



LV PRASAD EYE INSTITUTE

Diploma in Community Eye Health (January – June 2012)

Information & Prospectus



**International Centre for Advancement
of Rural Eye care (ICARE)**

Hyderabad, India



The students with the faculty members (2010 Batch)

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LV Prasad Eye Institute

Introduction

LV Prasad Eye Institute is a comprehensive eye health facility with its main campus located in Hyderabad, India. A World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Prevention of Blindness, the Institute offers comprehensive patient care, sight enhancement and rehabilitation services and high-impact rural eye health programs. It also pursues cutting edge research and offers training in human resources for all levels of ophthalmic personnel.

LVPEI's mission is to provide equitable and efficient eye care to all sections of society. In the past 24 years we have provided outpatient services to over 6.1 million people and surgical care to over 700,000 patients, more than 50 percent of them free regardless of complexity. We have trained over 12,500 eye care personnels from India and abroad. LVPEI's innovative and comprehensive approach to community eye health, known as the LVPEI eye health pyramid has been adopted as a model by the government of India and by other developing countries. LVPEI is a not-for-profit organization governed by two trusts: The Hyderabad Eye Institute and the Hyderabad Eye Research Foundation.

The LVPEI system is now a network with 1 Centre of Excellence at Hyderabad, 3 Tertiary centres at Bhubaneswar, Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada and 81 secondary and primary care centres that cover the remotest rural areas in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. Each day hundreds of people, who cannot afford eye care, receive care from some of the best eye health professionals, while hundreds more benefit from LVPEI's rural affiliates and satellite centres in urban slums. These centres have seen 2.46 million outpatients in Andhra Pradesh alone, and over 60% have been treated free. Of more than 218,731 surgeries, two-thirds have been done for free of cost. Our rural and urban community eye health programs include surveys of over 4,948 villages with a total population of over 3.53 million, of which about 12% were identified as having eye problems. Teams of community eye health workers including local volunteers have conducted more than 3500 community screening and 2698 school screening programs. These services provided, apart from surgeries, include prescription of spectacles, follow-up visits, referrals, training and community rehabilitation.

International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care

The International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care (ICARE) was founded in 1998, and is an integral part of the Institute. LVPEI's community eye care services are planned and managed by ICARE. LVPEI has been involved in developing eye care services in those areas of Andhra Pradesh and other parts of India where such facilities are neither available nor well developed. ICARE is an organized large-scale effort to reduce blindness in rural and unreached India, and other parts of the developing world, over the long term. ICARE strives toward the following major objectives:

- To develop high quality self-sustaining eye care services in the needy areas of India and other parts of the developing world
- To train all cadres of eye care personnel to provide excellent and efficient eye care services
- To participate in the planning of eye health initiatives in the developing world based on well-documented and reliable epidemiological information about blindness and visual impairment among the population and
- To undertake operations and research projects to understand the best way to deliver eye care services to entire communities.

ICARE was established with the support of Christoffel- Blindenmission, Germany and Sightsavers International, United Kingdom.

Community eye health

Community eye health extends the individual patient-based traditional clinical practice of ophthalmology to the assessment and facilitation of good eye health to the population as a whole.

Need for the program

The principle of community eye health is to apply the knowledge of eye care to the community to reduce blindness and visual impairment. This specialized area of study is not included in the routine curriculum of ophthalmology teaching in India and, to the best of our knowledge, in other developing countries. Hence, Diploma in Community Eye Health aims to help professionals and programs to focus on delivering quality eye care to benefit the community as a whole.

Demographic and epidemiological transitions and changing lifestyles have led to an increase in eye ailments and blindness. The knowledge and skills required to prevent and treat visual impairment, and rehabilitate the blind and the visually impaired, improves the quality of their lives and also benefits society. The skills learnt from this program can be applied to other health care and development programs. The program fits the broad objectives of the global 'VISION 2020: The Right to Sight' program.

Role and scopes

The role and scope of the community eye health specialist would include either or all of the following:

- Assessing the eye care needs of communities and the population
- Designing and implementing eye care programs
- Management of programs
- Evaluation of eye care programs
- Development of community eye health program and training
- Advocacy for community eye health and influencing health policy
- Epidemiological research into visual impairment and major eye diseases, clinical trials and health services and
- Writing proposals to raise funds for eye care service delivery of blindness

To equip the community eye health specialist for these tasks, training will be imparted in:

- Epidemiology and bio-statistics
- Planning, implementing, managing and evaluating programs
- Developing training programs and human resource development
- Communication and computing skills
- Hands-on practical field experience for undertaking surveys
- Assessing the causes of important eye diseases in the community
- Designing, conducting and analyzing research projects and
- Preparing funding proposals and fund-raising

Learning outcomes

At the end of the program the students will:

- acquire the knowledge and understanding of the core elements of community eye health
- know-how to apply the core elements for activities related to the prevention of blindness
- transfer the skills learnt to their peers and subordinates at their work place
- use the broad-based curriculum to implement systems in any health-related field
- use problem-solving skills effectively and
- improve their interaction and communication skills and become computer literate

Career and advancement

The program is planned so as to examine eye care in the context of health care as a whole. This greatly enhances its utility and practicability, since the core components and course taught are applicable to any general health care program.

Successful students who complete six months of course work after the diploma will be eligible for the lateral entry into the Master's program, being run in collaboration with the University of New South Wales, Australia.*

Program audience & requirements

- Qualified ophthalmologists with a recognized postgraduate degree from the Medical Council of India (MCI) or any other board of education and with an aptitude for application of clinical ophthalmology for the benefit of the community
- General doctors with a Bachelor's degree in Medicine and Surgery recognized by the MCI, or any other board of education with at least one year's relevant experience in eye care service delivery
- Eye care professionals such as optometrists with a recognized Bachelor's degree and demonstrable one-year work experience at an eye hospital/eye centre and another year in eye care are also eligible to apply
- Administrators and managers of eye hospitals/centres with a Bachelor's degree, preferably in Science, and with a demonstrable experience of running an eye centre for a continuous period of one year are also eligible to apply

Special consideration will be given to candidates who may not satisfy the above criteria, but who are eye care professionals with collective experience of at least three years in the field of eye care.

Program outline

Course I: Introduction to Community Eye Health

The course aims to provide an understanding of major global initiatives regarding prevention and control of blindness, and an ability to translate these to the local level. The course includes discussion of the following:

- The concept of a 'community'
- Definitions of blindness and visual impairment
- Global initiatives of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight
- Impact of blindness and visual impairment at global and local levels
- Issues in the prevention and control of major blinding eye diseases

*with minimum 65% marks

Course 2: Community Eye Health Needs Assessment

The course aims to develop an ability among students to assess the eye care needs of the community using primarily qualitative and quantitative methods. Emphasis will also be placed on the use of epidemiological and statistical methods to perform community eye health needs assessment. The course will include the following topics:

- Scope and uses of epidemiology
- Measuring the frequency and effect of disease
- Framing a hypothesis
- Understanding survey methods, sampling methods and data management
- Planning an eye disease screening program
- Descriptive and inferential statistics
- Development of a survey instrument

Course 3: Epidemiology of Blinding Eye Diseases

This course aims to inculcate an ability to apply the principles of community eye health for the prevention and treatment of common blinding eye diseases in adults and children. The course includes the following topics:

- Role of screening programs in the prevention and control of blindness and visual impairment
- Controlling common eye infections
- Causes and risk factors associated with common blinding diseases in adults and children
- Investigating epidemics of communicable eye diseases

Course 4: Advocacy and Education in Community Eye Health

This course introduces students to the principles of advocacy, health promotion and education as applied to community eye health. The concept of advocacy will be related to positive eye health and health care practice and policy. The course addresses the following areas:

- Impact of health care systems on the work of community eye health professionals
- Analysis and interpretation of policy at various levels including formation and utilization
- How to advocate on eye health and related issues to a range of stakeholders and audiences
- Application of the principles of health promotion and education and their roles in community eye health
- Planning and producing IEC (information, educational and communication) materials for eye health promotion/education
- Planning, implementation and evaluation of community eye health promotion and education strategies

Course 5: Eye Health Economics and Sustainability

This course introduces students to the basics of economic evaluation including cost-effectiveness, cost-minimization, cost-utility and cost-benefit. The program also introduces the principles of sustainability and factors critical to the sustainability of an eye care program. Examples from different programs will be used to help develop an understanding of the concepts of economic evaluation and sustainability. The course includes the following topics:

- Introduction to health economics
- The concept of opportunity cost
- Economics of eye care delivery

- Methods of economic evaluation and their application to eye health programs
- The concept of sustainability with relevance to eye care
- Sustainable service delivery systems
- Financial management
- Fund raising and resource mobilization from donor perspective
- Donor reporting

Course 6: Eye Care Program Management

This course aims to develop the students' ability to apply their knowledge to issues related to community eye health and incorporate this knowledge with management principles and functions. The course combines theory with practice and includes the following topics:

- Program planning and management
- Eye care service delivery models
- Social marketing
- Management systems and tools
- Human resource development
- Eye care program monitoring and evaluation

Students should be proficient in reading and writing English as the medium of instruction is English.

Admission

Student recruitment: Only those students identified by sponsoring organizations or institutions who are willing to support their expenses on fees, travel and living costs will be enrolled. Students applying to ICARE directly should forward a copy of their application form to the sponsoring organizations for possible consideration, if slots are available. Organizations can also sponsor students for individual course, but students enrolled for a individual course are not eligible to receive a stipend.

Number of students: A minimum of 15 and a maximum of 20 students will be enrolled into the program.

Program dates: The DCEH 2012 program will be conducted from January 02, 2012 (Monday) to June 30, 2012 (Saturday). The program offers students the facility to combine individual courses or pursue a single course.

Award of diploma: A 'Diploma in Community Eye Health' will be awarded to candidates who successfully complete the six months program. Students enrolling for a single course have the choice to take all the courses within the specified time period of three years and qualify for the diploma certificate. Students enrolling for selected course will receive a certificate of completion after completing the chosen course.

Stipend: Full-time sponsored students will be paid a stipend of Rs. 4,000 per month to cover their expenses. Students receiving special fee packages for the program and those attending individual course are not eligible for a stipend.

Accommodation: Fulltime students are provided shared accommodation on the ICARE campus. Indian vegetarian food at subsidized rates is available in the campus canteen. Students with special needs will be facilitated in finding accommodation close to the campus.

Fee (excluding taxes)

Diploma in Community Eye Health Program – 6 months

	Low income Countries and India (INR)	Middle income Countries (INR)	High income Countries (INR)
Program fee	300,000	400,000	500,000
Living costs	60,000	60,000	60,000
Total	360,000	460,000	560,000
	(US \$ 8000)	(US \$ 10223)	(US \$ 12445)
Fee per course*	50,000	68,000	85,000

*Does not include living expenses

(1 US \$ = Rs 45)

Staying in campus, though optional, is recommended. The living expenses would be approximately Rs.12, 000 (about US \$ 250-300) per month in Hyderabad, India, which covers accommodation, boarding and other expenses.

Travel costs to and from the work place to Hyderabad to attend the program will be borne by the students.

Note: Low, middle and high Income economy countries as per World Bank ranking (World Development Report, Knowledge for Development, 1998/99)

Program Convenors

S Sheeladevi & Rohit Khanna
email: sheela@lvpei.org, rohit@lvpei.org

Faculty – Internal

Md Azam Ali	Suresh Kuruganti	Suneetha Sapur
S Baburao	Sashi Mohan	S Sheeladevi
K Jyothi	Padmaja Kumari Rani	Kovai Vilas
S Krishnaiah	Srinivas Marmamula	Jachin David Williams
Rohit Khanna	V Rajashekar	

(We will also draw on the expertise of the LVPEI medical and scientific faculty during the program.)

Faculty -External

Raghupathy Anchala	R Suresh Kumar	G M Subba Rao	J P Singh
S Anil Chandran	Elizabeth Kurian	GV Rao	R Sudhir
Kasinath Bhoosnurmath	Franklin Daniel	P Srinivasa Reddy	R D Thulasiraj
Navratan Dhanuka	Kasinath Lakkaraju	Santhosh Moses	K Viswanath
Kuldeep Dole	GV S Murthy	Swapan Samanta	Asim Kumar Sil
Gunawathy Fernandez	Krishna Natarajan	B R Shamanna	Lalitha Raghuram
Ronnie George	Praveen K Nirmalan	S Chandrasekhar Shetty	Usha Raman
Parikshit Gogate	R Pararajasegaram	Rahul Shidhaye	Pradeep Krishnatray
Nanda Kishore	Noela Prasad	Rajan Shukla	

Living in Hyderabad

Language: Hyderabad is a cosmopolitan city and though Telugu is the language of the state, English, Hindi and Urdu are understood and spoken by the majority of the people. Knowing these languages is a distinct advantage for conversing and dealing with the local population while using public transport and in shops and business places. Assistance can be arranged for students to acquire a working knowledge of these languages. The Institute library has language translation books.

Climate: Hyderabad enjoys three main seasons: summer, monsoon and winter. Summers are warm, starting from March and running through June; whereas winters are pleasant, starting from November till February. Light clothing for summer and a sweater or jacket for winter is recommended.

Food: Hyderabad is known for its world-renowned rich and exquisite cuisine. The local food is quite spicy, but continental, Chinese and other food are also available. Fruits are available round the year; these include bananas, apples, grapes, oranges, mangoes, and melons, which are very affordable during the season.

Health: Health and medical insurance is not compulsory in India. Eye examinations will be provided free of cost to students at LVPEI. General practitioners, superspecialty hospitals, and nursing homes offer quality care, if needed. Medication and drugs are easily available.

Recreation: Cinema theatres, parks, and local sightseeing places offer entertainment and recreation. Many picnic spots exist in and around Hyderabad – most of them can be visited within a day.

Communication: The nearest post office is 1 km from the Institute. International and National Subscribers Trunk Dialing (ISD and STD) facilities are available in the vicinity. Mail and courier services can also be arranged from the Institute. Internet kiosks and cybercafes in the city offer good services at nominal charges.

Banks and valuables: Several nationalised banks close to the Institute provide for bank transfer of money and safekeeping of valuables with a locker facility. The average time period for making a bank transfer to USA or Europe is 7-10 days. Most banks have Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) and credit and debit cards can be used to withdraw money.

Libraries and reading rooms: Apart from the Institute library, libraries at the National Institute of Nutrition and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology are open to visitors, as also the British Library. Arrangements can be made for students to use library facilities at other medical colleges too.

Shopping: The twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad are famous for their pearl bazaars, jewellery, glass bangles, handicrafts and handlooms. Most shops accept national and international credit cards.

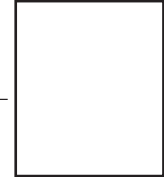


LV PRASAD EYE INSTITUTE, HYDERABAD

International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care

Diploma in Community Eye Health

APPLICATION FORM



NAME: (in block letters): _____

Sex (M/F): _____ Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy): _____

Country of Residence: _____ Nationality: _____

Profession: _____

Passport No. _____

Address for Correspondence:

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Email: _____

Academic Qualifications

Degree	University/Institution	Subject	Year of completion

Work Experience

Employer	Position held	Date	
		From	To

Program applying for 6-months fulltime Diploma in Community Eye Health

Individual courses in Community Eye Health

Specify course names (if applying for individual courses):

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Expectations

a. What do you intend to learn from the program/course ?

b. How do you think you will use what you have learnt from the program after its completion?

Reference

Name and address of the employer (If employed) **or referee** (If unemployed):

Sponsorship

a. Have you applied for sponsorship? Yes No

b. Which organization/s have you applied to:

c. Is the sponsorship confirmed? Yes No

Declaration

I confirm that I have read the application form and the details furnished are true to the best of my knowledge and ability. If granted a place on the program, I will comply with the regulations and stipulations of the recognizing authority, the International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care (ICARE), LV Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Date: _____

Place: _____ **Signature of the Applicant:** _____





THE LVPEI EYE HEALTH PYRAMID



Vision

To create excellent and equitable eye care systems that reach all those in need



L V Prasad Eye Institute
Hyderabad, India



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