

Dental

General

Practice

Residency Program

VA Medical Center
Minneapolis Minnesota



Department of
Veterans Affairs

*This brochure contains information pertaining to the
Dental General Practice Residency Program offered at the
Department of Veterans Medical Center*

Minneapolis, Minnesota

*Thank you for your interest in the VA Medical Center's
Dental Residency Program. If further information is necessary,
please contact the Dental Service Secretary at 612-725-1946.*

**General Practice Dental Residency Program
Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

Introduction

The Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center is one of 33 area medical centers/hospitals in the VA health care system. Our hospital has 257 acute care, diagnostic and treatment beds, as well as 104 extended care unit beds. The facility was constructed in 1988. It is a modern medical center designed to integrate patient care, education, and research activities to provide state of the art medical care. The medical center provides primary, secondary, and tertiary care in medical, surgical, and short-term psychiatric modalities. The extended care center provides services based on the patient's need for rehabilitation, medical, cognitive and psychiatric care. In addition, the extended care center provides hospice and respite care.

The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Minneapolis is located on One Veterans Drive, at the intersection of Highway 55 (Hiawatha Avenue) and Highway 62 (Crosstown). The medical center, accessible by several freeways, is a ten-minute drive from the Twin Cities Int. Airport, The Mall of America and Historic Fort Snelling. There is light rail as well as bus service to the Minneapolis VA.

The Minneapolis VA Medical Center has one of the largest education and training programs in the VA system. Annually, approximately 1,200 students and residents are involved in education

and training programs at this facility for medical, surgical, psychiatric, oral surgery, general dentistry, and diagnostic specialties. This facility has accredited hospital based training programs for Radiology Technicians, Nurse Anesthetists and General Dentists. The Medical Center is closely affiliated with the Medical and Dental Schools of the University of Minnesota. Consultants from the Dental School and community, representing all of the dental specialties, are available to supplement instruction of the dental resident in the treatment of patients.

Education Goals

Our purpose is to provide the opportunity and environment for the graduate dentist to enhance and perfect the skills and knowledge gained in dental school. This residency will emphasize general dentistry and will provide education and patient care experiences involving the management of patients with a wide range of medical conditions in both the ambulatory and inpatient setting. This hospital-based training program will broaden the residents' knowledge of oral and systemic diseases. It will offer an opportunity to work with other health professionals in the hospital setting and broaden clinical exposure to medically-compromised patients. The residency will enable the graduate of this program to service his or her community by providing them with the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of special patients. Upon completion of the residency, the dentist will be qualified to obtain hospital privileges.

A concise overview of our goals is as follows:

- A. Provide the resident with experiences in general dentistry which will be useful to them in their dental careers.
- B. Maintain an interesting and useful education program for the residents.
- C. Provide good quality patient care.
- D. Prepare Dentists to serve their communities by:
 - 1) Providing community service opportunities.
 - 2) Developing the skills and knowledge to treat special patients
 - 3) Provide a dental teaching rotation to encourage lifelong involvement as dental educators.

Admission Criteria

The admission criteria for the General Practice Dental Residency conform to Department of Veterans Affairs regulations and federal law regarding discrimination. **Applicants for the General Practice Dental Residency Program must meet the following criteria:**

1. Must be a citizen of the United States.
2. Must be a graduate of an ADA accredited Dental School.
3. Must be eligible for a state dental license in any state of the United States of America.

Application Process

Completed applications must be received by November 1. Upon review of the application package, the applicant may be invited for a personal interview.

Materials submitted directly to this Medical Center include:

- Copy of VA form 10-2850B “Application for Residents”
- Personal photograph

Materials submitted to the Post Doctoral Application Support Service (PASS) include:

- Official Transcripts from degree granting dental school
- Letter of recommendation from the Dean with a statement of class standing.
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty members.
- National Board scores.

- Personal statement of plans for your professional career.

Information and application for the General Practice Dental Residency Program may be obtained from:

John C. Ofstehage, D.D.S.
Director, General Practice Residency Program
Dental Service (618/160)
Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Minneapolis, MN 55417-2300
Telephone: 612-725-1946 FAX: 612-727-5669
E-mail: John.Ofstehage@med.va.gov

National Postdoctoral Matching Program

- We participate in the NPMP.

Remuneration

The salary is based on the local Center/Hospital index; the current resident salary is \$43,116.00. A variety of health and life insurance plans are available to the resident and their family.

Accreditation

This program in Hospital Dentistry is accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the council of Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education. Our program is fully accredited without any recommendation or restrictions.

Minneapolis VA Medical

Center Dental Staff

R. Bruce Templeton, D.M.D., M.S.

Chief, Dental Service , full time staff
Chief, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
VA Medical Center
Clinical Professor, University of Minnesota
Diplomate, American Board of Oral and
Maxillofacial Surgery

John C. Ofstehage, D.D.S.

Director, General Practice Residency Program and
Geriatric Dental Program; full time staff
Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Health
Ecology, University of Minnesota School of
Dentistry
Fellow American Hospital Dental Association
Diplomate Special Care Dentistry

David W. Laurin, D.D.S.

Staff Dentist, full time staff
Assistant Clinical Professor, Restorative Sciences
University of Minnesota School of Dentistry
Fellow American Academy of General Dentistry

Mitchell J. Dirnberger, D.D.S.

Staff Dentist, full time staff

Steven Janczak, D.D.S.

Staff Prosthodontist, full time staff
Adjunct Associate Professor, Restorative Sciences
University of Minnesota

Mary E. Brosky, D.D.S.

Staff Prosthodontist, full time staff
Adjunct Associate Professor, Developmental
Surgical Sciences, University of Minnesota

Jeff Carlson, D.D.S.

Periodontist, part time faculty

James Holtan, D.D.S.

Prosthodontist, part time faculty

Richard Bevis, D.D.S., Ph.D.

Orthodontist

Mark Herzberg, D.D.S., Ph.D.

Research

Outline of Teaching Program

Our purpose is to provide the opportunity and environment for the graduate dentist to enhance and perfect the skills and knowledge gained in dental school. The residency will emphasize general dentistry and will provide education and patient care experiences involving the management of patients with a wide range of medical conditions in both the ambulatory and inpatient setting. This hospital-based training program will broaden the resident's knowledge of oral and systemic diseases. It will offer an opportunity to work with other health professionals in a hospital setting and will broaden clinical exposure to medically compromised patients. The residency will enable the graduate of this program to serve his or her community by providing them with the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of special patients. Upon successful completion of the residency the dentist will be qualified to obtain hospital privileges.

The objectives of this Dental General Practice Residency Program are:

1. Provide the resident with meaningful experiences in general dentistry and hospital dentistry which will be useful to them in their dental careers
2. Maintain an interesting and useful educational program for the residents
3. Provide good quality patient care
4. Prepare dentists to serve their communities by developing the skills and knowledge needed to treat special patients

I. ORIENTATION

At the beginning of the residency year, a period of orientation will be provided so that each resident will obtain a working knowledge of the functions and administration of the Medical Center and Dental Service. The following subjects are included in the orientation:

- A. Tour of Medical Center to visit other services and departments for general familiarization.
- B. General policies of the Medical Center related to resident responsibilities.
- C. Standard procedures in the Medical Center related to patient care, including the use of medical records for recording all clinical and laboratory findings, as well as treatment rendered.
- D. General policies and procedures of the Dental Service, such as patient eligibility and on-call responsibilities.
- E. Dental Examination Room procedures, records and policies.

II. ON-SERVICE ROTATION

A. General Clinic Rotation

In this rotation, emphasis is placed on clinical instruction and comprehensive dental care. Experience will be gained in the use of various types of restorative techniques and dental materials, as well as the indications of their use in clinical practice. Formulation of treatment plans and presentation of cases before staff is required. The general clinical rotation includes experiences in the following:

1. Operative Dentistry

Residents gain clinical experience in the utilization of the dental assistant involving four handed dentistry. Experience is gained utilizing impression materials, restorative materials, and adhesive systems.

2. Periodontics/Preventive Dentistry

Periodontal clinical experience involves diagnosis and treatment planning, oral prophylaxis, personal preventive care, scaling and root planing, surgical procedures, and chemo-maintenance therapy.

3. Endodontics

Clinical experience includes the diagnosis and treatment of pulpal and periapical pathology. Residents are exposed to a spectrum of non-surgical and microsurgical procedures, including a variety of canal preparation and obturation techniques.

4. Fixed Prosthodontics

Clinical experience focuses heavily on fixed prosthodontics, including diagnosis, evaluation and treatment planning for the partial dentate patient. Experience is gained through the clinical application of materials handling, tooth preparation, shade selection, and the practical application of theories of occlusion.

5. Removable Prosthodontics

Comprehensive patient care utilizes complete and partial dentures. Experience is gained in diagnosis and treatment planning, impression techniques, framework design, mouth modifications, selection and arrangement of teeth, and the treatment of post-insertion prosthetic problems.

6. Dental Implantology

Clinical experience will be gained in both the placement and restoration of dental implants. Experience is gained in diagnosis and treatment planning, surgical splint fabrication, surgery,

impression technique. Cases may involve fixed restorations or implant supported removable appliances.

7. Orthodontics

Limited orthodontic experience is gained utilizing a variety of fixed and removable appliance treatment modalities.

8. Emergency Dental Care

Residents obtain experience in the diagnosis, triage, patient management and treatment of patients with emergent dental conditions.

9. Consultative Dental Services

Residents will gain experience functioning effectively as members of the hospital's health care team by both answering consults and sending consults in the hospital. Clinical experience includes pre-surgical evaluation of orthopedic and cardiology patients, answering inpatient consults and evaluating dental problems at the request of other services.

10. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

During this rotation, residents are under the direct supervision of Oral Surgery Staff.

a. Inpatient Oral Surgery Care

Residents gain experience in the management of hospitalized patients by performing dentoalveolar surgery in the operating room and the oral surgery clinic. Residents are involved in the management of hospitalized and same-day surgery patients.

b. Outpatient Oral Surgery Care

On an outpatient basis, residents treat a variety of medically compromised patients, including those undergoing radiation therapy. Residents also provide emergent dental care on a routine basis in the oral surgery clinic.

III. OFF SERVICE ROTATIONS

A. Anesthesia

This off-service rotation involves assignment to the Anesthesia Department. The resident assists the anesthesia team on a daily basis during pre-operative evaluation of patients undergoing anesthesia. The resident, under supervision, initiates intravenous blood lines and performs endotracheal intubations. On a daily bases the resident rotates through the operating rooms gaining exposure to the pharmacological principles of anesthesia, familiarity with anesthesia equipment and monitoring systems. Through daily interaction with various anesthesia team members, the GPR gains experience in the perioperative management of surgical patients.

B. Otolaryngology

This off-service rotation involves clinical experience in performing complete head and neck examination with emphasis on tumor detection. The GPR gains experience in the operating room by assisting with head and neck surgery. The GPR attends Tumor Conference in conjunction with the departments of Oral Surgery, Otolaryngology, Speech Pathology, Audiology, and Radiation Therapy.

C. Emergency Medicine and Urgent Care

This is a two-week ambulatory rotation in emergency medicine and urgent care at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. Case mix includes patients with a broad spectrum of complaints ranging from simple musculoskeletal complaints to gravely ill patients with hemodynamic instability and cardiac arrhythmias. There is exposure to the management of acute coronary syndromes, congestive heart failure, coronary vascular accidents, headaches, dermatologic disease, acute abdominal conditions, urologic disease, ophthalmic

emergencies, management of fractures and medical evaluation of psychiatric and dementia related disease.

D. Dermatology

Assignment to this service will further develop the residents' capacity for recognition of oral and per-oral pathology. Residents gain experience in treatment principles including identification, biopsy, and therapeutic treatment of dermatologic lesions. By working with residents and staff, the GPR will gain experience by interacting with and observation of patients in the General Dermatology and Dermatology Surgery Clinics.

E. University of Minnesota School of Dentistry

Residents are assigned to the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry for teaching duties one half day a week for 6 to 10 weeks during the general clinic rotation. In that capacity, they serve as clinical instructors in the Department of Restorative Sciences.

IV. DIDACTIC ACTIVITIES

A. Consultant Seminars

Weekly seminars are presented for the entire dental staff. The consulting staff is comprised of dental and medical professionals from the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, University of Minnesota, and the greater metropolitan private sector.

B. Journal Clubs

Literature reviews are held throughout the residency. Current and historical articles in Endodontics, Periodontics, Prosthodontics, Oral Surgery, and Geriatric Dentistry are reviewed. Residents present in-depth review of articles and their personal critique to professional staff.

C. Dental Grand Rounds

Grand rounds are held on a monthly basis. Residents present clinical cases for diagnosis and treatment planning discussions. Residents and staff review treatment plans, treatment in progress, and treatment outcomes for selected patients.

D. Physical Evaluation Course

Residents attend a lecture and demonstration series in history taking and physical evaluation.

E. Table Clinic

Residents are required to present individual table clinics at the Minnesota Star of the North Dental Meeting. This state dental convention is held in the spring of each year.

F. Critical Review of the Literature

During Grand Rounds all residents must make presentations as assigned reviewing articles which examine the relationship of oral and systemic disease or examine an area of basic research in the field of dentistry.

G. Medical Library

The medical library has a collection of 5000 volumes and currently subscribes to over 450 journal titles. The library information retrieval capabilities have access to over 400 databases. The medical library is a member of local, regional, and national electronic inter-library loan networks.