

June 2023

Over 200 delegates gathered in Birmingham for IACLE's 4th World Congress on Contact Lens Education



IACLE's [4th World Congress](#) was a huge success, attracting around **200 delegates** from **42 countries**, including IACLE members, industry representatives and IACLE executives and staff (5-8 June). The four-day meeting, hosted at [Conference Aston](#) in Birmingham, UK, provided a unique learning experience for all attendees. The conference hall served as the venue for the plenary sessions, while Aston's [School of Optometry](#) hosted the workshops.

IACLE Vice President and Professor of Optometry at [Aston University](#) **Shehzad Naroo** fulfilled his role as the host and Congress Chair, and IACLE Executive Manager of Educational Development **Professor Craig Woods** served as the Program Chair and was responsible for curating the scientific program.

Themed 'Contact Lens Education for the Practitioner of the Future', the congress presented an ideal blend of plenary sessions, hands-on workshops, topical discussions and interactive learning experiences, providing valuable insights into contact lens education. Six IACLE

sponsors – Alcon, Bausch + Lomb, CooperVision, Johnson & Johnson, Menicon and Ophtecs – hosted eight workshops, spanning two days.

Monday 5 June 2023

Day one commenced with a warm welcome from IACLE President **Professor Philip Morgan** who introduced IACLE, encompassing its vision, mission, organizational structure and diverse programs. Professor Morgan proceeded to moderate the first educational session of the congress.

The first session, titled 'Evidence-based contact lens teaching', featured presentations by **Professor Shehzad Naroo**, **Professor Craig Woods**, and **Dr Fabrizio Zeri**, who shared their recent review paper's findings on evidence-based teaching in contact lens education and skills.

Apple Distinguished Educator **Joe Moretti** (pictured below) delivered the first Keynote address, titled 'iOS essentials – everything you should know about Apple iOS', captivating the delegates with various new and useful features of iOS, demonstrated through interactive presentations.



In his talk themed 'Golden circle and patient insights for educators', IACLE member and Alcon Professional Education and Training Head for India **Rupam Sinha** emphasized the importance of understanding the 'why' before taking action, proposing proactive recommendations for contact lenses and tailored strategies for different generations of prospective contact lens wearers.

The second session, 'Innovation in Teaching', moderated by **Professor Shehzad Naroo**, featured insightful paper presentations by IACLE members. **Premjit Bhakat** (India) discussed evidence-based journal club practices, Lifetime FIACLE **Eef van der Worp** (Netherlands) explored the implications of soft lens fitting and soft lens movement on-eye, and **Devanshi Dalal** (India) delved into the learning efficacy of undergraduate students in rigid contact lens

fitting. The delegates highly appreciated the experiences and practices shared by the presenters. The session also included presentations from IACLE's sponsors, with Director of Global Professional Education for [Johnson & Johnson Vision](#) **David Ruston** highlighting the company's commitment to education through academic support, research collaborations, and innovation. Executive Director of Medical Affairs for [Bausch + Lomb's](#) Vision Care **Dr Bill Reindel** provided an insightful overview of the company's history and its continued investments in innovation and education.

The subsequent session, 'Novel Assessments', was moderated by IACLE's Secretary / Treasurer **Professor Etty Bitton**. 2023 IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Award winner **Lavanya Kalikivayi** (India) shared her experience on how she motivates students through novel assessment techniques. **Ashwini Lokesh** (India) discussed application-based and blended creative teaching methods. **Hongmei Zhang** (China) presented her study's findings on evaluating students' satisfaction with three teaching modes in the contact lens course, utilizing the Students' Evaluations of Educational Quality Questionnaire (SEEQ). Finally, **Dr Dimitra Makrynioti** (Greece) explored the potential benefits of positive psychological interventions in teaching during challenging times such as the COVID-19 pandemic.



IACLE Director **Professor Renée Reeder** moderated the final session of the day, which featured **Joe Moretti** in the spotlight again. Building upon his previous presentation on iOS features and technology at the last World Congress (WC3) eight years ago, Joe showcased the remarkable advancements in mobile technology during this period.

The day concluded with a guided tour of Aston University's School of Optometry, providing delegates with the opportunity to explore different departments and laboratories. They were particularly intrigued by the simulation models of the eye and retina.

Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 June

Days two and three were filled with a series of interactive and hands-on workshops, organized by six of IACLE's sponsors – Alcon, Bausch + Lomb, CooperVision, Johnson & Johnson, Menicon and Ophtecs. Delegates were divided into eight groups, each attending four workshops per day, which facilitated open interaction and engagement within smaller group settings. The workshops proved to be popular among delegates. 'It was interesting to have lectures and workshops, and I liked that the workshops were divided into small groups. Since the realities of the participants are so different, it was interesting to hear other points of view', said **Dr Maria Madalena Cunha Faria Lira** from the [University of Minho](#) in Braga, Portugal.



Alcon – 'Dry Eye Wheel', presented by Jonathon Bench and Dr Alberto Recchioni

This workshop sought to reinterpret the proposed approach and underpin the chronic nature of dry eye disease and the need for its ongoing management. It began with a review of the tear film using a simplified model, along with an overview of the TFOS DEWSII report and its stepwise approach. A peer discussion on causes, associations, and environmental factors in dry eye disease followed. The use of a dry ice tear film model was an instant hit and impressed delegates with its creative construction.

Alcon – 'Teaching Critical Skills for Effective Toric Lens Practice', presented by Dr Marsha Oberholzer and Tomasz Suliński

This workshop honed in on the importance of effectively teaching soft toric lens fitting to practitioners while highlighting the benefits it brings to patients. The session allowed educators to share their perspectives on the essential equipment required, challenges faced, learning outcomes and clinical skills needed when teaching students. A highlight of the workshop was the application of 'Kolb's cycle', a teaching approach that navigates the



generational differences in students today. The session ended with a group activity to exchange ideas among educators on how to teach the topic.

Bausch + Lomb – ‘Advancements in Contact Lens Materials’, presented by Dr Byki Huntjens, Dr Marjorie Rah, Saskia Aguado and Serena Dunwoody



This session began with a review of discomfort and ocular physiology during contact lens wear. The presenters further elaborated on how materials can influence the contact lens wearer's experience, particularly focusing on distinguishing contact lens wettability, lens hydration and contact lens-related dryness. A key part of the workshop was a live demonstration and participating in a tear film assessment. This

was achieved using a handheld Placido disc in conjunction with a slit lamp, utilizing three different techniques.

CooperVision – ‘An Educator’s guide to Myopia Management’, presented by Nicola Logan, Debbie Jones, Elizabeth Lumb, Neil Harvey, Indie Grewal, Raquel Gil Cazorla, Nicky Latham, and Yasmin Whayeb

This workshop began with the lead presenter covering the global prevalence, impact, and risk factors of myopia, as well as interventions in myopia management. Following the presentation, delegates were divided into three groups, each led by a facilitator, for case discussions. These discussions guided participants through patient history and symptoms to help form clinical management plans tailored to each child’s needs.



CooperVision – ‘Orthokeratology for Myopia Control’, presented by Leah Johnson, Kelly Voltz, Katie Harrop and Maria Liu

The presenters began this discussion by asking the delegates to share their previous experiences with ortho-k lenses.

The lead presenter reviewed safety data and the efficacy of ortho-k for myopia control. The delegates collaborated in groups of five and learned through self-discovery and discussions with their peers while analyzing three different cases. To wrap up the session, the presenters reflected and summarized with a valuable question and answer segment.

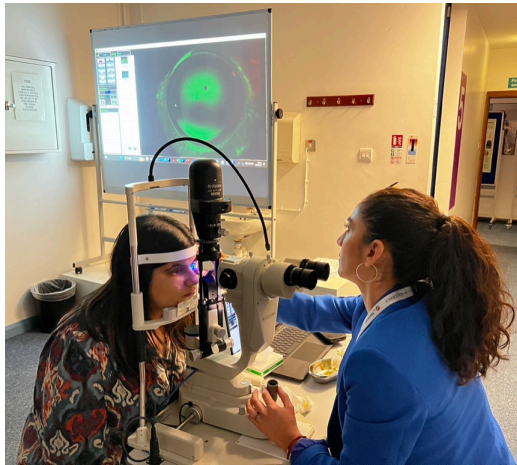


Johnson & Johnson Vision – ‘Optimizing Fitting Success with Soft Multifocal Contact Lenses’, presented by David Ruston, Caroline Christie, and James Hall



After introductions from all delegates, the presenters covered a range of topics, including the opportunities and challenges in the field, common myths among practitioners, exploring optical approaches, and highlighting recent advancements in technology and manufacturing. The importance of communication, fitting approaches, success rates and patient satisfaction were also discussed. Following this, the presenters shared the top ten tips for fitting multifocal contact lenses for presbyopes. To conclude, a demonstration was conducted to identify ocular dominance using both sighting and sensory methodologies, which led to a discussion among the group.

Menicon – ‘Addressing Myopia Management and the Irregular Cornea: A Closer Look at Menicon Bloom and ROSE K’, presented by Jennifer Choo, Fabio Carta, Patricia Flores, Rebecca Yan Shun Weng, Josie Barlow and Yi-Li Lin



The specialty workshop covered two main parts: myopia management and irregular cornea. Menicon Bloom, the myopia control management system, encompasses both soft and orthokeratology contact lens devices. The latter part of the workshop focused on ROSE K lenses, a systematic system for efficiently fitting contact lenses on keratoconic corneas. A highlight of the session was a live demonstration of fitting lenses on irregular, keratoconic corneas.

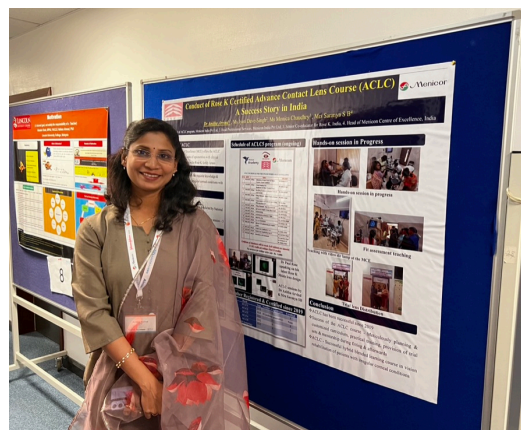
Ophtecs – ‘Importance of Contact Lens Care Required for Safe and Comfortable Lens Wear’, presented by Cristina Schnider, Takashi Suzuki, and Katsuhide Yamasaki

This workshop began with a concise introduction to the corporate profile. The focus then shifted to the prescriber’s perspective, where the presenters discussed the mechanisms, diagnosis, and treatment of complications related to contact lens wear. Next, the ‘cleadew’ (Povidone-iodine disinfection system) products were showcased, highlighting their distinctions from the conventional multipurpose lens care solutions. The workshop concluded with a presentation of the results from several clinical trials using cleadew products.



Poster Presentations

In addition to the oral presentations and workshops, an area was allocated for poster presentations for IACLE members to present their findings. In total, 13 posters were displayed, covering themes similar to those of the oral sessions. During coffee breaks on designated days, delegates had the opportunity to engage with the poster authors.



Gala Dinner

A grand gala dinner took place at the iconic ThinkTank Birmingham Science Museum, welcoming all the delegates and special guests. This evening offered the opportunity for socializing and cultural exchange among colleagues. During the dinner, IACLE President **Professor Philip Morgan** thanked everyone for attending the congress, with special recognition for Congress Chair **Professor Shehzad Naroo** and Program Chair **Professor Craig Woods**, CEO **Bonnie Boshart** and the rest of the IACLE team. He also acknowledged and appreciated the continuous support of IACLE's sponsors.

A total of nine members from 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 received their award certificates during the ceremony (pictured below). **Professor Philip Morgan**, along with Immediate Past President for the BCCLA **Neil Retallic** and CooperVision's **Juan Carlos Aragón** presented the awards ceremony.



The guest of honor, **Professor Desmond Fonn**, delivered a historic perspective of IACLE in his unique style, adding to the evening's significance. Moreover, the dinner served as the perfect occasion to honor the Educators of the Year and Travel Award winners.

Thursday 8 June

The final day of the congress began with paper presentations focused on motivating students and was moderated by IACLE Director **Dr Byki Huntjens**.

Dr Luis Fernando Barba's talk emphasized how students can use technology to express themselves creatively, sharing knowledge through videos, which can also serve as assessment tools.

Memoona Arshad shared her inspiring journey, highlighting the importance of contact lens education, the flipped classroom strategy and utilizing IACLETOP resources. Memoona shared some positive feedback she had received from her students regarding IACLETOP.

Vandana Kamath presented various effective methods applied at her institution, including industry seminars, guest lectures, team-building activities and expert-led training on psychological and social behavior, personality, and communication development. IACLE's Case Reports were also highlighted as a valuable tool for group discussions, problem-based learning and student assessment.

Runa Mazumder shared insights on using Case Reports for interactive learning and assessment.

The session also featured two sponsor talks: **Patricia Flores** from Menicon provided an overview on the company's history, vision and product portfolio, while **Ousman Marr** from Ophtecs presented a literature review and a summary of workshops on managing contact lens-related complications using appropriate lens care solutions.

The following session, moderated by IACLE Director **Fakhruddin Barodawala** commenced with **David Peel** a Microsoft Office specialist from [Aston University](#) demonstrating how to create dynamic presentations using PowerPoint. He showcased several features and useful tricks, including recording narration, screen recording and resizing images.

Following this, IACLE's Education Team **Lakshmi Shinde** and **Professor Craig Woods**, along with IACLETOP Consultant **Ian Miller** conducted a review of IACLE's online learning environment – IACLETOP. They explained what it offers and how it can support educators in their own professional development as well as in facilitating their students' learning.



The final session of the congress focused on 'Future pathways in education'. The rise of AI-power tools like ChatGPT and Bard has led educators to reconsider traditional teaching approaches. Executive Director of IRDIL at ODUGlobal **Dr Helen Crompton** delivered a thought-provoking keynote, exploring the potential drawbacks and benefits of integrating ChatGPT into the education system.

Stephan Fortier and **Matthew McShane** from the Instructure team presented strategies for using technology to deliver personalized learning experiences that cater to students' needs. They also discussed the future of online teaching and its evolution in response to technological advancements.

Senior Manager, Global Professional Education at CooperVision **Katie Harrop**, emphasized the company's ethos of improving lives by supporting eye care professionals to enhance people's vision every day.

The congress concluded with a farewell note from IACLE President **Professor Philip Morgan**, who expressed gratitude to the organizing team, delegates, speakers, and sponsors for their valuable contributions to making the event a success.

Watch WC4 feedback from IACLE members in:

[Arabic](#) – [Chinese](#) – [English](#) – [French](#) – [Greek](#) – [Spanish](#)

Survey Results

A total of 99 delegates completed the post-conference survey. The overall results were very positive and encouraging.

Almost all respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that the overall topics covered during the congress were relevant to their needs, the information was presented in a way that was relevant and easy to understand and each topic was covered in sufficient detail. Most respondents either strongly agreed or agreed that the 4th World Congress was long enough to cover the topics outlined. The overall impression from all respondents was either excellent or good.

'It was the best meeting I have ever attended' – **Isha Dave**, 2023 Asia Pacific Contact Lens Educator of the Year, Lotus College of Optometry, India

'I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for organizing the remarkable World Congress in Birmingham. The event was truly exceptional in terms of the valuable information, knowledge sharing, and networking opportunities it provided. Moreover, I am immensely thankful for the generous sponsorship of registration, accommodation, and the travel stipend. Your support made it possible for me to attend and benefit from this incredible experience. Thank you once again for your dedication and commitment to advancing our field' – **Atanu Samanta**, Nagar School of Optometry, India

'This was an exceptional congress that really opened up my eyes to the need of radically changing the way we bring content across to the new generation of scholars. I am very excited to start implementing some of the things I learned for the second semester. Thank you again for a wonderful learning experience' – **Dr Elizabeth Chetty**, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

'The event was a success in all aspects: logistics, content and development' – **Myriam Teresa Mayorga**, 2023 Americas Contact Lens Educator of the Year, La Salle University, Colombia