POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM IN PERIODONTOLOGY

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Faculty involved in the MAS of Advanced Studies in Dentistry (see there)
This program comprises a three-year course including an elective period in an accredited practice, which enables the successful postgraduate student to practice periodontal and implant therapy on a specialist level.

The course consists of seminars and tutorials in the form of group discussions, which include an extensive review of the literature, treatment of patients referred by general practitioners for specific periodontal disease problems, and research within the field of periodontology.

An integral part of the specialty program is the participation in the courses leading to a Masters degree of advanced studies in dentistry (Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Dentistry). The MAS program is conducted at a part-time level over 4 semesters. It consists of taught modules, as well as a research component in oral biology leading to a Masters thesis.

The Swiss Society of Periodontology (SSP) and the Swiss Society of Odontology (SSO) officially recognize the program. At the end of the three-year program, the candidate may obtain the Swiss federal title of Specialist in Periodontics, by passing the federal board examinations.

Candidates must have a degree in dentistry equivalent to the Swiss federal diploma in dentistry and must have a good knowledge of the French and English languages.

1. Global Objectives

By the end of the program candidates will be expected to demonstrate:

- Intensive knowledge of sciences basic to dentistry in general and periodontology in particular
- Intensive knowledge of clinical periodontics
- A broad knowledge of all aspects of clinical and public health dentistry
- A broad knowledge of clinical medicine and surgery of the interactions of oral and systemic diseases and of the management of the medically compromised patient
- Appropriate attitude to ethical and societal issues, and the place of dentistry in the health care spectrum
- Clinical expertise in the presentation, diagnosis and management of all known diseases and disorders of the periodontium
- Clinical expertise in diagnosis, case selection treatment planning and surgical aspects of oral implantology
- Skill in evaluating scientific literature, in posing pertinent research questions and hypotheses, in experimental design, and in the prosecution and communication of a research project.

2. Seminars/tutorials

This part of the program is designed to provide detailed information and discussion of the literature related to the various topics. Where possible, reading lists will be provided. The student will be expected to present summaries and a critical evaluation of relevant articles or texts for group discussion.

This part of the program consists of six elements:
1. **Graduate Seminar Series**
   Format: Weekly seminars
   Total series consists of approximately 60 seminars (60 hours).

2. **Graduate Seminars on the classical periodontal literature and related fields**
   Format: Weekly seminars, alternating with clinical seminars (case presentations)
   Total series consists of approximately 40 seminars (80 hours).

3. **Clinical Seminars (case presentations)**
   Format: Weekly seminars, alternating with literature seminars
   Total series consists of approximately 20 seminars (40 hours).

4. **Journal Club: review of the current periodontal literature and related fields**
   Format: Evening sessions on a monthly basis
   Reviewed journals include:

5. **Master of Advanced Studies in Dentistry**
   Format: Weekly seminars during 4 semesters
   Total series consists of approximately 200 hours.

6. **Participation in selected continuing education courses and congresses of professional societies.**

3. **Subject matter**

   The graduate periodontal seminars and the seminars on the classical periodontal literature are coordinated to cover the same subjects at the same time, complementing each other. Teaching in the **first year** focuses on the etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, epidemiology and non-surgical therapy of periodontal diseases. The seminars in the **second year** focus on all surgical aspects of periodontal therapy. The seminars in the **third year** focus on implant therapy.

   Teaching in the context of the **Master of Advanced Studies in Dentistry** program is focused on general oral biology, research methodology and biostatistics, multidisciplinary approach subjects and maxillofacial diagnostic imaging.

4. **Evaluation**

   Throughout the program the participants are evaluated repeatedly as follows:

   4.1 **Specific periodontal subjects:**

   First year:
   - Clinical examination: Scaling and root planing
   - Oral examination on treatment concepts, instruments and procedures and the content of the Lindhe textbook.
• Structured oral presentation of one hour by each candidate of a subject in the context of the graduate seminar series.
• Structured formal case presentations and discussion in the context of the clinical seminars.

Second year:
• Clinical examination: Surgical periodontal intervention (flap surgery)
• Structured oral presentation of one hour by each candidate of a subject in the context of the graduate seminar series.
• Structured formal case presentations and discussion in the context of the clinical seminars.

Third year:
• Clinical examination: Implant placement
• Structured oral presentation of one hour by each candidate of a subject in the context of the graduate seminar series.
• Structured formal case presentations and discussion in the context of the clinical seminars.

4.2 Master of Advanced Studies in Dentistry

In the master of advanced studies in Dentistry program, the candidate is subject to a written exam at the end of each semester (4 exams in total).

4.3 Case reports

Each student is required to fully document each phase of treatment. Before the commencement of therapy the student presents his/her cases in the clinical seminar, to discuss the treatment plan. During the second and third year, students will be required to present the various phases of treatment of their patients within the group.

Formal written case reports should be completed for 8 patients according to the guidelines given by the Swiss Society of Periodontology by the end of the 3rd year.