INTRODUCTION

The Interns’ Training Program is designed to improve and enhance the Interns’ knowledge and skills in their practice of general dentistry, thereby facilitating reduced dependency upon specialists. It prepares the Interns to plan and deliver various dental treatment modalities with the required guidance from their mentors. Additionally, it prepares them to assess patients’ general health status in relation to the anticipated dental treatment.

Didactic and clinical training, patient’s management and treatment, personnel administration and practice management are included. The clinical management includes a board range of clinical cases formulated to meet and satisfy the interns’ specific need. Besides, the clinical facility is organized as a simulated private practice. The new graduate of dentistry is required to undertake a twelve-month uninterrupted internship as a fundamental requirement for full registration as a dental practitioner by the Egyptian Dental Syndicate.

OBJECTIVES

Although the College of Oral & Dental Surgery at MUST has its mission in providing the education and training of undergraduate students, the College is obliged to take a leading role in continuous education and training of graduates in order to have efficient, ethical, compassionate, and clinically competent practitioners in the art and science of dentistry. The new graduate of dentistry is required to undertake a twelve-month internship as a fundamental requirement for full registration as a dental practitioner by the Egyptian Dental Syndicate. Upon successful completion of the requirements, the candidate will receive a certificate of competence for the one-year internship training issued and sealed by the College of Oral & Dental Surgery at MUST. The essence of the Internship Program is to facilitate the metamorphosis of the closely supervised undergraduate student to the independent dental practitioner responsible for his own professional audit. It serves also as an essential buffer period for academic
The objectives of the Interns’ Training Program as officially approved by the Interns’ Training Committee are summarized as follow:

1. To improve their knowledge, skills and attitude in the practice of general dentistry. Emphasis will also be placed on treatment planning and decision-making as well as recognition of highly complicated cases and when to make consultation referrals.

2. To reduce dependency upon the direct supervision by a faculty member and to develop efficacy in time management and self-confidence in handling the complicated clinical situations.

3. To gain more experience in risk assessment, and management of medically compromised cases as well as emergency and primary dental care.

4. To develop the highest ethical standards in practice management as well as to cultivate and sustain proper attitude towards patients and dental personnel.

5. To introduce the actual dental practice including the different styles of practicing dentistry by exposing Intern to different working environments and clinic set-ups.

6. To improve the trainees’ verbal capabilities in addressing an audience as well as the skill in using audio-visual aids in formal lecture and seminar presentations.

7. To gain knowledge and skills in a number of areas not adequately covered in the undergraduate curriculum.

8. To provide an opportunity for each intern to explore and identify his/her particular area of interest in dentistry and to supply him/her with adequate information related to various career options.

9. To achieve the involvement of the interns in research projects and motivate them to generate original innovative ideas and develop their scientific writing ability, also to stimulate their interest in pursuing graduate studies and continuing dental education.
ADMISSION

Admission to the Program

Enrolment into the Interns’ Training Program at the College of Oral & Dental Surgery, MUST is limited only to graduates with a Bachelor of Dental Science degree from the College of Oral & Dental Surgery, MUST. This is because the clinics at the College are equipped to accommodate an average of 50 interns only for training every rotation.

Duration and Continuity of Training

The internship is for a one-year period. The specified period of training shall be on a continuous and uninterrupted basis. Accordingly, and as the clinical training procedure dictates, it is mandatory that an intern should not ask for vacation or emergency leaves under any circumstances.

- Nevertheless, should any situation warrants an Intern to go on an emergency leave, there would be an extension of the training at the end of the program for a specified period to equally compensate for the leave of absence determined by the Interns’ Training Committee.
- Approval for such leave must be under the discretion of the ITC Chairman, and a maximum of 5 emergency leave days are allowed during the overall training period.
- Leave for non-emergency reasons would require a special procedure that an approval of the ITC Chairman must be sought first.
- Unapproved absence without genuine reason may result in subjecting the Intern to a disciplinary action by the Interns’ Training Committee.
- For female interns, a maternity leave of forty-five (45) days is granted provided that a medical report is attached to the application form. The same provision explained in item #2 is applied where all off days would be added later, thereby an extension of the internship period is deemed until the requirements of the program are entirely fulfilled.
- Leave of sickness should be always supported by a medical report issued by a University hospital.
- Interns are expected to attend all seminars in addition to research presentation. Interns must be present at the beginning of the session and should not leave before it ends. An absence incurred during seminars and research presentation will be considered one day absence.
• Prior to the research presentation day, the presenting interns will be granted a half-day off from clinical duties to facilitate the preparation of the presentation.

**Symposia and Scientific Meetings**

• Each intern may apply to attend an international or a national dental symposium for once during the internship training period. The time spent in such symposium may not need to be replaced at the end of the program, provided that the candidate is able to support his claim with a certificate of attendance.
• Application for any meeting must be approved by the ITC Chairman one week at least in advance.
• A maximum of one week may be given to those who may wish to attend an international meeting while the local meetings participants should be granted with the number of days prescribed for such meetings.
• Candidate who may show the interest in presenting an accepted scientific paper will have the privilege to attend more than one meeting.

**Clinical Conduction**

1. **Attendance:**

Punctuality in clinics is mandatory and the daily attendance will be monitored closely. Interns should abide by the official working hours in addition to the rules and regulations prescribed by each training institution they are attending.

2. **Clinic Attire:**

Interns are requested to take the recommendation regarding the prescribed clinical dress at working hours seriously in each training institution. Blue jeans and casual dress are not allowed in clinical premises. Female interns should refrain from using perfumes, heavy cosmetics, nail polish, and high-heeled shoes.

3. **Professional Ethics:**

Interns are expected to maintain respect and confidence of patients through sincere and honest relationship. Physical treatment must be packed up with psychological support and clinician has to be sympathetic and considerate. Courtesy, cooperation and harmonious interpersonal
relationship must be highly observed among all clinical staff to promote a wholesome working atmosphere in the clinic. Share in the practice of economy through proper handling of machine, apparatus, equipments and disposable materials are highly appreciated.

The medically compromised patients and those who may suffer contagious diseases have to find accessible treatment within the medical and dental profession. Infection control measures should be observed all the time regardless of the patient medical status. Under no circumstances should any Intern refuse or object to treat patient who may carry contagious diseases since such attitude is medically and ethically non-acceptable.

4. **Discipline:**

In case of unapproved absence, negligence, misconduct, incompetence, insubordination or any other act that the interns’ superiors deem unacceptable, an Intern shall be duly reported to the Interns’ Training Committee for disciplinary action. Depending on the seriousness of the offence and upon the recommendation of the Interns’ Training Committee, a disciplinary action may be one of the following:

- Probation, verbal and written warnings.
- Repeating a rotation.
- Suspension of the Intern for some time as per suggested by ITC.
- Dismissal from the Internship Training Program.

5. **Evaluation:**

In order to monitor the interns’ performance, it becomes very essential that some forms of quantification and possible evaluation of the work carried out by the interns be documented. At the College of Oral & Dental Surgery, each procedure performed by the interns is recorded and will be compiled in a monthly report. While in other institutions, training supervisors send their evaluation of the intern’s performance at the end of each rotation. The entries can be used eventually as a reference of the intern when a letter of recommendation or certificate, as well as report or career advice is requested. By the end of the program, the intern’s performance should be evaluated and assessed by the Interns’ Training Committee. The data for evaluation will be compiled from the summary of procedures recorded and a decision of whether the Intern has fulfilled his requirements or requires an extension of the program will be recommended.
6. Graduation:

At the end of the one-year internship program, interns will be awarded a certificate of completion of the internship signed by the Dean and the Head of the Administrative Affairs and Chairman of Interns’ Training Committee, provided that he/she fulfilled the requirements of the program. Although the certificate of competency should show no grade, an individual report of each intern’s performance will be kept in his/her file for future reference.

INTERNS TRAINING COMMITTEE (ITC)

Chairman: PROF. TAREK ELSHARKAWY

Co-chairman: PROF. MONA SHOEB

Members

Director of Clinics: Dr. AMR ALKARARGY

Assistant Director of Clinics: Dr. MAHMOUD GOHAR

Interns’ Coordinator: Dr. HALA ALMONOFY

Head of Departments

Chief Nurse

Secretary

INTERNS TRAINING COMMITTEE (ITC)

During the entire period of the internship, all interns are under the administration of the Interns’ Training Committee. Members of committee hold regular meetings to discuss the progress of the program and other issues pertaining to the interns.

Interns

Intern shall work on a full time basis during the entire period of his/her Internship program. He/she shall execute all dental procedures defined in the curriculum and perform other duties related to the training that may be assigned by the program director. Intern is expected to observe all rules and regulation defined in this manual. He/she is required to submit a topic for the Interns’ research seminar, which should be approved, by the ITC
Chairman and the other members of IT Committee. Intern is also required to select a faculty member who will supervise and monitor the preparation and presentation of the main research topic. Intern is encouraged to make comments on the concepts of improving the training program at the end of each rotation.

Clinical Training

Comprehensive Dental Care

The overall comprehensive dental training is for ten (10) months duration, four months will be spent in one of the participating hospitals, and the remaining time will be spent at the College of Oral & Dental Surgery clinics. At the College of Oral & Dental Surgery, interns are simultaneously involved in two disciplines of training namely: the primary dental care and the general dental practice. The primary dental care is aimed to provide the walk-in patients with routine and immediate treatment for the majority of dental problems. All types of treatment offered in the primary care sessions are expected to be completed within the time allowed in the primary clinics. The general practice allows interns to provide comprehensive dental treatment for regular patients with pre-scheduled appointments. The clinical curriculum of the program has been designed to simulate a group practice environment. It is a constructed program in a form of timetable schedule where each intern is provided with a fully equipped operatory throughout the internship period. These facilities are expected to render his/her training valuable and worth time spending. An evaluation of the intern’s performance will be performed at the end of each rotation.

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

The rotation of the surgical hospital practice is designed to provide the interns with comprehensive knowledge and clinical skills in the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery. The duration of the training is two (2) months and each intern is requested to attend the clinics of an oral and maxillofacial surgery department under full directorship of a consultant surgeon who should evaluate the progress of each intern by the end of his/her rota. Several surgical centres inside and outside the city of Cairo have been selected for this purpose. The selection was based on many dynamic features including: the institution’s reputation, patients’ flow, motivation and interest of staff in-charge of teaching and training of the newly graduates. This program is aimed to keep the intern in prospectus with the diagnosis and treatment of surgical and non-surgical conditions that can be performed in an out-patient clinic or in-hospital based practice.
The training in this field is based on extensive training in the in-patient care and ward management for minor and major oral surgery procedures. The program will also introduce the trainee into a team type of practice by working closely with other dental and medical specialists. It should provide the trainee with adequate and sound knowledge and skills that allow him/her to recognize oral and maxillofacial diseases, and injuries and defects involving oral and para-oral structures. Some surgical centres may request the trainee to carry out a night duty or an on-call commitment as part of the prescribed training program. By the end of the program, the intern is expected to carry out several surgical procedures within the limit of the general dental practice without complications and with confidence.

**Didactic Part**

**Seminar/Main Research Project**

It is incorporated within this stage of the clinical training and includes: participation in treatment planning sessions (TPS), advanced education seminars (AES), and also to complete and present the main research projects.

Interns who may be assigned to another institution, hospital or dental centre are expected to be involved in a similar training which should cover all different aspects of dentistry. The clinical tutor in-charge of the interns’ training has its discretion to design a program in his/her wish, which should ultimately fulfil the requirement to achieve the objectives of such program.

Each intern is requested to work in a group with other colleagues in preparing and presenting a scientific research project. The research topic is usually selected by the intern and carried out under the supervision of a faculty supervisor who is interested in the same topic. Nevertheless, an idea of the research may come from the supervisor where the originality of the work will lead definitely to an appropriate selection.

In order to tool the intern with the research methods and the style of scientific writing, two-seminar sessions of the AES will be designed to orient the interns to proper research methodology. These sessions will be scheduled at an early stage of the internship program, and they are usually given by senior faculty members with excellent experience in research design.
Objectives:

- To develop the ability of the intern in designing and writing a scientific article.
- To encourage and acquaint the Intern to do literature research and use the available database for this purpose.
- To develop the ability of the intern in conducting a scientific research project.
- To enable the intern to perform and present his/her argument independently under supervision and in public.
- To develop his/her ability and skill in organizing and presenting data collected by different methods and from various sources.
- To amplify the intern’s knowledge in current issues by searching in depths for the latest advancements in branches of dental science.

Preparation of the Interns’ Research Manuscript:

The research report should be submitted to the ITC Chairman at least two weeks before the scheduled day of presentation. Manuscript should be prepared and typed in English language in a typewritten format. The manuscript should include the title, author(s), and their affiliations, abstracts, body of the main work, acknowledgement and references. The title must be concise, informative and representative of the study. A summary or an abstract of no more than 200 words written in Arabic and English languages must appear in the first page. It should state the purpose of the study, basic procedures, main findings and the principal conclusions.

The introduction states clearly the value and scientific merit of the research with relevant literature review for which the study is based. It should cover the related articles from the different published international journals that could be obtained from any available database. At the end of the section a precise statement for which the research is aimed to is to be addressed in order to draw the connected relation between the conclusions and objectives. The references should be numbered consecutively using Arabic numbers in the text and inserted as superscripts each time the reference is cited.

The section of materials and methods should briefly describe of the subjects utilized in the study and the methodology employed in the selection and analysis. The main results should always come next to materials and methods and include the findings of the study presented in text and numerical format with the appropriate statistical inferences. Simplified tables and/or figures and relative illustrations are to be attached but with no repetition. All figures, tables and illustrations are to be
identified clearly with brief and conclusive captions. There should be a useful detailed discussion of the significance of the results and other observations related to the study. Methods by which subjects were assessed and the success of experiments should be judged. In the section of conclusion only those findings supported by data are presented. This is followed by a short statement on the recommendation for further study if this is applicable. All references which have been cited or referred to in the study should be listed in the section of references or bibliography. By the end of the manuscript, author(s) is expected to acknowledge all persons who may generously offered their scientific or technical assistance during the course and preparation of the research. Persons who have contributed intellectually should also be acknowledged. The source of the supporting fund of the study (Company or Industrial Firm) is to be acknowledged as well.

In addition to the interns presenting their research projects, an intern will be selected a head of time to play the role of the facilitator of the event.

**Treatment Planning Sessions**

The session was conceived as a forum for Interns and their supervisors in discussing the procedures to be undertaken in the treatment of complicated cases. Knowing the right approach will therefore, allow the Interns to perform the appropriate treatment plan for the patients.

Each Intern should be given a chance to present a case that will develop his/her ability in organizing a case presentation. Discussion should be made with other Interns to solicit their opinions.

This session deals with the comprehensive clinical practice where Interns are completely trained to perform various types of cases in all areas of dentistry.

**Objectives towards Faculty:**

- To develop the Intern in formulating an appropriate and excellent treatment plan for patients.

- Discussion of treatment modalities will provide Interns an insight to resolve and determine the problems and difficulties that may be encountered.

- To guide the Intern on how to refer easy and difficult cases to students and faculties.
As a supervisor, faculty should be in close contact with the Intern so that the discussed treatment plan is succinctly followed.

The faculty should update the Chairman of the Interns’ Training Committee on the ability and attitude of the Intern under his supervision.

**Objectives towards Intern:**

- To be able to define an appropriate and excellent treatment plan for the patient before executing treatment.
- Treatment plan must be presented to and discussed with the supervisor.
- To improve the ability of Interns in the performance of an excellent treatment plan.
- To follow the treatment plan made, previously discussed with the supervisor.
- Consult other specialties, as needed, to finalize the treatment.

**Rules and Guidelines**

- The presentation does not have to be a “breakthrough”; however, it should present some interesting diagnostic and/or treatment planning approaches.
- Full clinical examination with clinical slides before and after treatment with mounted study casts are required and have to be prepared ahead of time.
- The case should be presented in a typewritten format with the pertinent literature review.
- If the postoperative status cannot be presented at the date of presentation, the intern must consider re-presentation at a later time.
- The faculty in-charge and the clinic supervisor should update the Chairman of the Interns’ Training program on the ability and attitude of the Intern enrolled in this activity.

**Advance Education Seminar**

These include selected presentations given by a group of faculty members at the College covering new advances in a wide range of dental topics.

The purpose of the advanced education seminar is to expose the interns to new ideas and current concepts on dentistry. The focus of the seminar is on getting speakers from the College who can give the interns a real world perspective about important issues in dentistry.
In this period of the history of dentistry and health professions the increase in new scientific knowledge is very rapid. The doubling of knowledge takes place every few years. It is very important to instil in the interns the attitude of lifelong learning and the skills to analyze written and verbal communication. We stress to the interns to listen with a critical ear. They should use their extensive knowledge of dental issues and controversies to ask the tough questions to the speaker. They should not accept uncritically any information that is given to them.

The speakers generally focus on the structure of their dental programs, clinical cases and employment possibilities. There are extensive question and answer sessions which provide additional information of interest to the interns.

In summary, the advanced education seminar provides an important supplement to the education of dental interns at MUST.

**SEMINAR RESEARCH TITLES – 2009**
1- Study of the gingival crevicular fluid in smokers with chronic periodontitis
2- The effect of different types of coffee on microhardness and color stability of composite resin
3- Knowledge and management of traumatic dental injuries in a group of Egyptian primary school teachers
4- The study of association between helicobacteria pylori infection and periodontal disease
5- Effect of whitening agents on restorative materials
6- Effect of root canal sealers on the retention of tooth colored posts
7- Studying habits among dental students and their effect on GPA
8- Success of single tooth implant replacement
9- An analysis of analgesic and antibiotic preferences for endodontic pain management among endodontist and GP in Egypt
10- Detection of carotid calcifications on panoramic radiographs
11- Pediatric dentistry choices of restoration materials for children
12- Canine impaction and malocclusion
13- Comparison between two different local anesthetic techniques in surgical Extraction of impacted wisdom teeth
14- Surface hardness of core build up material
15- Assessment of convergence angles of tooth preparations for single crowns and fixed partial dentures
**Affiliated Hospitals/Dental Centers**

1) Faculty of Oral & Dental Medicine, Cairo University.
2) Faculty of Dentistry, Ainshams University.
3) Faculty of Dentistry, Azhar University.
4) Faculty of Dentistry, Alexandria University.
5) Faculty of Dentistry, Tanta University.
6) Faculty of Dentistry, Mansora University.
7) Faculty of Dentistry, Suez Canal University.
8) Faculty of Dentistry, Elmenia University.
9) Educational Hospital of Ministry of Health.