COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Postdoctoral Certificate in General Practice Dentistry – Second Year

The course is designed for post-doctorate (residents) in Dentistry. It focuses on basic concepts of oral health research, study design and planning, statistical analysis for various types of research studies, as well as basics of hypothesis testing and statistical inference. This course is conducted by means of lectures, discussions, and computer lab sessions.

PROG 9136 – Advanced Implant Dentistry for General Practice Residents. Three (3) credits. Pre-requisites: PROG 9135.
This course is designed for Second Year GPR residents with the goal of review the literature concerning dental implants and provide direct clinical supervision in the process of implant placements on patients. The course will give special attention to provide the resident with a level of proficiency in the clinical aspect of dental implantology. Also, the resident will be provide with advanced techniques in implant surgery, colocation and prosthetic rehabilitation.

PROG 9146 – Advanced Endodontic Techniques. Three (3) credits. Pre-requisites: PROG 9145.
This course will provide the theory and practice of the use of rotary instruments and new obturation techniques in pulpal therapy. The course will also review basic diagnosis and emergency endodontic treatment by using distance learning methodologies, lectures and clinical experiences. The resident must be proficient in the didactic and clinical component of this course with different rotatory systems.

PROG 9151 – General Patient Care Clinic I. Two (2) credits.
This course is designed to provide the Second Year resident with enough clinical experiences to develop proficiency at the different disciplines of Dentistry. The course is intended to develop the professional competencies into proficiencies for the advanced level of the Second Year resident and the clinic will offer the scenario for this educational progression. The resident will assume responsibility for the comprehensive oral healthcare delivery of the patient under constant supervision of the attending and/or specialist. All dental disciplines will be contemplated in the rationale for the execution of the patient’s treatment plan. Clinical sites will be at the hospital dental clinic, School of Dentistry, and at community dental clinics.

PROG 9152 – General Patient Care Clinic II. Two (2) credits. Pre-requisites: PROG 9151.
This course is designed to provide practical experience in the treatment of medically compromised patients. Residents will provide advanced state-of-the-art dental services according to the patient’s needs. The resident will also acquire experience in the student supervision and clinical administration. All clinical activities will be measured at a proficiency level.

PROG 9156 – Advanced Oral Health and HIV. Three (3) credits. Pre-requisites: PROG 9155.
Through discussions and clinical experiences, the resident will be provided with in depth knowledge and skills required to adequately treat, in a culturally competitive manner, oral conditions on HIV patients and will become acquainted with available funding and management of local and federal monies in the provision of oral health care to the HIV/AIDS population.
PROG 9161 – Advanced Concepts in Clinical Sciences I. Two (2) credits.
This course is designed to provide the resident with the educational experiences in critical thinking on dental topics relevant to the profession and to the resident's needs. Subjects to be discussed are advanced concepts in fixed and removable prostodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, pediatric dentistry, dental materials, occlusion, esthetic dentistry, and pathology among others. All disciplines discussed will then be integrated into comprehensive, well designed treatment plans for the benefit of the program's patients after proper presentation by the resident. The course will be offered in the first semester with a continuation in the second semester.

PROG 9162 – Advanced Concepts in Clinical Sciences II. Two (2) credits. Pre-requisites: PROG 9161.
In this course the resident will have advanced experience in the use in dental materials and techniques in implants, rotatory instruments and medically compromised patients. The instructional strategies to be used are: lectures, case presentations and class discussions.

PROG 9175 – Clinical Elective for Second Year Residents. Zero (0) credits.
This elective course is designed for the resident to identify an area of special interest and develop his/her full potential in such discipline. This area should be in consensus with the Second Year competencies. Once the area is identified, a professor will be chosen as the resident's mentor and, along with the program director, a list of objectives, competencies, and requirements will be devised for compliance by the resident during the entire academic year. The resident will expose their cases during Grand Rounds and meetings.

PROG 9185 – Clinical Supervision Rotation. Two (2) credits.
In this course the resident will participate as clinical instructor in the disciplines of operative dentistry, removable restorations, fixed restorations, and community dentistry in the predoctoral curriculum and will also supervise First Year GPR residents in the clinic and emergency room.

PROG 9186 – Administration of Oral Health Services. Three (3) credits.
Using lectures presentations and distance learning methodologies the residents will acquire knowledge and skills in dental practice management and administration taking into consideration current changes in the Puerto Rico health care delivery system. The federal and local laws and the regulations that govern the dental practice in Puerto Rico will also be studied.

PROG 9187 – Journal Club. Two (2) credits.
The Second Year residents will be required to have the ability to critically review relevant scientific literature as a foundation for life-long learning and as a way to adapt to new modifications in a constantly changing health care environment. At the beginning of the course, residents will be given instruction in the art of searching information at the available resources, including the library and information technology. Then, after careful preparation, residents are given reading assignments and articles to critically review such and submit their own decisions regarding a specific topic. The Journal Club meets every week throughout the entire year.