



Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital

Caring for the community since 1922...



Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital

Delhi | Alwar | Lakhimpur Khiri | Meerut | Ranikhet | Saharanpur | Vrindavan

www.sceh.net

Newsletter Issue: 27

Project Prakash Centre Inauguration



SCEH and the National Eye Institute (NEI), part of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, came together for the inauguration of a dedicated centre for their ongoing initiative, Project Prakash on 22nd August 2023. Ms. Loyce Pace, Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs (OGA), U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) inaugurated the centre, in the presence of Dr. Michael Chiang, Director, National Eye Institute. Project Prakash is a collaboration with the

Brain and Cognitive Science department of MIT, USA, and the mission of the project is to bring light into the lives of the curably blind children and, in so doing, illuminate some fundamental scientific questions about how the brain develops and learns to see. Over the last 18 years, through Project Prakash, 62,000 children have been screened, 800+ children have been provided surgery and 30 children have been provided education and vocational rehabilitation.



Paediatric Center of Excellence Retreat

SCEH hosted a panel discussion on “Conceptualization and developing linkages for establishing the hospital as Pediatric Ophthalmology Centre of Excellence”. Dr. Suma Ganesh led the panel discussion. Dr. Ritu Chaudhary, State Programme Officer, NPCB & VI, was the Chief Guest. The panelists discussed the interventions needed to fill the gaps in prevention of childhood blindness. They brain-

stormed on the use of technology, training and education in the subspecialty, referral policy, advocacy, research, social behavioral communication and collaborations in making the hospital the referral center in North India and making tertiary level care available and accessible for the children of North India.



Empowering the Future of Eye Care: Training at SCEH

In the battle against avoidable blindness, the creation of a skilled and compassionate healthcare workforce is paramount. Standard Chartered-Shroff's Eye Care Education Academy, is

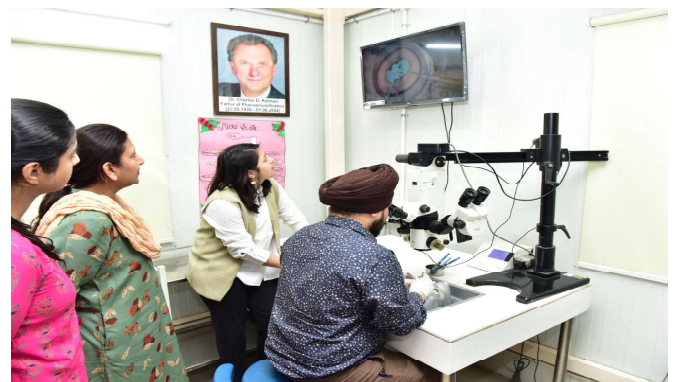
approach empowers our graduates to deliver everything from door-to-door screenings to primary eye care and even complex super-specialty treatments. Innovation is the cornerstone of our program. Through remote digital mentorship, state-of-the-art simulator-based surgical training, well-equipped wet-labs, hands-on short courses, blended learning methods, and sandwich fellowships, we ensure our students are equipped with the latest knowledge and skills. This forward-thinking approach not only enhances the quality of care but also fosters a culture of continuous improvement.

Our residency program and long-term fellowships in Ophthalmology have been producing skilled ophthalmologists for nearly two decades. These fellowships hold profound significance in the realm of ophthal-



pioneering a transformative approach to eye care education. Our mission extends beyond producing proficient doctors; we are dedicated to nurturing a diverse cadre of eye care professionals, ensuring holistic and accessible eye care for all.

At the heart of our initiative is the belief that quality eye care requires a multidisciplinary team. The Education Academy is committed to training world-class doctors, optometrists, allied eye care paramedics, and proficient eye care managers. This holistic



mic healthcare. Our training programs are designed in a way that while the candidate learns, they serve the underserved populations, thereby they bridge the glaring gap in trained ophthalmologists in rural and semi-urban areas. Our structured training addresses the substantial variation in the quality of training received by residents across different institutes in the country. It's worth noting that SCEH goes beyond the conventional to train over 300 ophthalmologists annually through a diverse range of short-term and long-term courses.

The statistics underscore the urgency of our mission. According to the WHO Action Plan Report 2014-2019, the ophthalmologist to population ratio in urban India stands at 1:25,000, while in rural India, it's a staggering 1:250,000. Furthermore, a significant portion, estimated at 40-50%, of ophthalmologists within the country remain surgically inactive. The recommended ratio of mid-level personnel to ophthalmologists is 4-5:1, but the stark reality is a dismal 1:1. This data emphasizes the pressing need for more trained ophthalmologists, particularly in underserved areas, and a parallel demand for well-trained supporting staff to enhance the efficiency of the healthcare system.

Ophthalmology, as a field, is evolving rapidly, with newer technologies and techniques continuously emerging.

While the demand for sub-specialists in urban settings is on the rise, the need for comprehensive ophthalmologists is paramount just a few hundred kilometers outside of urban areas. Recognizing the

dynamic nature of advancements in this field, SCEH offers a diverse array of training options, including long and short-term courses and two-day workshops for skill enhancement. Our skill-upgradation courses are tailored for practicing ophthalmologists, providing an opportunity to acquire specific skills in a concentrated format over a weekend.



The impact of our training programs is exemplified by our DNB candidate, who completed a long-term oculoplasty fellowship at SCEH and successfully performed a Simple Limbal Epithelial Transplant in a patient with a chemical injury in Darbangha. This is just one instance of how our training is making a real-world difference in eye care.

At SCEH, we are committed to empowering the future of eye care by producing not just more ophthalmologists but proficient and compassionate ones who can meet the diverse needs of our nation. Our training initiatives are not just about acquiring knowledge; they are about transforming lives and bringing the gift of sight to those who need it most.

*-Dr. Umang Mathur, Dr. Isha Chaudhari & Dr. Monica Gandhi
Contributions from – Dr. Sima Das and MED, SCEH*

Impact story

providing quality and specialty eye care where it's needed the most



Dr. Abul did his short term training in cornea and retina in 2021 at eye care education academy and aspires to start a multispeciality eye care service for the people of Ganganagar where it is not available currently. His story is a testimony to the

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Dear Teachers and Mentors@SCEH

I wish to inform you that we have started full fledged Retina Services at our Hospital SBSMS Gen Hospital, Budha Johad, Dabla, District Sriganaganagar, Rajasthan, this hospital is situated 70 km away from district head quarters and it is in rural setting, all this has been possible courtesy the generous mentorship i received at SCEH.

Dr. Abul Arfa

”

percolating effect of training and exemplifies the impact that Standard Chartered –Shroff's Eye care education academy can have on improving eye healthcare for the community.

Patient Story

Rahul, a 10-year-old boy was identified as a multi-disability child in June 2020 by our IDI (Early Identification and Early interventions) team, supported by Perkins Project, during a door-to-door survey.

He had severely compromised eyesight. He could not focus on any object. He could barely walk. Whenever he tried to take a step, he would fall down. He also was unable to speak clearly.

His family had given up on him and had left his fate in the hands of destiny. They were not aware of any special education or help that could have been provided to the child in the early years of life.

Over time, with the help of our team, his focus during daily activities improved. The pediatric ophthalmology team got him spectacles without any financial investment, which helped him with his vision. After three years of intervention, he can now walk without support and also communicate by forming sentences. He is now enrolled in a govern-



ment school to enhance his learning. SCEH also supported him to procure a disability certificate for future benefits. We also provided him a study table for home. Now he is learning alphabets and counting very well with the support of special educators of IDI Project in Vrindavan Centre.

*Story contributed by – Ms. Sangeeta Lawaniya
Project Office Perkins Dept*

The string of death



This is the story of a patient, who severely injured his eye with an abrasive synthetic manjha (kite string). On a Sunday morning, Surinder

Kumar Jha was on his way to work on his scooter, when suddenly from nowhere, a deadly kite string got entangled in the visor hinges of his helmet. This led to a cut on the forehead, nasal area, upper and lower eyelid, and inner part of eye. He almost fell off the flyover.

It is not uncommon to find synthetic manjha being used and disposed away carelessly or just left hanging here or there, despite a ban on its sale. Surinder's wife happened to be an old patient of SCEH, who insisted he get treated here. Surinder underwent ocular surgeries for repair of the eyelids and the sclera. With the surgeries, his eyesight could be restored. Surinder will soon be joining his job back. He is thankful to the doctors here for saving his vision and life.



Dr. Suneeta Dubey,

Medical Director, Director Glaucoma Services,

SCEH network received the prestigious Community Ophthalmology Oration Award from ACOIN (Association of Community Ophthalmologists of India).

"This recognition means so much to me, not only as a professional achievement but also as a testament to the power of community-driven efforts in the field of eye care. I am grateful to SCEH for giving me the opportunity/ platform to serve the community."

Dr. Suneeta Dubey

Sukarya Story (Kaizen)

"Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection"-Mark Twain

Regular improvement and process optimization can help in the journey of personal growth and one can make a long-term, steady progress.



In SCEH Vrindavan, the registration process for Ayushman Bharat scheme beneficiaries' relied on fingerprint matching. While registering these patients if fingerprints did not match, they would drop out of the surgery. This led to patient dissatisfaction and inappropriate feedback about the hospital.

Mr. Satendra Singh realized the issue and implemented Sukarya for improving the registration process. He came up with an innovative solution. Instead of relying solely on fingerprint matching; facial recognition was also introduced as a process for registration.

This change resulted in reduced waiting time for patients and a decrease in dropout rates. The introduction of facial recognition has helped address the registration issue and has improved the overall experience for patients.

Value Story

Tanu is a MRA in Saharanpur. She is a very sincere, honest and passionate MRA and just completed one year and 2 months of her training. She operates the cash register independently and is consistently enthusiastic about embracing new challenges and broadening her skill set. She never offers excuses for unfinished tasks and always meets deadlines. She is maintaining a good record of all transactions and demonstrates attention to detail ensuring no error in the cash calculation at the end of the day. She is an inspiration to her co-workers.



Independence day Celebration



Humans of SCEH

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow



I started working at SCEH as a gardener on 28, July 1999. I clearly remember having an extensive interview for this job. I started out alone and with a salary of only Rs 6000 per month and now we are a team of six. I love the

fact that everyone who comes to the hospital praises the garden and that is what keeps me going. Most of our plants are from Delhi but we do bring some from Kolkata.

I am a shovel and spade person. I work everywhere in the hospital but the main garden is my dream place, and that is where I like to be. I travel two hours each side to get to work and then back home, but only once have I reached late in all these years.

I lost my wife to COVID, but by God's grace, all my children are well settled. One of son's is an IT professional, and one is a driver. My third son is a gardener like me. I recently purchased a computer for my son, and that makes me really happy.

The hospital is undergoing a lot of changes, however, I do not like cutting of trees and I am sad some trees of the hospital are being cut. I think composting is a good idea for the environment but it will not be feasible to be setup in the hospital because of foul smell.

Contrary to what people might think, I understand English. I have worked with Dr. Steven Roy, and used to understand everything he said.

In future, I would love to add water lilies, lotuses, and a fish pond to the hospital. I would also want re-carpeting of grass and a vertical garden. This is a beautiful garden, with its heritage value, and greenery will only make it better. This hospital is like my home and these gardens, my own.

- Ram Bhawan



Achhnera Vision Centre Inauguration



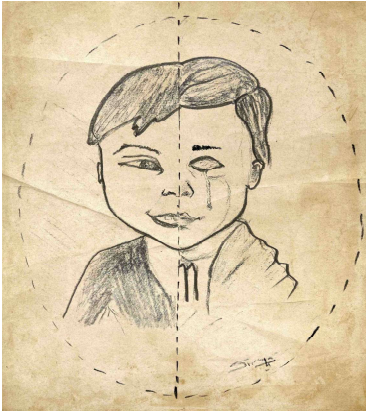
Sadabad Vision Center inaugurated by Mr. Pradeep Chaudhary MLA Sadabad Assembly

Glaucoma HBT program



In collaboration with OrbisCybersight, SCEH conducted a Hospital Based Training program from August 16th - 20th. Dr. Sushmita-Kaushik, Professor Ophthalmology from PGIMER Chandigarh, led the program.

The Two Rooms



Another Tuesday OPD, I have become pretty familiar with room number 8 and 9 in the private block. Hopping between these rooms to see one patient after another comes naturally to me now as I enter the 7th week of my fellowship. But

today was different, an experience I'll always remember.

Just like any other day, I hopped into room Number 9 to meet this cutest bundle of joy. A four years old patient with Down's syndrome had visited our hospital with his mother; with symptoms of canaliculitis. He was so full of life that we ended up playing, clicking pictures and even dancing a little. By the time he left, most of the OPD staff (AOP's and doctors) was marveling on how could a kid uplift everyone's mood so easily. I left room number 9 feeling the happiest.

Now was my turn to hop into room number 8. As I peeped through the glass window of the door con-

necting the doctor's lobby to the OPD room to see what was happening, I could see my consultant sitting there with an expression that was just opposite to the one I had when I left room number 9. I entered the room; my consultant was breaking a sad news to the parents of a four years old boy with bilateral retinoblastoma about how he would be needing radiotherapy in one of the sockets for the advanced stage of tumor, which the parents didn't seem ready for. The only other option was trial of palliative chemotherapy to save the kids life. I saw the mother break into tears, and so broke the happy spell on my face that the kid in room number 9 had left. I could feel her pain, gut wrenching!

It is funny how as doctors we are asked to not attach ourselves to our patients, how can you not. Isn't it empathy that made us dream about becoming doctors as a kid? The roller coaster of emotions I felt in those 30 minutes helped me strive to be a better doctor after all.

Dr. Shreya Keshari
Fellow (Oculoplasty and Ocular Oncology)

Phaco-trabeculectomy Workshop



DMEK Workshop



On the occasion of National Youth Day, the youth of SCEH speak:

How do you feel being today's youth and what do you aspire to be?



Manvi Gupta
Optometry Intern

Being part of today's youth means navigating a world of both unprecedented opportunities and challenges. I aspire to lead a purpose driven life.



Anish Mandal
Fellow Optometrist

I feel blessed to be born in a generation with ample opportunities. I aspire to be the architect of our own success.



Bhavesh Gulati
Optometry Trainee

Being today's youth means navigating a complex world with the power to shape the future. I aspire to be a positive force for change, making a meaningful impact in the community



Sony Attri
Retina optometry fellow

The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. I aspire to become a good leader who can lead youth of tomorrow and also want to be the best version of myself, continually growing.



Khushboo
OT Technician

I am saddened by the political affairs of the society these days, as politicians work self-welfare not the welfare of the common people. Tomorrow, I aspire to be financially independent so that I can fulfill all my needs and even help the people in need and stop drug abuse and addiction



Khushi
OT Technician

I am happy to be today's youth as I can see a tremendous change in the mentality of the people towards their daughters. Tomorrow, I aspire to change the security related issues for women in country. I also want to reduce inflation and help the needy in future



Harkirat Graphic
Design Intern

I am blessed to be a part of the generation with so many opportunities. I aspire to have my own business and run it smoothly



Himanshu
Photography Intern

I feel both excited and challenged being a part of today's world as a youth. On one hand, we have incredible access to information and technology, and on the other hand, we face unique challenges. I aspire to decide my goal and work on its achievement.



Monalisha Maity
Donor Relation officer

Today's youth are a dynamic force shaping the world's future. It is an amazing feeling to be a part of such a force. We have technology and a global perspective, which can strive for an equitable world. I aspire to be an independent woman in all aspects.



Deepika
Trainee AOP

I feel more connected to social media. It gives us education and better chance of employment. I am inspired by young people who stand by weaker section students. I aspire to be one of them.



Osheen
Trainee AOP

Being today's youth I feel more creative and talented. I aspire to do my work so well that makes me famous. I want to be an inspiration for everyone



Waliya
Trainee AOP

I feel energetic being today's youth. I aspire to be the best version of myself tomorrow and I want to continue learning and making a positive impact on others.



Aman Guliyani
Trainee HR

I feel happy and lucky that I am the one born in the generation of technology with a touch of humbleness. I aspire to reduce formalities in the organization where I am working.



Expanding Eye Healthcare to the unreachable

ITC limited and SCEH joined hands to provide free eye care services in Saharanpur district. This collaboration is aimed to cover more than ten interior villages in the district where there are no facilities. These services will be provided through Mobile Vision Units (MVU) that are equipped with diagnostic machines. Trained paramedics who can diagnose eye ailments such as vision error and cataract will be present on these vans.

Focus Group Discussion at the hospital

This is an integral part of the Service Excellence where a small group of patients from the OPD, IPD & OT are invited to discuss their experiences, opinions and suggestions related to patient experience and clinical care. This method gives us valuable first hand insights for improving the quality of care and addressing patient needs.



Project Drishti: Children's Eye care in Vrindavan

After the success of the first phase of Project Drishti, a second phase sponsored by the Seva Foundation has been initiated. In its second year, this project has expanded into new areas in Uttar Pradesh. The project includes upgrading existing pediatric eye services in Vrindavan, and training vision technicians to carry out refraction for children. Together, the Seva Foundation and SCEH have worked to create a robust ecosystem where the vision of children can be restored.



Happy reading!

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