

MoU with NISER

An MoU was signed between LVPEI Bhubaneswar and NISER (National Institute of Science, Education and Research, Dept. of Atomic Energy) Bhubaneswar on 23rd April 2013, with Dr T Chandrasekhar (Director, NISER) and Dr Sujata Das (Director, LVPEI Bhubaneswar) as the signatories. Also present were Dr Taraprasad Das, Vice Chair, LVPEI Network, and Dr Aparna Rao, Head, Glaucoma Services, LVPEI Bhubaneswar. The MoU will lead to the undertaking of joint projects of common interest, and the utilization of the facilities and expertise of both the institutions specific to the collaborative areas.



Dr Swathi Kaliki addressing a press conference on the occasion of the **Seventh World Retinoblastoma Awareness Week** May 12th – 18th, 2013, as part of the week-long activities meant to bring public focus on Retinoblastoma, the eye cancer that can occur in any child, but is curable if diagnosed early.

Awards & Honours

S Sheeladevi's article 'Impact of a district-wide diabetes prevention programme involving health education for children and the community' in the *Health Education Journal* was featured on MDlinx.com on 6th May 2013.

Dr Subhabrata Chakrabarti is appointed to the Editorial Board of Translational Vision Science & Technology (TVST) as of May 8, 2013.

Dr Somasheila Murthy and Dr Varsha Rathi

gave invited lectures at a CME 'Captivating Cornea' organized by the Department of Ophthalmology, N.K.P Salve Institute of Medical Sciences (NKPSIMS), and Lata Mangeshkar Hospital (LMH).

Dr Somasheila Murthy performed Descemet's Stripping Endothelial Keratoplasty (DSEK) at the live surgery workshop on 19th May 2013.



A paper that for the first time discusses **the effect of snake bite on the inner retina** – 'Visual loss with inner retinal dysfunction, after snake bite: two case reports' - was published online on 18th May 2013 in *Documenta Ophthalmologica*. The authors are Subhadra Jalali, Tapas Ranjan Padhi, Reema Bansal, Kalyani Sahoo, Soumavaya Basu and Annie Mathai.

"Surya Prakash - A Journey through Life and Art" - a documentary produced by the **Central Audio Visual Unit** at LVPEI has been accepted into the 2013 4th Annual New Hope Film Festival, in New Hope, Pennsylvania, USA. The film directed by Sisir Sahana is scheduled for screening on July 20th at the Stephen J Buck Memorial Theater in New Hope.

Two of the photographs taken by **Naresh Gattu**, Ophthalmic Photographer, received the 'Honorable Mention Award' at the Ophthalmic Photographer's exhibit during the annual meeting of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery in April 2013 in San Francisco, California, USA.



Dr Sangwan,

Good Morning. I am your Boston-Kpro patient from 2010 and am doing good. I have completed 2 semesters of my MBA course work (GPA 3.9/4.0) and will be graduating in May 2014. Health is stable but for intermittent pain in the right eye. However, I am regularly taking eye drops as prescribed. I have replaced the Bcontact lens in the eye myself 3 times over the past 9 months. I am greatly indebted to you, to the fellow doctors and to the team of wonderful people at LVPEI for giving me a new lease of life.

Keshava R Dugnoor, MBA Full Time, 2014
Iowa State University, USA
April 26, 2013

NABH Accreditation for LVPEI Bhubaneswar

LVPEI's Bhubaneswar campus has been awarded accreditation by the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH). The accreditation is effective from 10th May 2013. This is the second LVPEI campus to be accredited by NABH.

Dear Dr Jalali,

I am a developmental paediatrician currently based in New Zealand. Thank you for the e-mail advice for my father regarding a retinal problem. On your advice, I contacted Dr Narayanan who promptly arranged for my father's assessment. My father is 80 yrs old and last week experienced a visual deterioration, in that he was unable to read and write. He saw an ophthalmologist who diagnosed macular degeneration; 'dry' and scarred macula in the left eye and 'wet' in the right eye. My father also had a few background medical issues which I had discussed with Dr Narayanan on phone. On his advice, he has received his first intra-vitreous injection.

My father has asked me to thank you for pointing us in the right direction. I would also like to thank all your team and particularly Dr Narayanan for all his inputs.

Dr Pratima Giri, New Zealand
April 29, 2013

The Battle to Avoid Blindness in a Six Month Old Baby

This is the story of a family from Mahbubnagar district of Andhra Pradesh. The parents of a six month old male child – Baby of Sujata - were relieved to have reached LVPEI in Hyderabad. They had been in shock for over a fortnight after being told by a local doctor that their baby's vision was extremely poor. The doctor referred them to LVPEI, as did every other doctor they had frantically consulted.

When the retina specialist at LVPEI examined the baby, it was clear that he had been born with a problem in both eyes; the diagnosis was Familial Exudative Vitreoretinopathy (FEVR), a genetic disease affecting the growth and development of blood vessels in the retina of the eyes, that progresses throughout life and requires the patient to continue to be in the care of a vitreo-retinal surgeon lifelong. Dr Subhadra Jalali explained to the bewildered parents that even if their child had been operated upon right after birth, perhaps only very little vision could have been restored.

Surgeries for tiny babies is always a hard experience for parents, more so in cases such as this one because the parents were aware that surgery would not restore 100% vision to their little one. Nevertheless, they put up a brave front as their baby had a cannula inserted on the back of his left palm, was anesthetized and operated upon, with the mother Sujata holding on to her baby's hand through it all. It was a sobering moment when the baby was brought out to the in-patient ward with both his eyes patched; can some vision be restored for him?

Another anxious week lapsed before the baby was brought in for a repeat eye examination. This time, the baby was wearing eye glasses as his mother cuddled him close, looking to the doctor to confirm what she already knew as her baby had begun turning his head in response to sounds and light. Dr Jalali confirmed that some ambulatory vision had been restored in the baby's right eye.



The parents gratefully acknowledge the expertise of the pediatric retina clinic, the Children's Eye Care Centre with its trained Optometrists and state-of-the-art facilities, and the rehabilitative care at the institute's in-house Rehabilitation Centre that complemented the retina team's clinical care by sensitizing the young couple to the positive outcomes of early intervention in such children.

Dear Dr Garg,

No, that is too formal. I would much rather say my dear Prashant. Thank you very much for the courtesy and attention I received at LVPEI. What I like very much is the attitude of your people. They are such a caring team - in the corridors, the consultation rooms, the de-robing ante rooms prior to surgery and in the theatre. It seems all pervasive and I reckon that is a rare thing in India today. I wish you the very best in the years to come.

Dr Aminuddin Khan, Hyderabad
April 15, 2013

Dr Aminuddin Khan was operated upon by Dr Prashant Garg for cataract. Dr Khan's wife had earlier undergone a similar surgery in both her eyes.

International Nurses' Day Celebrations, 11th May



@ Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, Hyderabad - Nurses renewed their oath of service and also participated in various cultural programs.



@ GMR Varalakshmi Campus, Visakhapatnam - The celebrations commenced with a prayer, followed by a speech and a skit by the staff on how to keep the environment clean.

Our Support in May

Adilabad

Mr & Ms Revathy
Venu Gopala Chary
Mr Bombay Narayana

Hyderabad

Ms Sukla Mitra
Mr Venkateswara Rao
Ms K Revathi

Kallur

Govindraj Omouja
(Jana Seva Samiti)

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Mr Rohit Hegde

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Ms Lohita Tatincni

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Visakhapatnam

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