



Clinical Training

One surgeon can treat thousands of patients over their career

Photo © James Lehmann

Training care providers worldwide.

SightLife believes every patient should have access to quality comprehensive corneal care. The Clinical Training program aims to build capacity by offering training opportunities for corneal surgeons and ophthalmic personnel to effectively treat corneal blindness.

The Need

With an extreme shortage of corneal care providers around the world, there is a critical need to increase the number of providers available to address the millions of people worldwide currently impacted by corneal disease and waiting for a sight-restoring transplant.

Our Focus

The Clinical Training program increases the quality of comprehensive corneal care by building capacity among health care providers through skills-transfer courses, symposiums, hands-on wet labs, and short-term fellowships. Together, these programs provide a holistic approach to empower local health systems to end corneal blindness within their communities.

SightLife also provides ongoing mentorship to measure skills adoption and track number of transplants, as well as help remove barriers to progress by connecting surgeons with the appropriate resources. The continual follow-up with participants guides program evaluation to ensure the program continues to evolve.

ACCESS TO CARE

53%

of the corneal blind have no access to a transplant or medical treatment.

REACH





Dr. Nidhi Gadkar's Story

Dr. Nidhi Gadkar from Kashyan Memorial Eye Hospital, Ranchi, India wanted to perform more surgeries using new corneal transplant techniques, but the opportunities were limited for training. The hands-on, immersive SightLife trainings allowed Dr. Gadkar to better understand common mistakes, feel more confident in new surgical techniques, and ultimately restore sight for even more individuals in her community.



“ I am filled with gratitude and immense respect for SightLife. I am more confident in performing less invasive surgeries with better patient outcomes and thus can help to restore sight for more individuals in my community. ”

- Dr. Nidhi Gadkar

Progress and Scaling

Since 2013, the Clinical Training program has provided training for more than 1,300 corneal care providers, including corneal surgeons and general ophthalmologists. Course alumni move on to increase their surgery volumes year over year, adopt new skills directly into their practice and some even go on to mentor colleagues and junior surgeons.

SightLife is expanding the Clinical Training program in size and reach, leveraging its global faculty expertise to train more corneal care providers – from surgeons to allied ophthalmic personnel – in underserved areas to ensure patients have access to quality corneal care. Developing online learning tools, expanding curricula, and providing hands-on training for all types of corneal care providers will create more access to care for those who need it most.

JOIN US

SightLife is honored to partner with a distinguished group of surgeons and ophthalmic personnel, companies, and individuals who believe in the power of sight as a means to create a better future. These partnerships empower SightLife to expand its programs and services across the globe. We invite you to join us.

Learn more about how you can find a role in eliminating corneal blindness: www.sightlife.org/joinus



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