Phacoemulsification training (Phaco): The program is an intense 6-week surgical skills transfer course, targeted at ophthalmologists who are able to perform small incision cataract surgery. A fair competence with tunnel, rhexis and hydrodissection is expected. Intense training for nucleus management is given.

The program is supported by didactic lectures, model/animal eye surgery in wet lab and structured supervised hands-on surgery. The experience and education in surgery is enhanced by observing senior consultants during surgery.

Course description of Phacoemulsification training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the course</th>
<th>Phacoemulsification training</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nature of course</td>
<td>To give exposure in managing cataract by Phaco-emulsification &amp; to orient a SICS surgeon in Phaco surgery</td>
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<td>Applicable to whom</td>
<td>Well oriented in the steps of SICS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total number (approximate) of cases to be done by trainee</td>
<td>Number of cases needed for acquiring skills (approx. 20 to 22 cases).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admission criteria</td>
<td>MBBS or equivalent with Post graduate Degree in ophthalmology &amp; experience in SICS minimum 100 cases done</td>
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Course schedule

Step 1 of the training program: Wet lab practice
Placement of Training: Wet lab
Duration: First 2 weeks

Step 2 of the training program: Assisting trainers & other surgeons
Placement of Training: OT-3
Duration: From the 1st week till the end

Step 3 of the training program: Step surgery*
Placement of Training: OT-3
Duration: On the 3rd week

Step 4 of the training program: Independent supervised surgery**
Placement of Training: OT-3
Duration: From the 4th week till the end
Week wise allocation schedule of different steps of the learning process will very according to the performance report of the trainee.

*Starting of the ‘step surgery’ depends on the evaluation report of the trainers. The trainee will continue ‘wet lab’ and ‘assisting trainers’ sessions for a longer period of time delaying the start of the ‘step surgery’ if the trainers feel it’s necessary (due to trainee’s performance in the ‘wet lab’ and ‘assisting trainers’ sessions).

** Starting of the ‘independent supervised surgery’ also depends on the evaluation report of the trainers. The trainee will continue ‘step surgery’ for a longer period of time delaying the start of the ‘independent supervised surgery’ if the trainers feel it’s necessary (due to the trainee’s performance in ‘step surgery’).