

Internship Report

Organization: - Sankara Eye Foundation

Location: - Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)

Duration: - 22nd March – 19th June 2024

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Stream: - DM – 02

Submitted To: - Dr. Himadri Sinha

Introduction

Sankara Eye Foundation India (SEFI) is a Not-for-Profit organization committed to provide quality eye care services to the poor and marginalized sections of the society since last 47 Years. Started as a small primary health care centre in the year 1977 by Dr

R.V. Ramani and Dr Radha Ramani, today Sankara is one among the largest and fastestgrowing social enterprise with a group of 18 hospitals equipped with world class facilities & robust Infrastructure and catering to the rural & the urban population.

Sankara's Community Outreach Model is a unique, replicable & sustainable model which has transformed over ten million lives since inception and continues to do so.

While Sankara's Pan India footprint is expanding, serving more States and Districts, it has been realized that Primary Eye Care is very important especially at the Village level, for which the concept of Vision Centers has been introduced across all Sankara Units.

Today SEFI is having 42 vision Centres spread across 10 states in the country. These vision Centres are located in the states of Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, Anand. In the upcoming years SEFI is planning to add more units and vision centers in other states of country to achieve the goal of "Eradicating Preventable Blindness" across the country.

Since the past 47 years, Sankara Eye Foundation India (SEFI), has worked to offer the underprivileged and underserved segments of society with high-quality eye care services. Beginning as a small basic healthcare facility in 1977 under the direction of Dr. R.V. Ramani and Dr. Radha Ramani, Sankara is now among the largest and fastest expanding social enterprises, with a network of 13 hospitals offering top-notch services to both the rural and urban populations.

Community Outreach Programs:

Sankara Eye Hospital is known for its extensive community outreach efforts, aimed at making eye care accessible to underserved populations

Outreach Program: Regular eye camps in rural areas for screening and treating eye conditions and then refer the patients to the base hospital.

Vision Centre: The Vision Centre is providing accessible, high-quality remote eye care services to underserved and rural areas.

Overview of Sankara Eye Hospital's Outreach Program:

Sankara Eye Foundation's One of flagship initiatives is the "Gift of Vision" program, launched in 1990. This program aims to provide free cataract surgeries and comprehensive eye care services to individuals from economically disadvantaged backgrounds who would otherwise be unable to access or afford these vital interventions, last financial year (2023-24) Sankara Eye Hospital done 2,16,226 surgeries under “Gift of Vision” program. By eliminating financial barriers, the Gift of Vision program seeks to lighten the burden of preventable blindness and empower beneficiaries to lead more productive and fulfilling lives.

The Gift of Vision program functions through a network of vision centers and outreach camps, where beneficiaries are identified and screened for eye conditions, particularly cataracts. Those in need of surgical intervention are then transported to Sankara Eye Foundation's base hospitals, where they receive free cataract surgeries performed by experienced ophthalmologists using state-of-the-art technology and equipment.

In addition to the surgical procedures, the program provides comprehensive pre-operative and post-operative care, including counseling, medication, and follow-up visits, to ensure optimal recovery and long-term vision restoration. The program's holistic approach extends beyond medical interventions.

Through the Gift of Vision program, Sankara Eye Foundation has transformed the lives of countless individuals, enabling them to regain their independence, pursue economic opportunities, and participate more actively in their communities. The program's impact extends beyond the individual beneficiaries, as it also contributes to reducing the broader societal and economic burden associated with preventable blindness.

Objective of Internship

- To get knowledgeable about managing and monitoring outreach department of Sankara Eye Foundation.
- Finding the impact of the Gift of Vision Program (GOV) of Sankara Eye Foundation is the objective of the internship.
- To find out more about the camp and outreach program.
- To become familiar with the Rainbow and Gift of Vision programs.
- To gain knowledge of the Sankara Eye Hospital's various departments and non-paying section overview.

Organizational Profile

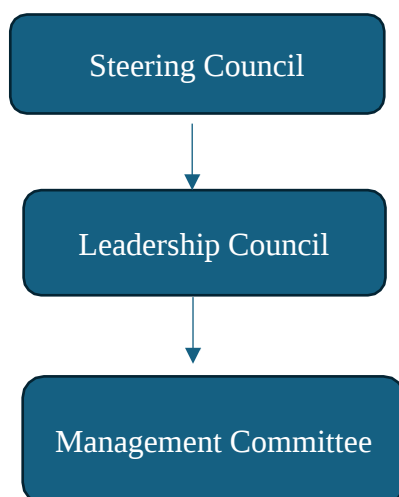
Sankara Eye Hospital is a premier eye care institution in India, dedicated to providing exceptional eye care services and eliminating preventable blindness. Founded in 1977 by Dr. R.V. Ramani and Dr. Radha Ramani, the hospital has grown into a network of specialized eye care centers known for their high-quality treatment, innovative techniques, and community outreach programs.

Vision and Mission

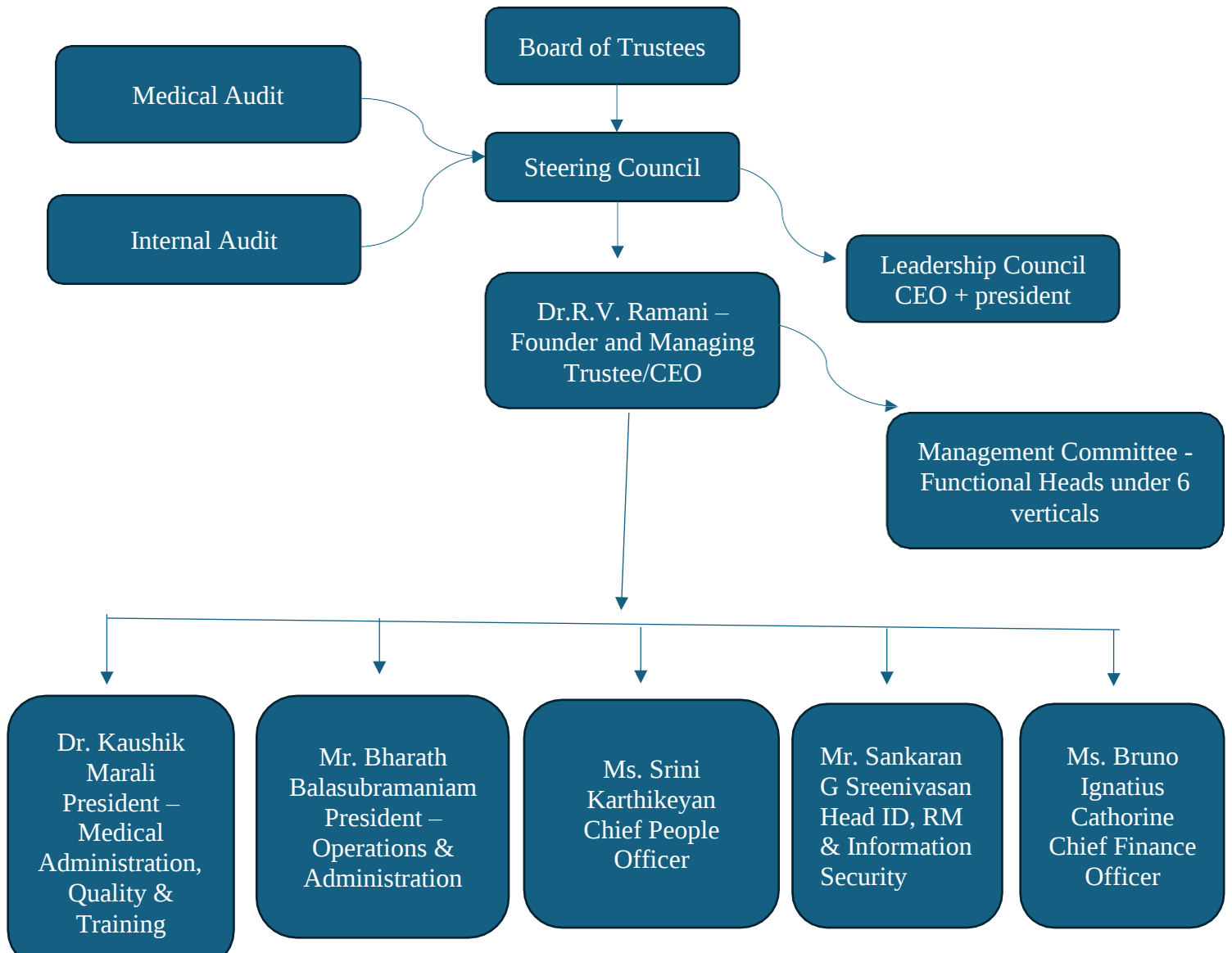
Vision: To work towards freedom from preventable and curable blindness.

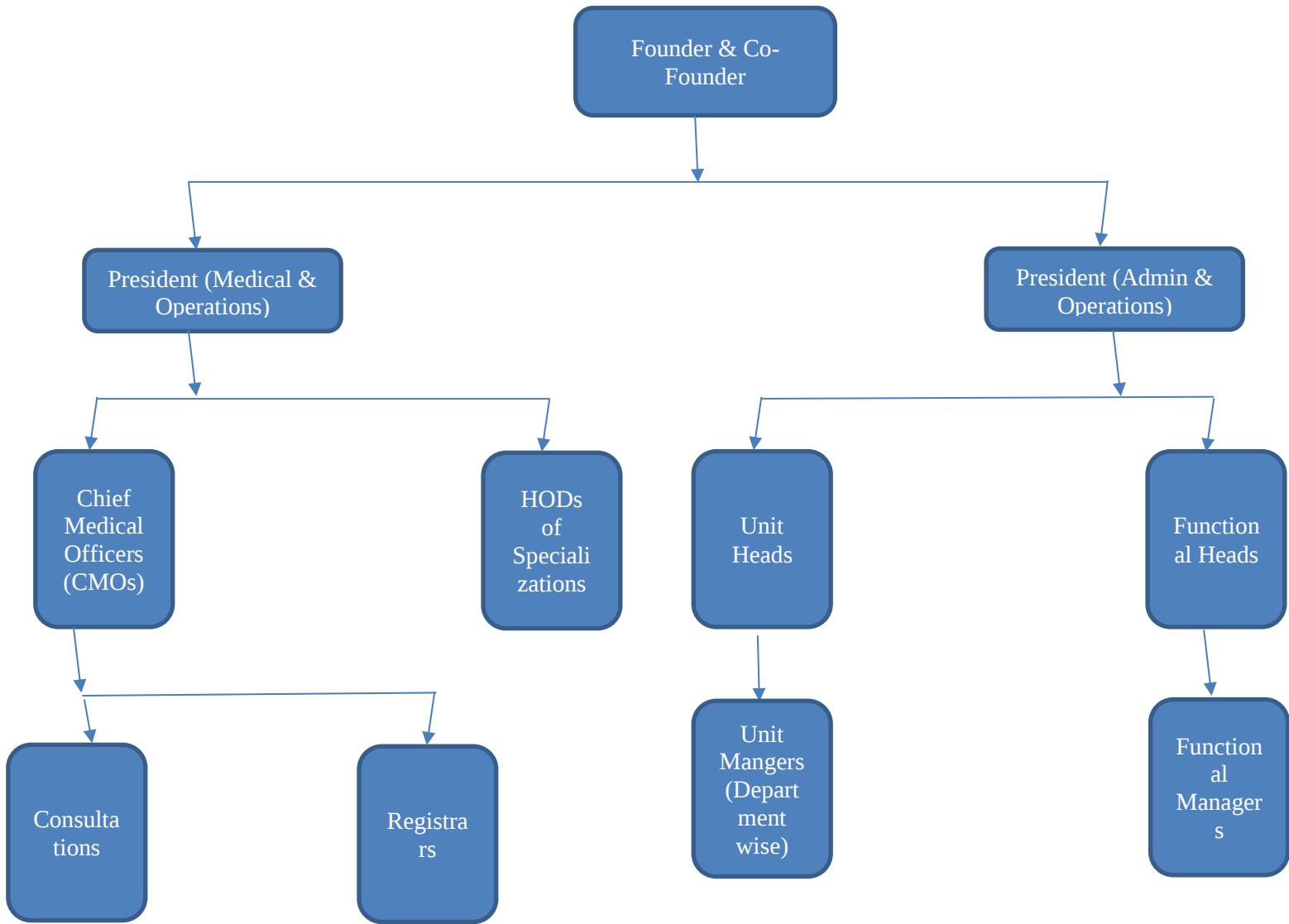
Mission: To provide unmatched eye care through a strong service-oriented team.

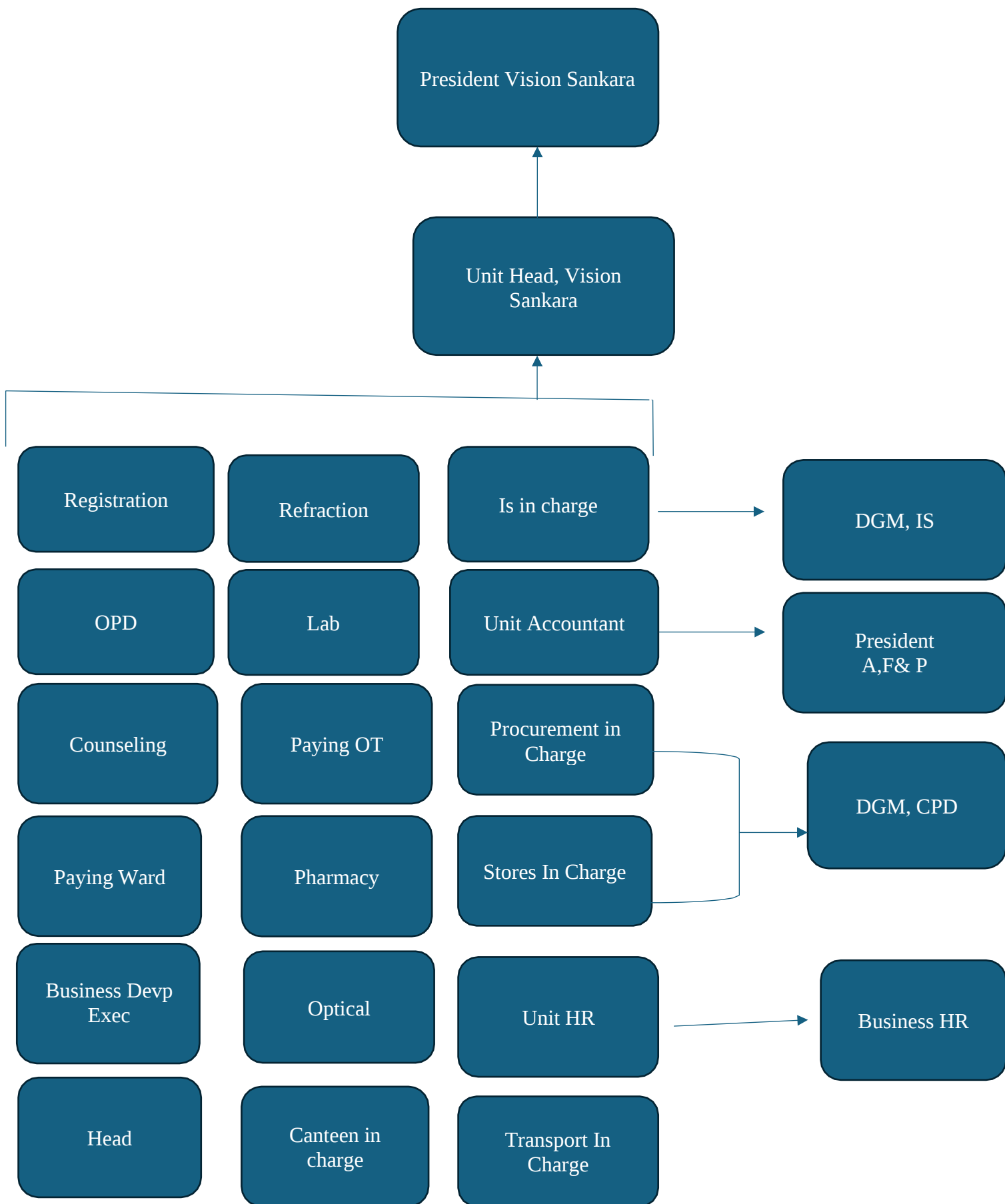
Management Organizational Structure



Unit Organization Chart – Integrated Hospital







Services Offered

Sankara Eye Hospital offers a wide range of eye care services, including:

Vitreous Retina Services: Treatment for retinal diseases such as diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration, and retinal detachments.

Vision Therapy: Vision Therapy centre includes facilities such as Computer Vision Clinic.

Cataract Surgery: Advanced techniques such as phacoemulsification and laser-assisted cataract surgery.

Glaucoma Care: Comprehensive management of glaucoma, including medical, laser, and surgical treatments.

Refractive Surgery: Procedures like LASIK, SMILE, and PRK for correcting vision issues.

Ocular Oncology: Provides specialized care for eye cancers, including diagnosis, treatment, and management of conditions like retinoblastoma, ocular melanoma, and conjunctival tumors, using advanced technologies and a multidisciplinary approach to ensure optimal patient outcomes.

Orbit and Oculoplasty: Procedures for reconstructive and cosmetic surgery of the eye and its surrounding structures.

Pediatric Ophthalmology: Specialized care for children's eye health, including treatment for congenital eye disorders.

UVEA: Focus on the diagnosis and treatment of uveitis and other uveal tract disorders, utilizing advanced diagnostic tools and personalized treatment plans to manage inflammation and preserve vision effectively.

Prosthetic (Artificial) Eye Centre: Specializes in creating and fitting custom-made artificial eyes for patients who have lost an eye due to injury or disease, offering natural-looking, comfortable, and functional prosthetic solutions to enhance appearance and confidence.

Cornea Services: Treatment for corneal diseases, including corneal transplants.

Eye Bank Services: Eye Bank Services facilitate the collection, processing, and distribution of

donated corneas, providing sight-restoring corneal transplants to patients with corneal blindness.

Key Activities:

- Understand about the functioning of various departments of Sankara Eye Foundation.
- Visit outreach camps and review camps on various location.
- Observation and exploration of various functions of outreach department.
- Develop research questioner for the study.
- Collect data from vision centres and outreach camps through personal and telephonic interview.
- Analyze the data and prepare the final dissertation report.