



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Introduction

The Community Outreach Program was initiated in 2019 by the Department of Community Dentistry, Rashid Latif Dental College, in collaboration with the Department of Dental Education. The program began when the first batch of BDS entered their 2nd Professional Year and commenced the subject of Community Dentistry as part of the University of Health Sciences curriculum.

Alignment with Mission & Vision

MISSION:

To educate dental students with the knowledge, clinical skills, and professional values required to address oral health needs while fostering ethical and patient-centered practice.

VISION:

To prepare competent dental professionals through hands-on clinical training, structured teaching standards, and ethical patient care.

- Delivering structured community-based dental education.
- Helping students apply theoretical concepts to real public health challenges.
- Encouraging data collection and research on community oral health indicators.
- Cultivating ethics, professionalism, empathy, and social responsibility.

Purpose and Objectives

Purpose: To provide a structured framework for community dental visits, ensuring consistency, academic integration, and meaningful student engagement.

The Objectives of the community outreach program are as follows:

- To provide students with firsthand exposure to public health challenges and preventive dentistry.
- To develop professional, communication, and leadership skills among dental students.
- To promote oral health awareness and deliver preventive services to underserved populations.
- To align community activities with the college's institutional mission of social accountability and service.

Program Structure

- The Community Outreach Program operates under the supervision of the Department of Community Dentistry and consists of two main components:
- **Curricular Community Visits (Mandatory)** – Conducted twice a year as part of the Community Dentistry curriculum for BDS students.
- **Dental Camps & Outreach Activities (Voluntary)** – Conducted throughout the year - These camps primarily involve House Officers, with BDS students invited to participate on a voluntary basis.
- To ensure that community engagement remains structured, educational, and aligned with institutional standards, the faculty members from the Department of Community Dentistry accompany and supervise all community visits. Their responsibilities include:
- Planning and coordination of visits with relevant schools, NGOs, factories, or community centers.
- Orientation and training of students in screening methods and ethical conduct.
- Demonstration of epidemiological tools and oral health indices.
- Supervision of examinations, data collection, and education sessions.
- Monitoring and evaluation of student performance and professionalism.
- Students are encouraged to document their interactions in their college's logbook. They are expected to actively participate in the following activities:
- Oral screening and examination of schoolchildren, factory workers, or community members.
- Recording oral health indices (DMFT, OHI-S, CPI, Plaque Index) to collect baseline data.
- Oral health education sessions and demonstrations on proper brushing and oral hygiene.
- Preventive care guidance, including fluoride use and dietary advice.
- Distribution of educational materials, such as posters, leaflets, and brushing charts.
- Referral of patients requiring further management to **Rashid Latif Dental College** OPD.
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- **Standard of Procedure (SOPs)**
- This SOP details the standardized process followed for planning, executing, and documenting community outreach visits.

Step	Task	Description
1	Selection of venue based on relevance	The Department of Community Dentistry selects an appropriate venue based on academic relevance, learner level, and community needs. Tentative months for visits are planned prior to the commencement of the academic year.
2	Obtaining permissions (2–3 weeks prior)	The Department of Community Dentistry sends formal request letters to the selected venue, proposing dates 2–3 weeks in advance to secure confirmation and administrative approval.
3	Scheduling of visits	Upon receiving confirmation from the venue, the finalized dates are forwarded to the Community Outreach Program Coordinator for logistical arrangements and operational planning.
4	Issuing in-office notifications (IONs)	After venue approval, the Department of Community Dentistry issues IONs to relevant departments: Department of Dental Education: Adjust academic schedules and reflect the visit in weekly timetables. Department of Student Affairs: Issue parent/guardian permission forms. Department of Administration & Coordination: Arrange transport, refreshments, and other required resources.
5	Final notification/circular	A formal notification or circular is issued, signed by the Principal and/or Vice Principal, confirming the visit date, timings, faculty supervisors, and participating student groups.
6	Execution of visit	The visit is conducted by Faculty Supervisors and House Officers, ensuring adherence to academic and ethical standards during screenings, education, and data collection.
7	Reporting & documentation	Supervising faculty compile a Comprehensive Visit Report, including: • Total individuals screened and educated • Oral health indices recorded • Preventive interventions delivered • Operational and academic observations • Recommendations for improvement Reports are submitted to the Principal and the Department of Dental Education for institutional record and quality assurance
8	Media visibility (photos/summary)	The Communications / Social Media Team shares photographs and brief summaries on official Rashid Latif Dental College platforms to promote oral health awareness and highlight the College's commitment to community wellbeing.



Community Outreach Program

NOTIFICATION

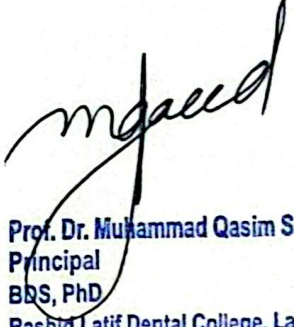
Subject: Year-wise summary of curricular and voluntary community visits conducted under the Community Outreach Program, Department of Community Dentistry.

The Community Outreach Program at **Rashid Latif Dental College** provides students with practical exposure to public oral health challenges and preventive care. Through curricular visits and voluntary dental camps, students engage with communities under faculty supervision. The program fosters professional skills, ethical practice, and social responsibility while contributing to community oral health.

- **Appendix A** contains the detailed year-wise record of all Curricular Community Visits (Mandatory) conducted by BDS students as part of the Community Dentistry curriculum.
- **Appendix B** provides the attendance record of Voluntary Dental Camps & Outreach Activities, which are organized throughout the year for student participation under faculty supervision.

Both appendices serve as official documentation of the program's activities and community engagement efforts.

HOD COMMUNITY DENTISTRY


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