

## Scholarships for training in small incision cataract surgery: the *Seeing is Believing* Programme

In 2003, issue number 48, there was a major feature on manual small incision cataract surgery (SICS). This is still available from [www.jceh.co.uk/download/ceh\\_16\\_48\\_049.pdf](http://www.jceh.co.uk/download/ceh_16_48_049.pdf) or, for those without Adobe Acrobat Reader, from [www.jceh.co.uk/journal/48.asp](http://www.jceh.co.uk/journal/48.asp)

The *Seeing is Believing*\* SICS training programme is helping contribute to one million sight restorations. The advantages of the SICS technique are clear:

From the patient's perspective:

- faster recovery of good vision
- faster return to normal activities
- good vision in a matter of days instead of weeks or even months
- return home within hours of the procedure
- reduced cost of consumables
- reduced number of outpatient visits needed.

From the providers perspective:

- reduced chances of surgically induced astigmatism or ruptured sutures
- quick; which means more operations can be undertaken per list
- lower cost for consumables (no suture required)
- fewer outpatient follow up visits, as less astigmatism, and no sutures to remove
- better wound stability.

*Seeing is Believing* is a four year programme supported by Standard Chartered Bank, which aims to restore sight to one million people in ten countries by World Sight Day, 2007. One component of the programme entails offering scholarships to ophthalmologists in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya in SICS. The SICS scholarship scheme offers partial funding up to a maximum of \$500. Training has already started in India and Pakistan. Bangladesh and Kenya are developing availability. Application for this training is open to public/NGO sector surgeons (as opposed to private) with good microsurgical skills and who already do approximately 1,000 ECCE/IOL surgeries per year. Some candidates may be accepted at lower rates of output. In India the focus is on NGO/charity sector surgeons as other grants from the MoH may be available for government surgeons. The *Seeing is Believing* scholarship has an application process that identifies those surgeons who will best contribute to the objectives of the *Seeing is Believing* programme.

If your work specifically makes cataract surgery available for needy people, you have a history of high output and high quality ECCE/IOL surgery, and you would like to undertake this training, please send for further details. You should email Sight Savers International (SSI) for an application form and more details, depending on your country of residence, as follows:

India: Ranjish Kattady at [rkattady@sightsavers.org](mailto:rkattady@sightsavers.org)

Pakistan: Niazullah Khan at [nkhan@sightsavers.org.pk](mailto:nkhan@sightsavers.org.pk)

Bangladesh: Dr Enamul Kabir at [ekabir@netezen.net](mailto:ekabir@netezen.net)

Kenya: Nancy Thuo at [nthuo@sightsavers.org.ke](mailto:nthuo@sightsavers.org.ke)

No other subsidiary correspondence will be entered into. The final choice of candidates rests with SSI Head Office in the UK.

\* *Seeing is Believing* is a corporate social responsibility programme of Standard Chartered Bank who are working in collaboration with Sight Savers International (SSI). It is a ten-country international initiative, with SSI as lead agency, delivered through partners of SSI, Christoffel Blindenmission (CBM), The Fred Hollows Foundation, Helen Keller International and ORBIS. It features service delivery, infrastructure development, equipment supply, medicines & consumables, and training. Training for SICS is also being developed in Sri Lanka and Thailand, but are outside the scholarship scheme. The primary objective of *Seeing is Believing* is a joint effort to contribute towards one million sight restorations by World Sight Day in October 2007. Peter Renew. Sight Savers International. UK. [prenew@sightsavers.org](mailto:prenew@sightsavers.org)

## New resources from ICEH

### Four posters

**Stevens S. Control of Infection in Ophthalmic Practice**  
**Stevens S & Cox I. Care of Ophthalmic Surgical Instruments**  
**Stevens S & Cox I. Sterilization and Disinfection**  
**Stevens S. Assisting the Blind and Visually Impaired**

Available from ICEH (address on page 102)

Price: £5 per single poster, £12 for a set of any three posters, £15 for a set of any four posters. All above prices include post and packing.

Email: [Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk)

### Slide set with booklet – full colour

**Stevens S. Practical Ophthalmic Procedures – Volume 4**

Available from ICEH (address on page 102) Price: £15 to developing countries (£20 elsewhere) plus £5 post and packing.

Email: [Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk)

### A new comprehensive ophthalmic nursing textbook

**Marsden J, editor. Ophthalmic Care**

Available from ICEH (address on page 102) Discount price: £26 plus post and packing.

Email: [Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk)

### Standard List for a VISION 2020 Eye Care Service Unit Medicines, equipment, instruments, optical supplies and educational resources 2006/07

The updated VISION 2020 Standard List 2006/7 will be available on-line from World Sight Day, 13 October 2005, at [www.v2020.org](http://www.v2020.org) and [www.iceh.org.uk](http://www.iceh.org.uk). In December, printed copies of the Standard List will be available free of charge from the International Centre for Eye Health. Please contact Sue Stevens at the ICEH address on page 102 or email [Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk) to receive a paper copy of the Standard List.

## Other new resources



### Ophthalmic instruments and equipment – their care and maintenance

**Aravind Eye Hospital, 2005 – DVD or VHS video format**

Ophthalmic staff use a range of delicate, complex, and expensive equipment which needs to be kept in good order. Many of them work in hospitals far from easy access to dedicated maintenance and repair facilities. The Instruments Maintenance Department of Aravind Eye Hospital in India, with funding from Sight

Savers International, has produced a CD and video which combines text, graphics, and video to create a comprehensive visual guidebook to the maintenance and repair of direct ophthalmoscope, streak retinoscope, indirect ophthalmoscope, slit lamp, operating microscope, keratometer, phaco machine, A Scan, Schiotz tonometer, optics cleaning, blood pressure apparatus and surgical instruments. This resource will be available in various formats, including DVD and VHS video, from October 2005 and will cost Indian Rs500 or UK £7.

Those resident in India wishing to purchase the CD should apply to: Manager (Stores), Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai 625020, Tel: +91 (0) 452 535 6100 Ext 192, Fax: +91 (0) 452 253 0984,

Email: [aravind@aravind.org](mailto:aravind@aravind.org)

Those residing outside India should contact: ICEH (address on page 102) Email: [Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Sue.Stevens@Lshtm.ac.uk)

### Solomon AW et al. Trachoma control: a guide for programme managers

(WHO/PBD/GET/04.6) Available from the World Health Organization (WHO) Email: [pbd@who.int](mailto:pbd@who.int)