

GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY IN DENTISTRY

The VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System offers a one-year General Practice Residency (GPR) in Dentistry. The GPR dental program is fully accredited by the American Dental Association and is affiliated with the University of Michigan Hospital and the University of Michigan School of Dentistry.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

GOALS

The overall goal of the General Practice Residency at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System (VA) is to prepare the dentist to be better able to manage the oral health needs of a wide variety of ambulatory and hospitalized patients. More specifically, the dentist who completes the program will be able to:

1. Display advanced knowledge and skills in emergency and multidisciplinary comprehensive health care and put them to use in assessing, diagnosing and planning treatment for both routine and complex cases.
2. Provide and manage comprehensive patient focused care that is coordinated by the general practitioner and includes health promotion and disease prevention for a wide variety of patients, including patients with special needs.
3. Function in a hospital environment and communicate effectively within interdisciplinary health care teams.
4. Obtain informed consent by accurately assessing the health of a patient and making an informed judgment on the risk of dental procedures.
5. Achieve a more meaningful formulation of career goals, and broaden or focus his/her interests in the field of dentistry.
6. Gain advanced knowledge and broaden interest in community service, teaching, and continuing education.
7. Demonstrate enhanced skills in continual self-assessment and professional improvement.

For more information, contact:

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

The Ann Arbor VA General Practice Residency in Dentistry is designed to provide education and experience at the postdoctoral level to the recent dental school graduate. Patient care experience encompasses a wide range of patients. These include non-medically compromised as well as medically compromised patients, both ambulatory and non-ambulatory. The General Practice Residents provide comprehensive dental care to patients with emphasis on the diagnosis of oral and maxillofacial disease and the thorough assessment of patients' general health and functional ability. While the majority of patients are ambulatory outpatients, this hospital-based program also provides training in hospital protocol with experience in the administrative and clinical management of the hospitalized patient.

The dental resident will enhance his/her knowledge and skills in all phases of dentistry through clinical and didactic training. Advanced experience and knowledge is gained in all of the disciplines of dentistry such as endodontics, geriatrics, implants, oral surgery, periodontics, prosthodontics, restorative and pediatric dentistry. The clinical activities take place at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, the University of Michigan Health System, and University of Michigan School of Dentistry. The majority of the resident's time is spent at the VA dental clinic performing comprehensive dentistry on ambulatory outpatients with supervision from full and part-time faculty. The patients treated by the general practice residents often present with complex dental treatment needs that require expertise in many dental disciplines to appropriately diagnose and treat. These patients also have a wide range of medical conditions that need to be considered prior to treatment.

Training and experience in medicine and dental specialties is gained during off-service rotations such as Anesthesiology, Oral Surgery/Oral Medicine, Outpatient Medicine, Internal Medicine, ENT, TMJ, and Pediatric Dentistry. The interaction during these rotations with physicians and other health care professionals in the hospital setting is a valuable experience.

The didactic portion of the program includes weekly and monthly seminars by University of Michigan Faculty and VA faculty, approximately ten post-graduate continuing dental education courses, webinars, and courses in advanced cardiac life support and physical diagnosis.

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AFFILIATION

The VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System General Practice Residency is affiliated with the University of Michigan, a major teaching and research institution with a more than 50-year history of affiliation with the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. Residents attend formal courses at both the University of Michigan School of Dentistry (one mile away) and the University Health System (one half mile away).

Medical staff and dental staff in the departments of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Pediatric Dentistry and Hospital Dentistry are responsible for supervision and training at the University of Michigan Hospital. A variety of faculty provide didactic and clinical teaching at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry.

The oral surgery, general dentistry in the operating room, pediatric, TMJ and after hour emergency room rotations at University of Michigan Hospital provide experience and training in hospital protocol, inpatient management, operating room procedures, risk assessment and both dental and medical emergency treatment. Pediatric dentistry, teaching, and oral medicine rotations are also provided through the School of Dentistry affiliation.

RESOURCES

AN OVERVIEW OF VA SYSTEM

The Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) manages the largest integrated health care system in America. VA is a world leader in its treatment of many areas, including prosthetics, spinal cord injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, and traumatic brain injury.

THE VA ANN ARBOR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Ann Arbor VA serves veterans in southeastern Michigan and northwestern Ohio, excluding the Detroit area. Community-Based Outpatient Clinics in Toledo, Flint, Canton, Adrian, and Jackson are satellite clinics of the Ann Arbor VA, providing ambulatory care to veterans in those areas. Ann Arbor VA serves as a major tertiary care referral center for all of Michigan and northern Ohio, providing specialized services such as open heart surgery, cardiac catheterization, alcohol treatment, neurosurgery, CT and MRI scanning, spinal cord injury outpatient treatment, cochlear implants and interventional radiology.

DENTAL SERVICE

Clinical dental activities are performed in the Ann Arbor VA Dental Clinic, which includes an Oral Surgery Suite and a fully equipped and staffed dental laboratory. VA dental staff includes five full-

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time dentists, two part-time dentists, three hygienists, nine dental assistants, three dental laboratory technicians, one program assistant, front desk staff, and two to four general practice residents. Additional expertise in patient care and resident supervision comes from consultants in oral surgery, periodontics, maxillofacial prosthodontics, and from a number of consultants representing the full range of the dental specialties.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

The University of Michigan School of Dentistry is one of the nation's leading dental schools engaged in oral health care education, research, patient care and community service. A wide variety of resources are available to the GPR including access to faculty and research opportunities.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH SYSTEM

The University of Michigan Health System is home to one of the largest health care complexes in the world. Today, the University of Michigan Health System continues to be on the cutting edge of research and patient care. This nearby facility provides the dental resident with the opportunity to function and learn in an additional teaching hospital environment.

LIBRARY

The residents have access to the outstanding University of Michigan Libraries including the Medical and Dental Schools. Internet access and literature searches are readily available along with many print and electronic services and resources.

DIDACTIC CURRICULUM

The didactic program consists of a series of seminars, continuing education courses, conferences and individual instruction presented throughout the year. Additional resources are available through the University of Michigan Hospital GPR Program and the University of Michigan and University of Detroit-Mercy Schools of Dentistry. The didactic program includes: General Medicine, Physical Diagnosis, Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Treatment Planning Conferences, GPR Seminar Series, Continuing Education Series, Literature Review Seminars, Endodontic Seminars, Prosthodontic Conference, and Orofacial Pain, TMD, Sleep Dentistry Seminars.

GENERAL MEDICINE

Participation in conferences and seminars throughout the year generally include the following topics: heart diseases, pulmonary diseases, renal diseases and dialysis, liver diseases, gastrointestinal

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diseases, arthritides, neurologic diseases, endocrine diseases, allergy diseases, bleeding disorders and blood dyscrasias, oral cancer, behavioral and psychiatric disorders, organ transplantation, and prosthetic implants. Knowledge and experience in general medicine is also gained during off service rotations and consults with physicians related to patient care.

PHYSICAL DIAGNOSIS

Residents attend seminars and demonstrations early in the year to learn the techniques necessary to perform a medical history and physical examination. In addition, these skills are developed during hands-on training and experience gained during rotations. The resident will be able to understand and interpret the results of the findings obtained.

ADVANCED CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT (ACLS)

All incoming residents are required to complete an ACLS and PALS course either before the program starts or during the first month. This training will be coordinated through the VA and UMH at no cost to the resident. This training will enable the resident to better manage medical emergencies and establish accurate risk assessments.

TREATMENT PLANNING CONFERENCES

Residents and faculty present cases throughout the year, at least monthly, to increase the residents' knowledge and skills in the management of complex patient cases.

GPR SEMINAR SERIES

The residents attend a weekly seminar series that is presented at the VA GPR and UMH GPR Programs. This gives the VA resident access to a wider variety of faculty and topics. This seminar series consists of lectures and training sessions to improve the residents' diagnosis and management skills in all phases of dentistry. The topics generally include: community dentistry, restorative and esthetic dentistry, fixed and removable prosthodontics, periodontics, occlusion, implants, medically compromised patients, hospital dentistry, and practice management.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SERIES

The residents have the opportunity to select and attend continuing education courses offered throughout the year. When approved, the tuition for these courses is reimbursed by the VA.

LITERATURE REVIEW SEMINARS

Residents receive training in the evaluation of dental and medical literature and participate in an ongoing Journal Club. This training will enable the resident to better understand, interpret and judge the accuracy of articles, papers, and material presented.

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ENDODONTIC SEMINARS

University of Michigan School of Dentistry faculty present monthly endodontic seminars for the residents. These seminars provide advanced understanding of diagnosis, instrumentation, obturation, trauma, and periapical pathosis. The interrelationship of pulpal and periodontal disease and success and failure in endodontic therapy are also discussed.

PROSTHODONTIC CONFERENCES

Monthly literature review and conferences are presented by prosthodontists at the University of Michigan Medical Center. These conferences provide the residents with a better understanding of the diagnosis and treatment of difficult prosthodontic cases. Topics include: fixed, removable, maxillofacial, and implant prosthodontics.

OROFACIAL PAIN, TMD, SLEEP DENTISTRY SEMINARS

This seminar series is designed for each resident to gain perspective on how they would manage their dental patient given certain symptomatic orofacial conditions. This is aimed toward a private practice environment with emphasis on when it is appropriate to treat the patient and when it is more appropriate to make a proper referral to a specialist, such as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon or otolaryngologist, neurologist, sleep physician, physical therapist or occupational therapist.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

The residents' clinical experience includes the following:

ANN ARBOR VA DENTAL CLINIC

The residents spend a majority of their clinical time treating outpatients at the VA Dental Clinic. They provide comprehensive care to a wide range of patients, many of whom are medically compromised. There is an opportunity to treat patients with simple to very complex dental needs.

Restorative Dentistry: The resident will become proficient in using the latest techniques and equipment. A wide variety of materials are available aiding in proficiency in basic and complex restorative procedures.

Prosthodontics: The resident will become proficient in performing routine to advanced procedures. This may include complete and partial dentures, fixed bridges, full mouth reconstruction, and implant restorations.

Endodontics: The resident will become proficient using conventional and rotary endodontic

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techniques. Apical surgery is performed under direct supervision.

Periodontics: The resident will become proficient in the treatment of early to advanced periodontal disease. Periodontal surgery is performed under direct supervision.

Dental consultation and service is provided to inpatients and outpatients with a variety of medical conditions and dental needs. The patient population provides a very wide variety of cases to ensure the residents will be able to gain proficiency in all areas of general dentistry. Treatment is planned and provided without having to be concerned with financial limitations. Attending staff is always available for consultation during all patient care activities.

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Residents see patient on rotation at both the University of Michigan and at the Ann Arbor VA Dental Clinic to allow the GPR to gain experience in all phases of oral surgery, to include; conscious sedation, operating room dentistry, full mouth extractions, oral medicine, biopsies, impacted teeth, implant procedures, treatment of odontogenic infections, alveoloplasty, and operating room experience.

EMERGENCY DENTAL CARE

There are numerous opportunities to enhance skills necessary to manage a wide range of dental emergencies. Residents see emergency patients daily at the VA Dental Clinic as well as during after-hours call and during the OMFS rotation.

DENTISTRY IN THE OR

The residents perform general dentistry in the operating room at the University of Michigan Health System, the Mott Children's Hospital and the VA Healthcare System. The residents will gain experience in the admission and discharge of patients, obtaining medical histories, conducting appropriate physical examinations, prescribing treatment and medications, providing dental care in the operating room, preparing the patient record including notation of pre- and post- operative orders, progress notes, descriptions of procedures, and discharge summaries.

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

An opportunity to provide supervised care to children is offered at the U of M School of Dentistry.

PAIN AND ANXIETY CONTROL

Experience in the management of pain and anxiety is gained throughout the year at the VA Dental Clinic. The goal is to provide experience in a variety of modalities to allow residents to competently manage pain and anxiety (apprehension). The resident will gain experience through the use of behavioral management, local anesthesia, and conscious sedation techniques and will become

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knowledgeable of the indications, contraindications, and potential adverse reactions of medication used.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Occasionally an opportunity to teach at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry is available. Residents teach dental students a variety of topics that may include diagnosis and treatment planning, taking blood pressures, taking blood glucose reading, administering anesthetic, and overseeing routine prophylaxis.

ANESTHESIOLOGY

Residents rotate through the anesthesiology department at the Ann Arbor VA for three weeks to learn principles and techniques of general anesthesia and operating room protocol. They will gain skills and knowledge in airway management and monitoring of the unconscious patient along with preoperative evaluation, training in the techniques of venipuncture and intubation techniques.

OUTPATIENT GENERAL MEDICINE

Residents see patients under direct supervision in the General Medicine Clinic as well as observe practitioners treating patients at the Ann Arbor VA. The resident will gain experience in obtaining the medical history and performing physical assessments of patients. The resident will be better able to recognize deviations from normal health and make accurate risk assessments.

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INPATIENT MEDICINE

The residents spend one week at an inpatient ward at the VA. They further develop skills of medical risk assessment, physical evaluation, and the management of inpatients in a hospital setting using a multidisciplinary approach.

ENT

The resident will rotate in the ENT service at the VA Medical Center to become familiar with the performance of routine procedures and diagnostic methods used in the practice of otolaryngology. Experience is also gained during inpatient and OR procedures.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Opportunities for the residents to become involved in off service clinical activities in community dentistry are available.

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TMJ

The residents rotate through the University of Michigan TMD/Orofacial Pain Clinic. Experience is gained in physical evaluation, diagnosis, and non-surgical treatment of TMD and orofacial pain.

VA DENTAL CLINICAL FACULTY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE/SPECIALTY</u>
Buchanan, S.	Generalist
DesRosiers, D.	Generalist (Program Director)
Fox, A.	Generalist (Assistant Director)
Gipson, M.	Generalist
Karam, L.	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Morris, S.	Generalist
Ormes, W.	Generalist (Chief)
Pikulski, J.	Generalist (Volunteer)

VA CONSULTANTS FROM UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE/SPECIALTY</u>
Brooks, S.	Oral Radiology
Danciu, T.	Oral Medicine
Fluent, M.	Generalist
Richards, P.	Periodontics

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PROGRAM SPECIFICS

ACCREDITATION

The General Practice Residency is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education.

CERTIFICATION

A certificate of completion is given by the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System for satisfactory completion of the twelve-month residency.

STIPEND AND BENEFITS

The salary for the 2021-2022 fiscal year is approximately \$66,000 consistent with the salary of a first-year house officer at the University of Michigan Medical Center. Each resident receives 20 work days (Mon-Fri) of vacation time per academic year.

There is no tuition required. Professional liability coverage is provided, and health and life insurance are available through VA. Specifics on other benefits will be discussed during staff orientation at VA.

ON-CALL RESPONSIBILITY

On-call emergency care is shared by the residents of the University of Michigan Hospital GPR Program and the residents of the VA GPR Program. Pagers are provided to allow the on-call resident greater freedom within the community during non-clinic hours.

NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

The policy of the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System General Practice Residency in Dentistry Program is to fill vacancies from the best qualified applicants. There will be no discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, lawful political affiliation, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age or membership in a labor organization. We ensure our admission policies are nondiscriminatory by making selections based on qualifications. Objective criteria, i.e. board scores, class rank, grade point average, are used in the selection process.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A list of goals and objectives of residency training is available on request by contacting Dr. DesRosiers, GPR Program Director, at Deborah.Desrosiers@va.gov or (734) 845-3411 or by contacting Dr. Aditi Fox, GPR Assistant Director, at Aditi.fox@va.gov. A list of medical center policies is available on request by contacting Dr. Megan Gipson, Infection Control Officer, at Megan.Gipson@va.gov.

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GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY IN DENTISTRY

Requirements for Application

To apply, please provide the following documents. Documents can be sent separately or together.

1. VA application form (VA Form #10-2850D)
2. Dental school transcript (Official electronic or paper copy)
3. National Board scores (Official electronic copy)
4. Letter of recommendation from the Dean written on official letterhead with the date and with information regarding the student's clinical skills
5. Three (3) additional letters of recommendation that meet the following criteria:
 - a. Letter is written on official letterhead with a date
 - b. Letter is written by dental school faculty other than the Dean
 - c. Letter includes a paragraph about the student's clinical skills
 - d. Letters may be mailed or sent electronically from the faculty's university email.
6. Current Curriculum Vitae
7. Personal statement describing your interest in a GPR program
8. Photograph (optional)

The deadline for a completed application is October 15 of the year preceding requested appointment. Please note that our program does not participate in PASS or MATCH. Please mail completed application to Dr. Deborah DesRosiers at the address listed below.

Requirements for Appointment

To qualify for a position, an applicant must be a graduate of a U.S. dental school or, if a graduate of a Canadian dental school, must have successfully completed Parts I and II of the National Board Examination.

For additional information, please contact:

Deb DesRosiers, DDS, MS, Program Director

Dental Service (160)

VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System

2215 Fuller Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

Tel: 734.845.3528 or 734.845.3411

Email: Deborah.DesRosiers@va.gov

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