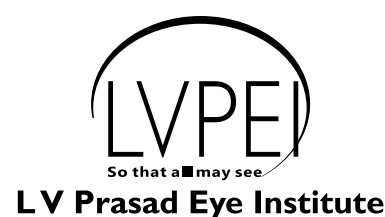


# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

September 2021





## 11<sup>th</sup> September Conference - 2021 Research to Policy

IHOPE's first Virtual Conference was held on the 11th of Sep '21 on the theme 'Research to Policy'. An erudite list of 4 keynote speakers and 5 panelists spoke eloquently on how Big Data and Health Economics studies contribute to achieving the goal for evidence based research. 120 participants attended this niche conference which had a mix of participation from scientists, researchers, academicians, ophthalmologists and other health care professionals.

Dr. G N Rao, Founder Chair of L V Prasad Eye Institute and Chair of the Advisory Board for IHOPE, gave the welcome address and spoke about the focus of the centre and the expected outcomes of this five year, multi institutional collaborative grant.

### Expected Outcomes

**Expected Outcomes**

- Unique Centre for Health Outcomes Research and Economics to address the eye health needs in India
- Strong evidence based knowledge for policy interventions through big data
- Research tools relevant beyond eye health
- Training centre for clinicians - CRTP and online modules
- Niche pool of trained clinicians in clinical and public health research as well as outcomes research and health economics

### Ongoing Projects

**Ongoing Projects**

- Geriatric DR & AMD
- Public Health Myopia
- Technology Diffusion- OCT/OCT-A
- Gender Access/Gender Distortions in Ophthalmology
- Primary Eyecare and Healthcare Integration
- Impact of gender on surgical eye care
- Health Economics - Diabetic Retinopathy

Dr. Raja Narayanan, Principal Investigator for IHOPE, gave an update on the projects being done out of this centre. He spoke about the publications in prestigious journals, that our team including CRTP Fellows have to their credit. He also briefly touched upon our accomplishments with regards the IHOPE Resource Center, the IHOPE Journal of Ophthalmology, the monthly Calendar of Events and the Quarterly Newsletter.



# Keynote Speakers

## BIG DATA



**Dr Manish Kohli**  
Senior Advisor  
Digital Health Practice  
Albright Stonebridge Group

## HEALTH ECONOMICS



**Prof Manoj Mohanan**  
Associate Professor  
Sanford School of Public Policy  
Duke University

## PUBLIC HEALTH



**Prof Matthew Burton**  
Director  
International Centre for  
Eye Health, London School of  
Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

## POLICY



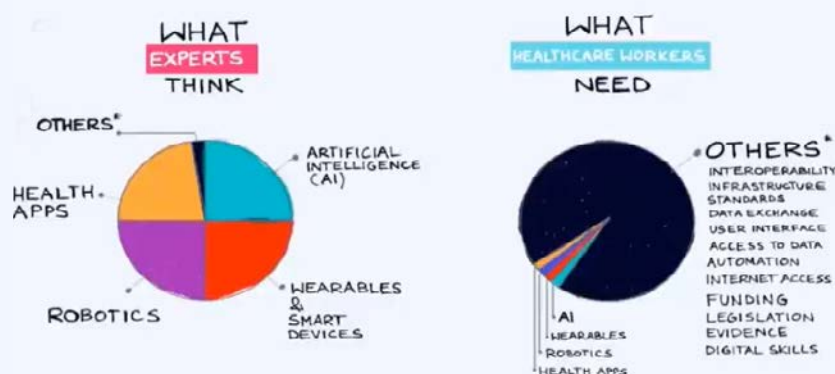
**Prof Gillian Leng CBE**  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Institute for  
Health and Care Excellence  
(NICE)



## Big Data

### BREAKING FAKE NEWS!

What is the most critical issue in digital health today?



According to Dr Manish Kohli, the quantity and quality of data that is available for a researcher today, to address a problem is unparalleled. The key is not in the data, but in how we organize and synthesize it, and use the right data points for better outcomes. Data driven insights are going to help us make a measurable difference as we move forward.



## THE LANCET GLOBAL HEALTH COMMISSION ON **GLOBAL EYE HEALTH: VISION BEYOND 2020**

Matthew Burton  
International Centre for Eye Health  
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine



Prof. Matthew Burton shared the high level findings of the report by Lancet Global Health Commission on Global Eye Health, Vision beyond 2020. He said that this was a pivotal time for eye health. In 2019 WHO published the first World Report on Vision. In 2020 the World Health Assembly passed a resolution on vision adopting the recommendations from the report. In July 2021 the United Nations general assembly passed the first resolution ever on vision. “This report seeks to reframe eye health not only as a health matter but also as an enabling cross cutting issue within the SDG Framework. There is compelling evidence in favour of urgent global action on eye health”, says Prof. Burton.





Prof. Manoj Mohanan spoke about the role of performance incentives and the motivation to provide better care among healthcare providers. Conservative economists believe that incentives are everything that matter, whilst other behavioural sciences suggest that incentives will crowd out intrinsic motivation. These two opinions on Pay for Performance often clash. He explained about the Contract theory: Principal Agent Frameworks in detail during his talk.

## Policy

We work  
across  
three  
ecosystems

NICE



### Life sciences ecosystem

Evaluating new technologies to determine funding decisions, and assessing new interventional procedures for safety and effectiveness



### Guidelines ecosystem

Developing best practice recommendations and advice for frontline practitioners and the public



### The information ecosystem

Providing access to evidence-based information, expert knowledge and advice (BNF, CKS, evidence search, journals)



Prof. Gillian Leng, introduced NICE and the context that led to its creation. She also spoke about NICE International service offerings through knowledge transfer seminars, workshops, scoping exercises and situational analysis along with other consultancy support that they provide.





The panel discussion answered questions on how the Lancet Commission on Eyes is a game changer for eye health and the way it complements the World Report on Vision. Today these reports are being used in public health and clinical practice and for advocacy with national governments. An effort was made to understand the reasons why eye health does not get prominence in the NCD agenda.

Panelists also spoke about the approval process for drugs/ vaccines and the changes that can be made to make the approval process efficient and effective. The technological and HR challenges the government faces in the collection of data today was also touched upon. Prevalence of Gender dimensions in access to healthcare in terms of the value attached to investments in women, were some interesting discussions in the hour long session.

To watch the conference proceedings, you can refer to the media section on our website <https://www.ihope2020.org/media/>



# TEAMWORK MAKES THE 'IHOPE DREAM' WORK



The Conference gave an opportunity to bring the interdisciplinary collaborative team, working in different geographies, together for the first time since the Covid pandemic started.







# Congratulations!



IHOPE Co-Investigator, Prof. Chirantan Chatterjee moved to UK in Aug'21 as a tenured faculty (Reader in Economics of Innovation) at Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU-Sussex), a 50+ year old pioneering innovation studies centre in UK & Europe at the Business School, University of Sussex.

He is freshly reappointed for the 2021-22 period as a Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University in US and also now maintains a Visiting Adjunct Professorship in Economics for the 2021-23 period at IIM Ahmedabad.





Congratulations to the eyeSmart EMR team, led by Dr Anthony Vipin Das, who is also the Co-Principal Investigator at IHOPE, for achieving the 1 Crore patient consults milestone !

IHOPE is doing retrospective studies on the LVPEI EMR data by framing research questions on economic and public health concerns, for improving interventions and policy in eye care.

# Welcome to the Team!



## **Sawan Rathi**

*Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad*

Sawan Rathi is a Ph.D. student in the Economics area at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, Economics department. He did his PGPX from IIM-Lucknow and had nine years of global exposure in Education Consulting, IT services, and Project Management (PRINCE2). His research interests include Innovation Management, Health Economics and Gold Policy. He has published a research paper in Finance Research Letters on “Central bank gold reserves and sovereign credit risk.”



## **Sagar Tamboli**

*L V Prasad Eye Institute*

Sagar works with the Technology & Data science team at LVPEI, and is contributing towards innovation and application of AI, ML and Analytics ( Statistical Analysis).

He has been working for 16 plus years, of which 13 plus years of experience has been in the healthcare industry working for fortune 500 and 100 companies. Here he managed multimillion dollar PL service operations, spearheading AI product management and development & BI & Analytics teams. He has served in various leadership roles managing businesses.

## Hira Pant

*Indian Institute of Public Health, Hyderabad*

Hira Pant currently teaches Data Management and Analysis using different tools. He is involved in various research projects and extends support for data management and analysis. His research interests include data usage for effective and inclusive health care programme design, visual analytics for health care, disability related research. He is an MA in Economics from Gadhwal Univeristy with a Post Graduate Diploma in Biostatistics and Data Management from IIPHH.



## Dr Varun Agiwal

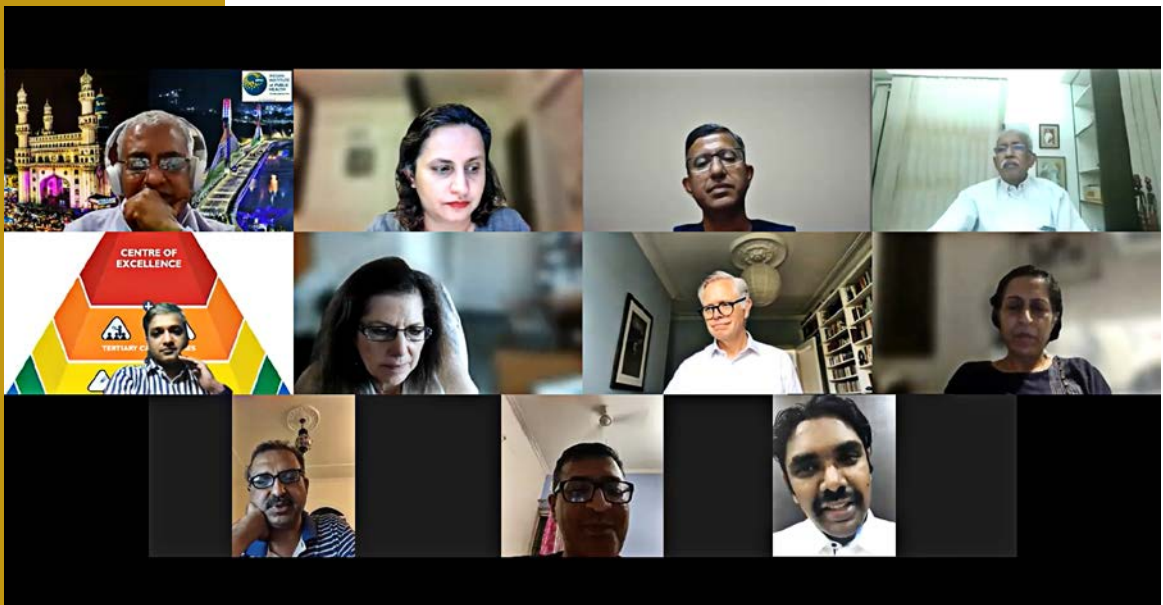
*Indian Institute of Public Health, Hyderabad*

Dr Varun Agiwal is a Senior Lecturer at IIPHH. He has completed his Master and Doctorate degrees in Statistics from the Department of Statistics, Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer. He has published many research papers in national and international peer-reviewed journals. His expertise includes medical statistics, linear & non-linear time series and data modelling.



# The Editorial Board Meets : IHOPEJO

- The Editorial Board of the IHOPE Journal of Ophthalmology, met virtually on the 24 of Aug'21, for the first time
- Focus of the journal is to include articles in ophthalmology related to big data analysis, health economics, clinical and public health research in eye health
- Suggestions from the board were to include lateral specialities, publish qualitative research, have theme based issues, as the journal establishes itself





# Thank You

## IndiaAlliance DBT wellcome

IndiaAlliance  
DBT wellcome

2019-20  
Report (April 2019 to December 2020)

HOME • RESEARCH • RAAS

### Research Highlights

#### Fellows' Research Highlights

Dr. Raja Narayanan  
L V Prasad Eye Institute

**IHOPE Clinical Research Centre**

Indian Health Outcomes, Public Health and Economics Research Centre (IHOPE) is an interdisciplinary research centre that has been set up through collaborations between the L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and Indian Institute of Public Health, Hyderabad. With L V Prasad Eye Institute's digitized EyeSmart Electronic Medical Records, IHOPE proposes to address important economic and public health related questions: 1. Develop a self-sustainable Centre of Knowledge Creation and Dissemination for Clinical and Public Health Research through Big Data, 2. Attract and train the best talent in the country to develop them as clinician scientists, and 3. Influence health policy in India based on new knowledge.

#### Expected Outcomes

- Unique Centre for Health Outcomes Research and Economics to address the eye health needs in India
- Strong evidence based knowledge for policy interventions through big data
- Research tools relevant beyond eye health
- Training centre for clinicians - CRTP and online modules
- Niche pool of trained clinicians in clinical and public health research as well as outcomes research and health economics

We have selected 3 long-term fellows under Clinical Research Training Program (CRTP), who will start work in February 2021. The CRTP Fellows will be trained in all areas of research, and would design, implement, analyse and publish work in accordance with the CRTP curriculum. We will see a robust and replicable eye care models for early detection of sight threatening conditions like glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy, strategies to enhance utilisation of services in rural areas.

IHOPE is honoured to be featured in the Annual Report (2019 to 2020) of the DBT/ Wellcome Trust India Alliance, under the Research Highlights section.

(<http://ar.indiaalliance.org/research-raja.html>)

A brief on the mission and outcomes of the research center along with a mention of the Clinical Research Training Program Fellowship rounded up the report.

*Date:*  
**Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021**

*Time:* **7 to 8 PM IST**



## *Webinar Topic:* **Study Designs in Public Health**

### **Speaker**



**Dr. Leslie G. Hyman**  
*Vice Chair for Research  
Wills Eye Hospital*

### **Moderator**



**Dr. Raja Narayanan**  
*Principal Investigator  
IHOPE*

***Register***



# Research Assistants: Data Science

## We are looking for:

- Analytical, committed, quantitatively oriented individuals with impeccable work ethics
- Individuals with exposure to the healthcare sector and multidimensional big data context. You would be at an advantage if you have been working as a data scientist with large technology multinationals or stealth mode start-ups in innovation hotspots of the world like the Bay Area, Boston or Bangalore (though this is not a strict necessity).
- Excellent understanding of econometrics, the emerging field of machine learning and causal economics
- You need to be strong in statistical and machine learning models and related fields like natural language processing
- Strong experience with data analysis tools such as STATA, SAS, R, Python, Matlab, QGIS, Spark, Impala, Hadoop are a must
- Prior peer reviewed scientific publications will be an added bonus
- These positions are a perfect launching platform for anyone envisioning a scholarly career with a doctorate or a post-doctoral faculty position in the area of global health and public policy.

### **We are offering:**

- We are offering a yearly renewable contract, basis your performance. We have a committed funding for 5 years from the prestigious Wellcome Trust and DBT/India Alliance CRC Grant
- An opportunity to create your own portfolio of research with large patient level datasets working with the investigator team for your own scholarly, industry or doctoral career
- Co-authored publications in top peer reviewed journals in public health and health economics from research projects with the primary investigators, conditional on your contribution

### **Minimum Qualifications:**

- The research assistant positions are open to those who have completed their Masters/ Undergraduates in computer science, electrical & electronic engineering, data science, business analytics, statistics, machine learning, quantitative marketing, strategic management, and other related areas.
- Optometrists with B.Optom/ M.Optom degree interested in research with focus on the areas of Big Data, Public Health, Economics and Policy may also apply.

**Work Experience:** Min – 1 year, Max – 5-7 years

**Work Location:** Hyderabad

Please send your detailed resume to  
[teamihope2020@gmail.com](mailto:teamihope2020@gmail.com)

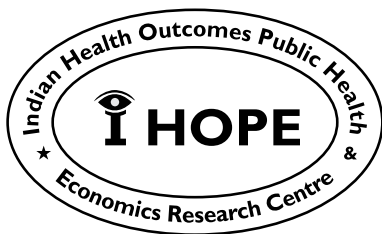


# Team EMR has moved office !



The Electronic Medical Records Team has shifted to a new office space on the 16 of Aug'21 . The team is now housed in a new building, in the GPR ICARE Campus in Kismatpur, Hyderabad.

This beautiful office space is surrounded with greenery and light and has ample seating space for the IHOPE team to expand there.



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Twitter handle : [@TeamIHOPE2020](https://twitter.com/TeamIHOPE2020)

YouTube : [www.youtube.com/channel/UCYi6qiwL9ly4RSUJUTFhgCA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYi6qiwL9ly4RSUJUTFhgCA)

Website : [www.ihope2020.org](http://www.ihope2020.org)