



Institute of Advanced
Dental Sciences & Research
Professionally Correct



POST GRADUATE DIPLOPMA IN FAMILY DENTAL MEDICINE (DFDM)

Curriculum 2022

Institute of Advanced Dental Sciences & Research
&
Health Services Academy, Islamabad

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN FAMILY DENTAL MEDICINE (DFDM)

INTRODUCTION

Family Dental Medicine is emerging as a body of knowledge that is being continuously developed, researched and taught as an integrative entity. The scope of family dental practice covers a wide spectrum; at one end are they who may be the only source of health care for their community and at the other end of the spectrum these dentists limit their care to office practice and coordinate comprehensive care for their patients in a multi-specialty group.

The program of Post Graduate Diploma in Family Dental Medicine is designed for dental graduates who wish to become primary dental care providers and want to advance their clinical skills and knowledge, with the primary objective of enhancing the quality of their patient care. The program aims to educate the trainees in all aspects of dentistry at a level which would give them the competency to be able to confidently provide ethical comprehensive oral health care to their patients.

Family Dental Medicine is the primary care dental specialty concerned with provision of comprehensive oral health care to the individual and the family regardless of sex, age or type of problem. It is a specialty that incorporates biological, clinical and behavioral sciences covering aspects of general dentistry. Dentists with qualification in Family Dental Medicine can themselves provide care for the majority of conditions encountered in the outpatient setting and integrate all necessary health care services. They possess unique attitudes, skills, and knowledge, which qualify them to provide continuing and comprehensive dental care, oral health maintenance along with preventive, promotional and rehabilitative services to each member of the family. These dentists, because of their background and interactions with the family, are best qualified to serve as each patient's advocate in all dental health-related matters, including the appropriate use of consultants, health services, and community resources.

Family Dental Medicine sets the standard in establishing a program that promotes a holistic approach to patient care, based on the sound principles of Inter-Professional Collaborative Care (IPCC) and social accountability. Many diseases affecting the various systems of the human body are relevant to oral health and vice-a-versa and this influences oral healthcare delivery. By providing an overview of the clinical signs and symptoms, pathophysiology, differential diagnosis, management, and prognosis, with an aim is to provide an understanding of the implications of a disease and its consequences on both dental management, and the impact on the patient. A further advantage to this approach is to encourage specialists in family dentistry to work seamlessly with their general medical practitioner colleagues.

THE DFDM PROGRAM

The program is an educational platform that combines an advanced multidisciplinary clinical experience with a strong educational component. It emphasizes the application and integration of inter-professional approaches and basic sciences, as part of a problem-solving and evidence-based multidisciplinary approach to care.

Course Explanation

The DFMD program is a one-year program designed to provide a comprehensive modular training through holistic didactic and simulation training; augmented by clinical and hospital placements. This course will be delivered exclusively by IADSR designated Centers for Professional Development and IADSR/HSA approved Dental Hospitals.

The course provides opportunities to acquire and develop the skills of synthesis, analysis and decision making, required for careers in family (general) dental practice. Thus, the students are trained as a subject specialist and a resource person, well equipped with the modern methodologies of practicing Family Dentistry. The program involves course work, case documentation and placement components.

The program prepares dentists to provide broad-based oral health care and also contribute to the evolving knowledge base of the specialty of Family Dental Medicine. In addition, it prepares them to assume leadership roles in developing and expanding Family Dental Medicine in universities, hospitals and communities across Pakistan.

The program structure supports personal and professional growth of the trainees and fosters an attitude of critical inquiry, a passion for excellence and a sense of how a dentist can integrate dentistry into his or her personal life.

A graduate of this program should be able to independently and confidently work in any public or private primary care facility of the country; and contribute significantly to upgrade the standards of the dental profession in Pakistan through provision of quality oral health care services for all population groups.

Educational Objective

The goal of the program is to train dentists to deliver high-quality, comprehensive primary dental care relevant to the health needs of individuals and families in Pakistan. The primary objective is the production of holistically minded caring, skilled, knowledgeable, and clinically competent Family Dentists who are educationally well rounded in advanced dental skills and scientific principles, and who would be able to serve the dental health care needs of all ages and both sexes of the urban and rural populations of Pakistan providing curative, preventive, promotive and rehabilitative dental care.

Educational activities

Core curriculum

The core curriculum is a mandatory training criterion. It provides an opportunity for the trainees to gain structural knowledge and skills regarding the essentials of Family Dental Medicine. It is organized by the dedicated faculty and is designed to highlight relevant and important Family Dentistry aspects in oral health care. It is mandatory for all trainees to attend and actively participate in core curriculum modules throughout the one-year Modular program. This is the time when all trainees gather to touch base and participate in a structured teaching-learning program, and learn consultation/clinical skills and office practice skills relevant to Family Dental Medicine.

Additional educational activities

Journal Club, Patient Oriented Evidence that Matters (POEM's) modules and Continuing Medical Education (CME) Updates – Online and as classroom activity:

These modules are trainee centered. The trainees are required to participate in, lead the journal club and duly attend all CME modules.

The objectives of these modules are:

- Develop lifelong learning skills and presentation skills
- Accrue knowledge and skills relevant to the practice of Family Dental Medicine through article presentations and case discussions
- Critically appraise the literature in order to develop the skills to find and make sense of research evidence, helping them to put knowledge into practice
- Exchange evidence-based ideas about the practice of Family Dentistry with faculty

Mandatory workshops and courses

The trainees are required to attend and actively participate in the courses and workshops mandated in the course.

Assessment and evaluation

Continuous assessment and feedback between trainee and the faculty is an essential feature of this training program. The Course Coordinator obtains assessment of trainees from other specialty departments at the end of each rotation. Feedback is bi-directional, from trainee to faculty and vice versa on a six monthly and annual basis, considering trainee performance, faculty performance, continuous assessment and in-house modular exam.

Case Reports:

Students will have to document one case for each clinical module and an essay for non-clinical modules as a part of their assessment.

Scope and employment perspective of program

The program will train the graduate to be a holistic general dental practitioner, with areas of expertise for treatment in majority of procedures required in a general dental practice. They would also have the knowledge and background in referral of patients to appropriate specialists as and when required.

The holder of Post Graduate Diploma in Family Dental Medicine would be a preferred employee in all large practices and would have the capacity to start his/her own independent practice.

ELIGIBILITY

- BDS or equivalent degree approved by the PMC.
- One-year internship or House job in PMC approved hospitals.
- The final selection is based on interviews with the IADSR/HSA faculty.

DURATION

The DFMD program is a One-Year program comprising of 2 semesters and each semesters' duration is 16 weeks. It is a modular training program.

COURSE FEE

Course Fee is **Rs. 175,000/-** per semester.

Total fee for One Year Diploma is **Rs. 350,000/-** (payable in two installments).

COURSE-WISE CREDIT HOURS AND MARKS DISTRIBUTION

Semester	Course code	Course Title	Credit hours	Marks
Courses for First Semester of DFD				
I	DFD501	Dental Practice Management, Quality & Risk management, Evidence Based Dentistry	01	50
I	DFD502	Pain Management & TMD	01	50
I	DFD503	Managing Medical Emergencies & Medically compromised patients	01	50
I	DFD504	Infection control in Dentistry	1/2	50
I	DFD505	Restorative Dentistry	02	100
I	DFD506	Periodontology including introduction to implantology	01	50
I	DFD507	Oral rehabilitation	02	100
I	DFD508	Orthodontics	01	50
I	DFD509	Oral Pathology & Oral Medicine	01	50
I	DFD510	Oral Radiology & Minor Oral Surgery	01	50
I	DFD511	Clinical Pharmacology	1/2	50
Sub Total for First semester Credit hours/Marks			12	650
Courses for Second Semester of DFD				
II	DFD512	Behavioral management & special needs patients	01	100
II	DFD513	Pediatric Dentistry	01	100
II	On the Job Practicum in Dental Clinic or Hospital*		04	150
Sub Total for Second semester Credit hours/Marks			06	350
Total Credit hours/Marks for DFD			18	1000

***ON THE JOB PRACTICUM (4-CREDIT)**

Family Dental Medicine focuses on monitoring, achieving, and improving the oral health of a population and is practiced in clinical settings. The practicum is intended to develop direct understanding and experience in holistic dental care, thereby exposing the student to comprehensive oral health care, starting, running, and managing an independent or a group dental practice, ensure infection control in the dental practice setting and carry out all the basic procedures that can be performed by a general dental practitioner with higher confidence and a properly formulated comprehensive oral and dental treatment plan. The awareness of oral systemic connection and the management of medically compromised patients along with management of dental emergencies are some of the skills mandatory to be learned and practiced in a simulated and actual setting.

The practice experience occurs in a carefully selected health organizations approved by Program Coordinator and is supervised by IADSR & HSA faculty and an immediate supervisor/mentor. This considers the transition from education to professional practice. At the conclusion the students are required to present their project in the form of a written report or as a poster.