Advanced Education in
ORAL MEDICINE
A Clinical Continuing Education Program

OVERVIEW
This extended continuing education program is specifically designed for the dentist who wishes to gain a scientific background and additional training in the practice of oral medicine. The educational program will focus on all aspects of Oral Medicine such as diagnostic pathology and radiology pertaining to management of local and systemic diseases of the orofacial region including the mucosa, salivary glands, and the surrounding structures; as well as comprehensive oral health care services for medically complex patients.

Our Philosophy
Since Oral Medicine provides an essential link between dentistry and medicine, practitioners in this field must possess a thorough knowledge of basic physiological and pathological mechanisms that contribute to health and disease. To become competent in the practice of oral medicine, the clinician must perform a proper assessment of patients including history taking and physical examination, and develop a management plan. The management plan must be evidence-based and consistent with standards of care set forth by the scientific literature.

The educational program will include a didactic program designed to provide the participant with the necessary background for the practice of oral medicine. The participant will gain knowledge in several areas including medicine, laboratory diagnostics, oral pathology, oral radiology, oral oncology, orofacial pain, pharmacology, nutrition, special care and geriatric dentistry as well as management of medical emergencies in a dental setting through didactic/clinical exposure at the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine. Based on this philosophy, the participant will have a challenging opportunity to integrate and synthesize basic science and clinical knowledge and apply this information in diagnostic work up, medical risk assessment for dental care and management of oral medicine patients.

PROGRAM DESIGN/OBJECTIVES
The Advanced Education Program in Oral Medicine offers the dentist a collegial environment to accomplish his/her personal objectives. The curriculum is comprised of didactic assignments, clinical experience, intramural rotations, teaching responsibilities. The didactic learning experiences include seminars, lectures, workshops, and self-study activities. Although there is considerable flexibility in the selection and sequencing of the didactic and clinical components, each participant is required to attend didactic sessions designed to provide the necessary background for management of oral medicine patients. An important part of the CE program is the clinical experience, which comprises nearly 50% of the scheduled activities commencing in the first quarter and continuing across the entire program. Included in the program is the option of attendance in basic science and oral biology courses designed to give the student a strong science and analytical foundation applicable to care of oral medicine patients. Participants are also encouraged to complete a paper of publishable quality for submission to
a refereed scientific journal on a topic to be mutually determined by the participant and program director. The participant also has the opportunity to participate in research projects conducted within the department.

SCHEDULE
- This Advanced Education program is an eleven-month experience starting on July 1 each year; Mondays through Fridays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.
- Holidays and vacations coincide with the post-graduate schedule.
- Participants will be allowed five additional vacation days and three sick days.
- The school may also close for severe weather events.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION
- Commitment to improve didactic and clinical knowledge in the field of Oral Medicine.
- Educational background & previous trainings.

COURSE COMPONENTS/DISCIPLINES
The curricular content for the CE Extended Length Program in Oral Medicine are listed below and each requirement is briefly described on the following pages.
- Foundation of Oral Biology (selective/elective)
- Advanced Biomedical Sciences (selective/elective)
- Oral Medicine Seminar Series
- Oral Pathology Seminar Series
- Orofacial Pain Seminar Series
- Clinical Care of Oral Medicine patients (medically complex, oral mucosal disease, orofacial pain)
- Oral Medicine Patient Rounds
- Oral Pathology Experience
- Oral Radiology Experience

**Foundation of Oral Biology and Advanced Biomedical Science for Dentistry:**
These courses, which are a requirement for all postdoctoral graduate students, are given over a two-year period. Because the CE Advanced Education Program is only 11-months, students have the option of auditing any of the courses listed below depending upon scheduling and possible conflicts. Listed below are a few of the postgraduate courses particularly relevant to practice of oral medicine.
- Head and Neck Anatomy
- Pathobiology & Histology
- Oral Medicine & Pathology
- Orofacial Pain
- Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- Embryology & Genetics
Oral Medicine Seminar Series
This seminar series will focus on reinforcing knowledge of topics within the field of Oral Medicine. The curriculum is designed to review the fundamentals with an Emphasis will be placed on applying this information to clinical practice.

Oral Pathology Seminar Series
This program provides a comprehensive review of oral and maxillofacial pathology and consists of introductory presentations, clinical pathologic conferences and histopathologic sessions using a multi-headed microscope. Topics covered in the introductory lectures include evaluation and management of oral mucosal diseases, and evaluation and management of hard tissue conditions affecting maxillofacial region, principles of radiographic interpretation and differential diagnosis of jaw lesions.

Orofacial Pain Seminar Series
This seminar series is offered by the division of Orofacial Pain and focus on reinforcing knowledge of topics within the field of Orofacial and its application to clinical practice. The curriculum is designed to review the fundamentals of Orofacial pain including temporomandibular disorders, musculoskeletal conditions, chemosensory disorders and neuropathic pain disorders.

Clinical Care of Oral Medicine Patients
This provides the participant with the clinical experience in diagnostic work up and management of patients referred to the Oral Medicine Service. As the participant progresses, he/she will obtain patient histories, perform examinations, and participates in care of patients. Direct delivery of oral care to patients is contingent upon participant’s satisfactory clinical performance as determined by the attending faculty. All clinical activities are performed under the direct supervision of the faculty.

Medically complex clinic: The Medically Complex patient clinic provides comprehensive oral/dental care for patients with cardiovascular, renal, immune or hematologic compromise, organ transplantation or head and neck malignancy. Participant will have the opportunity to observe and/or participate in oral care of medically complex patients. Emphasis will be placed on medical risk assessment and necessary dental care modifications to prevent or manage problems with hemostasis, sepsis, adverse drug interactions and ability to withstand dental care.

Oral mucosal diseases clinic: The oral mucosal diseases clinic provides diagnostic assessment including tissue biopsy and hematologic work up, education, preventive oral care, medical therapy and follow-up care for patients with oral mucosal diseases of local and systemic etiology. These include oral manifestations of systemic disease (e.g. leukemia, sarcoidosis, lupus, anemia) and oral complications of chemo/radiotherapy, immune-based (e.g. pemphigus, pemphigoid, lichen planus, erythema multiforme), epithelial (e.g. erythroplakia, leukoplakia, dysplasia), pigmented and reactive oral abnormalities, burning mouth, xerostomia, altered taste and salivary gland disorders. The oral medicine participant will be exposed to comprehensive oral care of these patients through interdisciplinary communication between immunology, rheumatology, dermatology, ophthalmology and oral medicine practitioners.

Orofacial pain: The oral medicine participant will also have the opportunity to attend orofacial pain clinic and observe evaluation and management of patients with temporomandibular disorders, acute and chronic orofacial pain and orofacial neurosensory disorders.
**Special care clinic:** The oral medicine participant will also have the opportunity to attend the special care clinic where faculty and residents evaluate and treat patients with physical, developmental and behavioral disorders.

**Oral Medicine Patient Rounds**
The rounds take place in conjunction with the clinical care sessions providing a forum to review chief complaint, diagnostic work up, laboratory and radiographic findings, histopathology, and management strategy for new and follow-up patients seen by the Oral Medicine Service at the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine.

**Oral Pathology Experience**
Oral Medicine participant will receive advanced training in oral pathology and enhance their diagnostic skills by participating in the oral pathology service at the RSDM. The participant will also learn about tissue processing procedures and slide preparation. The Oral Medicine/Oral Pathology Microscope Conference is held weekly and is a forum for microscopic review of biopsies submitted to RSDM biopsy service as well as interesting cases presented for learning and discussion of histopathology. The goal is to enhance participant’s skills in microscopic interpretation and reaching a definitive diagnosis of diseases affecting oral and maxillofacial region.

The Oral Pathology Quality Assurance and Consensus Conference meet weekly to microscopically review and discuss the challenging cases that have been accessioned in the RSDM Biopsy Service. The participants closely examine the lesions of inflammatory, immune mediated and neoplastic nature as well as other relevant cases for consensus and educational purposes.

**Oral Radiology Experience**
Oral Medicine participant will have the opportunity to attend didactic seminars in diagnostic head and neck radiology discussing x-ray equipment, Digital processing basics, radiation biology, radiation protection principles and radiographic manifestations of local and systemic diseases in the head and neck region. This experience provides the participant with the opportunity to enhance their knowledge in selection and interpretation of standard as well as advanced imaging modalities such as oral radiographs, panoramic radiology, plain films, digital radiography, tomography, sialography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, scintigraphy and cone beam CT. Radiology case review sessions are complementary to radiology seminars and provide an interactive forum to discuss challenging/interesting radiology cases and help reinforce diagnostic radiology principles.

**Division’s Ongoing Academic Activities:**
In addition to didactic core program, the preceptor will have the opportunity to attend in a variety of academic activities offered by the Division of Oral Medicine.

**Division of Oral Medicine Literature Review (Journal Club)**
The journal club is a dynamic forum for critical thinking and examination of pertinent, current scientific literature. Residents and participants in the division of oral medicine will meet regularly to discuss and critique an assigned article with focus on evidence –based practice of dentistry and medicine. Presentations are made by each participant on a rotating schedule.
Tumor Board
A forum where otolaryngology/head & neck surgery, radiology, pathology, radiation/hemat-oncology, oral medicine and dentists meet to discuss comprehensive management of current patients with head and neck cancer. During this multidisciplinary approach, discussion will focus on diagnosis and treatment modalities.

Case Presentation
Residents and participants in the Division of Oral Medicine actively participate in case presentation sessions. This is an opportunity for students to present documented cases related to the dental management of medically complex patients.

Treatment Planning Seminar
Through small group discussions and case-based learning, residents, participants and faculty discuss comprehensive oral/dental management of medically complex patients referred to the Oral Medicine Clinic. The participant will also have the opportunity to attend the weekly treatment planning seminars offered through the Division of Oral Diagnosis aimed at reinforcing relevant concepts to clinical practice.

Advanced Topics in Dental Medicine
A series of post-graduate seminars relevant to medical and dental science are presented by the division faculty or invited speakers. Advanced topics focused on clinical dentistry including endodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics and implant dentistry are presented and discussed in an open forum.

EVALUATION OF PARTICIPANT
For satisfactory completion of the program, the Participant must:

- Complete attendance requirements of the program.
- Demonstrate didactic and clinical knowledge in Oral Medicine as determined by the director and attending faculty in the Division of Oral Medicine.

FACILITIES
The Rutgers School of Dental Medicine is located on the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Newark Campus. The medical and dental schools, graduate school of biomedical sciences, and the University Hospital are grouped together on an attractive campus with convenient private parking.
FACULTY
Department of Diagnostic Sciences

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GARY VITALETTI, DMD
Associate Professor and Director, Division of Oral Diagnosis

RIVA TOUGER-DECKER, RD PhD
Clinical Professor & Director, Division of Nutrition

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Have a DDS/DMD degree or its equivalent from an accredited dental school.
- Payment of non-refundable applicant fee of $200 U.S. (send with application).
- Submission of a completed application form, include:
  Documentation of your Objectives and Goals (see page 2 of this form).
  Curriculum Vitae (attach a small photo if available).
  Copies, verified by your dental school, of your Transcript and Dental School Diploma.
  Two to three original Letters of Recommendation (see page 4 of this form).
- Applicants with foreign degrees will be considered based upon an evaluation of their academic credentials. An original Evaluation Report from one of the following is required:
  Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE); World Education Services (WES);
  Global Language Services, Inc.; or National Assoc. of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES).
- Applicants with English as a second language must attain a TOEFL score of 80 or higher; or an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) overall score of 6 or greater. Submit an original report.
- Although Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and National Board scores are not required, but may be submitted in support of the application.
- Attend a personal interview when possible.
- Be a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States, or a foreign national with a visa status acceptable to the CE program.

Deadline for submission of application: December 1, 2015 for the July 1, 2016 start date.
Further Requirements
Upon notification of preliminary acceptance into the program, the applicant will also be required to:

- Pay a non-refundable deposit of $1,000 (U.S.) within 20 days of notification of acceptance.
- Submit Health and Immunization forms per University policy: “Student Immunization and Health Requirements.” Completed forms must be submitted 2 months prior to the start of the program. Participant may not start their program until they have been cleared by Student Health Services.
- Submit Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification that is valid for duration of program.
- Be cleared by a Background Check; an additional fee is required for this.
- Provide proof of Health Insurance.
- Licensed U.S. Dentists provide proof of Liability Insurance.
- Full tuition is due three (3) weeks prior to the start of the program.

TUITION
The tuition for this Advanced Education program for the academic year 2016-2017 will be a total of $25,000 (US). Some additional fees and expenses may be applicable. A non-refundable deposit of $1,000 is required to hold your place in the program; payment must be received within 20 days of notification of acceptance. Full tuition is due three weeks prior to the start of the program.

CANCELLATION POLICY
To participate in this program you must be pre-registered with the Office of Continuing Dental Education. No refunds of any tuition paid will be made after program has started.

CREDIT
This Advanced Education program offers a unique opportunity for didactic and hands-on clinical experience in the Department of Diagnostic Sciences. It is a non-matriculated, continuing dental education program. If participant completes the program as designed, they will earn 1,430 continuing education credit hours.

HOW TO APPLY
Submit completed application to:
Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
Continuing Dental Education
Attn: Corinne Swass-Fogarty
110 Bergen Street, B701
Newark, NJ 07103

For more information:
Phone: 973-972-6561
Email: cde@sdm.rutgers.edu

Link to the Application Form can be found on this webpage:
http://sdm.rutgers.edu/CDE/advanced_programs/index.html