

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY**

**Dentistry 623**

**Dental Care for the Special Needs Patient  
(Geriatric Dentistry and  
Developmental Disabilities)  
Course Syllabus**

**Dentistry 623**  
**Dental Care for the Special Needs Patient**  
**(Geriatric Dentistry and Disabilities)**  
**Course Syllabus**

**General Information**

**Course Director:** Abdel R. Mohammad, DDS,MS,MPH;  
**Office/Phone:** 3058 Postle Hall / 292-1001  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday, 8:30-11:30 AM  
or by appointment

**Location:** 1188 Postle Hall  
**Quarter/Year:** Spring/ 2010 Dent III  
**Class Time:** 8:30-9:20 AM Wednesdays

**PURPOSE**

This one credit-hour course is required for third year dental students. The course is designed to foster an understanding of the unique concerns associated with the provision of oral health care to the Geriatric and Special Needs patient. These categories of patients require the oral health care provider to have an understanding of the total patient milieu including: problems of patient mobility, psychosocial issues, socioeconomic issues, medical considerations, and appropriate communication skills needed to interact with the patient and family. Guest lecturers will be invited to provide a broad range of expertise and experiences regarding the provision of services to the Geriatric/Special Needs patient.

**RATIONALE**

The primary focus for many oral health care professionals is on the treatment of ambulatory patients capable of receiving oral health care in a private dental office. The dentist of the 21<sup>st</sup> century must be knowledgeable and flexible enough to address the special access issues, systemic conditions and oral health problems associated with the growing number of patients who are chronically ill, disabled and elderly.

This course serves as preparation for your clinical dental experiences in the 1) Geriatric Dentistry Rotations (D522), 2) Hospital Dentistry rotations (D708.02 and 708.03) and for preparation for clinical practice and the provision of oral health care services to the Special Needs patient in your practice community.

**COURSE GOAL**

The intent of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop an appreciation of the need for oral health care among under served segments of the community and become familiar with the use of alternative dental delivery systems. This course will also prepare students to provide comprehensive oral health care for patients unable to be treated in a conventional setting.

## OUTCOMES

1. Population Increase and Changes in Age: Identify the major factors which have contributed to population increases and changes in age distribution during the last century.
2. Health Utilization Patterns of the Elderly: Describe the health utilization patterns of the elderly.
3. Psychological Changes During Aging Process: Discuss physiological changes that occur during the aging process.
4. Impaired Psychological Response Associated with Aging: Discuss the impaired physiologic response that is associated with the aging process and its impact on care.
5. Presentation of Disease in Elderly: List three examples of atypical or altered presentation of disease in the elderly.
6. Diseases of Elderly that Lead to Chronic Impairment: List common diseases associated with the elderly that lead to chronic impairment.
7. Drug Disposition Changes in Elderly: Discuss the general concepts concerning disposition changes in the elderly.
8. Diagnosis and Management of Common Oral Conditions of Elderly: List common oral conditions associated with the elderly.
9. Oral Hygiene Needs for Patients with Limited Access: Describe the oral hygiene needs for patient populations with limited access to dental care.
10. Diagnosis & Treatment Planning for Medically-Complex Patients: Identify differences in the oral diagnosis and treatment planning needs of medically-complex patients.
11. Patient's Individual Autonomy: Discuss the importance of the patient's individual autonomy in clinical practice.
12. Patient Utilization and Appropriate Dental Treatment Plan: Given a complete patient history, discuss factors that can affect patient utilization and the choice of an appropriate dental treatment plan in the special needs patient.
13. Treatment Decision-making Process: List in sequence the steps involved with the treatment decision-making process for special needs patients.
14. Medical-Legal Aspects of Treatment Planning for Special Needs Patients: Discuss the pertinent medical-legal aspects in treatment planning for special needs patients (informed consent and consultations).
15. Treatment of Patients Outside Normal Office Setting: Describe factors that require the treatment of patients in other than the normal dental office setting.
16. Alternative Delivery Systems for Frail Elderly and Special Needs Patients: Describe alternative delivery systems that can be used to treat frail elderly and other special needs patients.
17. Mobile Dentistry Program: Discuss factors associated with incorporating a mobile dentistry program into a private practice.
18. Developmental Disabilities: Define developmental disabilities, describe the various types, oral health conditions and general treatment planning and management aspects.
19. Psychosocial Needs of Aged and Handicapped: Be able, through increased awareness, to recognize, understand, and respond to the psychosocial needs of the aged and disabled.
20. Barriers to Delivery of Dental Care for Special Needs Patients: Identify barriers to the delivery of dental care to disabled and elderly patients.
21. Care for Frail & functionally Dependent Adults: List factors that must be considered in delivering oral health care to frail and functionally dependent adults.
22. Critically Review Scientific Literature: Critically review and abstract scientific articles on topics related to oral health of the elderly and the disabled.

## Sessions

### **001 Course Introduction/Demographics of Elderly Dental Patients and Access to Dental Care:**

**Date:** 3/30/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Abdel R. Mohammad

#### **REQUIRED READING:**

##### **GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

- Chapter 1- Global Demographic Changes and Their Impact on Dentistry and Economics of Health Care Expenditures for the Elderly

#### **SUPPLEMENTAL READING:**

- Total tooth loss among persons aged >85 years – Selected States, 1995-1997 MMWR 48 (10):206-210, March 1999.
- Douglas C., Jette A, Fox C, Tennstedt S, Joshi A, Feldman H, McGuire S. and McKinlay J. Oral Health status of the elderly in New England J Gerontology 48(2):M39-46, 1993.
- Dolan T & Atchison K. Implications of access, utilization and need for oral health care by the noninstitutionalized and institutionalized elderly on the dental delivery system. J Dent Ed 57:876-885, 1993.
- Gift H & Newman J. How older adults use oral health care services: Results of a national health interview survey. JADA 124:89-93, 1993
- Blythe R. The View in Winter. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Jovanovich, 1970.
- Beck J. The epidemiology of dental disease in the elderly. Gerodontology 3(1):5-15, 1984.
- Butler, R. Age-ism: Another form of bigotry. The Gerontologist 9:243-46, 1969.
- Ettinger R. Cohort differences among aging populations: A challenge for the dental profession. Spec Care Dent 13(1):19-26, 1993.
- Ettinger R and Beck J. The new elderly: What the dental profession can expect. Spec Care Dent 2(2):2-69, 1982.

### **002 Common Systemic Medical Conditions Affecting the Elderly and Their Oral Health Implications**

**Date:** 4/06/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. David Hall

#### **REQUIRED READING:**

##### **GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

- Chapter 8 - Physical Evaluation, Diagnosis and Management of Common Oral Conditions in the Elderly Patient

**003 Diagnosis & Management of Common Oral Conditions in Elderly Patients**  
(part I)

**Date:** 4/13/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Abdel R. Mohammad

**REQUIRED READING:**

**GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

- Chapter 6 – Common Systemic Conditions Affecting the Elderly and Their Oral Health Implications

**004 Diagnosis & Management of Common Oral Conditions in Elderly Patients**  
(PART II)

**Date:** 4/20/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Abdel R. Mohammad

**REQUIRED READING:**

**GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

- Chapter 8 - Physical Evaluation, Diagnosis and Management of Common Oral Conditions in the Elderly Patient

**005 Diagnosis & Management of Common Oral Conditions in Elderly Patients**  
(PART III)

**Date:** 4/27/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Abdel R. Mohammad

**REQUIRED READING:**

**GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

Chapter 8 - Physical Evaluation, Diagnosis and Management of Common Oral Conditions in the Elderly Patient

**006 Diagnosis & Management of Common Oral Conditions in Elderly Patients**  
(PART IV)

**Date:** 5/04/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Abdel R. Mohammad

**REQUIRED READING:**

**GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

- Chapter 8 - Physical Evaluation, Diagnosis and Management of Common Oral Conditions in the Elderly Patient

## **007 Treatment planning of the Geriatric Dental Patient**

**Date:** 5/11/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Abdel R. Mohammad

### **REQUIRED READING:**

**GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

- Chapter 9 – Treatment planning of the Geriatric Dental Patient

## **008 Dental Implants in Geriatric Dentistry**

**Date:** 5/18/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Edwin McGlumphy

### **REQUIRED READING:**

**GERIATRIC DENTISTRY, 6TH EDITION, 2010, ABDEL RAHIM MOHAMMAD**

- Chapter 10 – Dental Implants in Geriatric Dentistry

## **009 Developmental Disabilities I**

**Date:** 5/25/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Sarat Thikkurissy

### **REQUIRED READING:**

**PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY: INFANCY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE, by Pinkham, Casamassimo, Fields, McTigue, Nowak**

- Chapter 16 - (pgs 225-251)

## **010 Developmental Disabilities II**

**Date:** 6/01/11  
**Faculty:** Dr. Sarat Thikkurissy

### **REQUIRED READING:**

**PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY: INFANCY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE, by Pinkham, Casamassimo, Fields, McTigue, Nowak**

- Chapter 16 - (pgs 225-251)

## **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

1. **Geriatric Dentistry, 6TH EDITION, 2010, Abdel Rahim Mohammad textbook will be distributed at the beginning of the quarter.**

## **FINAL EXAMINATION – 6/08/11**

There will be no midterm examination in Geriatric Dentistry. Pop-Quizzes will account for 10% of the total grade. The final examination will be a comprehensive multiple choice examination and will account for 90% of the total grade.

## **GRADING CRITERIA:**

The following grading scale will be used in determining final grades:

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
65 – 69	D
<64	F

## **POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory and is recorded 10 minutes after the course is scheduled to begin; one unexcused absence will result in lowering your grade one letter grade. An "E" grade will not be given because of poor attendance only. Please remember that a classmate will not be able to sign for you. If you are late for class and attendance has been taken, it will be up to you to speak to the course director in order to get credit for attendance. There will also be unannounced pop-quizzes which will add up to 10% of the Geriatric Dentistry final grade. These quizzes cannot be made up if you have unexcused absences. It will be at the discretion of the course director as to what is an excused absence. Please remember that you must be in your assigned seat by the start of the lecture at 8:30 a.m.

**Regarding absences, makeups, accommodation for students with disabilities.** Students are asked to meet individually with the Course Director if they need special accommodation in order to participate and complete this course.

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT RULES:**

Students are expected to maintain standards of professionalism in regard to their academic performance and are expected to protect the integrity of their work at all times during the course, whether in the classroom, laboratory or clinic. Students should report any alleged misconduct by another student to the Course Director and during examinations to the Course Director and/or proctor immediately.

By way of example only and not by limitation, the following would constitute academic misconduct in Dentistry 623: Plagiarism of another classmates' work for any class assignment or examination or communicating with another student by any means during an examination. For further examples and further information students should refer to the College of Dentistry Student Reference Book, and The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct.

The Course Director will report cases of alleged academic misconduct to the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs who may refer the matter to the College of Dentistry Professionalism Committee.

Students are encouraged to seek discussion with the Course Director if they have any doubt about approaches and procedures that might result in charges of academic misconduct against them.