



TEHRAN UNIVERSITY  
OF  
MEDICAL SCIENCES

**School of Dentistry**

*Associate of*

**Oral Hygiene Technician  
Curriculum**

## **In the Name of God**

### **Section I:**

**Title: Oral Hygiene Technician**

**Degree: Associate of Science (A.S.)**

### **Introduction**

Dental caries and periodontal disease are among the most common human diseases. World Health Organization determined 17 goals for oral health related issues to be achieved by the year 2020 and asked countries to plan necessary programs in order to improve their community oral health. Training of intermediate personnel is considered as a priority for prevention of oral disease among people, especially target groups. The provision of oral health services and education by them is at the first level of prevention and makes possible preventive care services in the health centers of network system.

### **Definition**

The field of Oral Health Technician is a parodontal discipline. It was launched as a new field in order to train skilled manpower to improve the level of community awareness about oral health and the prevention of oral and dental disease.

### **The Aim of the Course**

The purpose of this program is to train expert and skilled personnel in order to:

- Increase the public awareness of the community, especially target groups, in maintaining healthy teeth.
- Teach the correct method of tooth brushing, gum massage and the use of hygiene products in face-to-face and group training of people.
- Scaling and surface root planning correctly for the covered population, especially target groups
- Simple studies to assess the current status of oral health in the community and report its descriptive results.
- Cooperate in the implementation of national oral health programs.
- Assist the dentist in dental clinics.
- Manage infection control and co-operate its running in the dental services centers.
- Provide healthy nutrition education to target groups.
- Perform students' school entrance examinations and periodic examinations, and provide results to the school authorities and the head of the oral health team (dentist).
- Teach various fluoride application methods and fluoride therapy for target groups.

### **The vision**

The vision of this discipline is to play a major role in improving oral health indicators. Following the development of oral health care insurance coverage, it is expected that training of them at a much lower cost than therapist can reduce the burden of dental caries and periodontal diseases in the community.

## **The mission**

The mission of this training period is to educate the personnel that are aware of the scientific issues, capable, responsible and sensitive to the health of individuals and society in the field of oral health, which has the ability to develop oral health culture in the community and provide preventive services for them with priority of target groups. Oral health technician plays a major role in preventive care and oral health education as an important member of the oral health team. Providing this role can be found in health centers, school, kindergarten, centers for looking after targeted groups, especially the elderly and the poor, and centers for providing oral health services and other centers. Their subordinate role is to assist the dentist in providing dental services.

## **General Competencies**

The general competencies expected for graduates include communication skills, health education, collaborative research and writing reports, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, managerial and executive skills, and professionalism.

## **Specific Competencies and Skills (Special Qualifications)**

Specific Competencies and Skills expected for graduates of this field include:

- Screening in professional settings such as oral health care centers, maternal and child health centers, schools and kindergartens, disability and elderly care centers, population centers for target groups
- Preventive services for children and mothers
- Communication skills with professional, age, sexual and demographic groups
- Communication skills with organizations, institutions and social media
- Oral health education for community members
- Physical and psychological well-being of the work environment to improve the safety of patients
- Use of materials, equipment and specific equipment based on duties
- Measuring oral health indicators including CPITN, OHI, dmft, DMFT

## **Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques**

This program is based on following strategies:

- Task based education
- Program based education
- Evidence based education
- Discipline with thematic integration if needed
- A combination of student based and professor based techniques
- Community oriented education
- Systematic education

The following methods and techniques will be used in this course:

- Modern lectures along with slideshows and films by attracting students through questions and answers.
- Education in the field
- Focus group discussions
- Workshop training in the form of theoretical training along with teamwork and doing the assignments and expected practical work
- Report specific items and discussions
- Education in pre-clinic and department
- Use distant education teaching techniques
- Participate in teaching lower level students
- Self-education, self-study
- Another methods and training techniques according to the needs and educational objectives

### **Student Assessment**

Students will be assessed in the following ways:

Written

Verbally

Computer interactive test

Objective structured clinical examination (OSCE)

Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS)

360 degree evaluation

Portfolio assessment includes a log book, evaluation of the tests results, articles, encouragements, hints, certifications, and so on.

The frequency of evaluations is continuous, annual, periodic and final.

### **Number and Type of Credits and Tables of the Courses (including compulsory and optional [elective] courses)**

The number of credits of this program is 68 credits which will be passed in two years. It is included compulsory specific courses (33 credits) plus some general and basic ones (23 credits) and 12 credits of internship.

### **Basic science courses of Oral health technician**

Code	Course name	No. of credits	Educational duration (hours)			
			theoretical	practical	total	Prerequisite
1.	Immunology	1	17	-		-
2.	Biochemistry	1	17	-		-
3.	General and Oral pathology	2	26	17		-
4.	Physiology	2	34	-		-
5.	Oral Anatomy	1	9	17		-
6.	Microbiology	1	17	-		-
7.	Oral Histology	2	34	-		-
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>				

code	Course name	No. of credits	Educational duration (hours)				
			Theoretical	Practical	Workshop	Internship	Prerequisite
8.	Patient safety	1	17	-	-	-	-
9.	Introduction to the basics of the health system	1	17	-	-	-	-
10.	Statistics and Epidemiology and Research Methodology	1	-	-	51	-	-

11.	Basics of Oral diseases and Health Care	1	17	-	-	-	-
12.	Oral health Pre clinic	2	-	-	102	-	-
13.	Principles of Sociology	1	17	-	-	-	-
14.	Dental services (1)	1	-	-	51	-	-
15.	Dental services (2)	1	-	-	51	-	Dental services (1) code14
16.	Clinical pharmacology	1	17	-	-	-	-
17.	Community dentistry	1	17	-	-	-	-
18.	Health education methods and technologies	1	-	-	51	-	-
19.	Nutrition in oral health	1	17	-	-	-	-
20.	Theoretical oral health (1)	2	34	-	-	-	-
21.	Theoretical oral health (2)	2	34	-	-	-	Theoretical oral health (1) code20
22.	Practical caries prevention (1)	2	-	68	-	-	Oral Anatomy code 05, Oral health pre clinic code12
23.	Practical caries prevention (2)	2	-	68	-	-	Patient safety code08, Practical caries prevention (1) code 22, Infection control code 27
24.	Practical periodontal diseases prevention (1)	2	-	68	-	-	Oral Anatomy code 05, Pre clinic oral health code 12

				<b>68</b>			<b>Patient safety code 08, Practical periodontal diseases prevention (1) code 24, Infection control code 27</b>
<b>25.</b>	<b>Practical periodontal diseases prevention (2)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>26.</b>	<b>First Aid</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>27.</b>	<b>Infection control</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>28.</b>	<b>Basic of prevention in oral health</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>29.</b>	<b>Health Center Management</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>30.</b>	<b>Dental Equipments and Dental Materials</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>31.</b>	<b>Dental Anatomy and Morphology</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>32.</b>	<b>Communication Skills</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>33.</b>	<b>Internship</b>	<b>12</b>				<b>612</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>total</b>		<b>45</b>					

### **Ethical issues**

The graduates should,

- Observe the Patient's Bill of Rights<sup>1</sup> when working with the patients.
- Strictly observe Biosafety and Patient Safety Rules\* concerning the patients, personnel and workplace.
- Observe the Rulebook for Dress Code<sup>2</sup>.
- Strictly observe the Regulations of Working with the Laboratory Animals<sup>3</sup>.
- Carefully preserve resources and equipment.
- Truly respect faculty members, the staff, classmates and other students and work for creating an intimate and respectful atmosphere.
- Observe social and professional ethical considerations in criticism.

- Adhere to research ethics in conducting research in the field.

1, 2 and 3 are contained in the Enclosures.

\* Biosafety and Patient Safety Rules will be set out by the Educational Departments and will be available to the students.