

## IACLE leaves its footprint at BCLA Asia in Singapore

IACLE Asia Pacific took the opportunity to hold meetings at BCLA Asia and played an active role in the conference too, as Director of Educational Programs Nilesh Thite and China National Coordinator Haiying Wang report



Pictured meeting at BCLA Asia are IACLE staff (l-r): Haiying Wang, Qu Xiaomein, Cheni Lee, Kyounghee Park, Lakshmi Shinde and Nilesh Thite

BCLA Asia, a two-day conference held at Singapore Polytechnic Convention Centre, Singapore on 18-19 September, was attended by more than 500 delegates. The theme of the conference was 'Surviving Practice Change'. Many renowned international speakers shared their knowledge and experience via lectures, discussions and hands-on workshops.



IACLE made the most of this opportunity and left its footprint on this successful event. The day prior to the conference was utilized for the IACLE Asia Pacific coordinators' meeting, with representatives from India, China, Korea and Indonesia taking part. The objectives were:

- To review the progress in the region and take a stock of activities implemented
- To understand the requirements and concerns from various parts of the region
- To plan the way forward – activities in 2019

The meeting was attended by AP staff **Professor Kyounghee Park, Lakshmi Shinde, Qu Xiaomein, Cheni Lee, Professor Haiying Wang, Nilesch Thite** and AP Regional President **Dr Rajeswari Mahadevan** (pictured above).

During the conference, the team also met with industry representatives and gave them important updates from IACLE. 2019 being IACLE's 40th anniversary year, there are some major activities planned across the globe alongside the major conferences. Industry members were also encouraged to give their feedback and suggestions on how IACLE can improve its reach and create even more impact on contact lens education and penetration.

Attending the meetings were **Tim Grant** (pictured right) and **Rajesh Kumar** (Alcon); **Osbert Chan** (Bausch + Lomb); **Jack Chan, Amod Gogate** and **Karen Cheng** (Johnson & Johnson Vision); and **Gary Orsborn** and **Fan Chi Shing** (CooperVision).



The conference saw IACLE's Education Team and FIACLEs actively involved in delivering the scientific program.



**Lakshmi Shinde**  
 Workshop: Let's be proactive  
 Poster: The effects of C3R on fitting of contact lenses: An Indian Perspective

**Nilesch Thite**  
 Workshop: Let's be proactive  
 Oral Paper: Proactive CL prescribing: which approach is more effective?

**Haiying Wang**  
 Oral Paper: The comparison of NIBUT, TMH & TBUT between Chinese and American Adults



**Kyounghee Park**  
 Poster: Comparison of aberrations using Hartmann-Shack method on soft contact lenses

**Rajeswari Mahadevan**  
 Oral Paper: Fitting characteristics of eight different soft contact lens in normal eyes  
 Poster: In-vitro analysis of efficacy of two gas permeable lens care solutions – an eye-opener to practitioners

FIACLEs **Dr Kate Gifford** and **Professor James Wolffsohn** presented keynote addresses and took part in discussions and workshops. Other notable contributions of posters and oral papers were **Sneha Aggarwal, Harish Kudiyiruppu** and **Premjit Bhakat**.

Several IACLE members from China attended BCLA Asia (below). Among them, **Dr Bi Yang** and **Dr Jianglan Wang** from Department of Optometry and Vision Science, Sichuan University delivered their latest research results at the conference, which highlighted the strength of Chinese IACLE members.



Haiying and Xiaomei also used the WeChat platform to deliver the lectures and report to all IACLE members in China. Haiying commented: 'This two-day study has further improved the level of contact lens teaching and scientific research for members, and laid a good foundation for the safety and wide use of contact lenses.'

- BCLA Asia was jointly organized by the British Contact Lens Association and Singapore Optometric Association.

