



Dr. Lahane with his patients.

Today's Events:

Advanced Live Surgery Workshop

(Relay to ITC Grand Maratha Sheraton)

Highlights of the day.

The first day of Eye Trek 2008 promises to be an exciting day for all delegates with live surgeries performed at J.J. Hospital being beamed across town live to the conference venue – the plush ITC Grand Maratha Sheraton.

The surgical faculty will operate on a variety of cases which include phacos, squint, DSEK (Descemet's Stripping Endothelial Keratoplasty), Macular Hole repair, and Vitreous hemorrhage surgeries.

PROFILE:

Padma Shri Dr. T. P. Lahane leads the way.

Famous the world over for having completed over 100,000 cataract surgeries, Padma Shri Dr. T. P. Lahane certainly needs no introduction to the ophthalmology community. Dr. Tatyrao Pundlikrao Lahane is currently the Head of Department of Ophthalmology at the Grant Medical College & J.J. Group of Hospital, Mumbai.

When he was recently reminded of the feat he had accomplished, the unassuming surgeon replied, "I never thought there was such a record. When I started off I told myself I will try to touch more people than any doctor before me. I don't know whether I have been able to do that but every morning I get up with the same dream that if there is somebody somewhere with an eye problem, I should have the solution for him." Such is the humility of the stalwart.

However, it is interesting to note that Dr. Lahane has fought hardships and reached the pinnacle of success where he is today.

Failed kidneys and deteriorating health brought Dr. Lahane from Ambejogai to Mumbai in 1994 when he was transferred. However, this was a boon in disguise for the crippled Department of Ophthalmology at Grant Medical College, Mumbai. In spite of being on dialysis, he slowly started building the department brick by brick. He started working full time soon after his kidney transplant in 1995. And from then on, he has made the Department of Ophthalmology at J.J. Hospital one of the best in the country. From 1995 when the department of Ophthalmology performed only 600 cataract surgeries a year to its current figure of almost 19,000 surgeries a year; he has certainly played a pivotal role in this transformation.

Today, Dr. Lahane will be leading the phaco surgery team and demonstrating a few challenges commonly faced during phaco surgery.

Highlights of day two :

- Challenging situations in Phacoemulsification – Key Note Address by Dr. Abhay Vasavada.(Hall A, 2 Session)
- Phacomodulation by Dr. Arulmozhi Varman (Hall A, 2 Session)
- Phaco Nightmares Key Note Address by Dr. Amar Agarwal (Hall A, 2 Session)
- Sub 2 mm – A reality today by Dr. T. P. Lahane (Target Emmetropia, Hall A, 4 session)
- Optic Disc Evaluation by Dr. B. Sridharrao (Glaucoma, Hall B, 1 Session)
- Current trends in management of ROP by Dr. Mangat Dogra. (Paed. Oph. Hall B, 2 Session)
- Unusual cataract in paediatric ophthalmology by Dr. Milind Killedar (Paed. Oph. Hall B, 2 Session)
- What is new in Diabetic Retinopathy? By Dr. P. N. Napal (Medical Retina I , Hall B, 3 Session)

PROFILE :

Dr. Rajvardhan Azad.

There is no better medical institute in India than AIIMS – All India Institute of Medical Sciences. And to lead the best institute in the country, you certainly have to be one of the best. Dr. Rajvardhan Azad, who is the Head, Vitreo-Retina & Ocular Trauma Unit at the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS, New Delhi is one of our faculty members at the advanced surgical workshop.

Being a prolific writer, Dr. Azad has authored innumerable national and international publications and also written books such as A practical manual of Indirect Ophthalmoscopy and Current concepts in Ophthalmic Lasers. Dr. Azad with vast experience in the field of Vitreo- retinal surgeries will certainly be able to provide some insights into the art of surgery to our delegates.



Dr. Rajvardhan Azad

PROFILE:

Dr. Samar Basak

Another dynamic member of our surgical faculty is Dr. Samar K. Basak who is a founder member of Disha Eye Hospitals & Research Centre, Barrackpore, West Bengal. An anterior segment specialist, Dr. Basak has an illustrious academic background having completed his MD from the Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS.

Dr. Basak has been a reviewer for “Ophthalmology” journal for 2003-04 and 2004-05. A well known face at conferences in India and abroad, Dr. Samar Basak has been the winner of the Dr. K P Roy award for the best free paper, OSWB 1995; Sante Vision Award – for Best Work done in Cataract in AIOC – 2005, Col. V Rangachari Award for the best paper at the 59th AIOC at Calcutta in 2001 just to name a few of the many trophies adorning his cabinet.

Dr. Samar Basak will be demonstrating his surgical skills in the anterior segment at the workshop today.

RECAP OF DAY 1

Delegate Speak :

"The live surgical workshop was simply brilliant. We couldn't have got a better faculty to operate together. Excellent Workshop indeed!"



- Dr. Ajay Dudani,
Khar, Mumbai

"The quality of the audio visual feed was excellent. The kind of cases chosen was very interesting."

- Dr. Rahul Navalkar,
Kandivali, Mumbai

"The surgical workshop was truly a wonderful experience for me. Dr. Lahane's effortless cataract surgeries were the best I have ever seen."

- Dr. Nikoloz Labauri,
Vitreo Retinal Fellow,
from Georgia.



Dr. Rajvardhan Azad operating on a case of vitreous haemorrhage at the Sir J.J. Hospital which was beamed live to the conference venue - ITC Grand Maratha Sheraton.

REVIEW OF DAY 1:

Advanced Surgical Workshop: An Eye Opening Experience!

The first day of Eye Trek Focus 2008 got off to a flying start with the live telecast of the Advanced Surgical Workshop. The surgeries began at 9.00 am at the department of Ophthalmology, Sir J. J. Hospital and were beamed live to the conference venue – ITC Grand Maratha Sheraton. The telecast was warmly received by over 400 delegates at the venue.

At the venue of the surgeries, the perfect arrangements at the operating theatre ensured that there were no technical glitches. The delegates particularly appreciated the high quality of the audio visual feed. The organizers acknowledged the unflinching technical support received from companies namely Alcon, Zeiss, Appasamy Associates, Bausch & Lomb and IOCare.

Meanwhile, the delegates at the venue were all praise for the surgeries but one in particular that left the audience spellbound was the Descemet's Stripping Endothelial Keratoplasty (DSEK) performed by Dr. Samar Basak, our anterior segment specialist from West Bengal.

Other cases which were dealt with included a brunescant cataract operated upon by Dr. T.P. Lahane; a cataract in a small pupil was handled by Dr. Vikas Mahatme and a squint surgery which Dr. Santhan Gopal performed. BOA president, Dr. S. Natarajan demonstrated his surgical acumen as he operated on a patient of diabetic vitreous haemorrhage with great élan. He used an EIBOS wide angle observation system which he had introduced in Asia in 1990.

Dr. Manish Dave, a delegate at the conference said, "While the cases which were operated were of tremendous value for us, perhaps a few more rare cases could have been scheduled to make it even more interesting."

All in all, the first day proved to be very interesting and if this is any indication of things to come, we certainly are in for an immensely informative weekend ahead!

Today's Events:

- Scientific Programmes
- Inauguration of the Conference
- Banquet & DJ Night

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Highlights of Day 3:

- “Balancing SICS and Phaco for optimizing results”- Key Note Lecture Dr. K.P.S. Malik, Hall A, 1 Session, Phaco Masters
- “Posterior Polar Cataract – Hasten slowly” – Dr. Ragini Parekh, Hall A, 3 Session, Target Emmetropia
- “Prevention of Blindness in Diabetic Retinopathy” Key Note Lecture, Dr. Namperumalsamy, Hall B, 2 Session, Medical Retina
- “Combined Procedures for Cataract and Glaucoma – My Technique” Dr. Suhas Haldipurkar, Hall D, 1 Session, Glaucoma Surgery.
- “Clinical Dilemmas in the diagnosis and treatment of uveitis” Key Note Lecture, Dr. Virendra Sangwan, Hall C, 4 Session, Uvea.
- “Intra Ocular Foreign Bodies – Interesting Cases” Dr. Preetam Samant, Hall D, 3 Session, Trauma.
- “Glued IOL” Key Note Lecture, Dr. Amar Agarwal, Hall A, 3 Session, Target Emmetropia

The man behind the smile: Dr. S. Natarajan.

Our current President, the multifaceted Dr. S. Natarajan hardly needs an introduction. An accomplished vitreo retinal surgeon, Dr. S. Natarajan came to Mumbai from Chennai in 1988 and the rest, as they say is history! A man with a vision, he was responsible for introducing Photodynamic therapy, the Preferential Hyperacuity Perimeter (PHP), the Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) and the 25 gauge sutureless vitrectomy system in India.

Dr. S. Natarajan, an alumni of Sankara Nethralaya where he trained under Dr. S. S. Badrinath; is also the President of the Vitreo-Retina Society of India and the President to-be of the Maharashtra Ophthalmological Society. But to his patients, he is much more than just a clinician, he is a counselor, a psychologist and a philosopher, guiding them to face their challenges with a positive attitude. “Nuttty”, as he is called affectionately called by his friends has a ‘never say die’ attitude and is very fond of dancing. Dr. S. Natarajan, with his enthusiasm and vision has certainly helped BOA scale newer heights of success with Eye Trek 2008. *(Dr. S. Natarajan’s motivational talk, ‘You Can Do It’ is scheduled for Day 2, Hall B, 4 Session, Practice Management, 2:30 pm – 4.30 pm)*



PROFILE:

Dr. Amar Agarwal

Easily one of the most recognizable faces at ophthalmology conferences, Dr. Amar Agarwal is renowned the world over for his innumerable innovations such as the Micro Phacovit Cataract removal through a 0.7mm needle. An eloquent, stylish and above all a very educative speaker, Dr. Amar Agarwal will surely have everyone, right from the resident to the experienced phaco surgeon, glued to their seats when he delivers his keynote address on ‘Phaco Nightmares’.

Phaco Nightmares will cover significant surgical techniques as well as difficult cases such as subluxated cataracts, miotic pupils, supra-hard cataracts, and posterior polar cataracts, as well as anterior and posterior segment scenarios. Incidentally, when Dr. S. Natarajan was the General Secretary of the Madras Medical College in 1979, it was Dr. Amar Agarwal who was the Fine Arts Secretary! *(Dr. Amar Agarwal’s key note presentation is scheduled for Day 2, Session 2, Hall A, Phacoemulsification II, 10.00 am to 11.50 am)*



RECAP OF DAY 1

Delegate Speak :

"The Cataract sessions were superb. Dr. Amar Agarwal's videos and the Phacomodulation talk by Dr. Arulmozhi Varman were terrific!"



-Dr. Manish Sharma, Chembur, Mumbai

"Our stall had a good response. The location, the élite crowd and the hospitality arrangements were truly world class. Thank You BOA! "



-Mr. Faisal Yusuf Shaikh
Sr. Territory Sales Executive,
ALCON India

"The Cornea sessions were very enlightening in particular Dr. Vandana Jain & Dr. Quresh Maskati's informative presentations"



-Dr. Rakesh Barot,
Asso. Prof. Ophthal. Rajiv
Gandhi Medical College.



Today's Events:

- Scientific Programmes
- Symposium on Contact Lens
- Free Paper Presentations

Mr. D. Sivanandhan, Commissioner of State Intelligence, Maharashtra, who was the chief guest at the inauguration ceremony of Eye Trek Focus 2008 addresses the delegates at the Grand Hyatt, Mumbai

REVIEW OF DAY 2:

Top Cop, D. Sivanandhan flags off Eye Trek Focus 2008.

The inauguration ceremony of the XVITH Annual BOA Conference – Eye Trek Focus 2008, at the hands of the chief guest, Mr. D. Sivanandhan, Commissioner, State Intelligence, Maharashtra was a solemn affair. The audience gave standing ovations to each of the award winners who were presented the gold medals by the chief guest.

The depth and magnitude of their contribution to the field of ophthalmology was highlighted by Dr. T. P. Lahane who read out their citations. The luminaries who were presented with awards were Dr. Rajvardhan Azad, Dr. Amar Agarwal, Dr. B. K. Nayak, Dr. Samar Basak and Appasamy Associates.

Dr. S. Natrajan in his presidential address described the organization as the 'Best Ophthalmic Association'. He took the audience on a journey through the history of ophthalmology highlighting that even after decades, Sir J.J. Hospital continues to be the Mecca for Ophthalmology in Mumbai. His comments on the contribution of Mumbaikars to various state and national ophthalmic societies was a revelation to many and evoked a rapturous applause from the delegates in the audience. He urged the ophthalmologists of the city to work with renewed zeal, and commitment to care for the 26 million eyes of the city.

Earlier in the day, Prof. Rooshikumar Pandya, management guru led the practice management session with his customary aplomb. He enlightened the audience about the application of the teachings of the Gita, Quran, and The Bible in everyday scenarios.

The popularity of the scientific sessions was evident from the packed halls especially for the talks by Dr. Abhay Vasavada (Challenging Situations in Phacoemulsifications) and Dr. P. N. Nagpal (What is new in diabetic retinopathy)

At the Grand Hyatt, the exhibitors too appreciated the arrangements. Mr Vinod Vasu, Marketing Manager of Zeiss said, "Every stall here had plenty of visitors. Our new line of products at Zeiss got considerable coverage at this event with ophthalmologists from all over the country here"

Day two, too has been a great success. The scientific sessions shall continue on the last day of Focus 2008 with free paper presentations scheduled in the latter half of the day.

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Glimpses from Day 2:



Delegates visiting the exhibition stalls



The Doyens of Ophthalmology : (L-R) Dr. P.N. Nagpal, Dr. Kanti Mody, Dr. Rahim Muljiani, Dr. Keiki Mehta.



Delegates having a ball later in the evening at the Grand Hyatt.

The Editorial team of Dr. Akshay Gopinathan Nair and Dr. Radhika Srinivasan would like to thank BOA for the opportunity to cover this event. Happy Reading!

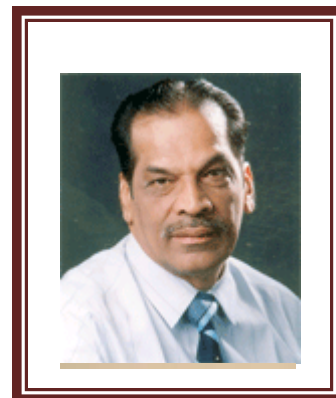


Dr. P. Namperumalsamy

Dr. P Namperumalsamy, the chairman of AECS,(Aravind Eye Care System) is one of the legends of ophthalmology in India. Primarily a vitreo retinal surgeon, Dr. P. Namperumalsamy after having completed his post graduation from Madras University trained at world class ophthalmology facilities around the globe such as The Eye and Ear infirmary, University of Illinois, Chicago; Retina Associates, Boston, Mass. U.S.A and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Harvard Medical University.

An academician of repute, Dr. P. Namperumalsamy has almost 60 publications to his name with internationally acclaimed articles such as 'Aetiology, Prophylaxis and Management of Sympathetic Ophthalmitis'; 'Management of Post operative Bacterial Endophthalmitis' and 'Atypical Manifestations of Diabetic Retinopathy'

With his vast experience in the field of retina, Dr. P. Namperumalsamy can certainly enlighten our delegates with a few pearls in the management of Diabetic retinopathy (Hall B, 2 Session, Day 3, Medical Retina II)



PROFILE:



Dr. B. K. Nayak

Yet another brilliant academician in BOA is Dr. B. K. Nayak, a gold medal winner at this years's conference. Dr. B. K Nayak is the chief ophthalmologist at the P. D. Hinduja Medical Centre, Mumbai. Dr. Nayak, a river rowing champion in his college days completed his PG from Rajendra Prasad Center for Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS, . The current editor of the Indian Journal Of Ophthalmology, (IJO) , Dr. B. K. Nayak is responsible for making the IJO an open source publication online. Under him, IJO has gone on to become one of the most reputed Ophthalmology journals in Asia. A prolific writer with experience in almost all branches of ophthalmology, Dr. Nayak will be sharing with the delegates, in his talk , Newer techniques of trabeculectomy (Day 3, Hall D, 1 Session , Glaucoma)

BOA PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS - 2008

|| Adaadasa Shasavashim Padita Sidhividhyam ||

|| Chakshu Roga Haram Vyagyaashyaamo ||

|| Yadaa Chakshu Rogam Sarvatom Nashyanti ||

|| Chakshodiptir Bhavati ||

I invoke the blessings of Lord Brahma, Dhanvantri & the Ashwini Kumars.

Very warm Greetings to one and all !

The history of medicine in pre-Susrutian India goes back to remote antiquity. The earliest documents of Indian medicine are found in the Vedas, the oldest sacred books which were compiled in Sanskrit, between 3000 and 1000 B.C.



Susruta performing a cataract surgery on a patient.

The Atharvaveda is the first vedic text dealing with medicine. Influences of Atharvaveda can be seen in Susrutha – Samahita where Susruta had described in detail various surgical procedures and theories of medicine.

Susruta devoted 18 chapters to describing 76 different diseases of the eye of which 51 required surgeries. He described and used 101 blunt instruments and 20 sharp instruments. He is said to be the first

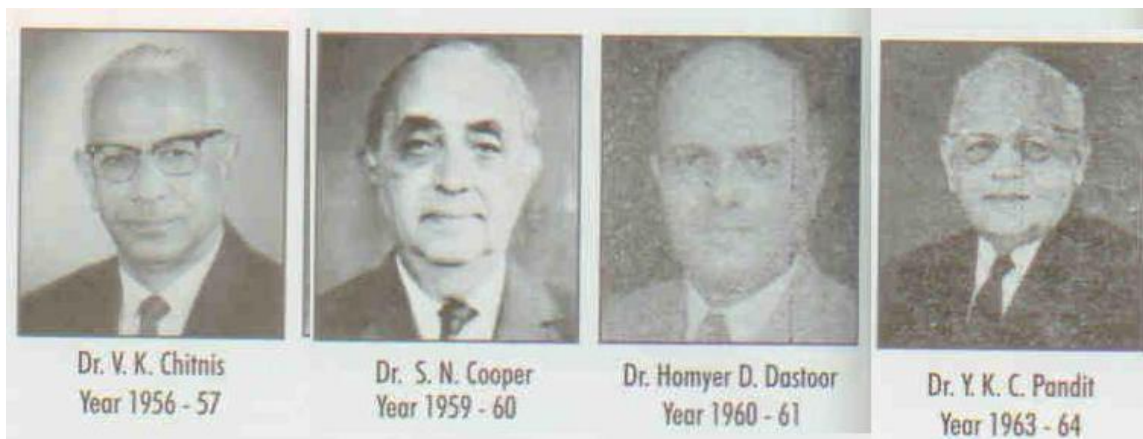
surgeon to have removed cataracts, described varieties of cataracts along with the depression method of couching by the anterior root.

However, ophthalmology, as we know today gained importance and emerged as a specialized branch only in the 18th century. In Bombay, Ophthalmology is indebted to Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, the founder of the Sir C.J. Ophthalmic Hospital in 1886, in the compound of Sir J.J. Hospital. Lt. Col. Sir Jamshedjee N Duggan too, deserves a mention as he was first a student, then a registrar in 1906 and then became the first professor of ophthalmology and Superintendent of Sir C. J. Ophthalmic centre in 1922.



Sir J. J. Hospital, Mumbai in 1860

Another luminary from the Ophthalmological world of yesteryears is Dr. S. N. Cooper, who pioneered ophthalmological research in India. Interestingly, ophthalmologists from Mumbai have made a mark even outside Mumbai. Dr. S. N. Cooper, Dr. V. K. Chitnis, Dr. Y. K. C. Pandit and Dr. H. D. Dastoor - all Mumbaikars, have gone on to be the presidents of TNOA (Tamil Nadu Ophthalmologists' Association) as well.



And this impact is not confined to any one state. In the Intra ocular implant & Refractive Society, India, BOA members Dr. Shashi Kapoor, Dr. Keiki Mehta, Dr. R. H. Maniar and Dr. Kirit Mody have been the

past presidents. The Vitreo Retina Society of India was founded by members of the BOA who have also gone on to become its presidents.

Vitreo Retina Society Of India

President

Dr. S Natarajan

Ex Presidents

Dr. Tara Prasad Das

Dr B T Maskati

Dr T N Ursekar

Dr P Namperumalsamy

Dr Bijayanand Patnaik

Dr Amod Gupta

Dr Raj Vardhan Azad

In the AIOS too, BOA members have made their presence felt for decades. 14 presidential years, 33 secretarial positions, 12 years as chairpersons of the scientific committee; and last but not the least, from the land of Mahalakshmi, 25 consecutive years as treasurers of the AIOS! And even today as editor of IJO and chairman of the Academic Research Committee, BOA members are carrying forward this tradition. Hats off to BOA members!

We are now one big happy family of 907 members. It is a matter of great pride and prestige for me that it is with your support that I am the 54th president of BOA to carry on the rich legacy left behind by the greats of ophthalmology in Mumbai. .

Amongst the stalwarts of our generation, Dr. Tatyrao Pundalikrao Lahane and Dr. Keiki Mehta were bestowed with the prestigious "PADMA SHREE" award by the Government of India. Dr. Kanti Mody was honored with "Life Time Achievement" award by the AIOS. On behalf of the scientific committee I salute them for their great deeds in their professional careers.



Dr. T. P. Lahane



Dr. Keiki Mehta



Dr. Kanti Mody

We have successfully conducted various CME Programmes under the banner of BOA. All the CMEs were well attended by Residents, Institutional Faculty and other members of BOA.

Leading eye hospitals in Mumbai are now not only conducting path breaking research, but also providing the best patient care which is on par with the rest of the world.

We have also strongly committed ourselves to the cause of Eye donation. Along with “Association of Medical Consultants”, we successfully organized an “Eye Donation Drive” to spread the message to the masses.

AIOS is taking active part in World Ophthalmology. An exchange programme has been started with American Academy of Ophthalmology. AIOS presented a symposium for the first time during AAO meeting at Chicago in October 2005. Since then, AIOS has been a regular feature at the AAO. I would like the BOA also to have similar representations in various international forums.

BOA also plans to tie up with Welingkar institute of Management for a Leadership Development Program with Dr. Mustafa and Dr. Hemali as the convenors for this joint program. With this in place, we will be able to hone the leadership skills of our members who can go forth and help us reach out further into the community at large and truly make a difference.

We have to make sure that the advances in technology reach all: young and old, urban and rural, public and private sectors. In this respect we must appreciate the commendable work done by a number of institutions and NGOs in tackling ophthalmic diseases by helping in research and training. This is especially important today, as life-style diseases like diabetes mellitus are approaching epidemic proportions in India in the recent years. Amongst 150 million diabetics in the world, 35 million are in India alone. I agree wholeheartedly to what Dr. Namperumalsamy has said, “We must train all ophthalmologists to detect diabetic retinopathy and all ophthalmologists should know how to use lasers in diabetic retinopathy.” We have to train ophthalmologists and make equipment available for the same. We must initiate screening programmes, especially in the underprivileged areas of society for this purpose. At this point I would like to mention about the Mumbai Diabetic Reality Project taken up by the Aditya Jyot Eye Hospital. It centers on peripheral outreach centers in the slums and chawls of Mumbai like Dharavi and Naigaon. The whole screening process, consultations with diabetologists, treatment and laser is rendered free for the patient. Till now we have screened about 3800 patients amongst which 650 were diabetics and 90 had diabetic retinopathy. I urge you all to join hands to care for the 26 million eyes of this great city.

In conclusion, no individual alone is responsible for the progress of an organization but it is the outcome of sustained efforts by all the members who strive for excellence. With your co-operation, suggestions and guidance I hope to carry our esteemed society to greater heights. Let us march together towards a new era with zeal and renewed commitment to ethical practice, academics, and research.

LONG LIVE BOA – THE BEST OPHTHALMIC ASSOCIATION!