**Paediatric Ophthalmology**

Paediatric Ophthalmology and Squint Department:

Vision impairment in childhood has a dramatic impact not only on the social development of a child, but also on his/her learning ability and potential. As certain serious eye disorders produce no early warning symptoms, it becomes all the more necessary to know when to get your child evaluated by a qualified professional.

The paediatric ophthalmology services offered at H. V. Desai Eye Hospital are dedicated to provide comprehensive ophthalmic care to children aged below 16 years. The provision of these services is aimed at ensuring that no child is becomes blind, and to provide equal rights to children suffering from low vision as well as increased accessibility to all the possible medical services to enable them to play an active role in society. The paediatric ophthalmology services offered at the hospital provide treatment for all types vision-related problems in children, some of which are listed below:

* Refractive error
* Amblyopia (Lazy eye)
* Paediatric cataract
* Paediatric squint
* Nystagmus
* Low vision
* Ocular trauma

In addition to the above-mentioned issues, the paediatric ophthalmology department, in collaboration with the retina department, takes an active part in screening and visually rehabilitating kids suffering from Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP).

With the glaucoma and oculoplasty department, common childhood problems such as paediatric glaucoma and oculoplasty disorders (nasolacrimal duct obstruction, ptosis, entropion, blepharophimosis, etc.) are also treated here. In addition, the strabismology services offered by this department provide treatment to adult patients suffering from double vision and squint.

This department examines and treats around 10,000 patients each year, which include the surgical treatment of around 2,500 children per year.

This department is also actively involved in school screening in the Pune and Satara districts to help in the earliest possible detection of ophthalmic conditions among children. This community outreach program helps paediatric patients to receive the best possible ophthalmic care at the earliest.

**Education and Training:**

This department also has a structured fellowship program in paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus, which are listed below:

* Short-term fellowship (3 months)
* Long-term fellowship(ORBIS supported) (15 months)

In addition to India, fellows from countries such as Nigeria and Kenya are also trained in this facility.

**Faculty:**

**Dr. Nikhil Rishikeshi**

He is the Head of Department of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, and is dedicated to providing comprehensive eye care for children. He has completed a long-term fellowship in paediatric ophthalmology, and has received training at the prestigious R.P. Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences (A.I.I.M.S.). As a paediatric surgeon, he is proficient in the treatment of cataracts and squint, and has a special interest in special forms of strabismus and nystagmus surgeries.

**Dr. Anushree Kaduskar-Aney**

She has completed her DNB and long-term fellowship in paediatric ophthalmology from Sankara Nethralaya Chennai, and is a consultant in this department.

**Dr. Sudhir Taras**

He is a formally trained paediatric orthoptist, and has received training at the Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai. He is a devoted member of the team, and is highly dedicated to the treatment of eye problems in children, especially strabismus.