Emerging Markets [1]

Expanding Access to Eye Care

Building sustainable eye care in emerging markets, such as China, India and Russia, is a key priority for Alcon. In many countries, a robust, quality eye care system is often underdeveloped, and in many instances, not available at all.

Breaking Down Barriers to Eye Care in Asia

As part of its commitment to enhance and improve vision worldwide, Alcon has an opportunity to help millions of people see better, especially those suffering from cataracts [2] which is the leading cause of preventable blindness globally.

Cataract surgery has been shown to be one of the most cost-effective treatments in the world. Within developing countries such as China, for instance, there are several hurdles that prevent patients from receiving cataract surgery, including the lack of awareness about
available treatment options, a shortage of trained surgeons and surgical equipment, as well as inadequate reimbursement and patient education.

Our teams are diligently working to overcome these challenges.

In the major cities of China, one can find cataract services and technologies that are second-to-none anywhere in the world. In the remote areas of the country, people currently do not have the same access to these services. Our goal is to make quality eye care broadly accessible throughout the country, in both urban and rural areas.

Lawrence Fay, Alcon Area Director, Surgical Business Development, and Head of the Phaco Development Program

Phaco Development Program

In Asia, Alcon established the Phaco Development Program, which aims to develop ophthalmologists, hospitals and support systems in order to meet the demand for public access to quality cataract care. The program offers practicing ophthalmologists the opportunity to upgrade their skills and provide patients with comprehensive cataract treatment options, including the latest available surgical technologies, such as phacoemulsification.

After launching in China in 2008, the Phaco Development Program is now also available in Mongolia, India and Vietnam.

Related Links

Alcon Giving [3]
Partners In Eye Care [4]
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