In the Name of God

Islamic Republic of Iran

Ministry of Health and Medical Education

Deputy Ministry for Education

Oral Medicine

Degree: Specialty equivalent to Master of Science

Total Course Credits

- Hospital-presented related sciences: 22
- Faculty-presented related sciences: 13

Program Description

The oral medicine field is one of the most potentially capable and rather old fields in our country, with a history of almost 30 years. The oral medicine specialists are one of the most efficient members of the medical community despite limited resources available for them.

It can be claimed that the oral medicine field bears the most important burdens in the dental and medical fields. One of the most important responsibilities of oral medicine is to establish a relationship between oral and medical fields, finally resulting in promotion of health status of the community and in solving the problems of patients with special conditions, including skin, cardiovascular, pulmonary, renal, gastrointestinal, oncology, endocrine glands, rheumatology, neurology, pediatric conditions, infections, transplantations etc. It appears the only body responsible for the dental management of the patients with above conditions is the under- and post-graduate dental students and oral medicine specialists.

Specialists in various fields of medicine require consultation with oral medicine specialists for correct diagnosis and treatment of patients with special diseases in order to prevent, diagnose, prepare treatment plans, control and follow the oral problems of these patients.

Oral medicine specialists can play a greater role in scientific progress through the use of modern technologies and new research methods and by establishing relationship with other related fields, as evidenced by the existence of 13 fellowship fields in relation to oral diseases.

Oral medicine specialists can play an important role in prevention, treatment and counseling by cooperating with other specialties in the dental field. In this context, a determining factor is the standard of education. When the education is not favorable, one aspect of the subject will have a problem and the patients will not be worked up properly, creating problem for the health and treatment system. Therefore, determination of a strategic aim and correct educational programming is an important aspect in training efficient specialists.

Considering the ever-increasing rate of progress in various sciences, especially in the dental field, which is younger than other medical fields, and 10 years after implementation of the second educational curriculum of oral medicine specialty field it seems it is absolutely necessary to revise the educational curricula in these fields. The revisions were made based on determination of needs and the guidelines of the Secretariat of Dental Specialty Courses to revise and correct problematic areas.

Aims

1.1. Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the oral mucosa

1.2. Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of salivary glands conditions

1.3. Diagnosis of jaw bone conditions

1.4. Prevention, diagnosis and treatment of oral and maxillofacial pains

2.1. Dental treatment for patients with systemic conditions (outpatient)

2.2. Dental treatment for patients with systemic conditions (inpatient)

3.1. Ability to carry out research in the field of oral medicine

3.2. Ability to carry out epidemiological research in the field of oral medicine

4.1. Ability to provide patients with educational programs

4.2. Ability to provide undergraduate dental students with educational programs

4.3. Ability to provide postgraduate dental students with educational programs

4.4. Ability to provide medical students with educational programs

5.1. Ability to communicate with patients

5.2. Ability to communicate with different treatment-related organizations and groups

Duration of the course

The specialty course of oral and maxillofacial pathology lasts 3 years (6 semesters) and is a full-time course based on the guidelines of the Council for General and Specialty Dental Courses.

Admission Requirements

- B.D.S./D.M.D./D.D.S or equivalent certificates for the applicants of Specialty
- Certificate of Internship or Certificate of Practice

Language Requirements:

- Language requirements: Evidence of English Proficiency on the TOEFL or IELTS tests. The minimum score for TOEFL PBT, TOEFL iBT and IELTS is 533, 72 and 5.5 respectively.
- Applicants from Persian (Farsi) Speaking countries (They shall both speak and write in Persian) who have applied for graduate Degree-based programs may be exempted, based on the decision of the department, from submitting any certificates regarding their English Language Proficiency. Nevertheless, they are required to hand in their English language certificate which meets SUMS' minimal language proficiency requirements, within one year from commencing their studies at SUMS.

Expected Competencies at the End of the Program

The Oral Medicine Specialist will be able:

• To elicit, record and interpret an accurate history from patients of any age within the scope of Oral Medicine practice;

• To perform an appropriate clinical examination on patients of any age within the scope of Oral Medicine practice;

• To select and request (and in some instances undertake) appropriate and relevant investigations within the scope of Oral Medicine practice;

• To interpret and (where necessary) clarify the meaning of a range of laboratory and imaging investigation results to inform subsequent patient care;

To undertake specialist assessment and management patients of any age within the scope of Oral Medicine practice, in both an outpatient and inpatient hospital setting;

- To undertake safe and effective prescription of drugs;
- To undertake safely and effectively, operative techniques as definitive management of localized benign disease or to establish a tissue diagnosis, including where oral soft tissue malignancy is suspected;
- To describe the appropriate application of operative techniques in other relevant situations.

To undertake specialist management patients with laser or cryo or TENS •

Student Assessment (Methods and Types)

- Formative
- Summative
- Comprehensive exam

Table of the Course

Table 1. The hospital-presented related sciences courses in Oral Medicine MSc

Code of the Course	Course Title	Units	Year	Term
1	Endocrine Glands	2	1	2
2	Hematologic Diseases	3	1	2
3	Cardiovascular Diseases	2	1	2
4	ENT	3	2	3
5	Cerebroneutral Diseases	2	2	3
6	Rheumatology	2	2	4
7	Skin	4	2	4
8	Oncology-Radiotherapy	3	2	4
9	Medical Emergencies	1	3	5
Total		22		

Table 2. The faculty-presented related sciences courses in Oral Medicine MSc

Code of the Course	Course Title	Units	Year	Term
1	Periodontics	2	2	3
2	Prosthodontics	2	2	3
3	Oral and Maxillofacial surgery	2	2	4
4	Endodontics	2	2	4
5	Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology	2	1	2
6	Radiology	3	1	2
Total		13		

Important Notice:

The above features the curriculum of the Orthodontics Program designed and approved by the Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education. Given the fact that Shiraz University of Medical Sciences is constantly improving and updating itself to meet the international academic standards and the state of the art, and based on the availability of facilities, devices, ward, laboratories, etc. at SUMS, all the SUMS curricula are approximately 20% subject to change.