

# METHODS TO MEASURE AND CERTIFY THE ATTAINMENT OF CLINICAL COMPETENCIES AS STATED IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM BY THE DENTAL COUNCIL OF INDIA

The institution is committed to providing unsurpassed skills in clinical and academic domains to their students during their training program. Students should acquire adequate knowledge, necessary skills and reasonable attitudes that are required for practicing general dentistry which are assessed regularly.

## ATTAINMENT OF COMPETENCIES

The students are trained to manage, plan, and treat a wide variety of dental problems. These students are trained during their preclinical years (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> BDS) in a simulation laboratory (preclinicals) for dental subjects. They are trained in carving a tooth, manipulation of dental materials, preparation of cavities and restoration, making impressions, pouring a cast, fabrication of denture base and custom tray, occlusal rims, teeth setting, and processing of complete dentures.

During their clinical years (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> BDS), they are posted in medical subjects (General Medicine & General Surgery) and dental departments. In dental departments, students are permitted to engage in clinical work only after they have demonstrated a satisfactory level of knowledge that is assessed by discussions and viva voce. Seminars are held in all departments while communication skills are fine-tuned during their health talk. Students are trained in recording case history, establishing differential and provisional diagnosis, processing and interpreting of radiographs followed by arriving at final diagnosis. In addition, they are also trained in identifying lesions of oral cavity (hard and soft tissues), preparing and restoring cavities, administering local anesthesia and extraction of teeth, hand scaling, and fabricating dentures among other dental procedures under the guidance of faculties in all the departments under the guidance of faculties in all the departments.

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## <mark>Sri Venkateshwaraa Dental College</mark>

(Recognized by Dental Council of India ; Affiliated to Pondicherry University)

(A Unit of Ramachandra Educational Trust)

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### ASSESSMENT

Formative: This is done to evaluate the students' knowledge and skills acquired through-out the year. Internal assessment examinations are held periodically. In addition, students are also assessed for their communication and patient management skills during a brief chair side viva, that also includes their ability to establish a provisional/final diagnosis and appropriate treatment plan during clinical assessments. The OSCE provide a comprehensive picture of a student's knowledge of clinical concepts and areas of strength and weakness.

Summative: Students of all years appear for their university exams at the end of their academic year.

#### MEASUREMENT OF ATTAINMENT OF CLINICAL COMPETENCIES

**Written Examination**: Internal Assessment examinations are conducted in a pattern similar to university exams. The theory paper consists of a long essay, a short essay and MCQs.

**Practical/Clinical Examination**: OSPE/OSCE, spotters, case history recording, brief chair-side viva on case history and treatment advised/rendered followed by viva voce. In addition, marks are also allotted for record completion, projects and community visits.

For OSPE students were asked to answer questions based on specimens provided at each station. The specimens comprise of clinical photographs, intraoral radiographs, schematic diagrams, dental instruments and graphs among others The knowledge & skills evaluated are: History taking, Critical reasoning, Procedures and Techniques, Communication, and, Establishing provisional/final diagnosis. During the pandemic, it was decided by the institute that clinical examination for one batch will be conducted on a simulation mode.

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