

The 3-month program provides an opportunity for the candidate to achieve advanced competency in Low Vision Rehabilitation. The candidate will learn to explore methods of assessing functional vision and strategies for enhancing visual performance with and without low vision devices. The curriculum will provide theory and practice in following assessment and intervention areas: Functional Visual Acuity, Fields, Visual Performance in everyday tasks for individuals with visual impairment including infants, children, adults and those with additional disabilities. The candidate will also learn to evaluate Visual Efficiency, use of LVDs, and Visual Field Enhancement techniques. During the course of the training, the candidate will be exposed to specialized topics such as implications of reading and writing with low vision and state-of-the-art Low Vision Technology. Finally, the candidate will learn to manage the human, financial, physical and technological resources in a comprehensive low vision program that may be situated in a private or group practice, hospital or rehabilitation centre, university etc. The candidate will attend the regular classes on all aspects of optometry/ ophthalmology and will work in rotation with the faculty. The candidates will present various cases in the morning classes of VRC.

Low Vision Awareness Program (LAP)

Duration: Three days - two programs per year (March/April and August/September)

Curriculum

- An overview of low vision
- Low vision examination
- Role of low vision rehabilitation in management of specific ocular diseases
- Functional Vision Assessment
- Low vision devices: Optical and Non-Optical
- Educational Rehabilitation
- How to integrate low vision rehabilitation into your practice?
- Hands-on session with Low Vision Devices
- Observation of patient being assessed for low vision rehabilitation

The 3-day orientation program provides the participants with a broad overview of low vision care and rehabilitation of the visually impaired. At the end of the course the participants will gain confidence in examining patients with low vision and be able to provide simple low vision devices in their own set-up.

Eligibility: Ophthalmologists, Optometrists, Rehabilitation Professionals, Special Educators, Optometry students, Opticians, Vision technicians, Ophthalmic Technicians and Administrators working in eye care organizations.

Registration details

- Candidates should make their own travel arrangements.
- Candidates should pay a registration fee of Rs 2500 by demand draft, payable to Hyderabad Eye Institute along with the registration form.

Minimum qualifications: Diploma in Optometry/ Ophthalmology - Preferably institution based.

Registration details

- Food and shared accommodation will be provided.
- Candidates should make their own travel arrangements
- Candidates should pay a registration fee of Rs 30,000 by demand draft, payable to Hyderabad Eye Institute along with the registration form.

Low Vision Training Programs



World Health Organization

Collaborating Centre for Prevention of Blindness

Meera & L B Deshpande Centre for Sight Enhancement

Dr P R K Prasad Centre for Rehabilitation of Blind and Visually Impaired



L V Prasad Eye Institute
Kallam Anji Reddy Campus, Hyderabad, India

Introduction

L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) is a not-for-profit charitable organization, working with leading organizations, institutions and medical professionals across the globe to help free the world of preventable and curable blindness. A World Health Organization Collaborating Centre, LVPEI is recognized as a Centre of excellence all over the world.

LVPEI has provided quality eye care for 20 years maintaining the highest standards, whether for a standard eye examination or complicated eye surgery, post-operative care, or counseling and rehabilitation of the incurably visually impaired. Our eye care team follows a methodical, knowledge-based approach to deal with the entire range of eye related problems. Since its inception in 1986, LVPEI's eye hospital has seen over 22,42,000 outpatients and performed more than 2,80,000 surgeries. Forty percent of our outpatient services and 50% surgeries were performed at no cost to the economically underprivileged.

What is low vision?

Low vision is a bilateral impairment of vision that significantly impairs the functioning of the person; it cannot be adequately corrected with conventional medical or surgical intervention, or standard glasses or contact lenses.

Need

Worldwide there are an estimated 37 million people who are blind and another 124 million people who have low vision (WHO, 2002). Unless rigorous and large-scale prevention measures are undertaken the number of people with low vision is likely to double by the year 2020. The World Health Organization (WHO) global initiative for elimination of avoidable blindness through the 'VISION 2020: The Right to Sight' program, has low vision care as one of its prime objectives.

Even today most ophthalmologists and optometrists are unfamiliar with low vision care, a service will enable patients to utilize their residual vision to make fuller use of their educational and vocational opportunities. To make the fullest use of the services of available professionals, it is desirable to increase awareness and develop their skills in low vision care through quality training programs.

Vision Rehabilitation Centres (VRC)

LVPEI is committed to providing affordable, comprehensive care and rehabilitation and has developed excellent services in Hyderabad, India. Its two Vision Rehabilitation Centres – the Meera & L B Deshpande Centre for Sight Enhancement and the Dr P R K Prasad Centre for Rehabilitation of Blind and Visually Impaired – work towards enhancing the quality of life of those who have low vision or are incurably blind.

Initiative

The Vision Rehabilitation Centres (VRC) of LVPEI initiated the "low vision training programs" (Short Term Fellowship and Low Vision Awareness Programmes) in 2001 with a view to enhance the professional skills of qualified optometrists, ophthalmologists & other eye care professionals in the area of low vision rehabilitation. These programs have received tremendous response from eye care and rehabilitation professionals from all over the country. These training programs sensitize the professional to the needs of those visually impaired and provide them with the basic knowledge and skills to evaluate and prescribe the appropriate devices and the necessary training and counseling.

Program Objectives

The aim of low vision training programs is to train ophthalmologists, optometrists, rehabilitation professionals and other eye care professionals to provide comprehensive low vision rehabilitation services to patients.

Salient Features

- ◆ Didactic lectures covering various aspects of low vision rehabilitation specially tailored for the candidates
- ◆ Faculty consists of world class, specially trained and experienced low vision specialists cum rehabilitation professionals
- ◆ Exposure to various cases of low vision and their management
- ◆ Holistic approach to comprehensive low vision rehabilitation care
- ◆ Hands-on-training with low vision devices

- ◆ Supervised followed by independent examination of cases of low vision
- ◆ Exposure to state-of-the-art low vision devices
- ◆ More practical and interactive sessions with case presentation & discussions in the classes
- ◆ Skills imparted in setting-up independent low vision clinics/ integrating in private practices/eye care organizations
- ◆ Round-the-clock library facilities with latest reference books and journals on low vision
- ◆ Internet facility in the library
- ◆ Videos and CDs on various aspects of low vision care

Short-Term Fellowship in Low Vision Rehabilitation

Duration: Three months -Four programs per year (January, April, July and October)

Curriculum

- An overview of low vision
- Visual Impairment and Functional Implications
- Low vision assessments and interventions
- Psychological issues and Social Dynamics of Visual Impairment
- Visual impairment and Additional Disabilities
- Independent Living Skills
- Support Services
- Orientation and Mobility
- Functional Vision Evaluation and Early Intervention
- Management of children with Visual Impairment and Additional Disabilities
- Developing/ Integrating Low Vision Rehabilitation Services in Eye Care practices
- Educational Rehabilitation
- Special softwares for Visually Impaired

Registration Form

Name of Program Low Vision Rehabilitation
(Please tick) (3 months)

Low Vision Awareness
(3 days)

Period _____ To _____

Name _____

Gender _____ Age _____

Qualifications _____

(Please enclose copies of certificates)

Institution/Individual Practice _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Signature of participant

Date

Vision Rehabilitation Centres
L V Prasad Eye Institute

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