

September 2018

## **B+Lieve 2018 delivers an uplifting program on advanced contact lens fitting**

**Sankara Academy of Vision hosted a successful B+Lieve event in the Indian city of Bangalore (26 and 27 August), where the IACLE Education Team and FIACLEs played a key role. Diwakar Rao reports**



B+Lieve is an integrated program on advanced contact lenses with the aim of uplifting the skills of eye care practitioners (ECPs). The latest event was organized at [Sankara Academy of Vision](#) (SAV) in Bangalore, where more than 30 ECPs experienced didactic lectures on three important contact lens related topics and their relevance in today's practice: the ocular surface and contact lens materials, proactive recommendation of contact lenses, and scleral contact lens fitting.

The event began with an introduction by **Diwakar Rao** (Head of Department, Sankara College of Optometry, Bangalore) on behalf of the SAV team, followed by FIACLE **Khem Raj Nackwal** (Professional Services Manager, Bausch + Lomb) who spoke about B+L's vision for B+Lieve.

After Lighting the Lamp, the event was kick-started by an enthusiastic lecture by **Nilesh Thite** (IACLE Director of Educational Programs) setting the tone for the talks to follow. **Lakshmi Shinde** (IACLE Global Education Manager) led an interactive session on 'Ocular surface and tear film in contact lens wear'. **Prithie Singh Reiki** gave a valuable talk on contact lens-induced dry eye and its management.

FIACLE **Harish Kudiyiruppu** (Assistant Manager, Professional Services, B+L) reviewed material properties influencing contact lens comfort while Khem Raj spoke on advances in materials. The talks were followed by a discussion session where delegates had an opportunity to put their questions to the panel.

The second session had Prithie describe 'My experience with proactive recommendation' and Nilesh spoke on the evidence for 'Proactive recommendation'. FIACLE **Ajay Shinde** tackled a very challenging topic – 'Recommending contact lenses to children' – and FIACLE **Premjit Bhakat** covered prescribing for patients at the other end of the spectrum: presbyopes.

The second day of the program focused on scleral contact lenses, with an overall theme of 'The inside story of scleral lenses'. The session began with a wonderful talk by Lakshmi called 'IB+Lieve' and continued with FIACLE **Anitha Arvind** who spoke on 'Anatomy and shape of the anterior ocular surface'. Diwakar discussed 'Indications for scleral lenses' and Premjit reviewed scleral lens designs.

The session which was most awaited was by Lakshmi, who lectured on 'Scleral lens fitting' and – with the help of **Vandana Kamath** and **Amaravathi P** – demonstrated the fitting technique on a real patient. This session was an instant hit and the audience appreciated it.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Diwakar from Sankara Academy of Vision and Harish from Bausch + Lomb. All in all, it was a very successful program. The delegates gave positive feedback on all the lectures and especially liked the scleral lens demonstration.

