

Program Guidelines

Advanced Education Program in Periodontics

August 2019

A. Educational vision

The Advanced Education Program in Postgraduate Periodontics is research-oriented. The primary long-term objective of this Program is to train clinician-scientists who desire a career in academic dentistry, research, and/or industry. The Program is designed to train dentists in the art and science of Periodontology who will be able to plan, initiate, and carry out a research program in a field relevant to Periodontics. A mission of the program is also to train periodontists wishing to establish a private practice of Periodontics, who are capable of contributing to, as well as critically analyzing, the clinical and research literature in periodontics and the biomedical sciences. It is expected that program graduates will admirably and ethically serve their patients and society, and that their activities will reflect favorably upon themselves, their training institutions, and their profession.

Biomedical Sciences

The research orientation of the Program requires that postgraduate students to acquire a foundation in biomedical sciences that is provided by advanced level courses reflective of currently available information. Education in the biomedical sciences provides the scientific basis needed to understand and carry out the diagnostic and therapeutic skills gained during training in clinical periodontics.

Clinical Sciences

Case Type and Documentation

The program is designed such that each student completes an adequate number and variety of acceptable fully documented and treated cases to a level that (a) periodontal health is achieved, (b) initiating and contributory factors in the etiology of periodontal disease are controlled, and (c) a schedule for supportive periodontal therapy is organized for the patients. Such cases will include all case stages, but will reflect a majority of case stages 2 to 4, grades B to C, (moderate to advanced periodontal disease), as defined by the 2018 new Classification of Periodontal diseases. It is the intent of the program that students treat a variety of patients with different levels of staging and grading of periodontal diseases, periodontitis associated with systemic disease, necrotizing ulcerative periodontitis. It is a program requirement to present at least 35 fully documented cases by each resident. Including patients referred for prescribed surgical procedures, it is expected that approximately 200-300 surgical procedures will be performed.

An ongoing record of the number and variety of such clinical experiences accomplished by each student will be maintained by the Resident and the Program Director. This ongoing record includes periodontal diagnosis, case type, periodontal treatment, as well as the

patient's age, sex, and health status. Residents are required to track their clinical accomplishments using an electronic spreadsheet that is continuously available to the Program Director, and discussed formally and in detail with the Director at the end of each semester. All of this information is tracked by the School of Dental Medicine clinical computer system.

Prior faculty approval of *all* patient treatment plans is required prior to *any* treatment. This is a program policy, regardless of whether the patient will be a fully documented comprehensive case, referred for a specific surgical procedure, or if non-surgical methods will be used.

A goal of the program also is to provide training for the student to be familiar with the management of a periodontal practice, and to obtain teaching experience, including experience in clinical instruction as well as presenting lectures and conducting seminars for predoctoral students. Teaching in the undergraduate dental student clinics also is required by the periodontics postgraduate program. **The teaching curriculum must not exceed 10% of the total program time.**

D. Evaluation and Outcomes Assessment

Residents are evaluated on the basis of performance on written and oral examinations of materials presented in didactic courses, as well as on clinical competency. Although clinical performance feedback is offered on a daily basis, the Postgraduate Faculty Committee formally evaluates the clinical competency of each resident, and relates their progress relative to their stage in the program, at least once each semester. The evaluated competencies include all those specified in the CODA clinical sciences section.

Evaluations are based upon a standard similar to that expected of an expert in periodontics per the American Board of Periodontology guidelines: Residents judged to be competent/exposed and who possess familiarity to in-depth knowledge in subject areas as defined by the ADA Commission on Accreditation will be considered for graduation/completion of the clinical phase of the program. Those subject areas are delineated in more depth in the syllabus for PER912 (Advanced Periodontics Clinic).

Each postgraduate periodontics clinical faculty member evaluates each resident using the criteria noted above, and appropriate recommendations are made. The Program Director provides a written summary of these recommendations to each resident, as well as a copy of the consensus evaluation derived from each faculty member. The recommendations and faculty evaluations of each resident are also discussed during conferences with the Program Director and each resident at the end of each semester.

In addition, a faculty ombudsman (a faculty member without postgraduate clinical teaching responsibilities) is appointed yearly to allow residents to provide anonymous feedback, comments or complaints to the Program Director without identification by the ombudsman. Residents are also encouraged to participate in the Graduate Student Association.

Grading criteria are included with the course syllabus. Copies of the syllabi, as well as the program Goals and Objectives, are distributed to all residents at the beginning of each semester.

The grading criteria for each course are included in the syllabi.

Annual promotion and final certification is determined by the Periodontics Graduate Committee.

In addition, residents anonymously evaluate each faculty member and clinical course according to the School of Dental Medicine Evaluation criteria, the summary results of which are reported to the Program Director and discussed by the faculty. The program is further evaluated through review of the American Academy of Periodontology In-Service Examination, the response of graduates to surveys 1 year, 5 years, and 10 years after program completion, as well as by a review of the current academic, research, industrial, or clinical appointments or positions of the Program graduates.

Course options will be determined in conjunction with the Program Director to accommodate the individual needs and research goals of the resident.

Please note that while matriculating for a graduate degree, the requirements of such programs will have

1) Didactic requirements that cover biomedical and Clinical Sciences

2) Clinic time is scheduled throughout the year. Specific instructors, assistants and a hygienist are assigned to staff the graduate clinic during these periods. **Attendance at all of the clinics is mandatory, regardless of whether patients have canceled or disappointed.** If necessary, the School of Dental Medicine will provide appropriate patients at these times. **All absences from scheduled clinic time must be approved in advance by the Director of Postgraduate Periodontics.**

3) The teaching requirement is satisfied through PER927 (Supervised Teaching in Periodontics). Periodontal residents are assigned to Vertical Tier Teaching Groups (Junior and Senior dental students). The teaching requirement (3 hours per week for 4 semesters) is arranged in conjunction with the Director of Postgraduate Periodontics and the Chair, Department of Periodontology.

4) Successful completion of the American Academy of Periodontology In-Service Examination; a minimum passing score of 70% is required by the Program. The examination must be taken in the spring semester of all years the resident is enrolled in the program.

5) Successful completion of all clinical competency exams, which are 10 in total.

6) Successful completion of the Oral Examination (Case Presentation and Oral Medicine/Oral Pathology Examination) given by the Department of Periodontology at the

conclusion of the last clinical year (analogous to components of the previous and current American Board of Periodontology Examination).

7) Successful completion of the research component of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics (determined by conferral of the M.S. or Ph.D. degree, or prearranged postdoctoral research project) as indicated upon program matriculation.

E. Program Length

The length of the clinical component of the post-graduate Periodontics Program ranges from 33 (3-year clinical core program) to 44 (4-year clinical core program) months.

The combined program length (including both research and clinical components) may extend from 3 to 5-7 years, depending on the enrolled research program (M.S. or Ph.D. thesis; postdoctoral research project) and each resident's individual research interests. Attendance throughout the entire term of the program is required with full participation in all course aspects.

The program will be judged complete for any individual when clinical competency is demonstrated, all program requirements are met, and when a substantial research program suitable for publication and degree conferral is completed, as noted above. A resident in either the combined Ph.D. or M.S. Periodontics programs will be considered to have completed the clinical program when these clinical requirements are met, *and* when the requirements for the Ph.D. or M.S. programs (or pre-approved postdoctoral research project) are satisfied. The combined programs are expected to require a minimum of 33 months (Periodontics/M.S.), and may extend to four or more years for combined Periodontics/Ph.D. programs, depending on student progress and nature of the research problem.

For students who initially apply to the M.S. or Ph.D. graduate programs and subsequently apply to the periodontics certificate program, additional postdoctoral research is required, typically consisting of manuscript(s) suitable to be submitted to appropriate journals for publication.

Students with advanced standing may complete the program in fewer years, based on the demonstration of clinical competence as judged for all students.

Patient care in the Graduate Periodontics Clinic generally occurs on Tuesday and Thursday (with Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings available for periodontal and/or implant surgical procedures), beginning in early August and operating through the end of June. An optional summer clinic also operates from the end of June through mid-August. Monday and Wednesday mornings generally are used for didactic coursework and research, but senior residents may have the opportunity to provide additional patient care on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays as well, depending on the nature of their research projects. Hospital Anesthesia rotations are arranged through the course directors. **Students are required to be present in the clinic regardless of patient cancellations or disappointments, unless absences are previously approved by the Program Director.**

Academic calendars will be distributed well in advance of each semester by the University Administration and the School of Dental Medicine, and all residents are required to be present in the Postgraduate Clinics during all times the clinics are in session. **In general, unexcused non-emergency clinical absences will be rectified through extension of the clinical program.**

F. Written Material Describing Rights and Responsibilities

Since the program requires full-time concentration, outside employment such as dental practice is not permitted. This is an educational policy and is in effect regardless of granting agency policies that may allow such employment.

Students who matriculate in the combined Periodontics/Ph.D. programs must remain in the research program to qualify for financial support from granting agencies. Transfer to an M.S. program or non-degree program may jeopardize continuation of funding.

Completion of the research requirements (i.e., conferral of the Ph.D. or M.S. degrees), or completion of a previously defined postdoctoral program (for residents already possessing a Ph.D. degree) is required for granting the Certificate in Periodontology.

One of the goals of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics is to prepare graduates for the American Academy of Periodontology Board Examination. We believe that obtaining Diplomate status (Board Certification) will enhance your career, enable you to become a better clinician, scientist, or researcher, facilitate continuing periodontal education, and reflect well upon you and your training program. The Advanced Education Program in Periodontics will encourage your preparation for the Board Examination through appropriate seminar courses (which have Board preparation as a specific goal), taking the American Academy of Periodontology In-Service Examination during all program years, and completion of the Program Exit Examination.

Community service is expected from all students during the program, and demonstration of service activities is a program requirement according to the interests of each student. Such activities include, but are not limited to, provision of free dental care via participation in the School of Dental Medicine Give Kids a Smile program; screening of patients for the Northeast Regional Board Examination; volunteering for on-call duties for emergencies during summer sessions; and provision of language translation and interpretation for non-English-speaking patients.

Student membership in the American Academy of Periodontology is a Program requirement. A laptop computer, as well as a clinical camera and associated photographic equipment are also required, as is completion of both the Basic (BLS) and Advanced (ACLS) Cardiac Life Support Courses. BLS is provided by the School of Dental Medicine on a yearly basis; ACLS is offered at hospital locations periodically during the year. Additional training in Periodontics is available through a postgraduate year following completion of the clinical certificate program. This has allowed students to obtain additional experience as well as the freedom to perform procedures that are of particular

interest. If you are interested in participating in a postgraduate year, you must formally apply (see the Program Director for the application forms). If there is interest, you should consult with the Director as soon as possible, but no later than the end of your second clinical year, since the number of available positions will depend on current enrollment and the number of incoming students.

Goals and Educational Policies are subject to change and may be modified as required to meet changes in accreditation, departmental, and University policies and guidelines.

The Advanced Education Program in Periodontics at the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine is fully accredited by the Council on Dental Education, American Dental Association.

Leave Policy:

Attendance Requirements and Absence Notification Policies

The program generally honors the academic calendar of UB School of Dental Medicine for holiday observation and vacation, with the exception of the summer months; during the summer, students of the Post-graduate Periodontics program will engage in their research and the clinical aspect of the program unless excused by the director. However, during the summer session, students will each be responsible for covering all school clinics for a minimum of one week for periodontal emergency cases coverage. At Thanksgiving, classes and clinics will be closed on the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving and will resume the following Monday. Classes and clinics will recess for two weeks at the end of the Fall semester and will resume after New Year's Day. Also, classes and clinical activities will cease during the School of Dental Medicine Spring break.

Any special requests for time off can be negotiated with the Program Director on a case-by-case basis; for example, Specialty Board Examinations, job/ fellowship interviews, court date, and special immediate family celebrations. To request time off, the Program Director must be notified through the leave form far enough in advance so that the clinic schedule can be blocked out to avoid patient rescheduling and class assignments can be changed accordingly.

The Program director may grant time off from the program to postgraduate Periodontics students to attend approved courses, seminars, meetings, conferences or conventions. Written requests should be submitted to the Program Director three to four weeks in advance of the meeting (Form is attached to PER912 course).

Emergency absences will be granted on a case-by-case basis as the need arises. In the event of illness, post-graduate Periodontics residents are required to notify the Program Director, Barb Sutton, Executive Secretary (Barb will inform PG faculty and the chairman), the senior assistant, Lucy Ferraro and front desk Heidi Wilson as soon as practical to ensure patient scheduling changes can be made with a minimum of inconvenience for all concerned. If an emergency absence is granted but would result in delay of care to a

patient, the resident should understand that the Director might reassign that affected patient to another resident.

G. Due Process

Adjudication procedures are in compliance with the Graduate Student Handbook, which is consistent with the policies of the University at Buffalo, the Graduate School, and the School of Dental Medicine. It is the intent of those procedures to provide due process to individuals who may be involved in disciplinary procedures such as dismissal for academic or other reasons. Student Rights and Responsibilities in addition to those noted in this document also are provided in detail in the Graduate Student Handbook.

Complaints, concerns or suggestions regarding the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics normally should be directed to the Program Director. If the student believes that this is not appropriate (e.g., the complaint involves the Program Director), the matter can be discussed with any other postgraduate faculty member, the Departmental Chair, the Associate Dean for Advanced Education and Research, or the Dean. Alternatively, any student, staff, patient, or faculty member can contact the Program Ombudsman to register complaints or concerns anonymously to the Program Director. Dr. Robert E. Schifferle is the current Program Ombudsman.

The School of Dental Medicine encourages the timely resolution of all complaints regarding any Advanced Education Program. Residents have the right to directly contact the Commission on Dental Accreditation per American Dental Association Guidelines, “The Commission on Dental Accreditation will review complaints that relate to a program’s compliance with the accreditation standards. The Commission is interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dental and dental-related education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admissions, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty, staff, or students. A copy of the appropriate accreditation standard and/or the Commission’s policy and procedures for submission may be obtained by contacting the Commission at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago IL 60611-2678 or by calling 1-800-621-8099 extension 4653.”

H. Program Course Requirements

Required Clinical Courses for all Postgraduate Periodontics Residents

- PER912 Advanced Periodontics Clinic (6 Credit hours per semester; 6 semesters)
- PER 930 Supervised Teaching in Periodontics (1 credit hour per semester; 4 semesters)
- PER 907 Hosp Dent. Anesthesia/ Sedation (4 credits; 4 semesters)

Required Clinical Sciences Didactic Courses for all Periodontics Postgraduate Residents (Continuous registration)

PER 603 Seminars in Periodontal Biology (2 credits; 6 semesters)
PER 914 Postgraduate Treatment Planning (1 credit; 6 semesters)
PER 916 Conjoint Clinical Sciences (1 credit; 6 semesters)
PER 917 Crit Anal Lit in Periodontics (1 credit; 6 semesters)
PER 919 SEM Advanced Periodontal Surgery (1 credit; 6 semesters)
PER 921 Comp Perio Treatment Plan (2 credit; 6 semesters)
CLD 946 Implant Dentistry for Postdoctoral (2 credit; 6 semesters)
CLD 947 Seminars in Implant Dentistry (2 credit; 6 semesters)
CLD 950 Interdisciplinary Patient Care Seminars (0.5 credit; 6 semesters)
RDN921: Digital Dental Technology

*Required Clinical Sciences Didactic Courses for all Periodontics Postgraduate Residents
(One-time registration)*

PER 910 Advanced Periodontics Tutorial (1 credit; 2 semesters; first year residents)
PER 932 Non-surgical perio therapy (1 credit; Fall semester, first year residents)
PER 978 Seminar in Dental Pharmacology (0.5 credit; Spring semester)
CLD 555 Head and Neck Anatomy (1 credit; Spring semester)
ODS 514 Anat and Physiol Masticatory System (3 credit; Fall semester)
ODS 535 Advanced Oral Pathology (2 credit; Spring semester)
ODS 972 Oral Diagnosis Oral Medicine (1 credit; Fall semester)
ORB 522 Scientific Writing (1 credit; Fall semester)
ORB 545 Dynamics of Bone (2 credit; Fall semester)
OS502 Physiology of Pain (2 credit; Spring semester)
OS 506 Biomaterials (1 credit; Fall semester)
OS 510 Research Seminar (1 credit; Fall semester)
OS 512 Research Design (2 credit; Fall semester)
OS 518 Biostatistics/Biostatistics Laboratory (4 credit; Spring semester)
ORB 500 Oral Dev, Pathobiology and Tissue Eng (4 credits; Fall Semester)
ORB 510 Saliva and the Oral Microbiome (4 credit; Spring semester)
RDN 905 Restorative Implant Dentistry (1 credit; 1 semester)
ORT957 Perio-Ortho

Basic Sciences Courses for Periodontics/Ph.D or Periodontics/M.S. Residents

Additional in-depth didactic training in 1) Immunology, 2) Molecular Biology and Genetics, 3) Microbiology and Microbial Physiology, and 4) Biochemistry and Cellular Biology is a requirement of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics. This training is provided through comprehensive, graduate level courses in consultation with each resident's graduate (Ph.D./M.S.) and thesis committees.

Residents have the freedom to choose among the various courses in each of those subjects that may be offered by the School of Dental Medicine, the School of Medicine and

Biomedical Sciences, and other graduate Departments. Review of course syllabi where indicated and approval of the selection of basic science courses is performed after consideration of each Resident's research program, research interests, and performance. Approval of each basic science course is obtained from the Program Director. Examples of suitable courses taken by our students include the following:

Immunology

ORB 531 Oral Immunology (2 credits)

Molecular Biology and Genetics

BIO 504 Advanced Molecular Genetics (4 credits)

BIO 500 Bioinformatics and Genomic Analysis (4 credits)

BCH 508 Gene Expression (2 credits)

MIC 643 Molecular Virology (3 credits)

PHC 517 Pharmacogenomics (2 credits)

BIO 501 Advanced Biological Chemistry (4 credits)

BCH 508 Gene Expression (2 credits)

ORB 509 Genetics of Oral Diseases (2 credits)

Microbiology and Microbial Physiology

MIC 502 Medical and Oral Microbiology (3 credits)

MIC 647 Microbial Immunobiology (3 credits)

MIC 624 Modern Topics in Bacterial Pathogen. (2 credits)

MIC 501 Graduate Microbiology (6 credits)

Biochemistry (with Molecular Biology), and Cellular Biology

BMS 501 Cellular Biology I (4 credits)

PMY 550 Receptor Pharmacology (2 credits)

BCH 503 Biochemical Principles (4 credits)

BIO 505 Advanced Cell. Devel. Biology (4 credits)

BMS 503 Principles of Biochemistry (4 credits)

BCH 512 Dev Genomics Stem Cells Bio (2 credits)

BCH 507 Protein Struct/Function/Proteo/Bioinf (2 credits)

Research and Laboratory

PER/ORB 651 Research

PER/ORB 651 Thesis Guidance