

IACLE's young educators in Korea help make a difference

Korea is a priority country for IACLE because of its high prevalence of myopia and low contact lens wearer base. Korea National Coordinator Dr Jungmi Kim reports on how IACLE is providing support for young educators through programs such as its recent meeting in Daejeon



Thirty educators from 20 institutions and 14 educators from Bausch + Lomb (Local Platinum Sponsor), IACLE Sponsors CooperVision and Johnson & Johnson, and Interojo (a local company in Korea) took part in the IACLE Educator Meeting and Train-the-Trainer program held at Daejeon Health Institute of Technology (6-7 January). As many as 70 per cent of all those who attended the meeting were new and young IACLE members.

Opening the Educator Meeting of the first day, IACLE President, Dr Shehzad Naroo, introduced IACLE Global Strategic Initiatives that included the New ICLC (IACLE Contact Lens Course), IACLE membership, Educational Program and Third IACLE World Congress. After Dr Naroo's address, Korea National Coordinator, Dr Jungmi Kim, provided an update on all IACLE Korea activities.



Also on the first day, member workshops were conducted based on participatory group discussions. Members shared with each other their different contact lens teaching curricula such as, 'What is important in a good practical class?' and especially, 'How to teach complications,' for the National Exam and Student Trial Exam using local teaching cases and situations.

On the second day, Dr Naroo gave an excellent lecture on 'Presbyopia and multifocal soft CL fitting', an 'Update on dry eye' and 'How to teach the management of CL complications'. FIACLEs Jangwon Byun and Joonho Park gave a combined lecture on 'Orthokeratology CLs and fitting for keratoconus'.



Additionally, company representatives delivered a new multifocal CL product and a workshop was held with industry members that included three brands of multifocals. After the workshop, all members participated in a group discussion on how best to teach the successful fitting of new contact lens products. In a special presentation, Bausch + Lomb Director, FIACLE Joonsang Lee, and Interojo Director, Kyunghee Yoon (pictured left with Dr Naroo), talked about their strategic initiatives for education and how the contact lens industry could be more involved in education.

All in all, the 2016 IACLE Korea member meeting and Train-the-Trainer program was a wonderful success. All delegates in attendance agreed it was a great learning experience with excellent speakers, topics and workshops.

Commenting on the success of the meeting, Dr Naroo said that IACLE was very pleased to have an Educator Meeting and Train-the-Trainer Program in Korea. 'Korea is an important venue for us and is one of our priority countries because of its large population, high prevalence of myopia but low contact lens wearer base. With the help of local educators I am sure that IACLE can make a difference to CL penetration in Korea.

'Korea boasts around 50 training centres where contact lens practice is taught and this recent meeting attracted many new and young educators. IACLE is grateful to the Korea National Coordinator Jungmi Kim, for her hard work in putting this meeting together and the global and national sponsors of the event,' he added.

IACLE would also like to express its sincere appreciation to everyone involved in the planning of the meeting, especially the organizers and sponsors, Dean Professor Hyun Lee, FIACLE, Professor Seungsun Baek, Daejeon Health Institute of Technology, industry members and speakers.

Of the 40 participants, 28 were IACLE Educator Members, five Associate Members and seven were from industry. The industry supporters who participated in the meeting were IACLE Sponsors Alcon, CooperVision and Johnson & Johnson, along with Bausch + Lomb.

