



SUPPORT FREE CATARACT

Surgeries performed on indigent patients in Kolkata / Chennai



Objective of the Project

1. To identify patients with Cataract that require surgery, from the camps conducted in Rural areas or those who come to Sankara Nethralaya from across the country seeking treatment
2. Provide Comprehensive Eye-Care including Surgery totally free of cost including post-operative care
3. Criteria for Totally free treatment will be only those patients who come from economically poor background (whose family income is less than US \$ 240 per month)

Need for the project:

Even with a great amount of focus on the identification and treatment of cataract in India, Cataract continues to remain the major cause of Preventable Blindness in the country

Project Details:

At Sankara Nethralaya, each year, on an average, we perform about 19,000 surgeries, totally free of cost to the Indigent Patients who come to the hospital.

Your Support can be for any no. of surgeries :

Number of Surgeries	Cost @ US \$ 65
10 Cataract surgeries	US \$ 650/-
20 Cataract surgeries	US \$ 1300/-
50 Cataract surgeries	US \$ - 3250/-

Sr. No	Activity	Desired Outcome	Indicators you will use to Measure Outcome
1	Carrying out Cataract surgeries totally free of cost for the indigent patients	Treatment and restoration of workable vision (wherever possible) for those patients who could otherwise not be able to afford treatment for complex conditions.	Number of patients undergoing free surgery.

Joining hands through Corporate Social Responsibility Project for a Mutually Beneficial Relationship:

The Mission of Sankara Nethralaya is to “provide Total Eye-care solutions of highest standards to all sections of community”. To achieve this mission, Sankara Nethralaya reaches out to Society to support it.

❖ Impact on Community

The Free eye care is provided to the weaker sections of society – both medical and surgical:

- ◆ To the Rural indigent who come through the Camps conducted, from the rural districts of West Bengal/Tamil Nadu.
- ◆ Besides this, free treatment is provided to the poor patients who come from across the Eastern Zone – Bihar, Orissa, Assam and other North-eastern states
- ◆ This project of free eye care has a very large impact on Society across the country.
- ◆ Sankara Nethralaya makes no distinction with respect to Religion, Caste, Gender or Region. All patients undergo the same treatment – whether they are free or paying. The only criterion for providing free treatment is Economic status. Any patient can avail the free services of Sankara Nethralaya if they come through the rural camps or their Monthly family income is less than US \$ 240.

❖ **Impact on Society**

Patients under going cataract surgery are usually above 40 years of age.

- ◆ As they belong to the economic weaker sections of the society, each one of them – both male and female – have to earn their livelihood. Many of them are daily wage earners
- ◆ Due to the problems in vision, many of them are unable to continue their work and are therefore dependent on their immediate family for their living. Considering the fact that the entire family is poor, loss of income from one member increases the hardship faced by the family.
- ◆ By undergoing treatment, the patients regain their vision and thereby their livelihood is restored. This also improves the financial status of the entire family.

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Sankara Nethralaya USA is a 501 (c) (3) registered non-profit organization and all donations made to it are tax exempt in the USA

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