Workshop on Eye Care Research Priorities for India, 8-9th October, 2011
Research Ideas for Primary Eye Care and Universal Coverage

Acceptance

1. KAP study on community's perception of primary eye care services.
2. PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) to establish the community needs for eye care and design the services at primary level

Barriers in Access & Health Behaviour

1. What makes people decide to visit a primary eye centres or not?

Integration with general health systems

1. How to integrate PEC with primary health structures without losing its focus and priority?
2. Feasibility of using a General Physician to authorise prescriptions of medicines and glasses in VCs
3. Which are more effective: standalone Vision Centres or Vision Centres that are part of PHCs?
4. Can ASHAs be used effectively to provide primary eye care?

Human Resources

1. Redefining the role of primary eye care paramedic for identification, referral and treatment of ocular problems
2. What training and qualification should a primary eye care paramedic have?

Quality

1. Quality audit of primary eye care Vs. base hospital
2. Effectiveness of Vision Centres run as part of NGOs and PHCs?

Service Delivery / Intervention

1. Can Vision Centres offer primary <u>health</u> care? Can they act as change agents for the community by championing health care issues such as sanitation, diabetes care etc.?
2. Can Vision Centres impact the prevalence and incidence of eye diseases?
3. Study on referral mechanism at primary eye care level
4. What is the current pattern of eye diseases that are seen at the Vision Centres (primary level)?
5. How can Vision Center be used to strengthen DR, Glaucoma and Cornea services?
6. What is the package of services which can be effectively provided at the primary level?

Cost

1. How cost effective are Vision Centres.
2. How much does it cost to establish a Vision Center?
3. How cost effective is permanent Vision centre when compared to mobile Vision Centres?

Policy and Advocacy

1. What consultations will help encourage a higher percentage of budget allocation on primary care?
2. Advocacy that will enable primary eye workers to dispense medicines and spectacles (to contribute to sustainability and comprehensiveness of the service)

Monitoring

1. Situation Analysis of primary eye care services in terms of coverage, compliance and impact
2. Study of the factors driving the success of Vision Centres (location, training of HR, protocols, technology)
3. Developing standard indicators for evaluation of Vision Centres

Technology

1. How effective is the current technology employed in Vision Center to screen for specialty eye problems?
2. Validation of existing MIS models being used to capture information related to comprehensive eye care

ARAVIND EYE CARE SYSTEM