&T Construction

IVI Vision Screening Programs

	Children	Community	Total
No of programs	565	298	863
Individuals screened	2,54,406	67,630	3,22,036
Spectacles distributed	26,690	24,168	50,858

INDIA VISION INSTITUTE

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