



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

August 21, 2009

The Members of the Vision Research Foundation

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE MEMBERS OF THE VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION THAT THE 25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION WILL BE HELD ON, TUESDAY THE 29th SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 5.30 P.M. AT THE VRF BOARD ROOM IN THE 2ND FLOOR OF THE NEW BUILDING, VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION, 18, COLLEGE ROAD, CHENNAI – 600 006. THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING IS GIVEN BELOW:

AGENDA

1. To approve the Annual Report and the Audited Accounts of the foundation for the financial year ended 31st March 2009.
2. To consider and adopt the Audited Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended March 31, 2009 and the Balance Sheet as at that date together with the Report of the Auditors thereon.
3. To appoint statutory auditors for the financial year 2009–10 and to fix their remuneration.
4. To appoint Members to the Board of Management in the vacancies caused by the retirement of the following Members, who are eligible for re-appointment :

Name	Category
Dr. Anji Reddy	Honorary Member
Mr. Homi C H Bhabha	Donor Member
Mr. R S Falor	Donor Member

Kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting.

DR TARUN SHARMA
HON. SECRETARY & TREASURER

Note:

Explanatory statement for Item 4 of the Agenda is attached.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Explanatory Statement

Refer Item No 4 of the Agenda

The following Members were appointed to the Board of Management for a period of three years at the 22nd Annual General Meeting & Extra-ordinary General Meeting held on 26th August 2006 & 14th December 2006 respectively.

Dr. Anji Reddy
Mr. Homi C H Bhabha
Mr. R S Falor

Their term of appointment expires at the end of the Annual General Meeting on 29th September 2009. As per 16(xiv) of the Bye-laws of the Foundation read with Section 15 (5) of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975, they are eligible for reappointment to the Board of Management.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Dr Lingam Gopal	President
Dr H N Madhavan	Vice President
Dr Tarun Sharma	Honorary Secretary & Treasurer

Members of the Board

Dr S S Badrinath	Member
Dr S Baskaran	Member
Mr V Vaidyanathan	Member
Dr S B Vasanthi	Member
Mr R Rajagopal	Member
Dr M Thangavelu	Member
Dr M S Swaminathan	Member
Dr D Balasubramanian	Member
Dr J Biswas	Member
Dr K Anji Reddy	Member
Dr L Vijaya	Member
Dr S Ramakrishnan	Member
Dr T S Surendran	Member
Mr Homi C H Bhabha	Member
Mr R S Falor	Member

Chief Operating Officer	Dr Kris S. Vasan
Chief General Manager	Mr. P R Ravindran
General Manager	Ms Akila Ganesan
Manager	Mr S Narayan

Auditors	M/s S Viswanathan Chartered Accountants, Chennai
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Bankers	HDFC Bank, Chennai – 600 034 State Bank of India, Chennai –000 034
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Registered Office	New No.41, Old No.18, College Road Chennai – 600 006
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VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

ETHICS SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Justice Mohan S.
Dr. Tarun Sharma
Dr. K. V. Thiurvengadam
Dr. T Shanta Devi
Dr. K. P. Misra
Dr. Bakulesh M. Khamar
Dr. Manjula Dutta
Dr. Lingam Gopal
Dr. T S Surendran
Prof. H N Madhavan
Mrs. Radhika Krishnan
Lion G V Raman
Dr. Rama Shankar Verma

RESEARCH SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Lingam Gopal
Dr. Tarun Sharma
Dr. J. Biswas
Dr. T. Rajkumar
Dr. T Shanta Devi
Prof. H N Madhavan
Dr. Rama Shankar Verma

RESEARCH CELL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Lingam Gopal
Dr. Tarun Sharma
Dr. H N Madhavan
Dr. L Vijaya
Dr. S Krishnakumar
Dr. Rajiv Raman
Dr. S Meenakshi
Dr. K N Sulochana
Dr. J Biswas
Dr. R R Sudhir
Dr. Ronnie George
Dr. Vikas Khetan
Dr. Kalpathy R K Easwaran
Dr. Prema Padmanabhan



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STEM CELL RESEARCH ETHIC SUB COMMITTEE

Hon. Justice Mohan S
Dr. Manjula Dutta
Dr. Lingam Gopal
Dr. Tarun Sharma
Dr. H.N. Madhavan
Mrs. Radhika Krishnan
Dr. S Arumugam
Prof. N. Vizhinathan
Dr. Rama Shankar Varma
Lion G V Raman



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2008–09

Report of the Honorary Secretary to the Members of the Foundation

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this 25th Annual General Meeting of our Foundation. I am pleased to present the Twenty Fifth Annual report of the Vision Research Foundation. The twenty fourth Annual General Meeting of the Foundation was held on 25th September 2008 in which the Annual Report and the Audited Accounts of the Foundation for the financial year ended 31st March 2008 were approved by the members. During this year, Four Board Meetings were held. M/s. S Viswanathan, Chartered Accountants, were re-appointed as Auditors for the financial year 2008-09.

The donations received during the year was Rs 819.86 lakhs as compared to Rs 787.84 lakhs in the previous year. Out of the total donations collected, Rs 407.55 lakhs was transferred to the capital fund, as these donations were earmarked for purchase of equipments. The gross total income for the year under review was Rs 898.76 lakhs including research grants and interest on deposits. The total expenditure before providing depreciation was Rs.638.15 Lakhs resulting in a surplus of Rs 260.61 lakhs. After considering depreciation for the year, there was a net surplus of Rs.20.71 lakhs, which was carried over to the capital fund account.

Summary of Source and applications are as follows:

Sources

	Rupees in Lakhs
1. Cash Accrual	260.61
2. Grants for donation for capital equipment	407.55
3. Decrease in the net Current Assets	663.38
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	1331.54
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Applications of Funds

1. Increase in Fixed Assets	1331.54
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	1331.54
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VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

The foundation has received a sum of Rs 244.40 lakhs as research grants and Rs. 117.93 lakhs as project grants during the year under review as per the details given below

	Rs. in Lakhs	
Research Grants	2008-09	2007-08
1. Council of Science & Industrial Research	35.82	0.80
2. Indian Council of Medical Research	28.49	38.57
3. Department of Biotechnology	86.50	31.24
4. Kendle India Pvt. Ltd	13.72	.00
5. Allergan Pharmaceuticals Dev. Center (I) P. Ltd	24.74	9.80
6. Quintiles Research (India) Pvt Ltd	2.91	6.76
7. Siro Clinpharma Pvt. Ltd.	7.54	8.29
8. Madras University	.00	2.30
9. Others	10.48	1.01
10. Department of Science & Technology	31.30	28.50
11. P.R. Association	.00	1.58
12. Pfizer Ltd.	1.07	2.28
13. EliLilly and Company (India) Pvt Ltd	0.40	0.99
14. University of Calgary Expense	1.43	.00
Project Grants		
15. World Diabetes Foundation	13.39	11.71
16. Chennai Willingdon Corporate Foundation	35.00	17.50
17. Jamsetji Tata Trust	41.00	84.00
18. Johnson & Johnson	7.48	27.65
19. London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine	21.06	.00
Total	362.33	272.98

Research Activities:

During the year, the Foundation shifted to the new premises, constructed by Medical Research Foundation, housing an auditorium with state of art audio and video systems. The Foundation procured latest equipments for the various departments and set up separate laboratories for

Stem Cell Research
Nanotechnology
Centralised Sterilization Facility
Core Laboratory

Apart from the above, separate departments for Clinical Trials and Bio-Informatics Centre were set up in the building. The total area occupied by the foundation is 40000 sq.ft.

Research activities during the financial year were satisfying and encouraging. A large number of projects were submitted to the Department of Science and Technology, Department of Bio-Technology, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Indian Council of Medical Research.



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The projects which were under consideration by these Govt. agencies as on date are as under:

Title of the Project	Funding Agency	Grant Amount for 2009-10 (Value in Rs.)
Studies on thiolation and homocysteinylation of serum proteins in the two retinal diseases – ARMD and Eales' disease (P.I.: Dr. S Ramakrishnan)	Indian Council of Medical Research	6,09,600.00
Role of Lysyl oxidase and Homocysteine in the aqueous humor and the plasma of patients with pseudoexfoliation syndrome (P.I.: Dr. N Angayarkanni)	Indian Council of Medical Research	15,59,600.00
Investigation Into The Role Of Lipids, BDNF and VEGF in Diabetic Retinopathy (P.I.: Dr. N Angayarkanni)	Dept. of Biotechnology	1,99,76,800.00
Paroxanase levels in relation to Hyperhomocysteinemia and Oxidative stress in ARMD patients (P.I: Dr. N Angayarkanni)	-	7,00,000.00
Molecular cloning, sequencing, over expression and characterization of a novel 88-kda protein found in patients with eales' disease". (P.I.: Dr. K N Sulochana)	Indian Council of Medical Research	15,40,000.00
Development of Lysyl Oxidase Modulators for Targeting Angiogenesis (P.I.: Dr. K N Sulochana)	Dept. of Science & Technology	1,49,22,000.00
Development of therapeutic peptides for the treatment of retinoblastoma (P.I.: Dr. S Krishnakumar)	Dept. of Biotechnology	1,36,13,200.00
To differentiate the Adipocyte-derived-stem cells to Retinal progenitors cells and characterize them by gene expression profiling and functional analysis in vitro - For Centre of Excellence for Ocular Stem Cells (P.I.: Dr. S Krishnakumar)	Dept. of Biotechnology	47,64,200.00
Identifying compounds which potently inhibit Matrix Metalloproteinases 2, 9: Therapeutic applications for retinal diseases. (P.I.: Dr. Venil N Sumantran)	-	11,20,000.00
Investigating risk factors for diabetic retinopathy in vitro: Effects of rapid glucose reduction and high lipid on bovine retinal endothelial cells and pericytes (P.I.: Dr. Venil N Sumantran)	-	24,76,000.00
Regulation of factors controlling proliferation and differentiation of progenitor cells: an investigation on retinal progenitor cells of human cadaveric Ciliary body epithelial cells (P.I.: Dr Niveditta Chaterjee)	Dept. of Biotechnology	-



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Functional coupling in a glial syncytium : Investigating the immuno-modulatory effects of myelin protein-challenge (P.I.: Dr Niveditta Chaterjee)	Council of Science & Industrial Research	-
MicroRNA Dereglulation in Cancer: Role as a biomarker, in prognosis and therapy (P.I.: Dr. S Krishnakumar)	Dept. of Biotechnology	-
Phase 1 Clinical Trial: Subconjunctival Carboplatin in Fibrin Sealant in patients with advanced Retinoblastoma (P.I.: Dr Lingam Gopal)	Dept. of Biotechnology	-
To develop a novel chitosan nancarrier to deliver RNAi against FASN expressing cancer cells (P.I.: Dr. S Krishnakumar)	Dept. of Science & Technology	-
To standardize nanocarriers for p53 gene delivery to retinoblastoma cancer cells using Y79 cell line as a model (P.I.: Dr R Judith)	Dept. of Biotechnology	-
Preparation and characterization of collagen scaffold for guided tissue engineering : corneal regeneration (P.I.: Dr. S Krishnakumar)	Dept. of Science & Technology	-
Nucleic acid based amplification techniques for detection, identification, quantitation and genotyping of Pneumocystis jiroveci and a study on drug resistance of Pneumocystis jiorveci targeting the Dihydropteorate gene (P.I.: Dr.K. Lily Therese)	Indian Council of Medical Research	10,46,866.00
A study on the effects of UV rays on riboflavin treated corneal limbal stem cells during the process of collagen cross-linking (P.I.: Dr. Prema Padmanabhan)	Dept. of Science & Technology	9,00,000.00
Detection of virulent factors and antibiotic resistance pattern of Gram-positive bacterial isolates from intraocular fluids of endophthalmitis patients and comparison with isolates from other clinical specimens by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) based techniques (P.I.: Dr. K. Lily Therese)	Indian Council of Medical Research	9,67,200.00
To train and develop infrastructure or Molecular Ophthalmic Pathology and rapid Diagnosis of Ocular Infectious in an Ophthalmic Institute in Assam (P.I.: Dr. S Krishnakumar)	Indian Council of Medical Research	9,00,000.00
Molecular genetic profiling of ocular developmental anomalies in the Indian Population (P.I.: Dr S. Sripriya)	Indian Council of Medical Research	27,34,000.00
Gene mapping for Ushers syndrome by micro-chip based whole genome scan (P.I.: Dr S. Sripriya)	Dept. of Science & Technology	46,90,000.00



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

During the year, Research & Ethics subcommittee met four times.

Manpower details as at 31st March 2009

Directors	6
Senior Research Fellows	13
Junior Research Fellows	9
Research Fellows	2
Lab Technicians	58
Senior Scientists	6
Junior Scientists	12
Staff / Technicians	35
Professors	4
Lecturers	2
Readers	3
Post Doctoral Fellows	2
Part Time Scientists	75

Conclusion:

I would like to take this opportunity to place on record my gratitude for all the guidance extended to me by the President Dr Lingam Gopal, Vice President Dr H N Madhavan, Dr S S Badrinath, President and Chairman Emeritus, Medical Research Foundation and the Board Member and Secretary of Medical Research Foundation, Mr. V Vaidyanathan and Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Kris S. Vasan.

My thanks are also due to the Auditors, M/s. S Viswanathan particularly to their partners, Mr. C N Ramachandran and Mr. Chella K Srinivasan for their active and invaluable support and our Bankers, HDFC Bank and State Bank of India for their co-operation.

Mr. S Narayan, Manager, played an active role in managing the finance and administrative activities of the Foundation. I thank him for his help and assistance. I also wish to thank Mr. N Sivakumar, Academic Officer for his support.

The Board of Management place on record their appreciation of the invaluable contribution made by the Research Scientists, Consultants, para-medics and other employees to the continued success of the institution.

Dr Tarun Sharma, MD, FRCSEd, MBA
Hon. Secretary & Treasurer
Vision Research Foundation



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

HONOURS & AWARDS

- ◆ **Sankara Nethralaya**, the first eye hospital in the world, recognized as a Superbrand by the leading global company dealing with the area of brand recognition and bench marking.
- ◆ Ms. Bharathi, Ms. Coral received the partial Travel Grant ARVO 2008, at Fort Lauderdale, USA on 30-31 April '08.
- ◆ Dr Cheriyan Shane Mathew, DNB Student of Sankara Nethralaya has been awarded DNB Gold Medal for the year 2007.
- ◆ Dr T S Surendran has been elected as one of the six founder members of the newly formed Asia Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmic Society (APSCOS) founded in the recently concluded WOC meeting in Hong Kong between 26th June to 2nd July 2008.
- ◆ Dr Sripriya Krishnamoorthy was conferred "Dr K S Sanjivi Award 2008" by Confederation of Indian Organizations for Service and Advocacy (CIOSA) and Udhavum Ullangal, Mylapore, Chennai on 6th July 2008.
- ◆ Dr S S Badrinath Received The Baroda Sun Life Time Achievement Award by Bank of Baroda Mumbai, on 20th July 2008
- ◆ Mr. Y. Samson Moses, Senior Research Fellow received the Travel Fellowship at the IERG Meeting held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, on 26th & 27th July 2008.
- ◆ Ms Vinita Kumari was granted Travel Fellowship at IERG Meeting held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, on 26th & 27th July 2008.
- ◆ Dr. Nikhil S Choudhari received Ruby Banik Award, 2008.for the Best Research in Clinical Sciences on 30th August 2008.
- ◆ Dr. J. Malathi received the "Swarnalatha Punshi" award for the best research paper from Basic Medical Sciences at a competition held on 30th August 2008.
- ◆ Dr. B. Mahalakshmi got second prize for the "Best oral presentation" entitled "Nucleic Acid amplification techniques for detection and Genotyping of *Toxoplasma gondii* in Clinical specimens from Ocular Toxoplasmosis patients in a Tertiary Eye Hospital, Chennai" during the research meet for the inauguration of KBIRVO between 3rd-5th September 2008.
- ◆ Ms. S. Barathi received Best Oral presentation Award presentation in Bajaj International Conference (KBIRVO) at Hotel Park Sheraton, Chennai on 5th Sept 2008.
- ◆ Ms. R. Bagyalakshmi, received Ph.D degree on her thesis entitled "Role of nucleic acid based amplification technique in detection, characterisation and species level identification of fungi in clinical specimens and a study of in vitro sensitivity pattern of ocular fungal isolates" under the guidance of Dr. K. Lily Therese (Guide) from BITS, Pilani.
- ◆ Ms. G. Shyamala, received Ph.D degree on her thesis entitled "Nucleic Acid based Amplification methods for the detection, Quantification and Characterization of Viruses in Clinical Specimen" under the guidance of Dr. H.N Madhavan (Guide) from BITS, Pilani.
- ◆ Ms. B. Mahalakshmi, successfully defended her thesis entitled "Role of Nucleic acid based – molecular biological techniques and evaluation of serological methods in the laboratory diagnosis of ocular toxoplasmosis and genotyping of *Toxoplasma gondii* " for Ph.D degree under the guidance of Dr. H.N Madhavan (Guide) from BITS, Pilani.



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- ◆ Ms. P. Sowmya successfully defended her Ph.D thesis entitled "Nucleic acid based molecular biological methods for quantitation and characterization of Human Cytomegalovirus in the clinical specimens from immunocompromized patients" during the Public Viva Voce examination held on 09th January 2009 at Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R University Chennai., under the guidance of Dr. H.N Madhavan (Guide) and Dr. K. Lily Therese (Co- Guide)
- ◆ Ms. P. Deepa successfully defended her Ph.D thesis entitled "Role of nucleic acid based amplification tests in the detection and identification of mycobacterial infections and determination of sequence variation and rifampicin resistance among *M. tuberculosis* isolates" during the Public Viva Voce examination held on 12th December 2008 at Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R University Chennai., under the guidance of Dr. K. Lily Therese (Guide) and Dr. H.N Madhavan (Co- Guide).
- ◆ Dr. J. Biswas received "Dr. P. Siva Reddy Oration Award" from All India Ophthalmological Society for the year 2009.
- ◆ Dr J Biswas has been selected as "The Section Editor of Uvea Section" in Indian Journal of Ophthalmology.
- ◆ Dr J Biswas has been selected to serve on the writing committee for consensus report on Ocular toxoplasmosis on AJO in the focus issue on Uveitis. This distinction to Dr Biswas is due to his rich contributions to ophthalmic literature over the past two decades. Sankara Nethralaya acknowledges his contributions to science.
- ◆ Mr A P Irungovel has been selected as an editorial board member for Medical Sociology Online, a prestigious Journal.
- ◆ Dr J Biswas was given the "Thrissur Academy of Ophthalmology Oration Award" at the Thrissur Academy of Ophthalmology CME Programme TACOPSIA-2008, Thrissur on 21st September 2008.
- ◆ Dr. Sudha K Ganesh was elected as a Member of International Uveitis Study Group at the 7th International Symposium on Uveitis and International Uveitis Study Group (IUSG) Meeting, Constance, Germany, held between 8th and 12th September 2008. She presented a paper on Cataract surgery in uveitis
- ◆ Dr. H N Madhavan was conferred Genomic Pioneer Award 2008 for his outstanding contribution to the field of Genomics at the HGM 2008 held at Hyderabad during 27th to 30th Sep'08.
- ◆ Dr. S S Badrinath received Dr.K.V.Thiruvengadam Award for Health Care 2008-09 from the Former Governor of Orissa, Shri. M.M.Rajendran on 15th October 2008.
- ◆ Dr. Lingam Gopal received the Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2008.
- ◆ Dr. T S Surendran elected as the President of Strabismological Society of India, New Delhi on 18th October 2008.
- ◆ Mr.S.Ve.Ramesh received the best paper award for individual scientific paper session in ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad on 15th – 18th January 2009
- ◆ Ms. M. Sowmiya, Junior research fellow received the best oral presentation award entitled "Analysis of mutations in QRDR region of *gyrase A* gene of bacteria belonging to Enterobacteriaceae isolated from the ocular specimens by PCR based DNA sequencing" in the ASIA ARVO 2009 conference, held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009.



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- ◆ Dr. B. Mahalakshmi received the Travel fellowship grant to attend "Asia Arvo 2009 Conference" held at Hyderabad from January 15th -18th 2009.
- ◆ Ms. S. Barathi, awarded the Best Scientific Poster Award and First runner up Award for overall poster session in the ASIA- ARVO 2009 conference at Hyderabad held during 14th Jan to 18th Jan 2009.
- ◆ Ms. K Coral and Ms. Barathi received the travel grant amounting to Rs. 10,000/- each in ASIA-ARVO 2009 conference at Hyderabad 14th Jan to 18th Jan 2009.
- ◆ Mr. Mallikarjuna received Best Paper Award for his paper titled "Proteomic analysis of Retinoblastoma reveals potential markers involved in Tumor progression" in ASIA ARVO 2009 conference at Hyderabad 14th Jan to 18th Jan 2009.
- ◆ Ms. Sasirekha Krishnan and Ms. Srilatha Jasty received Travel Fellowship Award in ASIA ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad between 14th Jan to 18th Jan 2009.
- ◆ Ms. R. Gayathri, Senior Research fellow received the Second best prize award for poster presentation entitled "Detection of viable *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* from sputum samples targeting 85 B gene by reverse transcriptase PCR" during the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 3rd – 5th March 2009.
- ◆ Dr. Prema Padmanabhan has been selected "For the Excellent Work Done in Ophthalmology" and will be presented Gold Medal - 2009 by The Indian Intraocular Implant and Refractive Society (IIRSI), India on July 11th & 12th at Taj Coromandel, Chennai.
- ◆ Shri. Iravadham Mahadevan, Tamil Indian Epigraphist and Founder of Vidyasagar Institute of Bio-Medical Technology and Science, Vision Research Foundation, received "PADMASHREE" Award 2009.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ Retrospective Study of Contact Lens Fitting in Pellucid Marginal Degeneration. *Mahadevan, Rajeswari M.Phil, Ph.D.; Amudhaoli, A B.S.Opt., M.Phil; Valarmathi, A B.S.Opt., M.Phil.* Eye & Contact Lens: Science & Clinical Practice: Volume 34(4) July 2008pp 207-210
- ◆ Measurement of Goldmann applanation tonometer calibration error. *Choudhari NS, George R, Baskaran M, Vijaya L, Dudeja N.* Ophthalmology. 2009 Jan;116(1):3-8. Comment in: Ophthalmology. 2009 Jan;116(1):1-2.e1.
- ◆ Central retinal vein occlusion with non-arteritic ischemic optic neuropathy and cystoid macular edema. *Raman R, Choudhari NS.* Graefes Archives & Clinical Experimental Ophthalmology 2008 Aug;246(8):1209; author reply 1211-4.
- ◆ Comparison of Refractive Errors and Factors Associated with Spectacle Use in a Rural and Urban South Indian Population. *Prema Raju, Ronnie George, S.Ve. Ramesh, Hemamalini Arvind, M.Baskaran, G.Kumaramanickavel, McCarty Catherine, Lingam Vijaya.* Indian Journal of Ophthalmology 2008; 56;139-44.
- ◆ Association of Non-synonymous single nucleotide polymorphisms in the LOXL 1 gene with pseudoexfoliation syndrome in India. *Ramprasad VL, George R, Soumitra N, Sharmila F, Vijaya L, Kumaramanickavel G,* Journal of Molecular Vision, 2008; 14:318-322.
- ◆ First World Glaucoma day, March 6, 2006: Tackling glaucoma challenges in India. *Ronnie George, Lingam Vijaya.* Indian Journal of Ophthalmology, 2008; Vol.56, No.2.
- ◆ Prevalence of idiopathic macular hole in adult rural and urban south Indian population. *Parveen Sen, Arun Bhargava, Lingam Vijaya and Ronnie George* Journal of Clinical & Experimental Ophthalmology 2008, 36(3); 257-260.
- ◆ Neural rim characteristics of healthy south Indians: The Chennai Glaucoma Study. *Hemamalini Arvind, Ronnie George, Prema Raju, S.Ve.Ramesh, M.Baskaran, Prashanth Kannan, Lingam Vijaya* – Journal of Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science, August 2008, Vol.49, No.8.
- ◆ Lower threshold estimates at the onset of automated perimetry causing artifacts in perimetrically naïve subjects. *M.M.Preetha, Ronnie George, S.Ve. Ramesh, Prema Raju, L.Vijaya* – Journal of Ophthal, Physiol, Opt. 2008: 28: 492-496.
- ◆ Prevalence of Retinitis Pigmentosa in South Indian Population Aged Above 40 years. *Parveen Sen, Arun Bhargava, Ronnie George, S.Ve.Ramesh, Arvind Hemamalini, Raju Prema, Govindasamy Kumaramanickavel and Lingam Vijaya.* Journal of Ophthalmic Epidemiology, July-August 2008, 15: 279-281.
- ◆ Agreement between two Goldmann type applanation tonometers. *Ronnie George, Hemamalini Arvind, M.Baskaran, S.Ve.Ramesh, Prema Raju, Lingam Vijaya.* Indian Journal of Ophthalmology, 2008, Vol.56 No.6
- ◆ Application of Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and PCR based Restriction fragment length polymorphism (PCR-RFLP) for detection and identification of dermatophytes from dermatological specimens. *Bagyalakshmi R, Senthilvelan B, Therese KL, Murugusundram S, Madhavan HV.* Indian Journal of Dermatology 2008; 53(1):15-20
- ◆ Polymerase Chain Reaction in Intraocular Inflammation. *Krishnendu Nandi, Prabhat Ranjan, Lily Therese, Jyotirmay Biswas.* The Open Ophthalmology Journal, 2008, 2, 141-145.



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- ◆ Reply to the Editor Current Eye Research, 2008, 33(10), pp. 905-906 in response to the letter by Bodenoch et al on the publication "Newer emerging pathogens of ocular Non Sporulating Moulds(NSM) identified by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) based DNA sequencing technique targeting Internal Transcribed Spacer (ITS) region Published in Current Eye Research 33(02), PP. 139-147. *K. Lily Therese, R. Bagyalakshmi, S. Prasanna, H.N. Madhavan*
- ◆ Endophthalmitis caused by Enterococcus faecalis – A case series. *Ekta Rishi, Pukhraj Rishi, Krishnendu Nandi Daraius shroff. K. Lily Therese.* Retina 2009 29 ;214-7
- ◆ Application of DNA sequencing technique using microseq kit targeting 16S rRNA gene for species level identification of mycobacteria. *K. Lily Therese, John Bartell, P. Deepa, Diedra Ward, Joseph Dajcs, H.N.Madhavan, David Stroman.* Indian Journal of Medical Research 129, February 2009, pp 188 – 193.
- ◆ Analysis of Mixed Infections by Multiple Genotypes of Human Cytomegalovirus in Immunocompromised patients. *Sowmya. P, Madhavan HN.* Journal of Medical Virology.
- ◆ Diagnostic utility of Polymerase Chain Reaction on intraocular specimens to establish the etiology of infectious Endophthalmitis. *Sowmya. P, Madhavan HN.* European Journal of Ophthalmology.
- ◆ Application of PCR based – RFLP technique for species Identification of ocular isolates of methicillin resistant Staphylococci (MRS) *Malathi. J, M. Sowmya, K. Lily Therese, H N. Madhavan* Indian Journal of Medical Research
- ◆ Tear ascorbic acid levels and the total antioxidant status in contact lens wearers. *Sajjyothi AV, Vidya S, Angayarkanni N, Geetha KI, Ramakrishnan S.* Indian Journal of Ophthalmology. 2009;57.
- ◆ Ratio of the Vitreous Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor and Pigment Epithelial-Derived Factor in Eales Disease. *Angayarkanni N, Selvi R, Pukraj R, Biswas J, Bhavesh SJ, Tink JT.* Journal of Ocular Biology, Diseases and Informatics. 2009;2(1): 20-28
- ◆ Homocysteine levels in vitreous of proliferative diabetic retinopathy and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment- its modulating role on lysyl oxidase activity. *Coral K, Angayarkanni N, Gomathy N, Bharathselvi M, Pukhraj R, Rupak R.* Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences 2009 Apr 15.
- ◆ Lysyl oxidase (LOX) activity in the ocular tissues and the role of LOX in proliferative diabetic retinopathy and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment. *Coral K, Narayanasamy A, Madhavan J, Bharathselvi M, Ramakrishnan S, Nandi K, Rishi P, Kasinathan N, Krishnakumar S.* Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences 2008;49:4746-52.
- ◆ Serum PON1 Arylesterase activity in relation to Hyperhomocysteinemia and Oxidative stress in young adult Central Retinal Venous Occlusion patients. *Angayarkanni N, Barathi S, Seethalakshmi T, Punitham R, Ramakrishnan S, Tarun S.* Eye 2008;22(7):969-74.
- ◆ Diffusion of lidocaine buffered to an optimal pH across the endotracheal tube cuff – an in vitro studies *Jaichandran VV, Angayarkanni N, Coral K et al.,* Indian Journal of Anaesthesia. 2008;52(5):536-40.
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VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- ◆ Combined photodynamic therapy and intravitreal ranibizumab as primary treatment for choroidal neovascularization associated with type-2A idiopathic parafoveal telangiectasia. *Daraius Shroff, Ekta Rishi, Pukhraj Rishi*. Graefes Archives of Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology 2008;246(4):619-21.
- ◆ Management of intralenticular caterpillar Setae. *Pukhraj Rishi, Mamta Agarwal, Sheshadri Mahajan, Ekta Rishi*. Indian Journal of Ophthalmology 2008;56(5):437
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- ◆ Congenital X-linked Retinoschisis: A Novel approach for management of a a large schitic cavity of overhanging the macula. *Ekta Rishi MS, Lingam Gopal MS, Pukhraj Rishi Ms, Himanshu Deshmukh* Retinal Cases and Brief Reports 2009;3:105-107.
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- ◆ Tele-ophthalmology. *Pukhraj Rishi* Oman Journal of Ophthalmology 2009; 2(1):48.
- ◆ Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy. *Pukhraj Rishi, Pramod Bhende*. The New England Journal of Medicine 2009;360(9);912.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- ◆ Longitudinal study of progression of Keratoconus with contact lens. (Ms. M R Rajeswari)
- ◆ Standardization of nucleic acid based amplification techniques in detection and identification of fungi in clinical specimens from clinically suspected cases of infectious keratitis and endophthalmitis (Dr. K Lily Therese)
- ◆ Study on the antiviral property of isatin derivatives and acyclovir prodrugs against isolates of Human Herpes Simplex Virus (Dr. J Malathi)
- ◆ Effect of free amino acids on the insulin mediated signal transduction pathway in cultured CHO cells. (Dr. N Angayarkanni)
- ◆ Activities of lysyl oxidase and matrix metalloproteases in cultured bovine retinal pigment epithelial cells-role of retinoids in their regulation. (Dr. N Angayarkanni)
- ◆ Effect of oral amino acids supplementation to patients with NIDDM on the insulin receptor-signaling pathway in monocytes – A Randomized Double-blind Placebo Controlled Study (Dr. S Ramakrishnan)
- ◆ A study on the molecular mechanism of amino acids at the level of signal transduction in retinal pigment epithelial cells, retinal capillary endothelial cells and pericytes (Dr. N Angayarkanni)
- ◆ Comparative study for smooth extubation of patients undergoing eye surgery – use of intracuff alkalinized lignocaine Vs saline or air –in vitro study of the diffusion of lignocaine across the endotracheal tube cuff.
- ◆ To compare the analgesic efficacy and safety of NSAIDs and Opioids for post operative ambulatory patients undergoing eye surgery.
- ◆ Comparative study between plain lidocaine vs warmed, buffered and warmed & buffered lidocaine for peribulbar anaesthesia in cataract surgery.
- ◆ Effect of varying durations of ocular compressions post fractionated peribulbar anaesthesia on intraocular pressure in patients undergoing cataract surgery.
- ◆ A methodology for endotracheal tube cuff inflation in paediatric patients undergoing general anaesthesia - a pilot study.
- ◆ A six-month, phase 3, multicenter, masked, randomized, shamcontrolled trial (with six-month open label extension) to assess the safety and efficacy of 700 µg and 350 µg Dexamethasone posterior segment drug delivery system (DEX PS DDS) applicator system in the treatment of patients with macular edema following central retinal vein occlusion and branch retinal vein occlusion (Dr. Muna Bhende)
- ◆ Reduction in the occurrence of center-threatening diabetic Macular edema with use of Rubid octrinum (Dr. Tarun Sharma)
- ◆ A Phase 3 Prospective, Randomized, Double-masked, 12-week, Parallel group study evaluating the efficacy and safety of Latanoprost and Timolol in Paediatric subjects with Glaucoma (Dr. B Shantha)
- ◆ Efficacy and Safety of Posterior Juxtasclear Administrations of Anecortave Acetate for Depot Suspension (15 mg or 30 mg) versus Sham Administration in Indian patients at Risk for Progressing to Exudative Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) (Dr. Lingam Gopal)



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- ◆ Diurnal Variation of intraocular pressure in primary angle closure disease. (Dr. M Baskaran)
- ◆ Incidence of wipe out phenomenon following glaucoma filtration Surgery: A Prospective study (Dr. B Shantha)
- ◆ Potential Acuity Using Heine Lambda Retinometer in Cataract Patients. (Dr. L S Varadharajan)
- ◆ Visual functions in lighting provided by BPL Techno vision private limited's LED based study lamp. (Dr. L S Varadharajan)



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

ONGOING PROJECTS

- ◆ Comparison of Taqman based Real-Time Polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) and pp65 antigenemia assay for quantitation of human Cytomegalovirus (HCMV) in clinical specimens and a study on ganciclovir resistance of HCMV (Dr. H N Madhavan)
- ◆ Standardization of nucleic acid based amplification technique – Multiplex Polymerase Chain (mPCR) for rapid detection and identification of fungi to species level from clinically suspected cases of fungal keratitis and endophthalmitis (Dr. K Lily Therese)
- ◆ Development of DNA Macro-chips for the Simultaneous Detection of Pathogens Causing Acute Encephalitic Syndrome (AES), Septicaemia and Antibiotic Resistance (Dr. H N Madhavan)
- ◆ Phylogenetic analysis of Human Herpes Simplex Virus(HSV) isolates based on DNA sequencing of genes coding for glycoproteins G₁ and E,C regions and to determine novel targets to identify the genotypes of HSV (Project No. : BT/PR9975/MED/29/54/2007) (Dr. J Malathi)
- ◆ Tear Proteomics profile in Rheumatoid arthritis patients associated with and without DES. (Dr. N Angayarkanni)
- ◆ Developing an in *invitro* model of ARMD using RPE cells treated with pesticides. Evaluation of the cytoprotective potential of compound of interest in this model. (Dr. Venil N Sumantran)
- ◆ To study the biology of corneal stem cells (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ To study the modulation of multidrug resistant proteins expression, function and in vitro antitumor effect on Y79 retinoblastoma cells by curcumin longa derivative. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ Proteomic Profiling for Retinoblastoma progression: Different display analysis for the expression of intracellular proteins between non-invasive and invasive tumors and tumor cell lines (Dr. S Krishnakumar, Dr. Lingam Gopal)
- ◆ To evaluate the in vitro efficacy of PLGA-nanoparticles encapsulated with chemotherapeutic drugs to induce apoptosis in Y79 retinoblastoma cell line (Dr. Sahoo, Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ Efficacy of EpCAM-conjugated drug loaded biodegradable nanoparticles for drug therapy in Retinoblastoma (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ To study the effect of small interfering RNA (siRNA) on the EPCAM expression of Y79 retinoblastoma cell line and its correlation with invasion and migration properties of cell line. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ To identify and characterize the Retinal stem/progenitor properties of Human Iris Pigment Epithelial (IPE) cells and Ciliary Epithelial (CE) cells in vitro. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ Identification of monosomy 3 in choroidal melanoma by chromosome in situ hybridization and correlate clinicopathologically and with Ezrin, EGFR, C-Fos, C-Jun, C-Met and HGF/SF molecular pathways. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ To study the effect of FAS (Fatty acid synthase) inhibitors on Y79 retinoblastoma cell line. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ Developing Molecularly Targeted Polymer nanoparticles for cancer diagnostics and therapeutics. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- ◆ To train and develop infrastructure or Molecular Ophthalmic Pathology and rapid Diagnosis of Ocular Infectious in an Ophthalmic Institute in Assam. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ To bioengineer a corneal stromal substitute using a collagen matrix. (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ To investigate the expression of hypoxia-inducible factor 1A in retinoblastoma and correlate the invasion and multi-drug resistance protein, Pgp (Dr. S Krishnakumar)
- ◆ Emerging self-sustained patterns of intercellular calcium waves in co-cultures of neurons and glia: An experimental investigation (Dr. Nivedita Chatterjee)
- ◆ Investigating the regulation of cytokine profile in Muller glia by endocannabinoids (Dr. Nivedita Chatterjee)
- ◆ Comparative study between three different mydriatic regimens for fundus examination of children under general anaesthesia. (Dr. V V Jaichandran)
- ◆ Effect of sedation on retained visual sensations in patients undergoing phacoemulsification cataract surgery under topical anaesthesia – a pilot study is currently being done (Dr. V V Jaichandran)
- ◆ Sankara Nethralaya Diabetic Retinopathy Epidemiology And Molecular Genetics Study (SNDREAMS II & III) (Dr. Tarun Sharma)
- ◆ Molecular genetics of Corneal Dystrophy – Mutational Screening of SLC4A11 and COL8A2 gene in Fuchs Corneal Dystrophy (FCD) and Linkage analysis in FCD affected Families (Dr. N Soumittra)
- ◆ Genetic Association Studies & Fine Mapping of Critical Genomic Regions that Harbor Age Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) Susceptibility Loci/Genes. (Dr. S Sripriya)
- ◆ Gene mapping for Myopia and identification of environmental risk factors for myopia progression in subjects with genetic susceptibility. (Dr. S Sripriya)
- ◆ India-US Genetic Study of Ocular Quantitative Traits (Dr. Ronnie Jacob George)
- ◆ Bardet-Biedl Syndrome: molecular epidemiology and identification of novel genes in the Indian cohort. (Dr. S Sripriya)
- ◆ Sequential laser iridotomy and Nd:YAG laser iridotomy; Prospective randomized comparison in primary angle closure suspects. (Dr. Aditya Neog)
- ◆ Ultrasound Biomicroscopy – Static and dynamic quantitative customized evaluation in primary angle closure disease – A Pilot study. (Dr. B Shantha)
- ◆ Chennai Eye Disease Incidence Study (Dr. L Vijaya)
- ◆ Punctal Plug Extrusion Rates - Clinical Study (Dr. Ronnie Jacob George)
- ◆ Randomized, controlled, multicenter comparative trial to evaluate the SOLX Gold Shunt for the reduction of intraocular pressure (IOP) in glaucomatous eyes following failed medical and conventional surgical treatments (Dr. B Shantha)
- ◆ Measurement of Ocular PulseAmplitude by Dynamic Contour Tonometry in Glaucoma and Aphakia (Dr. Nikhil S Chowdhary)



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- ◆ A Randomized, Double-Masked, Parallel Group, Multicenter, Dose-Finding Comparison of the Safety and Efficacy of ASI-001A 0.5 µg/day and ASI –001B 0.2 µg/day Fluocinolone Acetonide Intravitreal Inserts to Sham Injection in Subjects with Diabetic Macular Edema (Dr. Tarun Sharma)
- ◆ A 3-year, Phase 3, Multicentre, Masked, Randomized, Sham-Controlled Trial to Assess the Safety and Efficacy of 700 µg and 350 µg Dexamethasone Posterior Segment Drug Delivery System (DEX PS DDS) Applicator System in the Treatment of Patients with Macular Edema (Dr. Lingam Gopal)
- ◆ A randomized, double masked, active controlled, phase 3 study of the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of repeated doses of intravitreal VEGF Trap-Eye in subjects with neovascular age – related macular degeneration (AMD) (Dr. Tarun Sharma)
- ◆ Telescreening for Diabetic Retinopathy (Dr. Rajiv Raman)
- ◆ A 12-Month Randomized, Pilot study to compare the efficacy and safety of PDT (Standard fluence) with intravitreal Lucentis versus of PDT (Reduced fluence) with intravitreal Lucentis. (Dr. Tarun Sharma)
- ◆ A Phase 3 Safety and Efficacy study of Vitreosolve® for Ophthalmic Intravitreal injections for Inducing Posterior Vitreous Detachment in Retinopathy Subjects. (Dr. Lingam Gopal)
- ◆ Protocol LX201-01: A Multi-center, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Parallel-Group Dose Ranging Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of LX201 for the Prevention of Corneal Allograft Rejection Episodes and Graft Failure Following Penetrating Keratoplasty with LX201 Implantation in subjects who are at increased Immunological Risk. (Dr. Prema Padmanabhan)
- ◆ Protocol LX201-02: A Multi-center, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized Parallel-Group Dose Ranging Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of LX201 for the Prevention of Corneal Allograft Rejection Episodes or Graft Failure in subjects who have experienced one or more rejection episodes following Penetrating Keratoplasty (Dr. Prema Padmanabhan)
- ◆ An 8 week, multicentre, masked, randomized trial (with an 18 week masked extension) to assess the safety and efficacy of 700 µg and 350 µg Dexamethasone posterior segment drug delivery system (DEX PS DDS) applicator system compared with sham DEX PS DDS applicator system in the treatment of non infectious ocular inflammation of the posterior segment in patients of intermediate or posterior uveitis. (Dr. J Biswas)
- ◆ Double-Masked, Placebo-Controlled, Multi-Center, parallel group, Dose Ranging Study with an optional extension to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of LX211 as Therapy in subjects with Active Sight threatening, Non-Infectious Uveitis (01 and 03) and Clinically Quiescent Sight Threatening, Non-Infectious Uveitis (02). (Dr. J Biswas)
- ◆ Central corneal thickness (CCT) in a pediatric population and its relationship to intraocular pressure (Dr. V V Jaichandran)
- ◆ Asian collaborative longitudinal optic neuritis epidemiology (Dr. S Ambica)
- ◆ Modelling the need for Diabetic Retinopathy screening in India (Dr. R R Sudhir)
- ◆ Perceptual learning of stereopsis in adult amblyopes. (Dr. L S Varadharajan)



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE

Dr Muna Bhende attended the Round Table Meeting on PCV at Singapore on 4th April 2008.

Dr Pramod Bhende attended the CME Meeting at Coimbatore on 5th & 6th April 2008.

Dr. J. Biswas attended Uvea meeting at Bangalore on 24th April 2008.

Ms. Salomi attended the CME Programme conducted by lister laboratories on 25th April 2008.

Dr J Biswas attended the Uveitis CME Meeting at Bangalore on 27th April 2008 and made presentations on Acute Necrotizing retinitis in a two year old child, Newer diagnostic modalities in uveitis and Viral Retinitis.

Dr G Kumaramanickavel attended the ARVO 2008 Conference, at Fort Lauderdale, USA from 30th April to 2nd May 2008 and made a presentation on Homozygosity Mapping in Consanguineous Retinal Dystrophy Families: Identification of a Novel c.955G>A Splice Site Mutation in the Lebercilin Gene in Leber Congenital Amaurosis

Dr. N Angayarkanni attended the ARVO 2008 Conference, at Fort Lauderdale, USA from 30th April to 2nd May 2008 and made a poster presentation on Existence and properties of heteromeric gap junction channels in retinal pigment epithelial cells.

Ms. K Coral attended the ARVO 2008 Conference, at Fort Lauderdale, USA from 30th April to 2nd May 2008 and made a poster presentation on Lysyl oxidase activity in proliferative diabetic retinopathy and in ARPE-19 cells exposed to glucose.

Ms. S. Bharathi attended the ARVO 2008 Conference, at Fort Lauderdale, USA from 30th April to 2nd May 2008 and made a poster presentation on Exposure of Advanced Glycation End Products to bovine retinal endothelial cells and asses their glucose uptake.

Ms Srilatha Jasty attended the ARVO 2008 Conference, at Fort Lauderdale, USA from 30th April to 2nd May 2008 and made a poster presentation on Retinal Stem/Progenitor Properties Of Ciliary Epithelial and Iris Pigment Epithelial Cells From The Adult Human Cadaveric Eye.

Dr Rama Rajagpal, Dr Rajiv Raman & Dr Nikhil Choudhary participated in the Inaugural Regional Ophthalmology Conference at Bangkok from 2nd to 4th May 2008.

Dr. S. Krishnakumar attended Task force meeting at Delhi on 5th May 2008.

Dr. S. Krishnakumar attended Stem cell investigators meeting on 9th May 2008 at IIT Chennai on Recombinant Antibody.

Dr. Tarun Sharma attended the Oman Ophthalmological Meet, Oman from 14th to 17th May 2008 and made presentations on Diabetic Retinopathy Program-Sankara Nethralaya, Diabetic Vitrectomy & Surgical Treatment for advanced ROP.

Dr. S. Krishnakumar attended RNAi meeting, where he submitted his project proposal on 15th May 2008.

Dr Prema Padmanabhan and Dr Pramod Bhende attended the Reveal Meet in Cairo, Egypt on 16th & 17th May 2008.

Dr J Biswas attended the Uveitis CME Meeting at Trichy on 18th May 2008 and gave a lecture on Diagnostic and Therapeutic Challenges.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Dr. Tarun Sharma attended the First Trauma Meeting at Serbia between 29th May and 2nd June 2008 and made a presentation on Combined Penetrating Keratoplasty and Vitreous surgery using temporary keratoprosthesis in severely injured eyes.

Ms. K. Coral, Sr. Scientist attended the training course on "Safety aspect in Research application of ionization radiation RA-31 conducted by IARP at the Centre for training and certification in Radiological safety, Mumbai from 1st to 9th June 2008

Dr Prema Padmanabhan and Dr N Radhika participated in the Wavelight User Meet 2008, Bungary from 6th to 8th June 2008.

Dr. Tarun Sharma attended the Hyderabad Ophthalmic Association Meet at Hyderabad on 15th June 2008 and gave lectures on "An overview of Anti-VEGF Treatment in AMD" & "Diabetic Vitrectomy"

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel participated in the World Ophthalmic Congress at Hong Kong on 27th June 2008.

Dr. S. Krishnakumar attended a meeting at JNCASR, Jakkur, Bangalore on 28th June 2008 to present the update of our DBT project entitled "Proteomics profiling for retinoblastoma progression: Differential display analysis for the expression of intracellular proteins between non-invasive and invasive tumors and tumor cell line".

Dr. L. Vijaya attended the WOC 2008 conference conducted by the Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong from 27th June 2008 to 2nd July 2008. Dr. L. Vijaya gave talks on Approach to Glaucoma in India, Aqueous Misdirection Syndrome and Management of Combined Mechanism Glaucoma.

Dr. J. Biswas attended WOC Conference in Hong Kong from 26th June to 2nd July 2008 and made presentations on Conjunctival tuberculoma in AIDS; HIV related eye disease in India; Ocular toxoplasmosis in AIDS; PCR in uveitis; The best uveitis cases for teaching; Infectious uveitis-tuberculosis; Ocular tuberculosis & Retinoblastoma.

Dr. H. N. Madhavan attended the Steering Committee meeting of the AES Septicaemia project on 30th June 2008 at Xycton Diagnostics Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel attended the World Ophthalmology Congress on 5th July 2008.

Dr. N Angayarkanni attended the IERG Annual Meeting on 26th -27th July 2008 at LAICO Auditorium, Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai.

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel, Dr. S Sripriya and Ms. Vinita Kumari attended the 17th IERG conference to be held on 26th & 27th July 2008, at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai.

Dr. Ronnie George attended the Glucons 2008 was conducted by Aravind Eye Hospital, Coimbatore from 26th to 27th July 2008. Dr. Ronnie George presented 3 topics namely AS OCT: Importance and use in Glaucoma; Landmark trails: Implications for clinical practice and Glaucoma screening in clinical practice.

Dr.L.Vijaya gave an invited keynote lecture about the "Prevalence of Glaucoma in India" in the Indian Eye Research Group Conference at Madurai on 26th & 27th July 2008.

Ms. Lokapavani presented a poster "Long term variation in central corneal thickness of normal individuals in a population based study " in Indian Eye Research Group Conference at Madurai on 26th & 27th July 2008.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ms. M Rajeswari gave a Guest Lecture on "Post refractive surgery contact lens fitting and orthokeratology" at a CME organized by Lotus College of Optometry, Coimbatore.

Dr. J. Malathi attended the Indian Eye Research Group (IERG) Meeting held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai from 26th – 27th July 2008 and made a paper presentation on "Genotypic and phenotypic characterization of the acyclovir resistance among ocular isolates of Herpes Simplex Virus – 1".

Ms. R. Gayathri attended the Indian Eye Research Group (IERG) Meeting held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai from 26th – 27th July 2008 and made a poster presentation on "Antibiotic susceptibility patterns of ocular isolates of rapid growers of mycobacteria against fluoroquinolones, Macrolides, cephalosporins and Amino glycolides".

Mr. Y. Samson Moses attended the Indian Eye Research Group (IERG) Meeting held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai from 26th – 27th July 2008 and made a poster presentation on "Genotyping of Herpes Simplex Virus – 1 detected isolated in ocular specimens".

Dr. J. Biswas, Ms. Abhirami, Mr. Job Sudhakar, Ms. Seethalakshmi, Ms. Moutushy Mitra, Ms. Shruthi L, Mr. Mallikarjuna, Ms. Anju H, Ms. Sasirekha Krishnan, Ms. Sarmila Sarkar and Ms. Vandhana attended the IERG Meeting held at Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai on 26th & 27th July 2008.

Dr. K. Lily Therese attended and delivered a lecture on "Rubella Awareness" at the Lions Club district meeting held at Meenakshi College, Chennai on 26th July 2008, which was well received.

Dr. Nikhil S Choudhari attended the TNOA Conference at Chennai on 8th – 10th August 2008.

Dr. Angayarkanni N gave an invited talk in the Diabetic retinopathy session entitled "The Biochemical mechanisms involved in the development & progression of diabetic retinopathy" in 56th Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association, (TNOA) – 3rd Oasis Conference vision 2008 on 8th Aug at Rani Meyyammai Hall, Chennai.

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel attended the 56th Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association, (TNOA) – 3rd Oasis Conference vision 2008 at Rani Meyyammai Hall, Chennai, on 9th August 2008.

Dr. J. Biswas and Dr. S. Krishnakumar attended the 56th Tamil Nadu Ophthalmic Association, (TNOA) – 3rd Oasis Conference vision 2008 at Rani Meyyammai Hall, Chennai on 9th & 10th August 2008.

Dr. J. Biswas attended the SAO meeting at Delhi on 23rd August 2008.

Dr. H. N. Madhavan delivered a talk on "Ex vivo cultivation of corneal Limbal epithelial cells in a Thermo-reversible polymer (Mebiol Gel) and their transplantation in Rabbits – an animal model" during the research meet for the inauguration of KBIRVO between 3rd – 5th September 2008. Research Scientists (Dr. J Malathi, Dr. B Mahalakshmi, Ms. R Gayathri, Mr. Samson Moses, Ms. Ms M Sowmiya & Ms. R Harini) from L & T Microbiology Research centre attended and presented the research papers. Dr. B. Mahalakshmi & Ms. R. Gayathri made Oral presentations & Mr. Y. Samson Moses & Ms. M. Sowmiya made Poster presentations during the research meet for the inauguration of KBIRVO between 3rd – 5th September 2008.

Dr. Angayarkanni N attended the Bajaj International Conference from 4th Sept at Hotel Park Sheraton, Chennai and made a paper presentation on Vitreous levels of Vascular endothelial growth factor and Pigment epithelium-derived factor in Eales' disease.

Dr. VN Sumantran attended the Bajaj International Conference from 4th Sept at Hotel Park Sheraton, Chennai and made a paper presentation on The role of in vitro models in Ocular disease.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ms. Selvi R attended the Bajaj International Conference from 4th Sept at Hotel Park Sheraton, Chennai and made a paper presentation on Glucose Uptake In CHO-K1 Cells In Presence Of Free And Mixture Of Amino Acids.

Ms. Barathi S attended the Bajaj International Conference from 4th Sept at Hotel Park Sheraton, Chennai and delivered a talk on CRVO and oxidative stress and Therapeutic opportunities in ocular angiogenesis

Dr Sudha K Ganesh elected as Member of International Uveitis Study Group at the 7th International Symposium on Uveitis and International Uveitis Study Group (IUSG) Meeting, Constance , Germany from 8th to 12th September 2008.

Dr. J. Biswas attended the 7th International Symposium on Uveitis and International Uveitis Study Group (IUSG) Meeting, Constance , Germany from 8th to 12th September 2008.

Dr J Biswas was given the "Thrissur Academy of Ophthalmology Oration Award" at the Thrissur Academy of Ophthalmology CME Programme TACOPSIA-2008, Thrissur on 21st September 2008.

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel attended 13th Human Genome Meeting from 27th to 30th September 2009.

Dr Tarun Sharma attended the Diabetic Retinopathy Symposium at Hyderabad in October 2008 and gave a presentation on Surgical nuances in Diabetic vitrectomy.

Dr Tarun Sharma attended the Annual Conference of Sri Lanka Ophthalmologists Association, Sri Lanka during October 2008 and made presentations on Combined PK and PPV in severely injured eye & Surgical intervention in ROP.

Dr Tarun Sharma attended the Conference on "Entrepreneurship Comes of Age", Delhi in October 2008 and gave a talk on "About Sankara Nethralaya".

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel attended the third anniversary of Nichi-In Centre for Regenerative Medicine held on 11th Oct '08, Chennai. He chaired one of the session.

Dr S Meenakshi participated in the Vidharbha Ophthalmic Society Meet at Mumbai between 18th & 19th October 2008 and made presentations on Newer Modalities in the Surgical Management of Pediatric Strabismus & Tips and Tricks in preverbal child.

Dr T S Surendran chaired a session at the Meeting of Strabismological Society of India held at New Delhi from 18th to 20th October 008.

Dr Sujatha Guha attended the Meeting of Strabismological Society of India held at New Delhi from 18th to 20th October 008 and made a presentation on Adjustable sutures in Strabismus Surgery.

Dr Sumita Agarkar attended the Meeting of Strabismological Society of India held at New Delhi from 18th to 20th October 008 and made a presentation on Decision Making in Strabismus Surgery.

Dr. H.N. Madhavan, Dr. J. Malathi, Ms. R. Gayathri and Mr. Y. Samson Moses attended the National Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (IAMM) conference held at Pune from 22nd to 25^h October MICROCON 2008.

Dr L Vijaya, Dr B Shantha, Dr Ronnie George & Dr Aditya Neog attended the 18th Annual Conference of Glaucoma Society of India at Chandigarh from 31st Oct to 2nd Nov 2008.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Dr. Sachi Devi attended the CME programme – Pan Ophthalmica – 2008, at Shankara Eye Care, Coimbatore on 2nd November 2008. She presented on “Imaging in glaucoma and Normal tension glaucoma”.

Dr Tarun Sharma attended the Diabetes Summit In India – A Summit for South East Asia in Chennai during November 2008

Dr Sachi Devi attended the CME Program at Coimbatore on 2nd November 2008 and made presentations on Imaging in Glaucoma and Normal Tension Glaucoma.

Dr Bipasha Mukherjee, Dr Sumita Agarkar, Dr Krishna Kumar, Ms A Vijayalakshmi & Ms Jameel Rizwana attended the Annual Conference of Karnataka State Ophthalmic Association, Karnataka, on 7th & 8th November 2008.

Dr R R Sudhir attended the American Academy of Ophthalmology Conference at USA between 7th and 11th November 2008 and made a presentation on Prevalence and risk factors associated with dry eye – a population based study of urban diabetics in India

Dr Rajiv Raman attended the American Academy of Ophthalmology Conference at USA between 7th and 11th November 2008 and made presentations on Dislipidemia and Diabetic Retinopathy: results from a population-based study in Urban India and Identifying Retinal Thickness Patterns on Spectral Domain OCT and Correlating With Microperimetry in Diabetic Macular Edema and Diabetic Retinopathy.

Dr Pramod Bhende attended the CME Program organized by Pune Ophthalmologists, Pune on 15th November 2008.

Dr Muna Bhende attended the CME Programme at Coimbatore on 15th November 2008.

Mr. M Naganathan, Ms. K Sanjana & Ms. Sheela Evangeline made oral presentations at the 34th All India Optometry Conference held at Amrister between 15th & 17th November 2008.

M/s. G Muneeswar Gupta Nittala, Gella Laxmi, S Kaleemunnisha, S Divya , S Amritha, M Ashwini, R Monica, S Sheeba & Sayantan Biswas made poster presentations at the 34th All India Optometry Conference held at Amrister between 15th & 17th November 2008.

M/s. V Abinaya Priya, S Sangeetha, K Arun Kumar & S VE Ramesh made oral and poster presentations at the 34th All India Optometry Conference held at Amrister between 15th & 17th November 2008.

Dr Aditya Neogi & Dr Amala E George attended the Annual Conference of Kerala Society of Ophthalmic Surgeons, Kochi from 27th to 30th November 2008.

Dr Pramod Bhende attended the CME Program Organized by International Hospital Bahrain (IHB), Bahrain on 30th November 2008 and made a presentation on Modern Trends in Retina.

Dr. Angayarkanni and Ms. AV. Saijyothi went to IISc, Bangalore for workshop by Bruker/Lab India at the Molecular Biophysics unit on Application of Mass spectrometry from 3rd -5th Nov' 2008

Dr. J. Biswas attended a meeting at Calcutta to deliver a lecture at National Medical College Calcutta on 4th November 2008.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Dr. H. N. Madhavan attended the first Monitoring and second Steering Committee meeting of CSIR NIMITLI project entitled "Development of DNA Macro- chips for the Simultaneous Detection of Pathogens Causing Acute Encephalitic Syndrome (AES), Septicaemia and Antibiotic Resistance" and presented the progress report of the project on 5th November 2008 at Xcyton Diagnostics Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore.

Dr. Ronnie George attended the CME programme – Kottayam on 9th November 2008 and presented the following topic: "Visual field interpretation and recent advances in visual field testing".

Mr. S.Ve.Ramesh attended the 34th All India Optometry Conference (AIOC) at Amritsar during 15th to 17th November 2008. He delivered an invited lecture and presented "3D Evaluation of Optic Nerve Head in Glaucoma".

Dr. Lingam Gopal attended the XVII Vitreoretinal Society of India at West Bengal from 4th to 6th December 2008 and gave a talk on Lens sparing vitrectomy in ROP

Dr Dhanashree Ratra participated at the XVII Vitreoretinal Society of India at West Bengal from 4th to 6th December 2008 and made a presentation on Comparative analysis of visual outcomes in patients treated with combined photodynamic therapy (PDT) and ranibizumab and those treated with PDT and bevacizumab for choroidal neovascularization secondary to Age Related Macular Degeneration.

Dr Pratik Ranjan Sen participated at the XVII Vitreoretinal Society of India at West Bengal from 4th to 6th December 2008 and made a presentation on Choroidal rupture following intravitreal injection of Bevacizumab in patients with underlying connective tissue disorder.

Dr Parveen Sen participated at the XVII Vitreoretinal Society of India at West Bengal from 4th to 6th December 2008 and made a presentation on Multifocal Electroretinogram as a diagnostic tool for evaluation of patients with suspected drug toxicity

Dr Pukhraj Rishi participated at the XVII Vitreoretinal Society of India at West Bengal from 4th to 6th December 2008 and made a presentation on Challenges in VR Surgery in eyes with permanent keratoprosthesis

Dr Ekta Rishi participated at the XVII Vitreoretinal Society of India at West Bengal from 4th to 6th December 2008 and made a presentation on Endogenous Endophthalmitis in children

Dr Amit Nagpal participated at the XVII Vitreoretinal Society of India at West Bengal from 4th to 6th December 2008 and made a presentation on Eyewall resection for intraocular tumours (A series of 9 cases)

Dr. Ronnie George attended the Glaucoma update at St.Johns Medical College, Bangalore on 6th and 7th December 2008. Training on live surgery and delivered lecture on 7th December on Trabeculectomy, techniques and anti-metabolite use
Glaucoma diagnosis.

Dr Amit Nagpal attended the Uttara Eyecon Conference at Dehradun, from 9th to 12th December 2008 and made a presentation on Brachytherapy for the Management of Intraocular Tumors.

Dr. V N Sumantran attended the SBC [I] conference at IIT, Chennai, from 18th to 20th Dec' 08 and made a poster presentation on "The effects of Chlorpyrifos on viability of ARPE-19 retinal pigment epithelial cells".



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ms. S Barathi attended the SBC [I] conference at IIT, Chennai, from 18th to 20th Dec' 08 and made a poster presentation on Cytotoxic effect of Homocysteine and Homocysteine thiolactone in bovine retinal endothelial cells.

Ms. K Coral attended the SBC [I] conference at IIT, Chennai, from 18th to 20th Dec' 08 and made a poster presentation on Lysyl oxidase activity in retinal pigment epithelial cells exposed to homocysteine.

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel attended the Joint INDO-US Workshop on "Ophthalmology: Present, Future & Beyond" on 4th Jan 2009 at Bangalore.

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel attended and gave a lecture in the MDRF-ICMR Workshop on "Techniques in Genomics in Relation to Diabetes & Related Disorders" on 6th January 2009.

Dr. H. N. Madhavan and Dr. J. Malathi attended the CME programme on "Difficult to detect viral infections" held at Sri Ram Chandra Medical College, Porur on 12th January 2009. Dr.J.Malathi delivered a lecture on "Difficult to detect ocular viral infections".

Dr. H. N. Madhavan attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 conference held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009 and gave talk on "Eye Research in the 21st century, what can India offer" and "Recent Developments in the Nucleic Acid Technology for the Diagnosis of Ocular Infections" as an invited speaker.

Dr T S Surendran gave a Key note Address on "An overview of Strabismus" at the Ophthalmopaedia 2009, a CME on Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology at Rajan Eye Care, Chennai on 4th January 2009

Dr Prema Padmanabhan, Dr R R Sudhir & Dr Vinay S Pillai from Cornea Department attended the ASIA-ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad between 15th & 18th January 2009.

Dr T.S Surendran, Dr Lav Kochgaway & Dr Sujata Guha from Squint Pediatric Ophthalmology attended the ASIA-ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad between 15th & 18th January 2009.

Dr Lingam Gopal, Dr Tarun Sharma, Dr Vikas Khetan, Dr Ekta Rishi, Dr Pukhraj Rishi, Dr Chetan Rao, Dr Swakshyar Saunya Pal & Dr Rajiv Raman from Vitreo-Retinal Ophthalmology attended the ASIA-ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad between 15th & 18th January 2009.

Ms.M.Rajeswari, Ms.Rajini Rajan, Ms.R.Priya, Ms.Kaleemunnisha, Ms.Lokabhavani, Ms.Resima,Ms.Jameel Rizwana, Mr.S Ve Ramesh, Mr.Muneeswar Gupta & Ms.Gella Lakshmi, Optometrists attended the ASIA-ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad between 15th & 18th Jan'09.

Dr. K. Lily Therese attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 conference held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009 and gave a talk on "Molecular techniques in the Diagnosis of Ocular Mycotic and Parasitic Infections" as an invited speaker.

Dr. J. Malathi, attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 Conference held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009 and made an oral presentation on Nucleic acid based molecular diagnostics in ocular viral infections and poster presentation on "Phylogenetic analysis of ocular clinical herpes simplex virus - 1 isolates for genotyping and analysis of thymidine kinase gene to detect resistance to acyclovir".

Mr. Y. Samson Moses attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 Conference held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009 and made a poster presentation on Comparison of pp65 antigenemia assay with Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction for the detection of HCMV infections in renal Transplant patients and an oral presentation on Reverse Transcriptase (RT-PCR) based DNA- sequencing for genotyping of Rubella virus isolates from lens aspirates.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ms. R. Gayathri attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 Conference held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009 and gave an oral presentation on Comparison of Quantiferon TB gold IT test and PCR targeting MPB64 and IS6110 region for the detection of M. tuberculosis genome and made a poster presentation on “Evaluation of molecular method for species level identification of ocular Nocardia isolates and in vitro antibiotic susceptibility pattern”.

Dr. B. Mahalakshmi attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 Conference held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009 and made a poster presentation on “Direct detection and genotyping of Toxoplasma gondii in Clinical specimens from HIV positive Toxoplasma retinochoroiditis patients - In a tertiary eye hospital in India”.

Ms. M Sowmiya attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 Conference held at Hyderabad from January 15th – 18th 2009 and made an oral presentation on “Analysis of mutations in QRDR region of gyrase A gene of bacteria belonging to Enterobacteriaceae isolated from the ocular specimens by PCR based DNA sequencing” and won the Best Oral Presentation Award.

Ms. M Rajeswari attended the Asia Arvo Conference at Hyderabad. She was the Invited Speaker at Asia Arvo 2009 and delivered a talk on Evolution of ortho keratology.

Dr. N. Angayarkanni attended the ASIA- ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad 14th to 18th Jan 09 and gave a talk as invited speaker on Homocysteine levels and Lysyl oxidase Activity in patients with pseudoexfoliation Syndrome and also made a poster presentation on Effects of Amino acids mixture on CHO-K1 cells exposed to high glucose.

Ms.K. Coral attended the ASIA- ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad 14th to 18th Jan 09 and made a poster presentation on LOX activity in cultured bovine RPE cells exposed to oxidative stress.

Ms. Saijyothi attended the ASIA- ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad 14th to 18th Jan 09 and made an oral presentation on Tear 2D protein profile in Dry Eye Syndrome.

Ms. Bharathi attended the ASIA- ARVO 2009 Conference at Hyderabad 14th to 18th Jan 09 and made a poster presentation on Arylesterase and Homocysteine Thiolactonase Activity of PON1 in the vitreous of patients with Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy”.

Dr. J. Biswas, Dr. S. Krishnakumar, Ms. Abhirami, Ms. Moutushy Mitra, Ms. Sasirekha Krishnan, Ms. Seethalakshmi, Ms. Shruthi L, Ms. Vandhana, Ms. Srilatha Jasty, Mr. Mallikarjuna and Ms. Anju H attended Asia ARVO 2009 held from 15th to 18th January 2009. Dr. J. Biswas and Dr. S. Krishnakumar attended the Pathology Meet on 20th January 2009.

Dr. L. Vijaya attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and delivered guest lectures on Role of cataract surgery in primary angle-closure glaucoma, Glaucoma burden in the community and Prevalence and types of secondary glaucoma in the Chennai glaucoma study.

Dr. Ronnie George attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and delivered guest lectures on Technological innovations in glaucoma, Types of studies and Estimated number of persons with glaucoma in India.

Dr. Nikhil Choudhari attended the Asia ARVO Conference at Hyderabad between 15th and 18th January 2009.

Mr. S Ve Ramesh attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and presented the paper on: “Chennai Glaucoma Optic Nerve Head Imaging Study: Population Based Longitudinal Assessment of Optic Nerve Head Progression in Primary Open Angle Glaucoma, and Primary Angle Closure Glaucoma”. He got the best paper award.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Dr. Nikhil S. Choudari attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and presented the paper on: "Intraocular pressure Asymmetry can indicate undiagnosed primary Glaucoma"

Mr. Muneeswar Gupta attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and presented a poster on "Retinal Sensitivity over Hard Exudates Using Fundus Microperimeter" and received Best Poster Award.

Ms. Rajni Rajan attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and presented a poster on "Macular Pigment Optical Density and Spectral Domain Optical Coherence Tomography in South Indians" and received the Travel Fellowship Award.

Ms. V. Lokapavani attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and presented a poster on "Association of Indoor or Outdoor Work with the Prevalence of Lens Opacities in a Rural South Indian Population"

Ms. A. Rashima attended the ASIA ARVO 2009 at Hyderabad from 15th to 18th January 2009 and presented the poster on "Prevalence of Pterygium and Pinguecula in a South Indian Population"

Dr. Sudharshan, Dr. Mamta Agarwal and Dr. Suchitra Pradeep attended the meeting of Uveitis Society of India at Hyderabad on 18th & 19th January 2009.

Neuro-Update Conference was held at Chennai on 25th & 26th Jan 09 Chennai and SN Faculties - Drs. Aditya Neog, S. Ambika, Lingam Gopal, Nikhil Choudhari, Parveen Sen, Ravindra Mohan, Rashmin Gandhi, Shantha, Shikha Bassi, Sumita Agarkar, T. S. Surendran, J. Vijay Ananth, Veena Noronha & Kavitha Kalaivani N attended the conference.

Dr. T. S. Surendran attended the Blind Inauguration Function by National Association for the Blind, Chennai on 30th January 2009 and gave a talk on Community Ophthalmology.

Dr. J. Malathi attended the "Hands on Training Programme" on DNA sequencer conducted by Applied Biosystems from 2nd to 4th February 2009 held at Gurgaon, New Delhi.

Dr. Aditi Johri and Dr. Vinay Sukumar from Cornea attended the AIOS 2009 at Jaipur from 5th to 8th February 2009.

Dr. T. S. Surendran, Dr. S. Meenakshi and Dr. Sumit Agarkar from Squint Pediatric Ophthalmology attended the AIOS 2009 at Jaipur from 5th to 8th February 2009.

Dr. Lingam Gopal, Dr. Promod Bhende and Dr. Muna Bhende from Vitreoretinal Services attended the AIOS 2009 at Jaipur from 5th to 8th February 2009.

Dr. E. Ravindra Mohan, Dr. Priti Uday Khentan, Dr. Bipasha Mukherjee and Dr. Nirmala Subramaniam from Oculoplasty attended the AIOS 2009 at Jaipur from 5th to 8th February 2009.

Dr. J. Biswas, Dr. S. Sudharshan, Dr. Mamta Agarwal and Dr. Sudha K. Ganesh from Uvea attended the AIOS 2009 at Jaipur from 5th to 8th February 2009.

Dr. Rashmin Gandhi, Dr. Ambika from Neuro-ophthalmology and Dr. Olma Veena Noronha from Radiology attended the AIOS 2009 at Jaipur from 5th to 8th February 2009.

Dr. Krishnendu Nandi, Dr. Chinmaya Amulyanath, Dr. Swatgata Sarkar, Dr. Moupia Goswami, Dr. Jay Kumar Chhablan, Dr. Renu R. Antinikar, Dr. Shrutika A. Junagade, Dr. Vardhaman, Dr. Ranjini



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Priya, Dr. Sunitha A and Dr. Rekha S attended the AIOS 2009 at Jaipur from 5th to 8th February 2009.

Dr.L.Vijaya attended the AIOS Conference from 5th February 2009 to 8th February 2009. and participated in the Symposium titled Advances in the comprehensive management of Glaucoma and presented on "Importance of adherence in Management of Glaucoma." Dr. L. Vijaya gave a talk on Epidemiology and Definitions of PACG and Malignant Glaucoma, Diagnosis, Prevention and Management. Dr.L.Vijaya conducted a symposium titled "Glaucoma Progression" and spoke on "Natural History of Primary glaucoma". Dr ANG also participated and spoken on "Risk factors/ Markers for predicting progression". Dr. L.Vijaya participated in a symposium on 7th titled "Current Advances in Management of Glaucoma" and spoke an "Asymmetry in IOP In glaucoma patients". She also conducted an instruction course titled "Glaucoma Drainage Devices - success after failures" & I spoke on "Video presentation of surgical techniques." The - co instructors were Drs ANG SD and GTS.

Dr. HNM attended the TN & Py IAMM local chapter meeting on 18th February 2009 held at Kilpauk Medical College, Chennai.

Dr Amala E George attended the 6th International Workshop on VKH Sarcoidosis, Sympathetic Ophthalmia, Singapore from 26th Feb to 1st March 2009.

Dr Kavitha Kalaivani attended the CME on Pediatric Ophthalmology at Nigeria and gave a talk on Evaluating Strabismus.

Ms. R. Gayathri, attended the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 3rd – 5th March 2009 and made a poster presentation on "Detection of viable Mycobacterium tuberculosis from sputum samples targeting 85 B gene by reverse transcriptase PCR" and won Second Best Poster Award.

Mr. Y. Samson Moses attended the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 3rd – 5th March 2009 and made a poster presentation on "Genotypic and phenotypic characterization of the acyclovir resistance among Herpes simplex virus 1 isolates.

Ms. M. Sowmiya from Microbiology department attended the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 3rd – 5th March 2009 and made a poster presentation on "Application of PCR based RFLP technique targeting the 16S rRNA and DNA sequencing for the identification of anaerobic clinical isolates of Prevotella and Actinomyces spp."

Dr.Ronnie George attended the Colombo Ophthalmic Society Meeting, Colombo on 8th March 2009 and spoke on "Newer technology in glaucoma diagnosis."

Dr.Sachi Devi attended the Regional ophthalmology conference held at Kuala Lumpur between 5th to 7th March 2009 and displayed a poster which showed in brief, the journey of Chennai Glaucoma study

Ms. Saijyothi AV, attended the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 6th & 7th March 2009 and made a poster presentation on Tear fluid 2D gel electrophoresis – development of sample preparation method.

Mr.S.Ve.Ramesh attended the "National Conference on Emerging Trends in Life Sciences, BITS, Pilani during 3rd to 5th March 2009 and presented the paper titled "The Chennai Longitudinal Imaging Study – Progression of optic Nerve Head in subject with primary glaucoma in South Indian Population".



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Ms. K Coral attended the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 3rd – 5th March 2009 and made an oral presentation on Lysyl oxidase activity in RPE cells exposed to Homocysteine

Ms. R Selvi attended the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 3rd – 5th March 2009 and made an oral presentation on Effects of Amino acids Mixture on the Glucose transporter by GLUT4 in CHO-K1 cells exposed to high glucose.

Ms. Barathi attended the "National conference on Emerging trends in life sciences research" held at BITS Pilani from 3rd – 5th March 2009 and made an oral presentation on "The effect of amino acids as antiangiogenic agent in Bovine retinal endothelial cells".

Ms Vinita Kumari attended the "National conference on emerging trends in life sciences research" to held on 6th and 7th March at Birla Institute of Technology Science, Pilani Rajasthan.

Ms. M Rajeswari attended the National Conference of "Emerging trends in Life sciences research" on 6-7 March 2009 at BITS, Pilani and made a poster presentation on "Contact lens fitting Keratoconus – a retrospective study"

Ms. R. Aiswaryah, Ms. V. Abinaya Priya and Ms. S. Sangeetha attended the National Conference on Emerging Trends in Life Sciences, BITS Pilani, between 3rd and 5th March 2009.

Dr. G Kumaramanickavel attended the 34th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Human Genetics (ISHG) at New Delhi, held between 17-20 March, 2009 and gave a talk on 'Mendelian and Complex Disorders: Gene Mapping in SNP Genotyping Era'.

Dr. K. Lily Therese attended Brain storming session on Development of diagnostics for Bioterrorism agents conducted by DRDO and organized by Dr. Shankaran, Anna University on 21st March 2009. There were a total of 8 participants from various disciplines of Science.

Ms. Rajeshwari Mahadevan attended the Eighth Dr. E. Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session on 29th March, 2009 and gave a talk on Intolerant Contact Lens Wear in Keratoconus - Is Scleral Lens An Option?

Ms. Brindha Kumaresan attended the Eighth Dr. E. Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session on 29th March, 2009 and gave a talk on Contact Lens Fitting: Pre and Post Corneal Collagen Cross Linking in Keratoconus.

Ms. Valarmathi attended the Eighth Dr. E. Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session on 29th March, 2009 and Contact Lens Fitting in Megalocornea – A Case Report.



VISION RESEARCH FOUNDATION

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

- ◆ Graham Avery – Director Sales from David Thomas contact lens introduced Rose K contact lenses for irregular corneas.
- ◆ A delegation from Brunie with Dr N Ravindranathan and the Director of Health Services visited on 10th April 2008.
- ◆ Prof Narayana Rao, Research Director and Dr. Kasmir Raja, Dean of Research SRM University, visited our research facility on 18 Jun 08.
- ◆ Dr. Abhay Chowdhary, Secretary of IAMM visited the Basic Medical Science Departments of Sankara Nethralaya, VRF Referral Laboratory, Haddows Road on 17th July 2008.
- ◆ Dr. J. Fielding Hejtmancik of NIH, USA visited Genetics Lab on 28th July 2008 and gave a guest lecture.
- ◆ Mr. Lyonpo, Health Minister of Bhutan and his team visited the Basic Medical Science Departments on 12th September 2008.
- ◆ Dr. David Friedman from Johns Hopkins and Dr. Janey L Wiggs from Harvard Medical School visited the Glaucoma project and Affymetrix Lab on 29th and 30th Sep 2008.
- ◆ Ms Ane Keen, Health Minister of Britain, UK and her team visited Sankara Nethralaya on 8th October 2008.
"Most amazing visit. Your work for humankind is overwhelming. I would love to work with you."
- ◆ Delegation from United Kingdom visited Sankara Nethralaya on 9th October 2008.
- ◆ Dr. Prakash P Kumar, National University of Singapore, Singapore, visited Sankara Nethralaya on 18th November 2008. His comments were,
"The facility looks excellent and there may be several basic science research areas we can consider for collaboration in future."
- ◆ Dr. Rod Bremner, Scientist at University of Toronto, visited Genetics Lab and also gave a guest lecture on retinoblastoma on 13th January 2009.
- ◆ Dr. Eric Pearlman, Ph.D, Professor and Director of Research, Department of Ophthalmology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland visited Microbiology Department on 19th January 2009.
- ◆ Dr. John H. Kempen, Scheie Eye Institute, University of Pennsylvania, USA, visited Sankara Nethralaya on 23rd January 2009. He delivered a lecture titled "Mortality risk associated with the use of immunosuppressive drugs for ocular inflammatory diseases". His comments are,
"This is a beautiful Research Environment and I am sure your work will continue to flourish even more"
- ◆ Dr. Arun Kumar, Associate Professor from Molecular Reproduction, Genetics Division, Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore visited Genetics Lab and gave a lecture titled "Primary Microphaly: Identification of new genes" on 31st March 2009.
- ◆ Dr. Krishnan Nandabalan (Ayugen) and Dr. Uday Matrubutham, Managing Director, Invitrogen, India visited Genetics Lab on 7th Feb, 2009.



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- ◆ Mr. Manish Pungliya, Ayugen biosciences, visited Genetics Lab and discussed regarding the BRCA gene testing, with Dr. N Soumitra on 7th Feb 2009.
- ◆ Board members of Cognizant Foundation visited the Microbiology Department on 16th February 2009. The faculty and Research Scientists attended the meeting conducted to honour the Cognizant Foundation for donating 8 instruments to the Basic Medical Sciences Departments.
- ◆ Dr. S. Swami Nathan, Director, Center for Nanotechnology and Advanced Biomaterials from SASTRA University visited Microbiology Department on 9th March 2009.
- ◆ Dr. J. R. Rao, MVSc, PhD, NFAVS, Head, Division of Parasitology, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar visited Microbiology Department on 9th March 2009 and appreciated the quality of the research being conducted at Microbiology Laboratory and he wanted to collaborate with testing a recombinant antigen for detection of antibodies to *Toxoplasma gondii* in our laboratory.
- ◆ Professor Bala Gurunadhan, HOD of Microbiology Department, Periyar University, Salem visited Microbiology Department on 27th March 2009.
- ◆ Dr. Arun Kumar, Associate professor from Molecular Reproduction, Genetics Division, Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore visited Microbiology Department on 31st March 2009.
- ◆ *Professor Andrew Parratt, Director, Institute for Technology Research and Innovation, Deakin University, Deakin, Australia, visited Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai on 16th March 2009.*
- ◆ Dr. Minu Bajpai, Professor of Paediatric Surgery, AIIMS, New Delhi, visited on 28th March 2009. *"This facility is unique in today's times of commercialization of Health Care System. One cannot, but admire the visionary – Prof. Badrinath. Excellent clinical and research environment. Scientist like Prof. Kumaramanickavel are rare."*
- ◆ Dr. Amit Banerjee, Director-Professor & Head of Cardiothoracic Surgery, GB Pant Hospital, New Delhi, visited on 28th March 2009. *"I agree with all the words of praise showered before me by Dr. Minu Bajpai and shall agree with all that will be said afterwards for this superlative institution and those who seen it."*
- ◆ Dr. Satyajit Rath, National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi, visited on 28th March 2009. *"The commitment of Sankara Nethralaya to research in vision sciences and the facilities and policies designed for that, are both unusual and impressive."*
- ◆ Dr. Arun Balakrishnan, PLSL, Mumbai, visited on 28th March 2009. *"The facility has contributed to the welfare of vision care in society. The thrust of R&D is a good direction to help keep faculty updated."*
- ◆ Dr. C Adithan, JIMPER, Pondicherry, visited Sankara Nethralaya on 28th March 2009. *"This is an excellent hospital and research culture is very good. This will grow further and serve India for several years, etc."*
- ◆ Dr. B S Ramakrishna, CMC Hospital, Vellore, visited on 28th March 2009. *"The institution and facilities are impressive. We thank Prof. Kumaramanickavel for his hospitality and wish the department and institute all success in the future."*
- ◆ Dr. Jayasree Sen Gupta, Dept. of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi, visited Sankara Nethralaya on 28th March 2009. *"I enjoyed the meeting. The laboratories are excellent with very motivated researchers."*



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- ◆ Dr. V I Mathan, National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai, visited on 28th March 2009.
"Thank you for your hospitality. It was good to be in a scientific and caring environment."
- ◆ Prof Chris Dodds, Deputy Chairman, Royal College of Anaesthetists, visited Sankara Nethralaya.
"Just a short note to thank you for all your great organization"
- ◆ Prof Chandrakumar, President, British Ophthalmic Anaesthesia Society visited Sankara Nethralaya.
"I must say, your hospitality was very much appreciated. I enjoyed the tour of your hospital and there is nothing but I have praises. You all work under difficult circumstances and do your job with very good results. I did have a brief idea of Shankar Netralaya but now I have more to say about your institution."

I was made feel at home. I enjoyed meeting your colleagues such as Sujatha (3 of them), Jai chandra, Jagdish and others. Please convey my regards to them. Bala was very kind too. Meeting Drs Lingham Gopal and then SS Badrinath was a bonus. Both of them are so humble"