

Eye Surgery in India

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This marked my eighth visit to India. Scores of patients, poorly clothed despite the bitter winter, stood in the sun awaiting their turn to be examined. Each had a mature or hypermature cataract; some had complications like glaucoma or corneal opacity.

Long hours and a phacoemulsification machine provided by Mentor Ophthalmics Corporation enabled me to handle a large caseload during my three-week stay. The work in the OR began at 6:00 am and continued until late evening. Each day, 8-10 surgeries were performed, follow-up conducted on the previous day's patients, and new cases seen.

When I left, I had performed 86 cataract surgeries. I returned home with a profound sense of professional satisfaction, not only because I brought vision to many eyes, but mainly because I treated those who otherwise would never have received quality eye care.



The faith and confidence expressed by my patients is something I will always treasure. Their affection has moved me to agree to return to India twice a year from now on.

The IOLs, suture material and other disposables were donated by S.E.E. It would have been very difficult for me to continue without this generous support. I am also extremely grateful to Dr. Ajay Mathur and Dr. Santhust Mathur of Sharad Hospital for providing surgical facilities and guidance. Ms. Elsa Pinto of Mentor Ophthalmics went out of her way to furnish the phaco machine in a timely manner.

Photos are from various S.E.E. clinics in India.