NETHRAJYOTI

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1 JAN - DEC 2021

Newsletter from the house of Radhatri Nethralaya



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Greetings!

A big hello to all our readers after a long gap thanks to COVID.

Delighted to bring out the newsletter of Radhatri Nethralaya with all the happenings of 2021. It was indeed an eventful 2021 for us with several milestones reached, several thousand patients prevented from becoming blind and sight restored.

Receiving the reaccreditation with NABH (National Accreditation board for hospitals and health care providers) for the second time, becoming a Government recognised COVID vaccination centre, administering made in India COVAXIN and Covishield to hundreds of happy patients, were heartening highlights of 2021 for Radhatri Nethralaya.

In addition, receiving the Mahatma, AHPI (Association of Health care Providers of India), Maruthuva Natchatiram and a host of other awards was a shot in the arm for us in 2021. The awards inspired us to do more. Miles to go before we sleep!

Happy Reading!

Warm Regards,

V. Vasunath

Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham, Medical Director, Radhatri Nethralaya, Managing Trustee, Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation.



COVID VACCINATION CENTRE

Radhatri Nethralaya was selected by the Govt. of India to partner in the nation wide vaccination movement in 2021 by becoming a COVID vaccination centre. Made in India vaccine COVAXIN and Covishield were administered amongst strict safety protocols to several hundreds of patients. The elderly and the infirm were vaccinated at the safety of their homes by our nurses on request, several corporate employees and truck drivers were also vaccinated in their offices and factories.

Here is a testimonial and photo of one of the patients who got vaccinated at RN.



I got my second dose of #COVAXIN two days ago, on Thursday at Radhatri Nethralaya in T.Nagar, Chennai - a specialised eye hospital. The whole experience of making the appointment, to the visit and getting administered was handled smoothly. Since they are administering only on prior booking, the wait time was less.

The chief nurse Ms Sakthi Priya was friendly and she took good care of my 80-year-old, making her comfortable and then administering the vaccines. God bless Ms Sakthi, Mrs Brinda and the entire team at Radhatri.

Each one of us, owe it to the scientists, the Healthcare workers and the Government(s) who are battling this pandemic and fighting back with the vaccines. They are asking us to do a simple thing in return - to get vaccinated, that's all. For our children's future, we all need to get vaccinated soon.

If you may ask how I am feeling - I am feeling tired a bit more than the first dose. The tiredness started on the second day. I will suggest taking rest for the first 48 hours & if you can, take two days of leave - we all deserve it. #vaccinateeveryindian #SecondDose #Chennai



Radhatri Nethralaya staff were trained on COVID safety protocols by Dr. Vasumathy.

ACCOLADES



Radhatri Nethralaya received the second consecutive prestigious "Tamilnadu Healthcare leadership award" in January 2021.



Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham was honoured with the The Hindu and Indian Medical Association's **"Maruthuva Natchatiram" Award** on 31/7/21 at the Dr MGR Medical University, Guindy. She received the award from the Hon'ble TN Health Minister Thiru Ma. Subramaniam. She was one among the six doctors from Chennai District to be selected for this honour

Radhatri Nethralaya received the "SKOCH Order of Merit" from Kochhar group of industries for its community ophthalmology initiatives on March 30, 2021.

Dr. Vasumathy made a virtual presentation to an esteemed panel of judges, before being adjudged to receive the award.





One more priceless blessing from a happy sister from Missionaries of charity to Dr Praveen Krishna after recovering perfect vision after free cataract surgery by him at Radhatri Nethralaya



Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham received the prestigious "Healthcare Warrior award" on Feb 18th 2021 at Mumbai. The award was conferred on her by The World Health and Wellness Congress for her unstinting community ophthalmology work during the COVID times. She gave a talk on "Taking eyecare to the doorsteps: COVID notwithstanding" at Taj Lands End, Mumbai to an august audience of healthcare professionals, after receiving the award



Rtn. Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham has been doing continuous great work with a vision of treating retinal blindness. She has treated innumerable less privileged people with eye defects free of cost.

Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham is a Peace Icon of 20-21!

Peace Team Rotary International District 3232



Radhatri Nethralaya received the prestigious Association of Health Care Providers of India (AHPI) award from the Association of Health Care Providers of India (AHPI) on August 6th, 2021 at Crowne Plaza, Gurgaon.

Drs Praveen Krishna and Vasumathy Vedantham received the award from the Chairman of Quality council of India (QCI), Director of National Board of Examinations and President of AHPI and Public Health Foundation of India



On the 73rd Punya Thithi of Mahatma Gandhi, on Jan 31st 2021, Dr. Praveen Krishna and Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham were honoured and humbled to receive the immensely prestigious "Mahatma Award 2020" for social good for Eye care for Radhatri Nethralaya from Smt Shalu Jindal of Jindal group and Shri Amit Sachdeva in Delhi.



Dr. Vasumathy was honoured with the **"Inspiration in Retina"** award conferred by the All India Women Ophthalmology Society (WOS) on Dec 29, 2021 at the WOS annual conference.

She presented her work on complicated Vitreoretinal surgeries and showcased videos of vitrectomies.



Dr. Vasumathy received the Excellence Award on Doctors day on July 2021 from Aura Wellness





Dr. Vasumathy was honoured by Rotary Club of Madras Nandavanam for her community service, in october 2021.



On the Occasion of National Doctors Day, Dr. Vasumathy was honoured to receive the Doctors Day Citation from Rotary Club Of Madras Central for her professional excellence.



On the occasion of international women's day, Dr. Vasumathy was conferred the "Industry Icon Award" on March 6th, 2021 instituited by Vijaya Hospitals and RMD palliative trust. She received the award from Dr Bharathi Reddy, CEO, Vijaya Hospitals.

ACCREDITATIONS

Further to Radhatri Nethralaya's accreditation to the CGHS (Central Govt Health Scheme) offering cashless treatment to central govt employees two years back... Happy to share that we have successfully completed the Quality Council of India (QCI) inspection for continuation of the accreditation.

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Sharing the listing of our hospital in the NABH site



Radhatri Nethralaya also got reaccreditated with the Prestigious NABH (National Accreditation board of Hospitals and Healthcare providers) in August 2021.



CORPORATE CAMPS

Radhatri Nethralaya conducted corporate eye screening camps for employees of several organisations, most notably of the employees of Chennai International Airport along with Rotary club of Madras Central.





DIGNITARIES VISIT US

Shri Rtn Ramachandran Ganpati (Ganpa ji), creator of the COWIN app, Actor Nizhalgal Ravi who spoke in an patient awareness video on Retinopathy of Prematurity and the charitable activities of Radhatri Nethralaya in the field of childhood blindness, and Shri Natarajan, the president of All India Ophthalmic Society were some of the dignitaries who visited Radhatri Nethralaya in 2021.





The Rotary 3231 District Governor Rtn Muthupalaniappan visited the eye centre run by Radhatri Nethralaya and Rotary club of Chennai Towers and Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited at Manali and oversaw the activities.

A minimum of 200 patients with eye ailments per month were seen in the centre and more than 100 free cataract surgeries at Radhatri Nethralaya were carried out for the patients seen at the centre.

Freemason Shri Bharat Epur Reddy from the Garuda Temple city (a fraternity of Freemasons under the August Temple of light, one of the six in the world and one of its kind in Asia) visited Radhatri Nethralaya.

Thank you sir for the contribution towards project Balanethra which offers free vision preserving laser surgery to preterm babies belonging to poor socioeconomic background



UNIQUE EYE SURGERIES

This angel weighing less than a kilo, from a village in Perambalur district underwent a marathon four hour laser plus intravitreal injections for half zone Hybrid ROP with bleb like detachments (the worst cocktail of findings) last week at Radhatri Nethralaya. Glad to note that the baby is doing well now by God's grace.





A 2000 gram baby from Nellore underwent free vision preserving lens sparing vitrectomy under General Anesthesia in both the eyes for Stage IV ROP.

Unique suture less trans nasal lens sparing vitrectomy surgery for a baby 185 kms from Chennai with retinal detachment due to the blinding condition called ROP @ Radhatri Nethralaya, One of the few centres in India equipped to do this surgery



SPREADING SMILES

Radhatri Nethralaya spread smiles and cheers in several ways during the depressing COVID Times. Be it kickstarting COVID Vaccination or caring of the little angels by our nursing angels, distributing groceries to the needy through Rotary, or T shirts to the totally awesome ROP Warriors, the smiles were indeed contagious!.



In may 18, 2021, Radhatri Nethralaya commences distribution of 500 numbers of N 95 masks to the health care frontline workers, ambulance drivers, patients, and in the neighbourhood.





A little angel, one of the patients of Dr. Vasumathy came just to donate towards the charitable activities of Radhatri Nethralaya to "help other children and babies like her" in her own words.

This is the abandoned female orphan baby girl from Meghalaya with Stage V ROP who underwent bilateral vitrectomy without any charge at Radhatri Nethralaya during COVID first wave.

So happy to share that she has been adopted by US parents who decided to adopt her after hearing her travails and the free eye surgery which was done. So happy that Rachel has found a home.



Dear Bindha Mais,

A very mappy news one of ney friends solutiance in absorbing Rachaet. Anistican faising main. They're having Rachaet like anything. The story of faisty'n EOP surproys and all the extraordinary efforts mached the family and thay get as impathetic, towards Rachaet, and decided to abgul her main.

E's just because of, your help and Radhatri Nothrainyas intervention that Salty is now Alt here _____

Our special themis to Doctor Vasumartis Mans. She is an angel in disguise and Body has now found a family and she will

aken care so well. Thank you so much epiin sham or

PATRONS & DONORS

Rotary club of Damansara (Malaysia) continued its support to Project Balanethra which offers free vision preserving laser surgery to preterm babies belonging to underprivileged parents in 2021. The picture is a collage of some of babies prevented from becoming blind by the club in 2021.



Members of Punjab Womens Association supported Project Balanethra.



JCI Chennai Royals donated a vision testing equipment to Radhatri Nethralaya to be used in eye camps on Oct 2nd 2021 at a glittering function. Flag hoisting on the eve of Gandhi Jayanthi by the club president JC Sanjay Bagmar.





Smt Riya Bajaj and Shri Kiran Bajaj continued their endeavour to provide the babies undergoing laser at Radhatri Nethralaya with dainty and warm clothing in 2021. 100 dresses were donated by the couple.

SPREADING AWARENESS

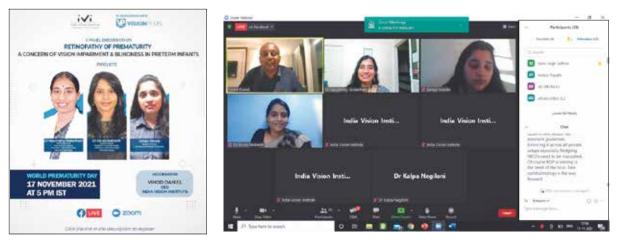
Dr. Vasumathy was part of the National Advisory expert panel meets on Diabetic Retinopathy. An awareness programme for doctors was organised at Hotel Hyatt by Radhatri Nethralaya in November 2021, Dr. Praveen Krishna gave a talk on pediatric eye problems and Dr. Vasumathy on Diabetic Retinopathy. Both doctors showcased several videos of difficult surgeries



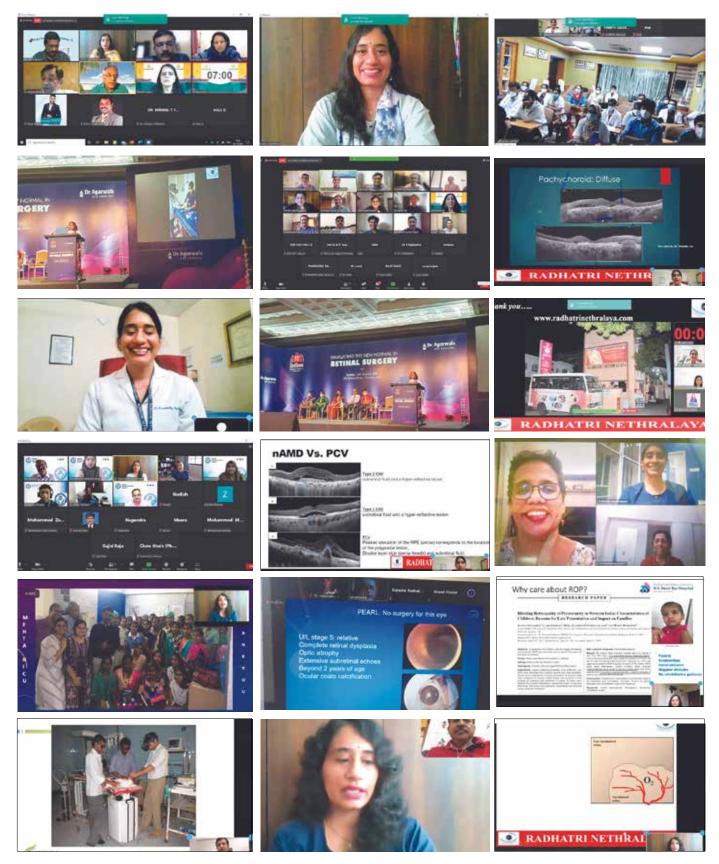
Radhatri Nethralaya also organised several symposia on ROP, Diabetic Retinopathy and AMD IN 2021, including ones for young retina surgeons as a mentorship programme.

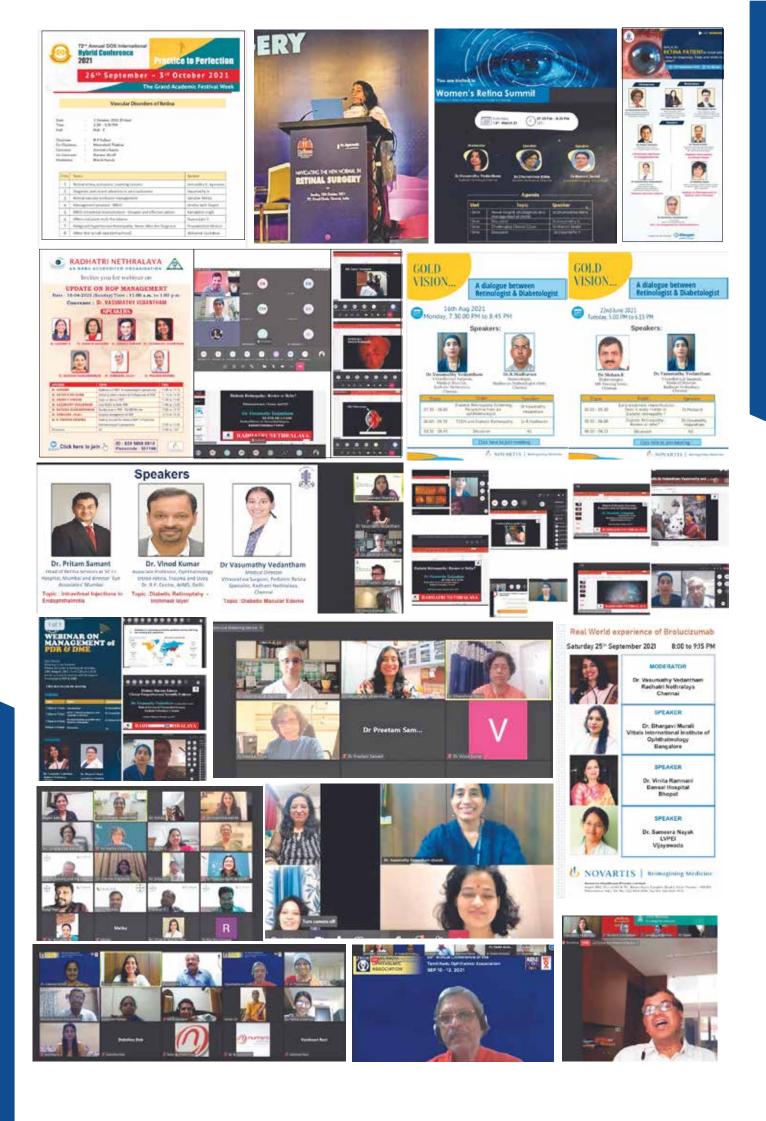


Dr. Vasumathy was invited by the India Vision Institute to deliver an awareness talk on the blinding disease affecting preterm babies: ROP, to the public and highlight Project Vision on Wheels: Rural Teleophthalmology project of Radhatri Nethralaya under the aegis of Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation, the public charitable trust of Radhatri Nethralaya, to prevent needless blindness in preterm babies due to ROP in villages.

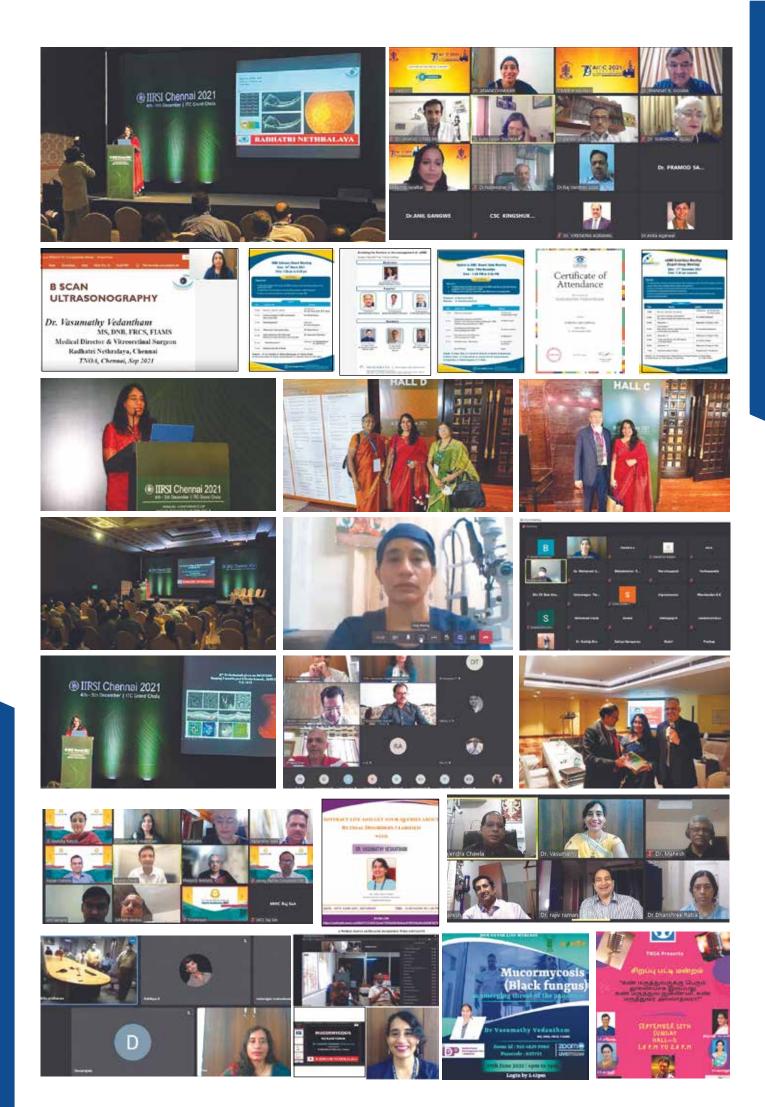


The doctors of Radhatri Nethralaya gave lectures in several webinars and symposia in prestigious forums like All India Ophthalmic Society, The Tamilnadu Ophthalmic Association, Brunei Ophthalmic Association etc.,. Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham was invited to address doctors from Brunei, Lady Hardinge Medical College, Aravind Eye Hospital Coimbatore and Tirunelveli, JIPMER amongst other premier institutions on Diabetic retinopathy, AMD: the blinding condition affecting the aged. Dr. Vasumathy also attended the EURETINA virtually, the annual conference of European Society of Vitreoretinal surgeons.









CELEBRATIONS

All festivals and important National days celebrated at RN with gusto





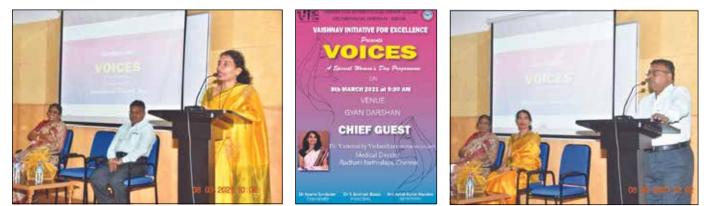


Flag hoisting was done by Prof. Viswanatha Raghavan, Emeritus Professor from IIT and trustee of Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation and Sanjay Bagmar, President of JCI Chennai Royals. Members of JCI Chennai Royals and our patients joined in the celebrations.

Women's day was celebrated at Radhatri Nethralaya on tenth march 2021 with all the women in resplendent yellow.



Dr. Vasumathy was the chief guest at the Women's Day celebrations on March 10th at D.B.Vaishnav College. She gave a talk on Women empowerment



Mrs. Brinda Gururajan, our patient welfare Officer was the star employee for 2 quarters back to back in 2021. She received the award for her sincerity and quiet determination in her work.



Team RN had a blast in 2021 with impromptu special lunches and Annathe movie time with the superstar.



Birthdays in Radhatri

Dr. Vasumathy's birthday was lovingly celebrated by the staff with a surprise cake cutting



A surprise cake cutting organised by the staff of RN on Dr Praveen Krishna's birthday!



Dr Sailatha, our medical retina and Uvea consultant and Sivagami, our Insurance In charge, had their birthdays celebrated in style at Radhatri Nethralaya



RN IN LIMELIGHT

Radhatri Nethralaya's activities and achievements were well covered in press. A series of weekly interviews in the prestigious Vikatan magazine was started in 2021 by Dr. Vasumathy.

Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham answers questions on Mask related dry eyes (MADE) in Vikatan.com



Covid Questions: மாஸ்க் அணிந்தாலே கண்கள் வறண்டுபோகின்றன; என்ன செய்வது?





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GOLD VISION Contract Sold Range 2023









conducts free eye screening camp

ary Club of Ch







Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham was the chief guest at the installation of Dr Sunita Jain of Gangour (women's wing of Rajasthani association of Tamilnadu). She shared the podium with Dr Preetha Reddy, vice chairperson Apollo Group.



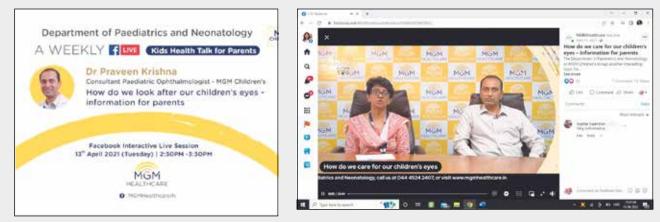
Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham was a panelist in Sun TV in a live interview on COVID vaccination



Dr. Vasumathy gave a series of public awareness interviews on black fungus in TV and youtube channels



Dr. Praveen Krishna interacted live with the patients of MGM hospital and the public and answered queries on pediatric eye problems in an event live on facebook.



A donation by a preterm baby, a beneficiary under Balanethra project, towards treatment of other babies, was a moving moment and well covered in press



Dr. Vasumathy gave a series of youtube interviews on ocular conditions too improve awareness

1) Interview on glare: the reasons and the solutions - <u>https://youtu.be/ySQpaxNtbUs</u>

2)Interview on cataract surgery - <u>https://youtu.be/ftFyGsPqqXI</u>

3) Interview in SNN network on Retinopathies - <u>https://youtu.be/udNDoKIrrm4</u>



4) Interview for IBC Mangai channel on computer vision syndrome - <u>https://youtu.be/lviNHt_aEYs</u>



QUIZ

The image of an object is formed due to the _____ of light rays by the eye lens on the retina.

A) reflection

ങ§க்கலும் | Dr Vasumathy Vedantham IBC Mangai | Eye Care

- B) Dispersion
- C) Scattering
- D) Refraction

Ans: D

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

KANNOLI

The Kannoli camps were conducted along with Rotary clubs and corporates such as G square





In June 2021, a team of nurses from Radhatri Nethralaya were involved in Rotary's mega traffic police health screening camp.







Radhatri Nethralaya conducted several Kannoli camps (free cataract surgery camps) under the aegis of its public charitable trust. Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation for the downtrodden. Tribals such as the Irulas were one of the main beneficiaries of these camps.



SAVE SIGHT GIVE LIGHT

Free vision screening camps for school children were conducted by Radhatri Nethralaya in several schools and orphanages in 2021. Further to the eye camp on 16/9/21 at Chennapuri annadanam Samajam orphanage, 15 children identified to have advanced eye issues were brought to Radhatri Nethralaya for specialised testing and plan for treatment; under the aegis of Inner wheel of Madras Central.





This Inner Wheel Club heid health screening camp at Home for disadvantaged kids in R.A. Pura



VISION ON WHEELS

The Rural teleophthalmology project of Radhatri Nethralaya continued in 2021 despite COVID, almost every day our van with the team of dedicated technicians was out with the two Retcams (hand held retinal camera for babies) screening the babies in farflung areas in rural Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh upto 300kms from Chennai.







GlauCom R CAMPS

Radhatri Nethralaya under the aegis of its public charitable trust Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation, conducted several GlauCom R (Glaucoma detection in the Community by Radhatri Nethralaya) camps in parks and other public places in 2021, to improve awareness and detection of the silent blinding disease, glaucoma



PROJECT RADAR

RADAR is Radhatri Nethralaya's Diabetic Retinopathy Project in Association with Rotary. The Nineth annual project was inaugurated by the Rotary district 3232 Governor Rtn Sridhar on Nov 9th 2021. The month long free screening of diabetic patients for diabetic retinopathy happened at Radhatri Nethralaya under the aegis of RC Chennai Towers.







FROM PATIENTS WITH LOVE



TESTIMONIAL

BY MRS. ROSHAN SIDHARA

My Daughter Hania was a Premature child diagnosed with ROP while she was in Incubator. She had complication which affected her vision very badly. We consulted many renowned doctors in Chennai, yet she was able to recover partially only.

Later my Mother suggested Dr.Vasumathy & Dr.Praveen Krishna.

We meet them when she was 1.5 Years after that we never turned back. She is 6 years old now and she reads well, identifies well.

Dr. Vasumathy & Dr.Praveen Krishna, gave us a clear picture of what is the actual issue and how to overcome it. They also helped us understand how to support during her developmental phase.

We humbly thank the doctors & team. We are very much comfortable with Radhatri Nethralaya.

TESTIMONIAL

BY T.R. MUKUNDAN

I knew Dr.Vasumathy from early 2000s when she participated in the eye checking camp organized by Apporva ladies club where my wife Mrs. Radha Mukundan was a part then.

She was a very good friend of my Wife and when I felt some difficulties in Vision, the first name came to my mind was Dr. Vasumathy. I still remember the day when I went for my checkup. The staff was very friendly and patiently took me each test and explained me what they are doing. When all tests were done, I met Dr. Vasumathy and she confirmed I need to undergo a surgery in both of my eyes and as I was diabetic I need to undergo a pre- procedure before the actual surgery.

She explained me about the procedures as well the cost for the surgery patiently. I understood them clearly as they were very transparent. As my son had insurance for me, we discussed the details with the concern person and provided the insurance information. After that it was like walk in the park.

They contacted the insurance company and made it cashless. So, everything got covered except few meagre charges. Every time I visited the hospital for the Surgery / Checkup, staff were very cordial and responsive for all the questions. I was attended with utmost care. The post-surgery follow up was also excellent even during the pandemic.



My Granddaughter Hania who is 5 years old was pre-mature child due to which she have a vision problem due to ROP. She was treated by Dr. Praveen Krishna. He attended my Granddaughter very patiently as she is a playful child, provided medication her and spectacles. Though she wears а relatively thick spectacles she can see properly now and I am very happy about it. Their treatment boosted her moral and perhaps her future as well.

This Hospital is a great blessing for elders like me. I wish great happiness and success for the whole team. I would recommend this hospital to anyone who needs great care at affordable Cost.



Did you know the eye is approximately the size of a ping-pong ball!

DONATIONS

You can donate to the Trust and partner with us to prevent needless blindness in several ways.

- You can support the general eye camps, which are held in schools, villages, slums and public places like parks for free eye examination of the members of the public.
- You could suggest places to hold camps/help us in organising camps. You could support cost of an eye camp by a contribution of Rs. 10,000.
- You can support the subsidised cost of the glasses for poor patients seen in the camps by contributing Rs.400 for a pair of spectacles made by glass and Rs.600 for a pair of spectacles made of unbreakable plastic.
- You can support the subsidised cost of a cataract surgery for a poor patient by contributing Rs.5,000.
- You can save the tender vision of tiny infants, who are in immediate need of ROP laser surgery. You can support the subsidised cost of ROP laser surgery in one eye by contributing Rs.5000.
- You can support the cost of a single visit of "VISION ON WHEELS" van to screen babies in rural areas which amounts to Rs. 10,000.

Contact Details

Dr. Vasumathy Vedantham MS, DNB, FRCS, FIAMS (Managing Trustee)

Please draw your cheque in the name Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation and send it to:

Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation (The Public charitable trust of Radhatri Nethralaya) 12, Hindi Prachara Sabha Street T. Nagar, Chennai 600017, India Ph: (044) 24332229, 24311 550, +919445438681 Please note that donations to the trust are exempted from income tax as per 80-G of the income tax act (DIT(E) No. 2 (683) 09-10, dated: 28.04.2010).

The trust is eligible to receive donations in foreign currency as it is duly registered under foreign currency and regulatory act of Govt. of India (FCRA). Registration number: 075901419 dated 04.11.2016.

For those of you, who would like to use the route of direct crediting of the Trust account, the account details are given below.

Bank details for remittance in Indian Rupees (Domestic donors)

Beneficiary name: Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation Current Account number: 856810513 Bank Name: Indianbank Bank Address: Prakasam Road, T. Nagar, Chennai 600017 IFS code: IDIB000T014

Bank Details for remittance in Foreign Currency

Beneficiary Name: Gurupriya Vision Research Foundation Current Account Number: 40086472352(FCRA Current Account) Bank Name: STATE BANK OF INDIA Bank Address: State Bank of India,4th Floor, 11 Sandad Marg, New Delhi SWIFT CODE: SBININBB104 IFS Code: SBIN0000691 Branch code: 00691



Dr Praveen Krishna & Dr Vasumathy Vedantham at the "AHPI Awards" ceremony in Gurugram.



Dr Praveen Krishna & Dr Vasumathy Vedantham with the Mahatma Award 2020 for social good at New Delhi.