

**KGMU UP Community Eye Bank Honor the Donor Families during Eye Donation
Fortnight**

Venue: Eye Bank 5th Floor Trauma center, KGMU

Date: 8/9/2017

Time: 2pm-4pm

~With 2 lakh people waiting for cornea transplants, we need community awareness to increase eye donation. Cornea donation is only the top layer of the eye, not the whole eye. And by dialing 1919 to report deaths to eye bank 24x7, you can give sight to a blind person~

The KGMU UP Community Eye Bank, which is operated by the global not-for-profit organization, SightLife, and funded by The Hans Foundation, is located inside the trauma centre at KGMU. Aided by the highly trained and dedicated 24x7 staff, the Community Eye Bank has advanced microscope technology for precise determination of cornea suitability. The facility is integrated with the national helpline number 1919 which connects all the enquiries directly to the community eye bank. Leaders requests families report all deaths to the eye bank 24x7 so they can discuss eye donation with an eye bank coordinator.

"Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state in India, with two-thirds the population of the U.S.," "The U.S. performed almost 50,000 transplants last year, whereas in UP only 650 cornea transplants were done. The cornea is only the top layer of the eye – not the entire eye and can help cure blindness for a person waiting in blindness. Simply report all deaths to the eye bank by dialing 1919 24x7".

Dr. Arun K. Sharma, Associate Professor of KGMU, Ophthalmology Department and KGMU UP Community Eye Bank Medical Director. "states that Religious beliefs are considered one of the biggest hurdles preventing people from donating eyes but now time is changing, more and more people are coming out of closet to donate their and loved ones eyes because people are disagreeing with these superstitions related to eye donation and giving gift of sight to the blind people. He requested to all communities to Join us in this great endeavor of eliminating corneal blindness."

Patrick S. Emery Senior Director of SightLife Eye Bank Operations, Asia said that the eye bank was inaugurated on 5th December 2016, since than more than 150 people donated their eyes (more than 300 corneas) to the KGMU UP Community Eye Bank to give sight to others, and the KGMU UP Community Eye Bank considers it an honor to recognize these individuals as well as their families.

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For further information, please contact

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KGMU UP Community Eye Bank

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