



Retina Fellows Retreat

4th

**RETINA
FELLOWS
RETREAT**

03rd - 05th
April
2026

Chandigarh, India

Advanced Eye Centre, PGIMER & The Lalit, Chandigarh



Organized by

Advanced Eye Centre

Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh (PGIMER)

Under the aegis of Eye Research Foundation





Prof. Amod Gupta
RFR Mentor of the Year Award



Oration by
Prof. Taiji Sakamoto
Past President and Senior Executive Advisor,
Japanese Vitreoretina Society



Prof. M R Dogra
RFR Fellow of the Year Award

Invited Faculty



Abhishek Kothari



Abhinav Dhani



Aditya Kelkar



Ajay Kapoor



Alok Sen



Anand Rajendran



Aparna R



Awaneesh Upadhyay



Dhavit Shah



Dhanashree Ratra



Divyansh Mishra



Gaurav Sanghi



Manish Nagpal



Manisha Agarwal



Manpreet Brar



Mansi Sharma



Nishat Bansal



Mudit Tyagi



Muna Bhende



Paawan Malhotra



Poornachandra B



Ravinder Malhi



Rupak Roy



Rajeev Gupta



Shorya Azad



Sanjay Mishra



SPS Grewal



Srinivas Joshi



Subina Narang



Sahil Jain



Vivek Dave



Unnikrishnan Nair



Sanyak Mulcutkar



Bruttendu Moharana



Swapnil Parchand



Mohit Bansal



Kolavali R. Rao



Nitin Kumar

Scientific Programme

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Friday, 03rd April 2026 (Day-1)

Venue: Advanced Eye Centre, PGIMER Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker
11.30am – 12.00 noon	Registration Welcome to AEC: S S Pandav / Vishali Gupta	
Session - 1 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm	Surgical Tales Part 1 – Basics	
<p>The presenter (Expert) with present step-by-step surgical steps for the mentioned procedure. The discussant (VR fellow) will pose the challenges they face or anticipate during the surgical procedure and navigate the discussion with the presenter, moderators, and panelists. (Time allotted – Presenter: 10minutes, Discussion: 20minutes)</p>		
Panelists	Taiji Sakamoto, Mangat Dogra, Reema Bansal, Ravinder Malhi, Muna Bhende, Rupak Roy	
Moderators	Deeksha Katoch, Basavaraj Tigari	
Procedure 1 – Scleral Buckling		
Expert	Abhishek Kothari	
Discussant	Divya Chauhan	
Procedure 2 – Secondary IOL		
Expert	Dhanashree Ratra	
Discussant	Srishi Sinha	
Procedure 3 – Vitrectomy for Post-Cataract Surgery Endophthalmitis		
Expert	Vivek Dave	
Discussant	Vishnu Todi	
1.30 pm – 2.00 pm Working Lunch		
Session - 2 2:00 pm – 3.45 pm	Surgical Tales Part 2 – Advanced	
Panelists	Vishali Gupta, Srinivas Joshi, Mudit Tyagi, Anand Rajendran, Aditya Kelkar, Unnikrishnan Nair	
Moderators	Mohit Dogra, Simar Rajan Singh	
2.00 pm – 2.15 pm Sponsored Talk (Alcon)		
Procedure 4 – Myopic Tractional Maculopathy: From Inside or Outside		
Expert	Taiji Sakamoto	
Discussant	Manu Sharma	

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Friday, 03rd April 2026 (Day-1)

Venue: Advanced Eye Centre, PGIMER Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker
Procedure 5 – Vitrectomy for Pediatric Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment		
Expert	Deeksha Katoch	
Discussant	Chaitanya YVK	
Procedure 6 – Plaque Brachytherapy for Choroidal Melanoma		
Expert	Aparna Ramasubramanian	
Discussant	Anushka Agarwalla	
3.45 pm – 4.00 pm Coffee Break		
4.00 pm – 7.00 pm Hands-On Workshops (Three workshops with a 1-hour batchwise rotation at each station)		
Workshop 1 – Retinal Imaging (Adult and Pediatric)		
Instructors	Muna Bhende, Unnikrishnan Nair, Mohit Dogra (Adult) Subina Narang, Gaurav Sanghi, Deeksha Katoch (Pediatric)	
Coordinators	Atul Arora, Arun Kapil, Nitin Gautam (Adult), Sumedha Vats, Sushil Bhatt (Pediatric), Neetu Monga	
Trade Partners	Tosbro – Heidelberg Engineering - ICON	
Workshop 2 – Electrophysiology		
Instructors	Poornachandra B, Dhanashree Ratra, Dhaivat Shah, Aparna Ramasubramanian, Simar Rajan Singh	
Coordinators	Swati Sharma, Nirmala Kumari, Abhishek Singh, Aprisha Sood	
Trade Partners	Tosbro – Roland Consult	
Workshop 3 – Vitrectomy (Basic and Advanced)		
Instructors	Taiji Sakamoto, Mudit Tyagi, Aditya Kelkar, Divyansh Mishra, Basavaraj Tigari	
Coordinators	Aahan Shah, Bhavika Bansal, Arpit Sharma	
Trade Partners	Alcon / Appasamy Associates	

7.00 pm – 8.00 pm	Dinner at AEC
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8.00 pm Onwards	Transfer to The Lalit, Chandigarh
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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Saturday, 04th April 2026 (Day-2)

Venue: Grand Ballroom, The Lalit, Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker		
Session - 3 8.00 am – 9.00 am	Practice Management Round Tables			
<p>Fellows and Delegates may choose two roundtables (out of 4) for a closed-group discussion on the topic at hand between the experienced mentors and the budding surgeons. The experts may present a short 5-minute presentation on the topic from their own laptops to initiate discussion. The moderators can then build on the same and lead the discussion by posing relevant questions to the experts and attendees. Each roundtable shall have a maximum of 15 attendees.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Switch to the second chosen round table after 30 minutes.</p>				
Topic	Freelancing and Salary Negotiation	Building an Academic Career	Professional and Indemnity Insurance / TPA management	Handling Social Media and Advertising
Moderators	Sahil Jain Nikita Gupta	Bruttendu Moharana Nitin Menia	Samyak Mulkutkar Kolavali Raghvendra Rao	Shilpa Vishwanath Abhinav Dhani
Experts	Abhishek Kothari Ajay Kapoor	Vishali Gupta Muna Bhende	Srinivas Joshi Nishat Bansal	Ashish Markan Awaneesh Upadhyay
9.00 am – 9.15 am	Coffee Break			
Session - 4 9.15 am – 10:40 am	The Equipment Debates			
<p>The debaters will present the pros and cons of each equipment category, with a focus on early-career retina specialists planning to begin practice. Each debate will be 4 minutes per speaker, with one minute each for rebuttal after the second speaker.</p>				
Panelists	Aditya Kelkar, Unnikrishnan Nair, Abhishek Kothari, Mudit Tyagi, Rupak Roy, Shorya Azad			
Moderators	Deeksha Katoch, Gaurav Sanghi			
Debate 1 – Do we need Dye Angiography at start of VR Practice?				
9.15 am – 9.20 am	Color FP is enough			Manisha Agarwal
9.20 am – 9.25 am	FFA /ICG is a must			Reema Bansal
9.25 am – 9.30 am	Discussion			
Debate 2 – OCT vs OCTA				
9.30 am – 9.35 am	Conventional SD-OCT does the job			Nishat Bansal
9.35 am – 9.40 am	An OCTA is a must for decision making			Manpreet Brar
9.40 am – 9.45 am	Discussion			
Debate 3 – Sterilization				
9.45 am – 9.50 am	ETO with Class B Autoclave does the job			Divyansh Mishra
9.50 am – 9.55 am	Plasma with Fast Horizontal Autoclave is better			Alok Sen
9.55 am – 10.00 am	Discussion			

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Saturday, 04th April 2026 (Day-2)

Venue: Grand Ballroom, The Lalit, Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker
Debate 4 – Heads Up Surgery		
10.00 am – 10.05 am	Standard Operating Microscope is all you need	Subina Narang
10.05 am – 10.10 am	3-D Head Up Surgery with iOCT is the way forward	Srinivas Joshi
10.10 am – 10.15 am	Discussion	
Debate 5 – Vitrectomy Machines		
10.15 am – 10.20 am	Indian Machines get the job done	Ajay Kapoor
10.20 am – 10.25 am	Foreign Machines give better returns	Rajeev Gupta
10.25 am – 10.30 am	Discussion	
10.30 am – 10.40 am	Sponsored Talk (AbbVie)	

10.40 am – 11.00 am	Coffee Break
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Session - 5 11.00 am -12.00 noon	Lessons from the OR: Expert Videos on Surgical Setbacks and How to Prevent Them
Experts present a surgical complication of their own, followed by a discussion on how to prevent the same in the OR. 4-minute presentation + 6-minute discussion.	
Panelist	Taiji Sakamoto, Vivek Dave, Mangat Dogra, Rajeev Gupta, Srinivas Joshi, Dhanashree Ratra
Moderators	Mohit Dogra, Mohit Bansal
11.00 am – 11.10 am	Shorya Azad
11.10 am – 11.20 am	Aditya Kelkar
11:20 am – 11:30 am	Paawan Puneet Malhotra
11:30 am – 11:40 am	Mudit Tyagi
11:40 am – 11:50 am	Abhinav Dhani
11:50 am – 12:00 pm	Anand Rajendran

Session - 6 12.00 pm – 12.40 pm	Prof. Amod Gupta RFR Mentor of the Year Award and Oration
Chairpersons	Vivek Lal, Amod Gupta, Jagat Ram, Mangat Dogra, SS Pandav, Usha Singh
Moderator	Reema Bansal
12.00 pm – 12.02 pm	Introduction of Award
12.02 pm – 12.05 pm	Introduction of Awardee
12.05 pm – 12.10 pm	Felicitation of Awardee
12.10 pm – 12.40 pm	Oration - My Journey of Retinal Detachment: From Basic Science to Big Data
	Vishali Gupta
	Simar Rajan Singh
	Prof. Taiji Sakamoto (Japan)
	Prof. Taiji Sakamoto (Japan)

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Saturday, 04th April 2026 (Day-2)

Venue: Grand Ballroom, The Lalit, Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker
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12.40 pm – 12.50 pm	Group Photograph	
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12.50 pm – 1.30 pm	Lunch	
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Session - 7 1.30 pm – 2.55 pm	The Practice of VR Debates	
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The debaters will present the pros and cons of each approach, with a focus on early-career retina specialists planning to begin practice. Each debate will be 4 minutes per speaker, with one minute each for rebuttal after the second speaker.

Panelists	Amod Gupta, Alok Sen, Abhishek Kothari, Ajay Kapoor, Sanjay Mishra, Nishat Bansal	
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Moderators	Simar Rajan Singh, Samyak Mulcutkar	
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Debate 1 – Government v/s Private		
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1.30 pm – 1.35 pm	Government Job provides the best balance	Vishali Gupta
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1.35 pm – 1.40 pm	Sky is the limit in Private Practice	Umnikrishnan Nair
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1.40 pm – 1.45 pm	Discussion	
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Debate 2 – Corporate / NGO v/s Solo / Group Practice		
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1.45 pm – 1.50 pm	Corporate / NGO means less Headache of Management	Muna Bhende
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1.50 pm – 1.55 pm	Its better to be your own boss!	SPS Grewal
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1.55 pm – 2.00 pm	Discussion	
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Debate 3 – Single Institute v/s Freelancing		
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2.00 pm – 2.05 pm	Single Institute gives peace of mind	Mansi Sharma
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2.05 pm – 2.10 pm	Freelancing gives more financial freedom	Sahil Jain
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2.10 pm – 2.15 pm	Discussion	
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Debate 4 – India v/s Abroad		
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2.15 pm – 2.20 pm	India provides enough opportunities	Awaneesh Upadhyay
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2.20 pm – 2.25 pm	There is whole world out there to explore	Dhaivat Shah
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2.25 pm – 2.30 pm	Discussion	
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Debate 5 – Work Life Balance		
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2.30 pm – 2.35 pm	Work is Life	Mudit Tyagi
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2.35 pm – 2.40 pm	There is Life Beyond Work	Vivek Dave
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2.40 pm – 2.45 pm	Discussion	
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2.45 pm – 2.55 pm	Alumni Talk – My Journey from PGI to Ocular Oncology in USA	Aparna Ramasubramanian
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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Saturday, 04th April 2026 (Day-2)

Venue: **Grand Ballroom, The Lalit, Chandigarh**

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker
Session - 8 2.55 pm – 4.25 pm	The Anti-VEGF Revolution – From Innovators to Atmanirbhar Bharat!	
Panelists	Mangat Dogra, Sanjay Mishra, Shilpi Naranware, Abhishek Kothari, Charu Gupta	
Moderators	Manisha Agarwal, Bruttendu Moharana	
2.55 pm – 3.05 pm	PCV management: Is Change always Better?	Charu Gupta
3.05 pm – 3.15 pm	Switching in the Era of New Anti-VEGFs: Evidence and Clinical Insights	Abhishek Kothari
3.15 pm – 3.25 pm	Panel Discussion	
3.26 pm – 3.32 pm	The switch strategy: Real-world evidence for Vabysmo in refractory patients	Abhinav Dhami
3.33 pm – 3.40 pm	Reducing treatment burden: My long-term experience with Vabysmo in nAMD/DME	Manpreet Brar
3.41 pm – 3.47 pm	Driving Atmanirbharta	Sanjay Bandyopadhyay
3.48 pm – 3.55 pm	Anyra Experience	Shilpi Naranware
3.55 pm – 4.05 pm	Sponsored Talk	Intas
4.05 pm – 4.25 pm	Panel Discussion	

4.25 pm – 4.45 pm	Coffee Break	
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Session - 9 4:45 pm – 6.00 pm	Mystery Retina	
Panelists	Vishali Gupta, Subina Narang, Divyansh Mishra, Muna Bhende, Dhaivat Shah, Anand Rajendran	
Moderators	Basavaraj Tigari, Swapnil Parchand	
Experts will present one diagnostic challenge from their practice, followed by a discussion on how to address it and the management options. 4-minute presentation + 6-minute discussion		
4.45 pm – 4.55 pm		Rupak Roy
4.55 pm – 5.05 pm		Manisha Agarwal
5.05 pm – 5.15 pm		Alok Sen
5.15 pm – 5.30 pm	Expert Talk – Do you still need Silicone?	Taiji Sakamoto
5.30 pm – 5.40 pm		Unnikrishnan Nair
5.40 pm – 5.50 pm		Poornachandra B
5.50 pm – 6.00 pm		Ravinder Malli
Session - 10 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm	The Industry Round Tables	
Coordinators	Atul Arora, Nitin Menia, Kolavali Raghvendra Rao	
Closed group interactions between fellow / early-career retina specialists and leading industry partners in VR Practice. Best time to understand their product and strike a deal! 15 minutes per table.		

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Saturday, 04th April 2026 (Day-2)

Venue: Grand Ballroom, The Lalit, Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker				
Session - 10 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm	The Industry Round Tables					
Coordinators	Atul Arora, Nitin Menia, Kolavali Raghvendra Rao					
Closed group interactions between fellow / early-career retina specialists and leading industry partners in VR Practice. Best time to understand their product and strike a deal! 15 minutes per table.						
Industry Partners:	Bayer	Intas	Roche	Alcon	Zydus	AbbVie
	Appasamy	Tosbro				

8.00 pm onwards	Gala Dinner
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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Sunday, 05th April 2026 (Day-3)

Venue: Grand Ballroom, The Lalit, Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker
Session - 11 9.00 am – 10.55 am	My Best Medical Retina Case 4-minute presentation + 6-minute discussion	
Judges	Amod Gupta, Reema Bansal, Manisha Agarwal, Mudrit Tyagi, Alok Sen, Anand Rajendran	
Moderators	Deeksha Katoch, Basavaraj Tigari	
9.00 am – 9.10 am	TBA	TBA
9.10 am – 9.20 am	TBA	TBA
9.20 am – 9.30 am	TBA	TBA
9.30 am – 9.40 am	TBA	TBA
9.40 am – 9.50 am	TBA	TBA
9.50 am – 10.00 am	TBA	TBA
10.00 am – 10.10 am	TBA	TBA
10.10 am – 10.20 am	TBA	TBA
10.20 am – 10.30 am	TBA	TBA
10.30 am – 10.40 am	TBA	TBA
10.40 am – 10.50 am	TBA	TBA

10.40 am – 10.55 am	Keynote Address by Prof. Amod Gupta	
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10.55 am – 11.15 am	Coffee Break	
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10.40 am – 10.55 am	Keynote Address by Prof. Amod Gupta	
Session - 12 11.15 am – 12.55 pm	My Most Challenging Surgical Retina Case 4-minute Video + 6-minute discussion	
Judges	Mangat Dogra, Vishali Gupta, Taiji Sakamoto, Dhanashree Ratra, Vivek Dave, Aditya Kelkar	
Moderators	Mohit Dogra, Simar Rajan Singh	
11.15 am – 11.25 am	TBA	TBA
11.25 am – 11.35 am	TBA	TBA
11.35 am – 11.45 am	TBA	TBA
11.45 am – 11.55 am	TBA	TBA
11.55 am – 12.05 pm	TBA	TBA
12.05 am – 12.15 pm	TBA	TBA

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Sunday, 05th April 2026 (Day-3)

Venue: Grand Ballroom, The Lalit, Chandigarh

Session / Time	Topic	Speaker
12.15 pm – 12.25 pm	TBA	TBA
12.25 pm – 12.35 pm	TBA	TBA
12.35 pm – 12.45 pm	TBA	TBA
12.45 pm – 12.55 pm	TBA	TBA

12.55 pm – 1.15 pm	Awards and Vaedictory	
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- Prof. M R Dogra RFR Fellow of the Year 2026
- Best Medical and Surgical Cases with Travel Grants

1.15 pm onwards	Lunch
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INDUSTRY PARTNERS



abbvie

Alcon





Host Faculty



S. S. Pandav



Usha Singh



Vishali Gupta



Reema Bansal



Deeksha Katoch



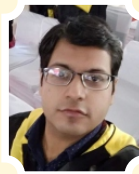
Mohit Dogra



Basavaraj Tigari



Simar Rajan Singh



Atul Arora



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