Clinical Preceptorship in
ORAL MEDICINE
An Eleven Month Continuing Education Program
(Includes information on 5½ and 3 Month Programs)

OVERVIEW
This extended continuing education program is specifically designed for the participant to gain a scientific background and additional training in the practice of oral medicine. The educational program will focus on all aspects of Oral Medicine such as diagnostic pathology and radiology pertaining to management of local and systemic diseases of the orofacial region including the mucosa, salivary glands, and the surrounding structures; as well as comprehensive oral health care services for medically complex patients.

Our Philosophy
Since Oral Medicine provides an essential link between dentistry and medicine, practitioners in this field must possess a thorough knowledge of basic physiological and pathological mechanisms that contribute to health and disease. To become competent in the practice of oral medicine, the clinician must perform a proper assessment of patients including history taking and physical examination, and develop a management plan. The management plan must be evidence-based and consistent with standards of care set forth by the scientific literature.

The didactic program is designed to provide the participant with the necessary background for the practice of oral medicine. The participant will gain knowledge in several areas including medicine, laboratory diagnostics, oral pathology, oral radiology, oral oncology, orofacial pain, pharmacology, nutrition, special care and geriatric dentistry as well as management of medical emergencies in a dental setting through didactic and/or clinical exposure at the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine. Based on this philosophy, the participant will have a challenging opportunity to integrate and synthesize basic science and clinical knowledge and apply this information in diagnostic work up, medical risk assessment for dental care and management of oral medicine patients.

SCHEDULE
• The eleven month Clinical Preceptorship starts on July 1 each year; it runs from Mondays through Fridays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.
  Participants will be allowed eight (8) additional days off for personal or sick days.
• The five and one-half (5½) month program starts either July 1 or January 2 each year.
  Participants will be allowed four (4) additional days off for personal or sick days.
  This program may be converted to an eleven month program.
• The three (3) month program has start dates of January 2, March 1, July 1 or September 1.
  Participants will be allowed two (2) additional days off for personal or sick days.
  This program can be extended for up to an additional three months.
• Holidays and vacations coincide with the post-graduate schedule.
• The school may also close for severe weather events.
CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

- Commitment to improve didactic and clinical knowledge in the field of Oral Medicine.
- Educational background and previous trainings.
- Also see Admission Requirements on page 6.

PROGRAM DESIGN/OBJECTIVES

The curriculum is composed of didactic assignments, clinical experiences, intramural rotations, and teaching responsibilities.

An important part of the program is the clinical experience that comprises nearly 50% of the scheduled activities.

The didactic learning experiences include seminars, lectures, and workshops. Each participant is required to attend didactic sessions designed to provide the necessary background for management of oral medicine patients.

Participants are encouraged to engage in scholarly activities including departmental research when opportunity arises.

COURSE COMPONENTS/DISCIPLINES

Curricular content for the program in Oral Medicine are listed below and each requirement is briefly described on the following pages.

- Foundation of Oral Biology (selective/elective).
- Advanced Biomedical Sciences (selective/elective).
- Oral Medicine Seminar Series.
- Oral Pathology Seminar Series.
- Orofacial Pain Seminar Series.
- Clinical Care of Oral Medicine patients (medically complex, oral mucosal disease, orofacial pain).
- Oral Medicine Patient Rounds.
- Oral Pathology Experience.
- Oral Radiology Experience.

Foundation of Oral Biology and Advanced Biomedical Science for Dentistry:

These courses, which are a requirement for all postdoctoral graduate students, are given over a two-year period. Because the 5½ and 3 month Clinical Preceptorship programs are of shorter duration, participants may audit one or more of the modules when scheduling permits and there are no conflicts. Listed below are a few modules which are particularly relevant to practice of oral medicine.

- Head and Neck Anatomy
- Pathobiology & Histology
- Oral Medicine & Pathology
- Orofacial Pain
- Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- Embryology & Genetics
Oral Medicine Seminar Series
Faculty: Mahnaz Fatahzadeh, DMD MSD, Professor
This seminar series will focus on reinforcing knowledge of topics within the field of Oral Medicine. The curriculum is designed to review the fundamentals with an Emphasis will be placed on applying this information to clinical practice. Topics include evaluation and management of patients with medically complex conditions, special needs, oral mucosal diseases and head and neck osseous pathology. A block of time is dedicated to seminars on advanced imaging techniques and oral radiology case reviews.

Oral Radiology Case Reviews
Faculty: Steve Singer, DDS, Professor
Oral Medicine participant will have the opportunity to attend didactic seminars in diagnostic head and neck radiology discussing x-ray equipment, Digital processing basics, radiation biology, radiation protection principles and radiographic manifestations of local and systemic diseases in the head and neck region. This experience provides the participant with the opportunity to enhance their knowledge in selection and interpretation of standard as well as advanced imaging modalities such as oral radiographs, panoramic radiology, plain films, digital radiography, tomography, sialography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, scintigraphy and cone beam CT. Radiology case review sessions are complementary to radiology seminars and provide an interactive forum to discuss challenging/interesting radiology cases and help reinforce diagnostic radiology principles.

Oral Pathology Seminar Series
Faculty: Lawrence Schneider, BDS, PhD, Professor
This program provides a comprehensive review of oral and maxillofacial pathology and consists of introductory presentations, clinical pathologic conferences and histopathologic sessions using a multi-headed microscope. Topics covered in the introductory lectures include evaluation and management of oral mucosal diseases, and evaluation and management of hard tissue conditions affecting maxillofacial region, principles of radiographic interpretation and differential diagnosis of jaw lesions.

Orofacial Pain Seminar Series
Faculty: Gary M Heir, DMD, Clinical Professor
Raphael Benoliel, BDS, Professor
This seminar series is offered by the division of Orofacial Pain and focus on reinforcing knowledge of topics within the field of Orofacial and its application to clinical practice. The curriculum is designed to review the fundamentals of Orofacial pain including temporomandibular disorders, musculoskeletal conditions, chemosensory disorders and neuropathic pain disorders.

Oral Pathology Microscope Sessions
Faculty: Lawrence Schneider, BDS, PhD, Professor
The participant will receive advanced training in oral pathology and enhance their diagnostic skills by participating in the oral pathology service at the RSDM. The Oral Medicine/Oral Pathology Microscope Conference is held complementary to Oral Pathology Seminar Series and is a forum for microscopic review of biopsies submitted to RSDM biopsy service as well as interesting cases presented for learning and discussion of histopathology. The goal is to enhance participant’s skills in microscopic interpretation and reaching a definitive diagnosis of diseases affecting oral and maxillofacial region.
Oral Mucosal Diseases Clinic:
Faculty: Mahnaz Fatahzadeh, DMD MSD, Professor
The oral mucosal diseases clinic provides diagnostic assessment including tissue biopsy and hematologic work up, education, preventive oral care, medical therapy and follow-up care for patients with oral mucosal diseases of local and systemic etiology. These include oral manifestations of systemic disease (e.g. leukemia, sarcoidosis, lupus, anemia) and oral complications of chemo/radiotherapy, immune-based (e.g. pemphigus, pemphigoid, lichen planus, erythema multiforme), epithelial (e.g. erythroplakia, leukoplakia, dysplasia), pigmented and reactive oral abnormalities, burning mouth, xerostomia, altered taste and salivary gland disorders. The oral medicine clinic receives referral from a variety of medical disciplines including immunology, rheumatology, dermatology, and ophthalmology. As the participant progresses, he/she will obtain patient histories, perform examinations, and participates in care of patients. Direct delivery of oral care to patients is contingent upon participant’s satisfactory clinical performance as determined by the attending faculty. All clinical activities are performed under the direct supervision of the faculty.

Orofacial Pain Clinic:
Faculty: Gary M Heir, DMD, Clinical Professor
The oral medicine participant will also have the opportunity to attend orofacial pain clinic and observe evaluation and management of patients with temporomandibular disorders, acute and chronic orofacial pain and orofacial neurosensory disorders.

Medically Complex Clinic:
Faculty: Raphael Figueroa, DMD, Assistant Professor
The Medically Complex patient clinic provides comprehensive oral/dental care for patients with cardiovascular, renal, immune or hematologic compromise, organ transplantation or head and neck malignancy. Participant will have the opportunity to observe and/or participate in the oral care of medically complex patients. Emphasis will be placed on medical risk assessment and necessary dental care modifications to prevent or manage problems with hemostasis, sepsis, adverse drug interactions and ability to withstand dental care. Direct delivery of oral care to patients is contingent upon participant’s satisfactory clinical performance as determined by the attending faculty. All clinical activities are performed under the direct supervision of the faculty.

Case Presentation
Faculty: Raphael Figueroa, DMD, Assistant Professor
Program participants have the opportunity to participate in onsite case presentation sessions during which residents, participants and faculty discuss comprehensive oral/dental management of medically complex patients referred to the Oral Medicine Clinic.

Oral Medicine Patient Rounds
Faculty: Mahnaz Fatahzadeh, DMD MSD, Professor
The rounds takes place in conjunction with the clinical care sessions providing an opportunity to review chief complaint, diagnostic work up, laboratory and radiographic findings, histopathology, and management strategy for new and follow-up patients seen by the Oral Medicine Service at the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine.
Tumor Board
Faculty: Mahnaz Fatahzadeh, DMD MSD, Professor
Participants have the opportunity to attend Tumor Board which is an interdisciplinary forum comprised of otolaryngology/head & neck surgery, radiology, pathology, radiation/hemato-oncology, oral medicine and dental practitioners. The board members regularly meet to discuss comprehensive management of patients diagnosed with head and neck cancer.

Other Departmental/Division Academic Activities:
In addition to the core program, the preceptor will have the opportunity to attend in a variety of academic activities offered by the Division of Oral Medicine as opportunity arises.

EVALUATION OF PARTICIPANT
For satisfactory completion of the program, the Participant must:
- Complete attendance requirements of the program.
- Demonstrate didactic and clinical knowledge in Oral Medicine as determined by the program director and attending faculty in the Division of Oral Medicine.

FACILITIES
The Rutgers School of Dental Medicine is located on the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Newark Campus. The medical and dental schools, graduate school of biomedical sciences, and the University Hospital are grouped together on an attractive campus with convenient private parking.

FACULTY
Department of Diagnostic Sciences

MAHNAZ FATAHZADEH, BSc DMD MSD
Program Director
Professor, Division of Oral Medicine
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STEVEN R. SINGER, DDS, Professor
Chair, Department of Diagnostic Sciences
Acting Director, Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

See Course Components/Disciplines for other faculty contributing to this program.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Have a DDS/DMD degree or its equivalent from an accredited dental school.
- Payment of non-refundable applicant fee of $200 U.S. (This can be paid online, see website for link.)
- Submission of a completed application form, including:
  - Documentation of your Objectives and Goals (see page 3 of the form).
  - Curriculum Vitae (attach or insert a small photo if available).
- Verified copies from your dental school of your Transcript and Dental School Diploma.
- Two to three original Letters of Recommendation (see page 4 of this form).
- Applicants with foreign degrees will be considered based upon an evaluation of their academic credentials. Submit an original Evaluation Report from one of the following:
  - Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE - preferred) –or- World Education Services (WES).
  - We recommend you request a report showing a breakdown by courses.
- Applicants with English as a second language must attain a TOEFL score of 80 or higher; or an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) overall score of 6 or greater. Submit an original report.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and National Board scores are not required, but may be submitted in support of the application.
- Attend a personal interview when possible.
- Be a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States, or a foreign national with a visa status acceptable to the CE program.

Deadline for submission of application: check our website for status of program.

Further Requirements

Upon notification of preliminary acceptance into the program, the applicant will also be required to:

- Pay a non-refundable deposit, see “Tuition” on next page for details. Formal acceptance package will be sent upon receipt of full deposit.
- Full tuition is due one month prior to the start of the program. We do not offer payment plans.
- Submit Immunization and Health Forms per University policy (see our website). Completed forms must be submitted three (3) months prior to the start of the program. Participant will not start their program until they have been cleared by Student Health Services.
- Submit Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification that will be valid for duration of program. Online courses are not accepted. Certification must be completed before your start date.
- Be cleared by a Background Check; an additional fee is required for this.
- Provide proof of Health Insurance from a U.S. based company. Insurance must remain active for the full duration of the program.
- Licensed U.S. Dentists provide proof of Liability Insurance.

Due to time constraints and other obligations, all correspondence from us is done by email. If you need to contact us, please use our email address: cde@sdm.rutgers.edu.
TUITION (for Academic Year 2020-2021)

For all programs the balance of tuition is due one month prior to the start date of the program.

The eleven month Clinical Preceptorship tuition will be a total of $30,000 (US). Some additional fees and expenses may be applicable. A non-refundable deposit of $3,500 is required to hold your place in the program; payment must be received within 10 business days of the pre-acceptance notification.

The 5½ month program tuition will be a total of $15,300 (US) for the initial five and one-half months. Some additional fees and expenses may be applicable. A non-refundable deposit of $2,000 is required to hold your place in the program; payment must be received within 10 business days of the pre-acceptance notification. This program may be converted into an Eleven Month program; tuition will be $15,100 (US) for the additional 5½ months.

The 3 month program tuition is a total of $8,600 (US). A non-refundable deposit of $1,500 is required to hold your place in the program; payment must be received within 10 business days of the pre-acceptance notification. If space is available, this program may be extended on a month-by-month basis at the prorated amount of $2,875 (US) for up to a maximum of two additional months.

CANCELLATION POLICY

To participate in this program you must be pre-registered with the Office of Continuing Dental Education. No refunds of any tuition paid will be made after program has started.

CREDIT

The Eleven Month Clinical Preceptorship offers a unique opportunity for didactic and hands-on clinical experience in the Department of Diagnostic Sciences. It is a non-matriculated, continuing dental education program. If participant completes the program as designed, they will earn 1,430 continuing education (C.E.) credit hours.

The 5½ and 3 month programs offer the same opportunities but on a reduced level due to the shorter duration. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, Participants in the 5½ month program will earn 715 C.E. credit hours. Participants in the 3 month program will earn 390 C.E. credit hours.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit completed application to:
Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
Continuing Dental Education
Attn: Corinne Fogarty
110 Bergen Street, B701
Newark, NJ 07103

Email: cde@sdm.rutgers.edu

Website: https://cde.sdm.rutgers.edu/clinical-preceptorship-programs/ 
(Link to the Application Form can be found on this webpage)