

**Workshop on Eye Care Research Priorities for India, 8-9<sup>th</sup> October, 2011**  
**Research Ideas for Childhood Blindness**

**Understanding the Disease**

1. What are the risk factors for congenital anomalies?
2. What are the socioeconomic and developmental predictors of eye problems in children?

**Magnitude**

1. Feasibility study on developing a registry at the district level covering all childhood eye problems
2. What are the patterns of incidence of ROP in different NICUs in the country?
3. What is the magnitude of childhood blindness and it causes in India?

**Barrier in Access**

1. What are the barriers to accessing services for children having blindness or visual impairment
2. How to integrate pediatric eye care in the primary level?

**Compliance to Follow-up**

1. What are the current follow-up patterns following congenital cataract surgery?
2. How to build an effective follow-up mechanism after surgeries/any childhood blindness interventions?
3. For how long do children need to be followed up after treatment? And How long are they currently being followed up?

**Human Resources**

1. What are the training needs for Paediatric anaesthesia?
2. Situation Analysis: How many ophthalmologists provide children oriented eye care services?
3. KAP study among all health care & eye care providers about Paediatric eye diseases.
4. What is the effectiveness of a Paediatric team approach vs. single practitioner approach?

**Policy and Advocacy**

1. How many children in blind schools can benefit from treatment?

**Quality of Care**

1. How to develop a Paediatric eye care outcome monitoring system

**Service Delivery/ Intervention**

1. Operations Research: What is the most cost effective method to identify a visually impaired child?
2. Study of affordable techniques of finding visual disability in preverbal children (less than 3 years)
3. What is the effectiveness of low cost visual assessment tools against "gold standards"?
4. Operations Research: How to ensure that all the premature infants at risk of developing ROP are screened in timely & effective manner?
5. How much is spent to set up a Paediatric eye care service?
6. Situation Analysis: Geographic distribution of Paediatric service providers to enable appropriate allocation of resources
7. Situation Analysis: Are pediatric ophthalmologists providing comprehensive pediatric eye care?
8. What is the impact of different IOL lens material on visual outcomes for children?
9. How do various interventions Impact the quality of life for the child's family?
10. Feasibility study of integrating Paediatric ophthalmology in general Paediatric hospitals
11. To link / correlate other disciplines of disability with Visual impairment like hearing vs Visual impairment
12. How to strengthen primary eye care services for awareness, identification and referral of blind children to the service centre?

