

OPHTHALMIC COURSE, KARIGIRI, INDIA. MARCH 1999

The 14th annual 5-day ophthalmic teaching module was held at the Schieffelin Leprosy Research and Training Centre, Karigiri from the 1st to the 6th March 1999. The course, which received sponsorship from LEPRO through the CfBT/English-Speaking Union International Training Scheme was designed to give instruction to medical officers on the detection, prevention and management of the ocular complications of leprosy by means of a series of lectures and clinical and surgical demonstrations, augmented by videos and a field trip. Teaching included formal didactic presentations on the basic anatomy, physiology and pathology of the eye with a special emphasis on leprosy; in addition, there were lectures on the pathogenesis and treatment of corneal ulcers, rehabilitation, community ophthalmology and global aspects of blindness in the disease.

Preference was given to problem-based clinical instruction concentrating on the identification of sight-threatening complications of the disease, their prevention and management.

The course was attended by 12 sponsored participants working in India, and was organized by Dr Ebenezer Daniel of Karigiri, with the assistance of members of the Staff of the Centre. Mr Timothy ffytche from St Thomas's Hospital, London was invited as a member of the Faculty.

The Director of Karigiri, Dr P. S. S. Sundar Rao, is to be thanked for his continued support for this important and popular contribution to teaching.

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