

World Glaucoma Week 2026 Celebration

by

North Bengal Medical College Alumni Association (NBMCAA)



Date:

8–14 March 2026

Organized by:

North Bengal Medical College Alumni Association





Executive Summary

As part of its flagship public health initiative, the North Bengal Medical College Alumni Association (NBMCAA) successfully celebrated **World Glaucoma Week 2026** with an Awareness and Screening Programme at Kurseong Sub-Divisional Hospital under the leadership of Dr. Anupama Biswas.

The programme aligned with the global objective of preventing avoidable blindness through early detection and awareness of glaucoma, a leading cause of irreversible vision loss. This initiative formed part of a coordinated campaign in healthcare settings by NBMCAA. The program was collaborated with Indian Red Cross Society.

Background and Rationale

Glaucoma, often termed the “silent thief of sight,” progresses asymptotically until advanced stages, making early diagnosis critical. In resource-limited and semi-urban regions such as Kurseong, awareness and access to preventive eye care remain suboptimal.

Recognizing this gap, NBMCAA initiated a structured campaign during World Glaucoma Week (8–14 March 2026) focusing on:

Community awareness generation
Early detection through screening
Referral linkage for advanced care

Objectives of the Programme

Primary Objectives -

- To increase awareness regarding glaucoma and its irreversible consequences
- To provide free glaucoma screening services to the local population
- To identify high-risk individuals for further evaluation and management

Secondary Objectives -

- To strengthen community engagement in preventive eye health
- To support public healthcare systems through alumni-led initiatives
- To create a scalable model for future CSR-supported public health programs



नर्य बइा मोडटक कलेज एलुमुन्नी एसोसि
आयोजना गर्दव
विश गल्लुकोमा सपाहा
8 मार्चदोछ 14 मार्च 2026
गल्लुकोमा-मुस विश्वका लागि एकजुट

गल्लुकोमा दृष्टिकोणको मोन चोर हो।
गल्लुकोमाका कारण हुने द्रिष्टि क्षति स्थायी हुन्छ, तर समयमै पाहचन सपछ।

निःशुल्क गल्लुकोमा जाँच शिविर

आफ्नो दृष्टि सुटिडत राखनुहोस । ठिठो पला लगानुपुहोस
अन्धोपन रोकनुहोस

कसले लांच गराउनुपर्को?

- 40 वर्य वा सोभन्दा माशिका व्यक्तिहरु
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- वारम्बार टाडको दुक्ने वा दृष्टि समस्या हुने

www.nbmc.com nbmcaofficial@gmail.com 9147772838

Programme Implementation

Free glaucoma screening camp for high-risk individual was conducted at Kurseong Sub-Divisional Hospital from 08th to 14th March 2026. The screening primarily focused on -

Individuals aged ≥ 40 years

Patients with diabetes and hypertension

Individuals with family history of glaucoma

Long-term steroid users

Patients with visual complaints or recurrent headaches

- Patient education sessions on glaucoma risk factors and prevention
- Distribution of awareness materials
- Identification and referral of suspected cases



Key Outcomes and Impact:

The programme achieved substantial service delivery outcomes, with a significant number of patients screened, enabling early identification of suspected glaucoma cases and timely referral of high-risk individuals for advanced ophthalmic evaluation. At the community level, the initiative enhanced awareness of glaucoma as a preventable cause of blindness, leading to improved health-seeking behaviour and greater trust in public healthcare services. Institutionally, the programme strengthened collaboration between alumni and public health systems, demonstrated the



effectiveness of a decentralized care model, and established a strong foundation for future structured outreach and preventive health programmes.

Challenges

The project met with limited awareness leading to initial low turnout.

Key Learnings

- Importance of pre-camp publicity and community mobilisation
- Need for repeated and sustained awareness campaigns
- Integration with primary healthcare services improves reach



Future Scope and Recommendations

- Expansion of the programme to additional rural and hilly regions
- Integration with tele-ophthalmology for follow-up care
- Collaboration with CSR partners for funding and scale-up
- Development of longitudinal patient tracking systems

Conclusion

The World Glaucoma Week 2026 programme at Kurseong Sub-Divisional Hospital stands as a successful model of alumni-driven public health intervention. Under the leadership of Dr. Anupama Biswas, the initiative effectively combined awareness, screening, and referral services to address a critical yet under-recognized health issue.

With appropriate CSR support, this initiative has strong potential to evolve into a large-scale, sustainable vision care programme, significantly contributing to the prevention of avoidable blindness in underserved communities.

Financial Summary: There is no substantial financial implication of this project.

Keywords: Glaucoma • Preventable blindness • Screening Camp • Preventive Health Check Up • Community Welfare • NBMCAA

Hashtags: #WorldGlaucomaWeek #SilentThiefOfSight #CheckYourEyes #PreventBlindness

Call to Act:

For CSR collaboration, sponsorship, donations, or additional information of our future initiatives, kindly contact:

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