

October
2023



Special Care Dentistry

THE ONE-YEAR EDUCATION PROGRAM IN ENGLISH
CLINIC FOR PEDIATRIC AND PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY, SCHOOL OF
DENTAL MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE

The One-year Education Program in English: Special Care Dentistry

Venue: Clinic for Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry, School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade

Start date: October 1, 2023

The program is organized for 3 participants in English

Candidates can apply from April 1 to April 30, 2023, 9,00-13,00 at the Department of Teaching, Office for Postgraduate Studies, 8 Dr. Subotića St. or online by completing a [SUBMISSION FORM](#)

Head of the educational program: Prof. dr Dejan Marković

The price of this educational program in English is 5000 euros in dinar equivalent (to be paid upon enrollment).

Candidates eligible for the educational program in English (foreign citizens) must have three years of clinical experience as a Doctor of Dental Medicine (certificate to be enclosed with application) or a specialization in one of the following fields: Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry or Restorative Odontology and Endodontics (copy of specialist degree to be enclosed with application), as well as a certificate of English language qualifications.

If the candidate completed his studies in English, or comes from a country where English is the official language, this certificate is not necessary.

In May 2023, candidates will receive instructions for online payment of the educational program by e-mail.

Candidates must submit a medical certificate and test results for specific diseases (HIV, Hepatitis B and C) during september 2023, before starting the program.

During september 2023, in Office for Postgraduate Studies, 8 Dr. Subotića St.) all participants will receive a certificate of attendance at the educational program for the purposes of obtaining a visa (if necessary) and regulating residence in the Republic of Serbia (mandatory).

Upon completion, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion of the educational program.

Special Care Dentistry – postgraduate course and continuous dental education curriculum

According to the judicial protection of disabled persons from discrimination in the Republic of Serbia (Law on the prohibition of discrimination against persons with disabilities) persons with disabilities involve people with physical, developmental, mental, sensory, behavioral, cognitive or emotional impairment that causes experiencing negative aspects of the interaction between their environmental and personal context, functional impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions.

Oral health care in persons with disabilities and marginalized groups needs special focus having in mind poor condition of oral health involving high prevalence of oral disease such as untreated caries, presence of caries complications, periodontal diseases, high number of extracted teeth, unmet prosthodontic restorative needs, higher frequency of traumatic dental injuries and malocclusions compared to healthy peers. The possible explanation for this is limited access to dental health care because there are not enough dentists who are trained to provide quality oral health services for this vulnerable group of patients, limited financial and human resources, and the absence of patient register. The team work and a multidisciplinary approach, with the cooperation of experts of different profiles and specialties of health professionals, is the only approach that gives satisfactory results in dental treatment of special care needs patients.

There is a constant need to improve postgraduate education of dental health professionals, specialty consultants and attending dentists who are often challenged by providing necessary care to disabled patients. Therefore, there is need to improve competencies, attitudes and behaviours of dental health personell required to meet the needs of disabled patients. Postgraduate Course in Special Care Dentistry (SCD Programme) is developed as postgraduate education for specialists in Pediatric Dentistry and Restorative Dentistry and Endodontics. This SCD Programme represents culturally and locally adapted Special Care Dentistry Postgraduate Curriculum Guidance by International Association of Disability and Oral Health (iADH).

SCD Programme will include didactic teaching and clinical experience in the 8 areas requiring 12 months in total.

After successful completion of SCD Programme the graduate will be able to plan and provide high quality oral health care for people with disabilities. They will have a comprehensive understanding of disability and also the environmental, social, medical and psychological issues related to oral health, improvement and management of oral health and quality of life.

1. Professional, Legal and Ethical Context of Special Care Dentistry

Aim. Aim of this module is acquisition of knowledge and understanding of legal, cultural and social context of health, disease, disability and social exclusion. Also the graduates will acquire understanding of professional, legal and ethical framework necessary to provide health care for persons with disabilities.

Learning Outcomes. By the end of this module the student will be able to successfully:

- Describe cultural and social context of persons with disabilities, chronic medical conditions and members of marginalized groups;
 - Identify and assess legal and administrative issues related to persons with disabilities and those who are members of marginalized groups;
 - Understand local professional, legal and administrative circumstances of their working place locality
 - Analyze and assess individual patient's capacity to give informed consent for dental treatment and to understand the role of the parents, other family members, and care givers in decision making and giving consent for needed treatment;
- demonstrate understanding and respect to patient autonomy and patients' human and legal rights when making decision regarding oral health and the use of non-pharmacological or pharmacological behavioral treatment.

2. Oral Health in Persons with Disabilities

Aim. This module aim is to enable student to understand and acquire knowledge on concepts of human function, health and disabilities. Also, student will be able to

identify relationship between disabilities and oral health, oral health function and oral health quality of life. Moreover student will acquire knowledge on specific oral health consequences related to disabilities and chronic medical conditions and social conditions in specific patient groups.

Learning outcomes. By the end of this module the student will be able to successfully:

- Show knowledge on human physiology, and understand concepts related to health and disability;
- Discuss classification and epidemiology of disabilities and health conditions in patients with special care needs;
- Describe the most common impairments and health conditions that might affect oral health
- Describe the most frequent impairments and health conditions that might affect oral function
- Review the characteristic oral manifestations of specific patient groups;
- Understand and describe relationship between oral health and general health for people with disabilities;
- Know determinant of oral health related quality of life for people with disabilities.

3. Medical Science and Special Care Dentistry

Aim. Aim of this module is to enable student to acquire comprehensive knowledge of the spectrum of medical conditions and impairments, associated therapeutic regimens and medications, that might affect dental treatment and oral health.

Learning outcomes. After successful completion of the module, the student will be able to:

- Understand and show comprehensive knowledge on acute and chronic medical conditions and disabilities;
- Be familiar with various syndromes and genetic predispositions that can affect delivery of dental healthcare;

- Be familiar with the pharmacological characteristics and interactions of medicines commonly used by persons with disabilities, as well as their possible adverse systemic and oral side effects;
- Demonstrate the skills and knowledge required to provide emergency medical care in clinical settings according to the appropriate protocols and guidelines.

4. Psychological aspects of Special Care Dentistry

Aim. The aim of this module is to provide the participant a thorough understanding of the psychological aspects related to persons with disabilities and fully understand the behavioral principles that should be applied. The participant will know how to apply methods of communication with patients with disabilities requiring dental treatment. The participant will acquire comprehensive knowledge of relevant psychological, pharmacological and therapeutic techniques that allow and facilitate effective dental treatment in order to enable successful interaction and relationship between the dentist and the disabled person, in accordance with the individual needs of the patient.

Learning outcomes. After successful completion of the module, the participant will be able to:

- Know the psychological aspects related to the patient with disability, patient's general and oral health;
- Explain the patient's behavior patterns and attitudes that can affect his/her oral health;
- Understand the specific emotional aspects related to persons with disabilities;
- Understand the problems related to coping with various situations in everyday life of persons with disabilities;
- Possess independence in the application of specific and effective behavioral strategies in the clinical settings;
- Recognize the aspects of verbal and non-verbal communication related to pain, anxiety and fear in dental patients requiring special care dentistry.

5. Dental Public Health, Community Dentistry and Oral Health Promotion

Aim. The aim of this module is for the participant to acquire basic knowledge of social determinants of oral health. Participant will be able to implement oral health analysis (develop an epidemiological profile) for specific groups of persons with disabilities. Participant will know how to appraise and implement an oral health promotion program in the community. After completion of the module, the participant will be able to evaluate the dental health service and its role in protecting the rights of persons with disabilities.

Learning outcomes. After successful completion of the module, the participant will be able to:

- Identify and analyze initiatives to improve oral health in persons with disabilities at the population level;
- Explain the importance of social determinants that might influence inequalities in oral health and oral healthcare services for persons with disabilities;
- Recognize barriers and facilitating factors (social factors, environmental factors, influence of environmental attitudes, etc.) to dental healthcare services to persons with disabilities;
- Present and analyze the financial aspects of dental healthcare services to persons with disabilities and their impact on the availability of dental healthcare;
- Perform the analysis of oral health status of specific groups of persons with disabilities;
- Design and implement the oral health promotion initiatives and activities for persons with disabilities at the level of the institution and community;
- Understand the importance of protecting the rights of persons with disabilities and contribute through the promotion of public health policies (legal and by-laws, strategies, dental healthcare programs);
- Contribute to the availability of dental services through healthcare system that is equally accessible to all and that recognizes and respects equality and human rights.

6. Oral healthcare planning and multidisciplinary approach

Aim. The aim of the module is for the participant to understand the impact of the impairment, type of disability and social inclusion on oral healthcare planning. The participant will be trained to use adequate clinical guidelines that facilitate cooperation and coordination of various specialists involved in delivering individualized treatment plans.

Learning outcomes. After successful completion of the module, the participant will be able to:

- Apply the principles of scientifically based evidence in order to design and implement strategies to improve and maintain oral health in persons with disabilities;
- Design and implement a comprehensive treatment plan according to the circumstances related to individual characteristics, risks, local guidelines and dental healthcare protocols;
- Understand and adequately use communication behavioral strategies in order to ensure the patient's autonomy and participation in decision-making process related to his/her oral health;
- Establish appropriate cooperation with parents, family members and caregivers and create the conditions for the necessary dental treatment;
- Possess the knowledge and skills to cooperate with residential care homes for persons with disabilities to improve oral health and prevent oral disease;
- Achieve collaboration with all competent experts that participate in the creation, planning and maintenance of healthcare for persons with disabilities;
- Possess knowledge that enables interdisciplinary communication and connection with medical experts in order to improve knowledge and integrate strategies for improving oral health of persons with disabilities into medical algorithms and guidelines for the provision of healthcare services;
- Possess the knowledge and skills to coordinate a multidisciplinary team that includes different dental specialties in order to provide the patient with the best possible dental care;

- Participate with a mentor in the development of professional and methodological guidelines for delivering dental healthcare services to persons with disabilities;
- Collaborate with different dental specialties and refer the patient to other specialists depending on the patient's specific needs.

7. Clinical aspects of Special Care Dentistry

Aim. The aim of the module is to make the participant capable of designing and providing safe implementation of professional and high-quality dental care for persons with disabilities. The aim of the module is to enable the participant to use behavioral communication strategies in clinical settings. The participant of the Program will acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to lead a clinical team dealing with dental healthcare of persons with disabilities.

Learning outcomes. After successful completion of the module, the participant will be able to:

- Make a timely and adequate diagnosis and provide the necessary dental care to persons with disabilities;
- Obtain the necessary consent for dental treatment using the communication skills adapted to persons with delayed intellectual development or difficulties in understanding and communication;
- Identify existing disorders of oral functions that may represent an individual characteristic of a person with disability, design and implement an adequate therapy plan;
- Apply appropriate non-pharmacological and pharmacological behavioral techniques and pain control in patients with disabilities in need of dental treatment;
- Possess the knowledge that will allow the safe transport and accommodation of patients with physical disabilities in a dental office, with the use of auxiliaries if needed;
- Possess the knowledge and skills to apply the method of protective stabilization of the patient in accordance with the assessed individual risk, guidelines and protocols,

8. Scientific research in Special Care Dentistry

Aim. After successfully completing this module, the participant will be able to design, write and present a scientific research project in the field of dental care for persons with disabilities. This activity is carried out within the appropriate scientific institution and through work with a mentor. The participant of the Program accepts a critical approach to clinical and scientific work, understands the necessity of continuous professional education and quality assurance and control of clinical and scientific work through clinical and mentoring work.

Learning outcomes. After successful completion of the module, the participant will be able to:

- Carry out a literature review and become familiar with the principles of evidence-based dentistry;
- Understand and apply the basics of the scientific method, including ethical principles;
- Think critically, define hypothesis and undertake new research in the field of special care dentistry;
- Analyze and present the results of his/her research in an adequate manner and write scientific publications/projects;
- Possess knowledge and skills for presentation and dissemination of research results and knowledge;
- Contribute to the development and implementation of clinical guidelines for dental care of persons with disabilities;
- Contribute to the implementation of legal and sub-legal policy documents and initiatives that advocate for the delivery of adequate and high-quality dental healthcare for persons with disabilities;
- Understand the importance of further professional development and continuous education, self-appraisal, peer review and competency.