

# Need & Functions of Eye Banks

Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank  
Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai

# Need for Eye banking

- Corneal blindness - second frequent cause of blindness – 7% (APEDS)
- More pronounced in developing countries
- More economical burden to the society
- Remedy –corneal transplantation (keratoplasty)

# Eye Banking in India

- Eye Banks in India (EBAI) -200
- Active Eye Banks - 50
- Eye Banks and Eye Donation centres collecting more than 500 eyes per year - 10

# State wise Eye collection

Gujarat	- 4649
Tamilnadu	- 4348
Maharashtra	- 3319
Andhra Pradesh	- 2200
Karnataka	- 1190
Delhi	- 1077

Source: Eye Bank of Association (2002)

# Zonewise collection of eyes

**South Zone** - 43%

(A.P, Kerala, T.N. Karnataka, Pondy)

**West Zone** - 41%

(Gujarath, Maharashtra)

**North Zone** - 11%

(Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Chandigarh)

**East Zone** - 3%

(W.B, Assam, Bihar, Orissa)

**Central zone** - 2%

(M.P, U.P)

# Statistics of eye collection in India

Annual requirement  
of corneas - 100,000

Current procurement - 22,000

Utilization - 40% (8800)

# Eye Bank setup

## Decide your level of operation

Eye Collection center – where the operation is limited to publicity and eye collection

Eye Bank at National level – eye collection & processing

International Eye Banks – eye collection, processing, distribution and training

# Accreditation

- International Eye Banks – International Federation of Eye & Tissue Banks, USA
- Local Eye Banks – Register Eye Bank Association of India (EBAI)
- Registered under Human Organ Transplant Act (HOTA) – State Government



# Advantages of Accreditation

- Positive publicity
- Eligibility for funding by the Govt
- Training imparted by EBAI
- Participation in Seminars/Workshops
- Up gradation to Eye bank training centers
- Credibility among public leading to increased eye donations

# Eye Banking - Legislation

- Transplantation of Human Organs Act 1994 (Act no. 42 of 1994)
  - Called Transplantation of Human Organs rules 1995
    - Only registered Medical Practitioners
    - Written Consent from the family
      - Next of kin
      - Witness (2)

# Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank

## ■ Area

- 1000 sqft. eye bank lab site
- Centralized air condition
- U.V. irradiation facility for working area
- Lab sinks with filters
- Filing cabinets

# Rotary Aravind International Eye Bank

- Eye Bank Personnel
  - Medical Director
  - Administrator
  - Technicians
  - Social Workers
  - Public relation officer

Public  
Awareness

Tissue  
Harvesting

Eye Bank

Tissue  
Distribution

Tissue  
Evaluation

Tissue  
Preservation

# Processing of donor tissue

## Slit lamp Evaluation



## Serology Tests



## Corneal excision



## Endothelial analysis



# Performance of the Eye bank

- Number of eyes collected - 6487
- Number of eyes utilized - 2762
- Distribution - 5%
- Tissues not suitable for surgery are used for Research and Training

# Strategies to promote eye donation

- Publicity

- Posters, Pamphlets, newspaper articles, eye donation fortnight celebration

- Networking with Voluntary organisations  
(Lions and Rotary clubs)

- Hospital Cornea Retrieval



# Video on Eye Banking



# Facts about eye donation

- Eyes can be donated only after death
- Eyes must be removed within 6hrs of death
- A small amount (5ml) of blood will be drawn from the donor
- Eye retrieval does not cause disfigurement
- No religion is against eye donation
- Identity of the donor and recipient is not disclosed