

TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Vision Chariot: An Initiative by the Association of Community Ophthalmologists of India
Туре	Oral Presentation Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment
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Content

The Association of Community Ophthalmologists of India is committed to eradicate blindness and to sensitize the rural and urban masses across the country. In this sequence, the "VISION CHARIOT" Rath Yatra was organized. In Uttar Pradesh (Indian state which has highest population in the country), people were informed about free cataract operation, glaucoma, college, etc. through this journey covering a distance of 1000 km. They were informed about the causes and prevention of blindness. Inauguration of "VISION CHARIOT" Rath Yatra in Varanasi was held on 14 September 2019 in the village Jayapur adopted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It reached Kanpur on 17 October 2019 via Mirzapur Prayagraj, Jaunpur, Gorakhpur, Fatehpur, Lucknow, Bareilly, Merang, Jhansi. Passing through the city and countryside, this journey stopped at the major hospitals and medical colleges and made the blind patients aware there. The issues concerned with preventable blindness were the main area of focus including Eyelashes or cucumbers (trachoma), Chicken pox, Nutritional deficiency, leprosy, Eye infections at birth, diabetes, glaucoma.