

Graduate Program in Periodontology and Implant Dentistry at the Faculty of Dentistry, Yeditepe University, Istanbul

The Graduate Program in Periodontology and Implant Dentistry at Yeditepe University, Faculty of Dentistry & Dental Hospital (YUFD) has received first accreditation by EFP in 2005 and is a full time 3-year program with a weekly commitment of 41 to 45 hours.

YUFD has continuously participated in international audits for quality assurance; Faculty of Dentistry has been certified by Association of Dental Education (ADEE) in 2008. In 2009, dental hospital has received the first accreditation from Joint Commission International (JCI), which places special emphasis on the quality of patient services/safety and since then it has continued the monitorization of approximately 1500 rules of JCI accreditation. Regarding American Dental Association (ADA) International Accreditation for educational services, YUFD is currently in the process of final accreditation by Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

The weekly curriculum of EFP-accredited Periodontology Program includes literature and case presentation seminars, tutorials, surgical and non-surgical treatment of patients, attendance to consultant and treatment planning clinics, clinical assistance to surgeries and teaching undergraduate students.

During the first year, students mainly focus on non-surgical periodontal treatment and laser applications, as well as frenectomy, gingivectomy and crown lengthening procedures. Before the performance of any surgical periodontal treatment on patients, students are introduced to surgical instruments and assisted to practice the surgical techniques on study models.

In the second year, they perform non-surgical periodontal treatment on more advanced cases. They are encouraged to develop analytical and diagnostic skills for treating interdisciplinary cases. In terms of surgical periodontal treatment, they focus on more comprehensive periodontal surgeries including reconstructive procedures and soft tissue management. At the end of the second year, students start implant placement, sinus augmentation and acquire experience in Implant Dentistry.

In the third year, besides comprehensive periodontal therapies, they participate more actively in dental implant treatment as well as the restorative follow-up procedures.

In addition to clinical activities, seminar program (lectures, classical and current literature reviews, case reports) is designed to provide detailed information and discussion on various aspects of Periodontology and Implantology through research articles and evidence-based data. The students are expected to present summaries and a critical evaluation of relevant evidence-based articles or texts for group discussions together with a written summary report thereafter.

During the program, the students are responsible to develop and conduct their own research project which could be clinical or in basic science related to Periodontology or a combination. They are also invited to involve in other clinical and laboratory works of the department. By involving in research, they become familiar with the evaluation of scientific literature, formulating research questions and hypotheses, developing and carrying out materials & methods and improving written/verbal skills.

Upon graduation, students are required to present 5 clinical cases (at least one implant) with all aspects of documentation, treatment planning and non-surgical/surgical procedures out of a total of minimum 150 treated patients with various periodontal problems. After passing the required final examinations and successfully defending the thesis in the presence of members of the EFP Board of Examiners, students are entitled to have the European degree.

Program director is Prof. Bahar Eren Kuru; other members of the staff are Assoc. Prof. Ebru Özkan Karaca (co-director), Assoc. Prof. Ogül Leman Tunar, Assist. Prof Tuğçe Ceyhanlı, Dr. Ece Deniz Yarımöğlü Ökten and Dr. Gamze Sezzin.

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