

SUNY at Buffalo/Kaleida Health Dental General Practice Residency

Philosophy

Since each resident entering the program has graduated from an ADA-accredited North American dental school, it is assumed that each begins with the skills necessary to accomplish the basic techniques of general dentistry. The program will refine and enhance these skills. This is an educational program with a strong clinical focus. Residents will spend the majority of their time managing a variety of patients with a variety of medical and dental conditions. Emphasis is on developing and executing treatment plans that are appropriate to patients' dental needs as well as their physical, behavioral, medical, and financial circumstances.

Overall Program Objectives

1. To prepare dental residents to function as a patient's primary oral health care provider by providing a broad-based clinical experience in general dentistry to patients with a wide variety of treatment needs.
2. To educate each dental resident in the principles of oral healthcare delivery that provide a foundation for life-long learning.
3. To promote appreciation for the oral health needs of diverse and underserved groups and the dental professional's role in community service.
4. To provide each resident with the skills necessary to function as a member of a healthcare team in a hospital setting by promoting interaction with other health care professionals.

General Plan of Training

This is a twelve-month training program. It is designed to conform to the most recent standards for Advanced Education Programs in General Practice Residency set forth by the Council on Dental Education, Commission on Accreditation, of the American Dental Association. The majority of clinical time is spent providing comprehensive general dentistry to a variety of patients. Focused dental rotations include assignment to Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Special Care, Orofacial pain, and Implant Surgery. Off-service rotation includes assignments to Anesthesiology and Medicine. Optional rotations include Pediatric Dentistry and additional assignment to any rotation of particular interest.

About ten percent of a resident's time is spent in conferences and seminars. The majority of the didactic program is held in common with residents from the other AEGD and GPR programs in the Buffalo area.

Specific Goals and Objectives

The curriculum has been developed to ensure that residents can meet the program's overall goals and objectives as well as the Commission on Dental Accreditation's required outcomes of resident education.

By the end of the program, a resident will be able to:

Patient assessment and diagnosis

- a. Obtain a patient's chief complaint, history of present illness, medical, dental, family and social history, and review of systems.
- b. Obtain and interpret appropriate laboratory and radiographic data, obtain additional diagnostic information through consultation with other health care providers.
- c. Perform problem based physical evaluations.
- d. Establish diagnosis and risk assessment incorporating historical, laboratory, radiographic and clinical findings.

Planning and providing multidisciplinary comprehensive care

- a. Integrate multiple disciplines into an individualized comprehensive sequenced treatment plan using diagnostic, risk assessment and prognostic information for patients with complex needs.
- b. Develop and carry out dental treatment plans for special needs patients in a manner that considers and integrates those patients' medical, behavioral, physical and social needs.

Obtain informed consent

Explain and discuss with patients and parents or guardians of patients who lack decisional capacity, the findings, diagnoses, treatment options, realistic treatment expectations, patient responsibilities, time requirements, sequence of treatment, estimated fees and payment responsibilities, in order to establish a therapeutic alliance between the patient and /or parent or guardian and the care provider.

Promoting oral and systemic health and disease prevention

Use accepted prevention strategies such as oral hygiene instruction, nutritional education, and pharmacologic intervention to help patients maintain and improve their oral and systemic health

Sedation, pain and anxiety control

- a. Provide control of pain and anxiety in the conscious patient through the use of psychological interventions, behavior management techniques, local anesthesia and sedative (inhalation, enteral, or parenteral) medications.
- b. Prevent, recognize and manage complications related to use and interactions of drugs used to sedate patients and control pain and anxiety.

Restoration of teeth

- a. Restore single teeth using a range of functionally acceptable materials and methods

- b. Place restorations and perform techniques to enhance facial esthetics
- c. Restore intra and extra-coronal defects
- d. Restore endodontically treated teeth

Replacement of teeth using fixed and removable appliances

- a. Treat patients with missing teeth requiring uncomplicated removable and/or fixed restorations
- b. Communicate care designs with laboratory technicians and evaluate the resultant prostheses
- c. Recognize and manage cases requiring complicated prostheses

Periodontal therapy

- a. Diagnose, treat and manage periodontal disease using surgical and nonsurgical techniques
- b. Recognize and manage periodontal emergencies and complications of periodontal treatment

Pulpal therapy

- a. Diagnose and treat pain of pulpal origin including performing uncomplicated, nonsurgical endodontic therapy
- b. Recognize and manage endodontic complications and emergencies

Hard and soft tissue surgery

- a. Perform surgical and nonsurgical extraction of teeth
- b. Perform uncomplicated pre-prosthetic surgery
- c. Perform biopsies of oral tissues
- d. Recognize and manage surgical emergencies and complications of surgical treatment

Treatment of medical and dental emergencies

- a. Anticipate, diagnose and provide initial treatment and follow-up management for medical emergencies that may occur during dental treatment
- b. Diagnose and manage dental emergencies, performing uncomplicated or reversible techniques where indicated

Medical risk assessment

- a. Select and use assessment techniques to arrive at differential, provisional and definitive diagnoses for patients with complex needs
- b. Treat patients with a broad variety of acute and chronic systemic disorders and social difficulties, including patients with special needs