

7.2 Best Practices

Best practice 1

Title: Evidence based dentistry and use of research in clinical practice

Objectives:

- To provide evidence supported dental practice
- To convey quality patient care based on the sound scientific literature
- To resolve problems in the clinical practice.
- To achieve excellence in patient care.
- To dissolve the variations in patient care and assist with successful decision making
- To bridge the gap between the research and practice

The Context: Evidence based practice has become the key to success in dental practice

- Dentistry has constantly been dependent on research to support the clinical practice and make sound decisions.

- In the process of teaching, the faculty members advocate the use of appropriate research strategies. The best data bases are selected and researches with the most promising outcomes are utilized to guide the under graduate and post graduate students.

The Practice: The college encourages its students to use the five step process in their daily clinical practice in the hospital:

1. Formulating the clinical question.
2. Collection of clinical data relevant to the question.
3. Critical review of the data to select the sound evidence.
4. Utilization of the evidence with the student's own expertise and taking into consideration - the patient's condition, available healthcare resources, and the patient's preferences, before implementing the decision.
5. Assessment of the clinical outcome, as a product of research based decisions.

Evidence Of Success: The orthodontic practice in a clinical set up is improved by the integration of evidence based methods. The use of sound and supported literature improved the student's confidence in their skill, adaptability in the clinic, provoked critical thinking and better decision making.

Problem Encountered: Time management in a clinical setting proved to be challenging. Also, issues regarding access to sound research data were a problem yet to be overcome.

Best practice 2

1. **Title of the practice:** Encouraging the Under Graduate and Post Graduate students to actively participate in table clinic, paper and poster presentation at national and international conferences.

2. Objectives:

- The task of presenting requires the students to update their knowledge on the concerned topic in a scientific and skilled manner.
- The students must use their critical thinking and innovative skills in attempt to master their subject.
- The presentations are to be made under specific guidelines provided by the scientific committee, which instigates discipline and a flair for scientific methodologies.
- The preparation for the presentation enables the students to interact with the faculty and their colleagues.
- The presentations bring out the leadership skills and a healthy spirit of competition, which adds value to their personality.

3. **The context:** the need for orator skills, leadership qualities and an appreciation for scientific methodology is key in any post graduate or under graduate student. Scientific presentations offer several advantages to the students, such as-

- development of critical thinking and innovation skills
- improves knowledge and understanding of the subject
- provides an opportunity to refurbish one's knowledge and stay up to date.
- gives the students a chance to interact with students of other colleges and build friendships
- a holistic development of the student personality

4. **The Practice:** the teachers and students must acknowledge the importance of scientific presentations and appreciate its benefits such as team spirit, decision making, and constructive use of time, exploring newer researches, self confidence and critical thinking in clinical scenarios.

5. **Evidence of success:** The students have shown keen interest in researching for newer topics for presentation. The search for these topics has introduced them to innovations in the dental fields. A critical evaluation of these methods have helped them developed a scientific approach, which can aide their clinical practice.

6. **Problems encountered and resources required:** The problems faced are-

- time management issues
- Increase in cost of registration in scientific conferences is hindering student opportunity.

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