



Tehran University of medical sciences
School of Dentistry
Department of Community Oral Health

About the Department

In 2000, the Secretary of the Council for Dental Education and Postgraduate in Iran recognized Community Oral Health as a postgraduate discipline in dentistry. Tehran University of Medical Sciences started Community Oral Health training in 2001 for undergraduate students. The Department of Community Oral Health currently offers training at undergraduate and post-graduate levels for local students. The program has six full-time academic members who have graduated in Community Oral Health (Ph.D. level) from high-quality international dental schools and two Pediatric Dentistry Specialist. At the international level, two advanced training programs are offered as the post-graduate programs.



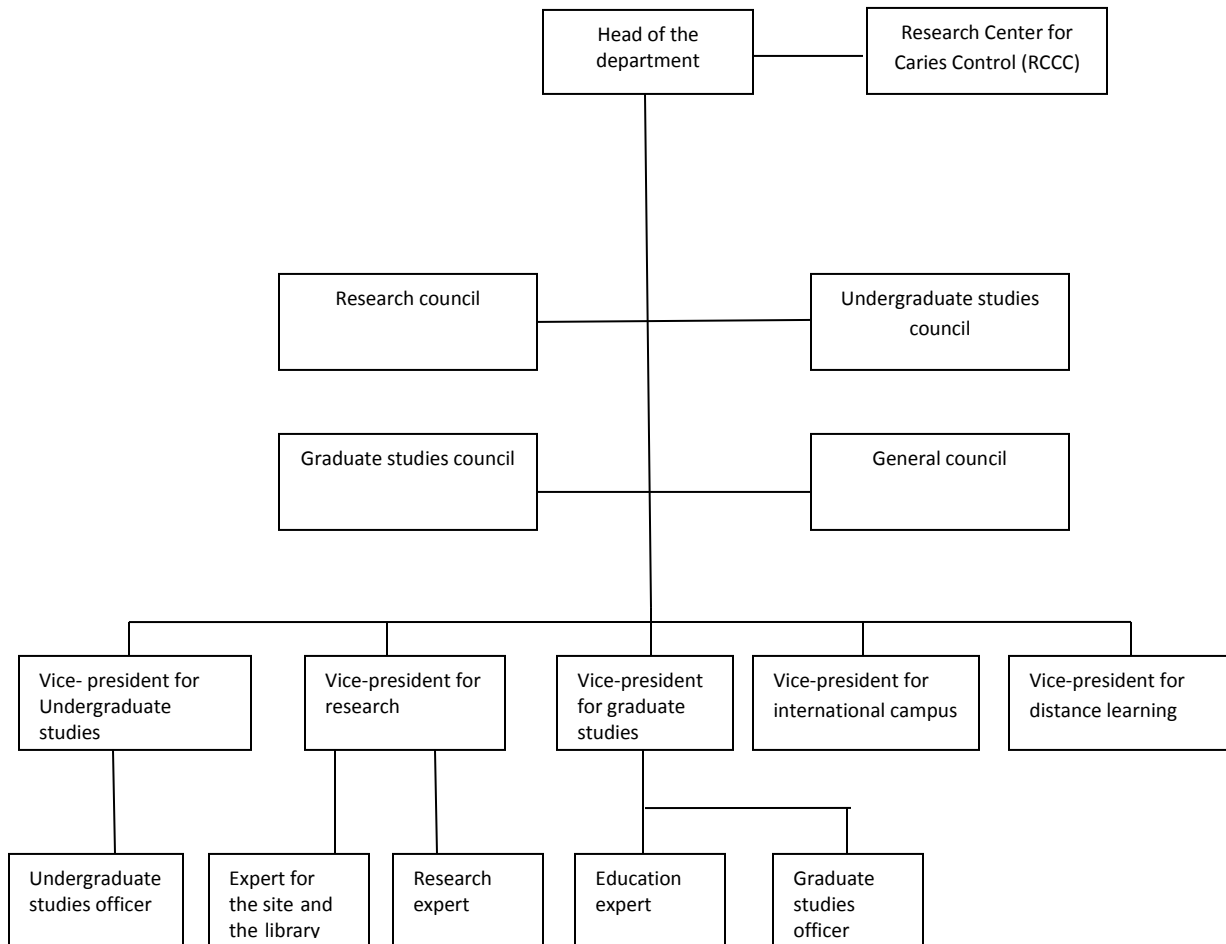
Department Profile

The head for Community Oral Health Department is Dr. Yazdani ; DDS, PhD, associate professor. He is also the head for Research Center for Caries Control (RCCC) which works in accordance to the department's main area of research headlines and in collaboration with other departments such as restorative dentistry, pediatric dentistry and periodontology.

Under supervision of the head, each of the 4 councils of Undergraduate studies, Graduate studies, General and Research are formed depending on the group's needs. All main administrative or research items are devoted to a vice chancellor as the flowchart reveals. Vice-president for graduate studies is Dr. Dr Simin Z. Mohebbi, DDS, PhD, Assistant professor who is the education expert of the group as well as the head for Education and Development Office (EDO) of the dental school. The Vice-president for international campus, research and site expert is Dr Simin Z. Mohebbi, DDS, PhD, Assistant professor who works as Vice-president for undergraduate studies too. Dr. Katayoun Sargeran, DDS, PhD, Assistant professor is responsible for distance learning programs and in collaboration with Dr. Hossein Hessari DDS, PhD, Assistant professor they are presenting MDPH distance learning program soon.



Department Chart



Department's Mission & Vision Statement

Mission

The department's mission is to train individuals, high in knowledge and awareness, believes and practical skills in the international and global standards. In addition the graduates should be highly expert in the field of prevention, dental education and could have crucial role in oral health management and administrative service. The graduates should play an active role in promotion and expansion the frontiers of knowledge and science in community oral health.

Vision

The provision of oral health education, research, support, maintenance and promotion of health in individuals and communities in global standards.



Outline of Courses

At the international level, two advanced training programs are offered as the post-graduate programs.

Degree awarded: Ph.D. in Community Oral Health

Duration: 4 years, full-time

Curricular Design: Training will be provided at the dental school with collaboration of the faculty of Public Health. This program consists of three stages.

Coursework in the first two years consists of 11 complementary (for completion of DDS course and as pre-requisite for compulsory credits) and 29 compulsory credit units. The following two years is devoted to research with 24 study credits including the preparation of an article-based thesis on original research.

The main included subjects are Preventive Dentistry, Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Demography, Medical Ethics and Professionalisms, Health Economics, Health Management and Health Care Systems in the World.

The graduates of the program have the opportunity to work as researchers in research centers, Ministry of Health provincial community health and oral health centers, or to work as academics at the university level.

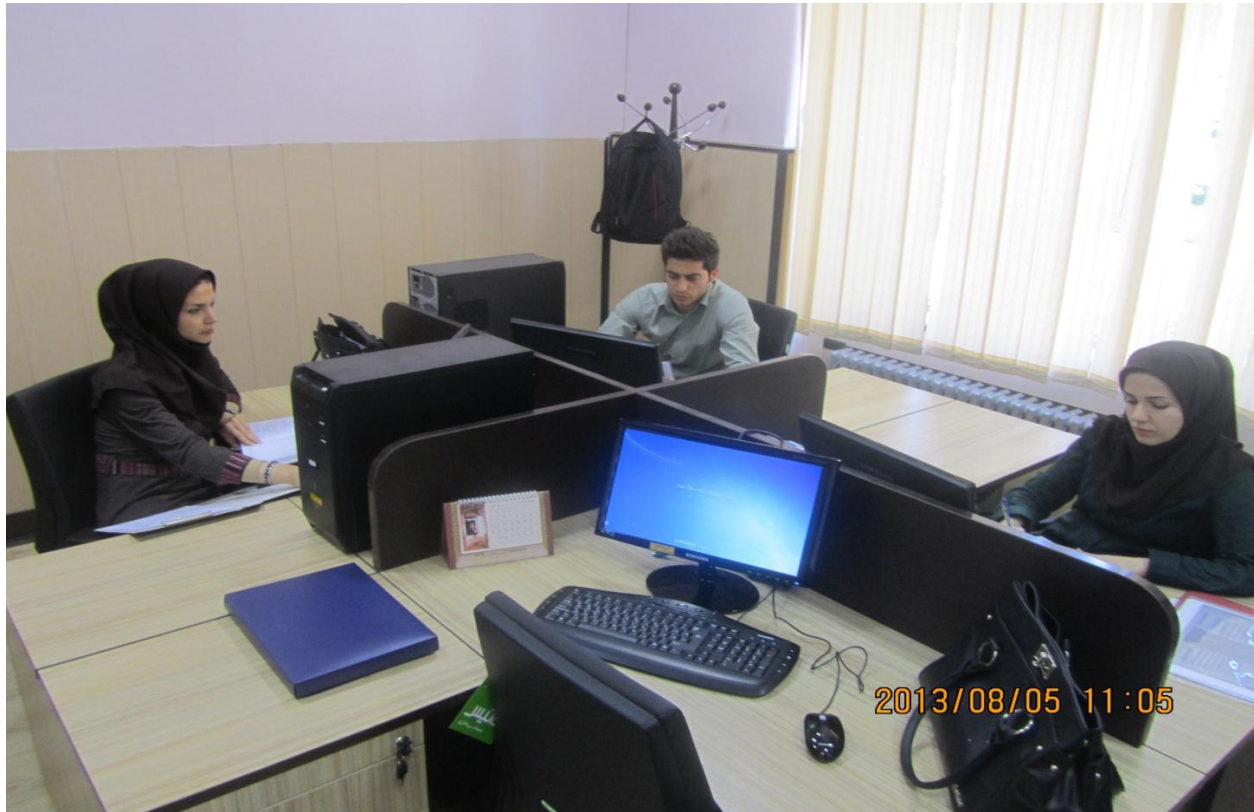
Degree awarded: Masters of Dental Public Health (MDPH)

Duration: 1.5 year, full-time

Curricular Design: All courses will be taken in the School of Dentistry. Some required courses may be taught by the faculty members in Public Health School. The program contains 27 compulsory credits and 5 (out of 12) elective credits in the first year, and four more credits are devoted to the dissertation in the last semester.

The graduates of the program have the opportunity to work in ministry of health provincial community health and oral health centers, or to work as instructors at the university level.

Research Center



Research Center for Caries Control (RCCC) works in accordance to the department's main area of research headlines and in collaboration with other departments such as restorative dentistry, pediatric dentistry and periodontology.

Main Areas of Research of this center include:

- Epidemiological studies of oral health problems (dental caries, periodontal disease, oral cancer, trauma, malocclusion) in different age groups
- Planning and evaluation of oral health promotion programs for populations
- Designing and evaluating dental care delivery systems
- Communicating and collaborating with other health related sectors
- Preparing evidence based oral health promotion guidelines
- Taking advantage of the modern technology to optimize the quality of preventive care
- Evaluating and designing oral health surveillance systems

- Evaluating the need for human resources in oral health care systems
- Evaluating and revising dental curriculums
- Planning and evaluating new educational methods in dental education
- Evidence-based dentistry
- Incorporation of ethical standards and professionalism in oral health activities and education
- Preventive and non-invasive management of caries

Admission & Academic Calendar

The school year at School of Dentistry consists of two semesters: Fall and spring. We are not offering Summer Sessions.

Beginning of Admission Period for Spring Semester 2013-2014 is from August 2013. The graduate's candidates may enroll for the spring semester.

The Spring semester starts from the mid February after the two-week-vacation of Winter. At the beginning the Dean welcomes the new students and then the students go through a tour of the Campus. At the end of the first day they receive a tutorial session on course registration for new students. The following events are beginning of classes and Add & Drop Period. The Spring-Semester Vacation is a two-week national holiday starting on 20th of March. Beginning of Mid-term Examinations, Registration for Fall Semester, Final Examinations Period are flexible for graduate students and will be announced by vice dean for graduate studies.

Beginning of Summer Vacation is commonly on 6th August.

Department's Regulations and Privileges

To be admitted to a graduate program, an applicant must:

- Have a degree of DDS or BDS from an approved institution
- Meet the criteria for admission as established by the program
- English language certificate (TOEFL; minimum score of 550 on the paper-based, 213 on computer-based and 81 on Internet-based test, and 650 on IELTS)
- Three letters of recommendation (including a Dean letter)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Be evaluated and recommended to the Faculty Council by the department in which the training is to be completed;
- Be accepted by the Faculty Council.

Graduate students should master English language in aspects of writing, reading, listening and comprehension. The students should attend the department as full time. In case of their possible absence, they should have informed the post graduate vice dean on occasion.

Professionalism and ethics should be preserved in communication with colleagues, classmates and faculty members.

The students' loans and scholarships are available for the post-graduate students.

Recommended Reference Books

- An international assessment of health care financing-lessons for developing countries (Dunlop, David W)
- Dental Caries, The Disease and its Clinical Management.(Ole Fejerskov and Edwina Kidd)
- Economics of health and healthcare (Followd, Goodman and Stam)
- Essential Dental Public Health. (Daly B, Watt RG, Batchelor P, Treasure ET).
- Epidemiology (Leon Gordis)
- EPIDEMIOLOGY Beyond the Basics (Moyses Szklo)
- Jong's community dental health (Gluck George M)
- Hand book of international health care systems (khi V. Thai)
- Health economics in dentistry (Risto Tuominen)
- Health Economics: Fundamentals and Flow of Funds (Thomas E.Getzen)
- International Profile of Health Care Systems, 2012 (Sarah Thomson, Robin Osborn, David Squires, Miraya Jun)

Picture of School's Library



Examinations



Most subjects are evaluated at least partly by students' works, seminars and projects on certain topics as well as final examination which are mostly deductive.

The students should pass a comprehensive examination on the main taught subjects after the first two years of education to be able to enter the research part of the PhD course.

The graduate degree ends with a thesis defense. At least one month before the defense, two internal reviewers read the final draft of dissertation and give their comments in a pre-defense session. The defense is then accomplished with the presence of two external, two internal and a representative from the University's deputy of education in presence of the graduate student's supervisors and advisors.

FAQS

1. Are scholarships available?

Yes, all candidates may ask for scholarship and most frequently this request is accepted.

2. Is there any facility for international students regarding dormitory?

Yes, Dormitory is available for all students.

3. May anyone attend the post graduate programs by BDS degree?

Yes, it is possible to attend MDPH (Master of Dental Public Health)

4. In which language are the courses held?

All are hold in English.

5. When does the post graduate study year starts?

It usually starts from the mid February.

6. What types of employment opportunities are available to me with a graduate degree in community oral health?

The graduates of the program have the opportunity to work as researchers in research centers, Ministry of Health provincial community health and oral health centers, or to work as academics at the university level.

7. What is the length of time required to complete a degree?

It is at least 4 years for PhD degree and 1.5 for MDPH degree.