

Institute of Dental Sciences, Sehora, Jammu

Graduate attributes

The skill and qualities of the new graduate have been grouped in the 5 domains of professionalism, scientific knowledge, patient care, dental profession, systems of health care and the society.

Professionalism:

On graduating BDS, graduates will have developed:

1. The ability to apply practice skills and a recognition of their importance in health care. A critically reflective approach to practise dentistry based on current evidence;
2. Self-awareness, the ability to recognise when clinical problems exceed their knowledge and skill, and a willingness to seek help and/or to refer;
3. The ability to negotiate appraisal, performance review or assessment and face criticism constructively.
4. The ability to manage uncertainty;
5. To apply effective time management and organisational skills;
6. The ability to maintain their own physical, emotional, social and spiritual health and a recognition of the importance of professional support in this process;
7. To apply appropriate strategies of stress management to oneself, to patients and to the dental team.
8. The ethical principles and legal responsibilities involved in the provision of dental care should be understood.
9. Skills to use contemporary information technology for documentation including patient records, communication, management of information and applications related to health care.

Scientific Knowledge:

On graduating BDS, graduates will have developed:

1. To recognise the difference between normal and pathological conditions relevant to clinical dental practice;
2. Skills to analyse oral health as it relates to symptoms, signs and pathology;
3. Ability to diagnose and treat anomalies and illnesses of the teeth, mouth, jaws and associated structures;
4. Skills to provide treatment options based on the best available information;
5. Understand pharmacology and therapeutics relevant to clinical dental practice and be familiar with pharmacology in dental practice.
6. Scientific principles of sterilisation, disinfection and antisepsis and infection control;
7. Knowledge of the hazards of ionising radiations and radiation protection and dose reduction and their effects on biological tissues.
8. New knowledge from all sources, to analyse and interpret it in a critical manner, and to apply it appropriately in the provision of oral health care
9. Knowledge of the moral and ethical responsibilities involved in the provision of care to individual patients, to populations and communities;
10. Understand basic principles of practice administration, financial and personnel management to a dental practice.

Patient care:

On graduating BDS graduates will have developed:

1. The ability to communicate with patients from diverse backgrounds including the ability to listen to, respond to, and provide appropriate information to patients.
2. The ability to identify patient expectations, desires and attitudes during treatment planning and provision of treatment;
3. Skills to manage and the potential impact of chronic illness and disability on the patient's oral health;
4. To obtain a thorough dental, medical and social history and perform an accurate oral examination;
5. The ability to integrate and interpret clinical findings for appropriate diagnosis or differential diagnosis;

6. To formulate an evidence-based and cost effective treatment plan in collaboration with the patient and appropriate dental procedures effectively and safely, with due regard for the patient's comfort including during emergency procedures.
7. Ability to predict, prevent and correct deficiencies in patients' oral hygiene regimens and provide patients with strategies to control undesirable habits affecting the maintenance of oral and general health;
8. Skills to alleviate pain and provide appropriate treatment outcomes (physical comfort).

Dental profession:

On graduating BDS graduates will have developed:

1. Understanding the spectrum of dental training and the various roles and expertise of different dental and oral health practitioners and their interaction.
2. The ability to apply the principles of ethics in the provision of health care and research
3. The ability to be an active participant in professional organizations.
4. Maturity and responsibility to maintain standards of dental practice at the highest level throughout a professional career;
5. The process of lifelong learning and accept that continuing professional development is required for professional growth.

Systems of health care:

On graduating BDS graduates will have developed:

1. Knowledge of the roles, responsibilities and expertise of all health professionals, and how they work in teams to deliver health care, the ability to communicate effectively with them.
2. Knowledge of the principles of efficient and unbiased allocation and use of finite resources in especially in the public oral health care systems;
3. The ability to work effectively as a dentist within a quality and safety framework including the ability to recognise, respond to and learn from adverse events;
4. The ability to maintain and keep high quality records;
5. Shaping health and oral health care systems locally, nationally and internationally;
6. Provision of continuity, coordination and integration of oral health care to the individual patient and to the community.

The society

On graduating BDS graduates will have developed:

1. Ability to contribute to their communities wherever they choose to live and work;
2. Knowledge of the determinants of a 'healthy society' and the economic, political, psychological, social and cultural factors that contribute to the development and persistence of oral health and illness;
3. Skills of oral health promotion including primary and secondary prevention;
4. Willingness and ability to contribute to the oral health education of the community;
5. Knowledge of the history, cultural development and the burden of oral disease in different populations and geographic locations in India.
6. The ability to plan local, regional and national consequences of health care issues;
7. The ability to respect community values, including an appreciation of a diversity of backgrounds and cultural value.
8. The relationship between environmental issues and the oral health and health of local communities and society.