

D A PANDU MEMORIAL R V DENTAL COLLEGE, BENGALURU
INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAM

'Undergraduate research program' represents an area of institutional distinctiveness.

Background:

A systematic and sustainable research program was introduced for the undergraduate (UG) students from the Department of Public Health Dentistry for the last 15 years. The program had got greater momentum in 2011 as evident by quality paper presentations, publications, research grants and awards by undergraduates.

As there is "No research without action and no action without research", every research undertaken reaches its logical conclusion.

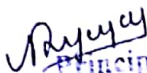
The faculty team is strongly oriented and well trained towards "Health Professional Education Research" and "Health Promotion research". In the last 5 years, there were 15 research projects on various aspects of curriculum. The research projects of primary benefit to the institution and the student community are undertaken.

The students are encouraged to develop innovative oral health promotional material. Also, innovative edutainment modules such as board games, 3-D books, card games, magnetic games and so on have been developed to train children on oral health.

Structure of the UG research Program:

The final BDS students apply for the research program, establish objectives, end goals and mention their choice of the mentor. The students are assessed for their research aptitude. Following a mutual discussion between students and the faculty, the students are then allocated to the 3 faculty research guides in the department.

Each staff, depending on their area of expertise, interest and need of the institution/ student, zeroes in on the research topic. The faculty members work towards establishing camaraderie, a sense of ownership and belongingness in the team. The students are then gently led through the research process incorporating the principles of adult learning at every stage.


Principal
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The research project is undertaken for seven to nine months. The students are hand held through the experiential learning process. The emphasis is laid on understanding the concepts of research, documentation, timeliness and quality of work.

Quality assurance process:

Three presentations are made during the course of the project:

1. To the Institutional Review Board
2. In Public defence of synopsis
3. In Public defence of completed research project

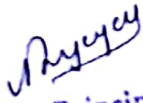
These measures ensure that the students understand the weightage and relevance of the project and are motivated to give in their best as a team for the project to be successful.

Measured outcomes of the research program:

The research program has motivated the students and has improved their aptitude towards practicing evidence-based dentistry. Success of the program is evident as:

- 26 paper presentations by the undergraduates in the last 5 years; 12 of them have won the Best paper awards at various scientific conferences.
- Two research projects were selected for ICMR STS grants, 2015-16.
- 5 students have taken up dental public health related careers in research, completed their internship from prestigious Institutions such as WHO, Geneva; WHO Regional Office, India, SOCHARA and such others.
- 5 publications based on the UG research done so far
- 8 manuscripts are getting translated into publications

(For details, Please check 7.3.1.2, Any other information).


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