

## **INTRODUCTION**

Oral pathology is the specialty of dentistry and pathology which deals with the nature, identification, and management of diseases affecting the oral and maxillofacial regions. It is a science that investigates the causes, processes and effects of these diseases. The practice of oral pathology includes research, diagnosis of diseases using clinical, radiographic, microscopic, biochemical or other examinations, and management of patients.

## **SERVICES**

The oral pathology laboratory accepts biopsy and surgical tissue specimen for histopathological evaluation and diagnosis from medical and dental departments of this institution. We undertake diagnostic procedures such as routine haematological procedures, punch biopsies, fine needle aspiration cytology and exfoliative cytology. The laboratory also serves as a source for research projects undertaken by the faculty and postgraduate students of the college. We have fully functional and well equipped oral precancer/ cancer detection centre for screening any precancerous and cancerous lesions by the trained dental personal.

### **Facilities available:**

1. Evaluation of various oral mucosal lesions including precancerous lesions.
2. Biopsy procedure.
3. Scrape cytology
4. Fine needle aspiration cytology
5. Routine haematological procedure

## **TEACHING AND ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

## **UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM:**

### **FIRST YEAR:**

#### **DENTAL ANATOMY, EMBRYOLOGY AND ORAL HISTOLOGY**

##### **I. TOOTH MORPHOLOGY**

###### **1. Introduction to tooth morphology:**

◆ Human dentition, types of teeth, & functions, Palmer's & Binomial notation systems, tooth surfaces, their junctions - line angles & point angles, definition of terms used in dental morphology, geometric concepts in tooth morphology, contact areas & embrasures - Clinical significance.

###### **2. Morphology of permanent teeth:**

• Description of individual teeth, along with their endodontic anatomy & including a note on their chronology of development, differences between similar class of teeth & identification of individual teeth.

• Variations & Anomalies commonly seen in individual teeth.

###### **3. Morphology of Deciduous teeth:**

◆ Generalized differences between Deciduous & Permanent teeth.

◆ Description of individual deciduous teeth, including their chronology of development, endodontic anatomy, differences between similar class of teeth & identification of individual teeth.

###### **4. Occlusion :**

◆ Definition, factors influencing occlusion - basal bone, arch, individual teeth, external & internal forces & sequence of eruption.

◆ Inclination of individual teeth - compensatory curves.

◆ Centric relation & Centric occlusion - protrusive, retrusive & lateral occlusion.

◆ Clinical significance of normal occlusion.

◆ Introduction to & Classification of Malocclusion.

## II. ORAL EMBRYOLOGY

1. Brief review of development of face, jaws, lip, palate & tongue, with applied aspects.

2. Development of teeth:

◆ Epithelial mesenchymal interaction, detailed study of different stages of development of crown, root & supporting tissues of tooth & detailed study of formation of calcified tissues.

◆ Applied aspects of disorders in development of teeth.

3. Eruption of deciduous & Permanent teeth :

◆ Mechanisms in tooth eruption, different theories & histology of eruption, formation of dentogingival junction, role of gubernacular cord in eruption of permanent teeth.

◆ Clinical or Applied aspects of disorders of eruption.

4. Shedding of teeth :

◆ Factors & mechanisms of shedding of deciduous teeth.

◆ Complications of shedding.

## III. ORAL HISTOLOGY

1. Detailed microscopic study of Enamel, Dentine, Cementum & Pulp tissue. Age changes & Applied aspects (Clinical and forensic significance) of histological considerations - Fluoride applications, transparent dentine, dentine hypersensitivity, reaction of pulp tissue to varying insults to exposed dentine ; Pulp calcifications & Hypercementosis.

2. Detailed microscopic study of Periodontal ligament & alveolar bone, age changes, histological changes in periodontal ligament & bone in normal & orthodontic tooth movement, applied aspects of alveolar bone resorption.

3. Detailed microscopic study of Oral Mucosa, variation in structure in relation to functional requirements, mechanisms of keratinization, clinical parts of

gingiva, Dentogingival & Mucocutaneous junctions & lingual papillae. Age changes & clinical considerations.

#### 4. Salivary Glands :

- ◆ Detailed microscopic study of acini & ductal system.
- ◆ Age changes & clinical considerations.

#### 5. TM Joint :

- ◆ Review of basic anatomical aspects & microscopic study & clinical considerations.

#### 6. Maxillary Sinus :

- ◆ Microscopic study, anatomical variations, functions & clinical relevance of maxillary sinus in dental practice.

#### 7. Processing of Hard & soft tissues for microscopic study :

- ◆ Ground sections, decalcified sections & routine staining procedures.

#### 8. Basic histochemical staining patterns of oral tissues.

### IV. ORAL PHYSIOLOGY

#### 1. Saliva :

- ◆ Composition of saliva - variations, formation of saliva & mechanisms of secretion, salivary reflexes, brief review of secretomotor pathway, functions, role of saliva in dental caries & applied aspects of hyper & hypo salivation.

#### 2. Mastication :

- ◆ Masticatory force & its measurement - need for mastication, peculiarities of masticatory muscles, masticatory cycle, masticatory reflexes & neural control of mastication.

#### 3. Deglutition :

- ◆ Review of the steps in deglutition, swallowing in infants, neural control of deglutition & dysphagia.

#### 4. Calcium, Phosphorous & fluoride metabolism :

- ◆ Source, requirements, absorption, distribution, functions & excretion, clinical considerations, hypo & hypercalcemia & hyper & hypo phosphatemia & fluorosis.

#### 5. Theories of Mineralization :

- ◆ Definition, mechanisms, theories & their drawbacks.
- ◆ Applied aspects of physiology of mineralization, pathological considerations – calculus formation.

#### 6. Physiology of Taste :

- ◆ Innervation of taste buds & taste pathway, physiologic basis of taste sensation, age changes & applied aspects - taste disorders.

#### 7. Physiology of Speech :

- ◆ Review of basic anatomy of larynx & vocal cords.
- ◆ Voice production, resonators, production of vowels & different consonants - Role of palate, teeth & tongue.
- ◆ Effects of dental prosthesis & appliances on speech & basic speech disorders.

### **SECOND YEAR AND THIRD YEAR:**

#### **ORAL PATHOLOGY & ORAL MICROBIOLOGY**

#### 1. Developmental disturbances of teeth, jaws and soft tissues of oral & paraoral region :

- ◆ Introduction to developmental disturbances - Hereditary, Familial mutation, Hormonal etc. causes to be highlighted.

- ◆ Developmental disturbances of teeth - Etiopathogenesis, clinical features, radiological features & histopathological features as appropriate :-

The size, shape, number, structure & eruption of teeth & clinical significance of the anomalies to be emphasized.

- ◆ Forensic Odontology.

- ◆ Developmental disturbances of jaws - size & shape of the jaws.

- ◆ Developmental disturbances of oral & paraoral soft tissues - lip & palate - clefts, tongue, gingiva, mouth, salivary glands & face.

## 2. Dental Caries :

- ◆ Etiopathogenesis, microbiology, clinical features, diagnosis, histopathology, immunology, prevention of dental caries & its sequelae.

## 3. Pulp & Periapical Pathology & Osteomyelitis.

- ◆ Etiopathogenesis & interrelationship, clinical features, microbiology, histopathology & radiological features (as appropriate) of pulp & periapical lesions & osteomyelitis.

- ◆ Sequelae of periapical abscess - summary of space infections, systemic complications & significance.

## 4. Periodontal Diseases :

- ◆ Etiopathogenesis, microbiology, clinical features, histopathology & radiological features (as appropriate) of gingivitis, gingival enlargements & periodontitis. Basic immunological mechanisms of periodontal disease to be highlighted.

## 5. Microbial infections of oral soft tissues :

- ◆ Microbiology, defence mechanisms including immunological aspects, oral manifestations, histopathology and laboratory diagnosis of common bacterial, viral & fungal infections namely :-

Bacterial : Tuberculosis, Syphilis, ANUG & its complications - Cancrum Oris.

Viral : Herpes Simplex, Varicella zoster, Measles, Mumps & HIV infection.

Fungal : Candidal infection. Aphthous Ulcers.

## 6. Common non-inflammatory diseases involving the jaws :

- ◆ Etiopathogenesis, clinical features, radiological & laboratory values in diagnosis of :

Fibrous dysplasia, Cherubism, Osteogenesis Imperfecta, Paget's disease, Cleidocranial dysplasia, Rickets, Achondroplasia, Marfan's syndrome & Down's syndrome.

7. Diseases of TM Joint :

◆ Ankylosis, summary of different types of arthritis & other developmental malformations, traumatic injuries & myofascial pain dysfunction syndrome.

8. Cysts of the Oral & Paraoral region :

◆ Classification, etiopathogenesis, clinical features, histopathology, laboratory & radiological features (as appropriate) of Odontogenic cysts, Non-Odontogenic cysts, Pseudocysts of jaws & soft tissue cysts of oral & paraoral region.

9. Tumours of the Oral Cavity :

◆ Classification of Odontogenic, Non-Odontogenic & Salivary Gland Tumours. Etiopathogenesis, clinical features, histopathology, radiological features & laboratory diagnosis (as appropriate) of the following common tumours :-

a) Odontogenic - all lesions.

b) Non-odontogenic

- Benign Epithelial - Papilloma, Keratoacanthoma & Naevi.

- Benign Mesenchymal - Fibroma, Aggressive fibrous lesions, Lipoma, Haemangioma, Lymphangioma, Neurofibroma, Schwannoma, Chondroma, Osteoma & Tori.

- Malignant Epithelial - Basal Cell Carcinoma, Verrucous Carcinoma, Squamous Cell carcinoma & Malignant Melanoma.

- Malignant Mesenchymal - Fibrosarcoma, Osteosarcoma, Giant cell tumour, Chondrosarcoma, Angiosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, Lymphomas, Ewing's sarcoma & Other Reticuloendothelial tumours.

c) Salivary Gland

- Benign Epithelial neoplasms - Pleomorphic Adenoma, Warthin's tumour, & Oncocytoma.
- Malignant Epithelial neoplasms - Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma, Mucoepidermoid Carcinoma, Acinic Cell Carcinoma & Adenocarcinomas.

d) Tumours of Disputed Origin - Congenital Epulis & Granular Cell Myoblastoma.

e) Metastatic tumours - Tumors metastasizing to & from oral cavity & the routes of metastasis.

10. Traumatic, Reactive & Regressive lesions of Oral Cavity :

- ◆ Pyogenic & Giant cell granuloma, exostoses Fibrous Hyperplasia, Traumatic Ulcer & Traumatic Neuroma.
- ◆ Attrition, Abrasion, Erosion, Bruxism, Hypercementosis, Dentinal changes, Pulp calcifications & Resorption of teeth.
- ◆ Radiation effects of oral cavity, summary of Physical & Chemical injuries including allergic reactions of the oral cavity.
- ◆ Healing of Oral wounds & complications - Dry socket.

11. Non neoplastic Salivary Gland Diseases :

- ◆ Sialolithiasis, Sialosis, Sialadenitis, Xerostomia & Ptyalism.

12. Systemic Diseases involving Oral cavity :

- ◆ Brief review & oral manifestations, diagnosis & significance of common Blood, Nutritional, Hormonal & Metabolic diseases of Oral cavity.

13. Mucocutaneous Lesions :

- ◆ Etiopathogenesis, clinical features & histopathology of the following common lesions.



Lichen Planus, Lupus Erythematosus, Pemphigus & Pemphigoid lesions, Erythema Multiforme, Psoriasis, Scleroderma, Ectodermal Dysplasia, Epidermolysis bullosa & White sponge nevus..

14. Diseases of the Nerves :

- ◆ Facial neuralgias - Trigeminal & Glossopharyngeal. VII nerve paralysis, Causalgia.

- ◆ Psychogenic facial pain & Burning mouth syndrome.

15. Pigmentation of Oral & Paraoral region & Discolouration of teeth :

- ◆ causes & clinical manifestations.

16. Diseases of Maxillary Sinus :

- ◆ Traumatic injuries to sinus, Sinusitis, Cysts & Tumours involving antrum. 17.

a) ORAL PRECANCER – CANCER; Epidemiology, aetiology, clinical and histopathological features, TNM classification. Recent advances in diagnosis, management and prevention.

b) Biopsy : Types of biopsy, value of biopsy, cytology, histo chemistry & frozen sections in diagnosis of oral diseases.

18. Principles of Basic Forensic Odontology (Pre-clinical Forensic Odontology):

- ◆ Introduction, definition, aims & scope.

- ◆ Sex and ethnic (racial) differences in tooth morphology and histological age estimation

- ◆ Determination of sex & blood groups from buccal mucosa / saliva.

- ◆ Dental DNA methods

- ◆ Bite marks, rugae patterns & lip prints.

- ◆ Dental importance of poisons and corrosives.

- ◆ Overview of forensic medicine and toxicology

**INTERNSHIP**

1. Patient history sheets:
  - a. Exfoliative cytology
  - b. Vital staining
2. Tissue processing
  - a. Soft tissue
  - b. Decalcified tissue
  - c. Ground sections
3. Routine hematology
4. Urine analysis
5. Case presentation

**POSTGRADUATE CURRICULUM:**

1. Biostatics and research methodology
2. Applied gross anatomy of head and neck including histology
3. Physiology (general and oral)
4. Cell biology
5. General histology
6. Biochemistry
7. General pathology
8. General microbiology
9. Basic immunology
10. Systemic microbiology/ applied microbiology
11. Oral biology (oral and dental histology)
12. Basic molecular biology and techniques
13. Basic histotechniques and microscopy
14. Oral pathology

15. Clinical pathology
16. Specialized histotechniques and special stains
17. Recording of case history and clinico pathological discussions
18. Dermatology
19. Oral oncology
20. Oral microbiology and immunology
21. Forensic odontology
22. Laboratory techniques and diagnosis
23. Experimental aspects of oral diseases
24. Recent advances in oral pathology.

OTHER THAN NORMAL PG ACTIVITIES:

- Short term research studies and epidemiological studies.
- Developing teaching modules
- Participation in UG teaching programs.
- Participation in CDE programmes and National level conferences.