Pakistan, South Africa, Colombia and Tanzania. These now aim to help meet the educational and information needs within their regions (see Box 2).

**Human Resources**

The Oxford English Dictionary defines the word ‘resource’ as “the means of supplying a want or a need”. Information technology, the newest development contributing to health communication, can now link health workers and makes available to them a wide range of resources. Most sites are ‘read only’ but some are interactive with some health libraries providing ‘touch screen’ facilities. But our best means of meeting learning needs undoubtedly remains the human resource.

Participants on training courses can be supported following a local, national or international course by means of peer networking and the organisation of ‘alumni’ meetings. Delegate lists at conferences are a useful way of facilitating follow-up and for providing relevant resource information. The sharing of information with like-minded colleagues, even at a distance, is made easier through the ever-increasing use of electronic newsletters.

As individuals, we all can contribute, in some measure, to learning and information by sharing our own knowledge and experiences, however limited, with those who seek to make Vision 2020: the Right to Sight, a reality.

**References**


**Acknowledgements**

Dr Daksha Patel, Courses Convenor, ICEH has kindly reviewed this article.

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**Box 2: Regional Resource Centre Contact Details**

- **Hope Mlotshwa**
  - Email: hope@sancb.org.za
  - **Motswedi Information Centre**
  - SABPB/SANCB, PO Box 11149
  - Hatfield, Pretoria 0011
  - **South Africa**

- **Clarena Vasquez Cantillo**
  - Email: colaris@fosal.com.co
  - **COLARIS**
  - Fundacion Ofthalmologica de Santander
  - Apartado Aereo 3128, Urbanizacion el Bosque
  - Autopista a Floridablanca, Bucaramanga
  - **Colombia**

- **Dr Aliya Qadir Khan**
  - Email: rlrc@pes.comsats.net.pk
  - **Regional Learning Resource Centre**
  - Pakistan Institute of Community Ophthalmology
  - P O Box 125, Peshawar
  - **Pakistan**

- **Sameera Khundmiri**
  - Email: icareresourcecentre@yahoo.com
  - **International Centre for the Advancement of Rural Eye Care**
  - LVPEI, Post Bag No. 1
  - Kismatpur BO, Rajendranagar PO
  - Hyderabad - 500 030, Andhra Pradesh
  - **India**

- **Saraweke Mbelwa**
  - Email: riso@kcmc.ac.tz
  - **Ophthalmic Resource Centre for East Africa**
  - Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology
  - KCMC
  - P O Box 3010, Moshi
  - **Tanzania**

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**ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS**

17 Cornwall Terrace, Regent’s Park, London NW1 4QW, UK

**Diploma Examination in Ophthalmology**

**DRCOphth**

**ANNOUNCING A CHANGE TO THE STRUCTURE**

From November 2001, there has been no Practical Refraction section in the Diploma Examination

The New Diploma Examination (DRCOphth) is a test of ophthalmic knowledge including relevant basic sciences and clinical skills for candidates who have worked in ophthalmology for one year (full-time or equivalent). This work experience need not have been gained in the UK.

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**UK and Overseas Examination Calendar 2002**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Dates of Examination</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Part 1</td>
<td>8–9 April</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>22 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRCOphth</td>
<td>22–23 April</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>11 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>7–8 October</td>
<td>UK, India</td>
<td>26 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 2</td>
<td>9–11 April</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>22 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRCOphth</td>
<td>17–21 June</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>6 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>9–10 October</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>26 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>4–8 November</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>23 September</td>
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<td>Part 3</td>
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<td>21 January</td>
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<td>9–13 September</td>
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<td>29 July</td>
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<td>10–11 October</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>26 August</td>
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<td>DRCOphth</td>
<td>27–28 June</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>16 May</td>
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<td>18–19 November</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>7 October</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overseas Location:**

- Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India

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**Information, Exams syllabi, Applications from:**

The Head of the Examinations Department at the above address

Or Tel: 00 44 (0) 20 7935 0702

Or Fax: 00 44 (0) 20 7487 4674

Or E-mail: rco.exams@btinternet.com

Or visit the College website www.rcophth.ac.uk