

## ORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

University of Minnesota School of Dentistry  
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### I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Oral Health Services for Older Adults (OHSOA) Clinical Fellowship is a 12 month, full-time program designed to develop the clinical expertise of dentists and dental hygienists in providing care for older adults. Upon successful completion of the program's clinical and academic requirements, a Certificate is awarded by the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. The program also provides an opportunity for those interested in further developing their leadership skills in geriatric dental or dental hygiene education, research, or program administration to prepare for entry into the MS-Dentistry and Graduate Minor in Gerontology programs offered in collaboration with the University of Minnesota Graduate School. Together, the OHSOA Clinical Fellowship and the MS-Dentistry Program fulfill all of the guidelines for Geriatric Dental Fellowship Programs previously recommended by the American Society for Geriatric Dentistry and US Bureau of Health Professions. The OHSOA Program is housed in the Division of Hospital & Special Care Dentistry, Department of Developmental & Surgical Sciences at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

### II. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the OHSOA Clinical Fellowship Program are to develop:

- Expertise in the delivery of clinical oral health care to a broad range of older adults, from well to frail.
- Expertise in providing care to older adults from a variety of settings, including those in long-term care or other supportive environments.
- Understanding of the impact of biological aging, systemic disease, functional impairment, and drug therapy on the delivery of oral health care to older adults.
- Skills in working with a variety of health care professionals and the dental team to deliver effective oral health care for older adults.
- Administrative skills necessary to oversee clinical oral health programs for the elderly.

### III. PREREQUISITES

Dentists must have a DDS/DMD degree or equivalent from a dental school accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Accreditation. Dental Hygienists must have an RDH degree or equivalent and a baccalaureate degree from accredited programs. For dentist applicants, preference will be given to those who have completed general dentistry residencies. For all applicants, preference will be given to those who have professional experience related to program goals. Foreign student applicants may be considered on an individual qualifications basis. Applications from individuals representing diverse communities are especially encouraged.

Applicants for whom English is a second language must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and score at least 95 (internet-based). Applicants are exempt from taking the TOEFL if within the past 24 months they have successfully completed 24 quarter credits or 16 semester credits in residence as a full-time student at a recognized institution of higher learning in the United States.

#### **IV. DISTRIBUTION OF EFFORT AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

The distribution of effort during this 12 month program is approximately:

Clinical rotations: 3-4 days/week  
Courses, seminars, independent study: 1-2 days/week

Clinical requirements are completed primarily through rotations at outreach geriatric dental clinics operated in affiliation with Walker Methodist Health Center, Minneapolis. Fellows must complete 24 semester credits in mandatory OHSOA activities and 4 semester credits in electives to constitute 28 semester credits during 12 months of continuous enrollment to complete the requirements for the Certificate. A grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 in and no more than 4 incomplete credits must be maintained throughout the program to remain in good standing.

#### **V. TUITION, FEES, AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Fellows enrolled in the program must pay the tuition and fees established each year by the School of Dentistry and the University of Minnesota for participation in this educational program. However, most Fellows are eligible for financial support in the form of stipends and allowances through funding from the OHSOA's sponsoring organizations and clinical revenues. In addition, each Fellow typically may receive a travel allowance to attend at least one clinically focused geriatric conference during their one year OHSOA Program at the discretion of the program director.

#### **VI. APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

Those wishing to apply for admission to the Oral Health Services for Older Adults Clinical Fellowship Program must submit: 1) a completed OHSOA application form; 2) official academic transcripts of all coursework taken after high school; 3) three OHSOA Recommendation Forms from individuals familiar with the applicant's knowledge and clinical skills; 4) Scores on National Dental Boards or Dental Hygiene Boards; and 5) a brief essay (under 500 words) which relates the applicant's career goals to the goals of the program. Foreign applicants must also submit a complete set of TOEFL scores and National Dental Board scores.

Applications are accepted throughout the year for study to begin during the Summer, Fall, or Spring Semesters. Completed applications should be received at least three months prior to the anticipated enrollment date.

#### **VII. CURRICULUM**

OHSOA Clinical Fellows are responsible for developing their program of clinical education and professional growth in conjunction with the OHSOA faculty. Initial curriculum planning by the Fellow is completed at the beginning of the first semester of enrollment. Course credits completed in the OHSOA Clinical Fellowship Program that are also included in the MS-Dentistry curriculum in the Graduate School may be transferred for credit towards the MS-Dentistry degree at the discretion of the student's Advisor and Director of Graduate Studies for the MS-Dentistry Program. The components of the OHSOA curriculum are outlined below. Detailed descriptions of these courses are available on the University of Minnesota web site at: [https://www.myu.umn.edu/psp/psprd/EMPLOYEE/CAMP/c/SA\\_LEARNER\\_SERVICES.CLASS\\_SEARCH.GBL](https://www.myu.umn.edu/psp/psprd/EMPLOYEE/CAMP/c/SA_LEARNER_SERVICES.CLASS_SEARCH.GBL). Information on programs and courses available through the University's Center for Health Aging and Innovation (CHAI) can be found at: <https://www.sph.umn.edu/research/centers/chai/education>

## VIII. OHSOA COURSE LIST

(Key: <sup>m</sup> = mandatory; <sup>e</sup> = elective)

### A. Clinical Rotations

<sup>m</sup>Geri 7200 - Advanced Clinical Geriatric Dentistry (1 credit per half-day per term; 14 credits required)

### B. Required Courses, Seminars, and Sample Electives

<sup>m</sup>Geri 7100 - Seminar: Oral Health Services for Older Adults. (2 cr. per semester; 4 credits required)

<sup>m</sup>Gero 5105 – Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Aging (3 cr; preq #)

<sup>m</sup>Gero 5110 - Biology of Aging (3 cr; preq #)

<sup>m</sup>Dent 7051 - Advanced Study in the Theory and Principles of Oral Medicine (2 cr; preq #)

<sup>e</sup>Gero 5111 - Studying Aging and Chronic Illness (2.0 cr; Prereq-Intro. course in epidemiology or #)

<sup>e</sup>Gero 5115 - Introduction to Geriatrics (2.0 cr; S-N only, every year, online course)

<sup>e</sup>Psy 5138 - Psychology of Aging (3 cr; preq #)

<sup>e</sup>Dent 7061, 7062 – Special Oral Pathology I & II (2 cr max; preq #)

<sup>e</sup>Dent 7102 – Conscious Sedation (2 cr; preq #)

### C. Other Courses, Clinical Rotations, and Continuing Education

OHSOA Fellows may also elect to enroll in a limited number of clinical seminars or courses offered through the MS-Dentistry program and/or complete clinical rotations in one or two dental specialties to supplement their clinical experiences with older patients. Fellows are also expected to attend relevant continuing dental education programs and conferences during their training.

## IX. SAMPLE OHSOA CALENDAR

This is an example of an educational program for an OHSOA Fellow who must complete all basic program requirements. Programs are individually developed and may vary depending on the background and interests of the Fellow.

Course	Title	Total Credits	Summer	Fall	Spring
Geri 7200	Adv. Clinical Geriatric Dent.	14	6	4	4
Geri 7100	OHSOA Seminar	4		2	2
Gero 5105	Multidisc. Perspectives	3		3	
Gero 5110	Biology of Aging	3			3
Electives		4	2	2	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>

**X. FACULTY AND STAFF**

<u>OHSOA Program Faculty and Staff</u>	<u>Other Affiliated Faculty</u>
<p><b><u>Director</u></b></p> <p><b>Stephen K. Shuman, DDS, MS</b>                      Professor,                      Department Developmental &amp; Surgical Sciences</p>	<p><b>University of Minnesota Medical School</b>                      Teresa McCarthy, MD, MS                      Associate Professor,                      Department of Family Medicine &amp; Community Health; Division of Geriatrics, Palliative and Primary Care</p>
<p><b><u>Affiliated Faculty and Staff</u></b></p> <p><b>Mary K. Owen, DDS, MS</b>                      Clinical Professor,                      Department of Developmental &amp; Surgical Sciences</p> <p><b>John C. Ofstehage, DDS</b>                      Adjunct Associate Professor,                      Department Developmental &amp; Surgical Sciences                      Co-director, Geriatric Dental Programs &amp;                      General Practice Residency,                      Minneapolis Veterans Administration Medical Center</p> <p><b>Vicki Cornelius, CRDA</b>                      Dental Assistant,                      Walker Methodist Dental Clinic</p> <p><b>Kacey Short, BA</b>                      Office Manager,                      Walker Methodist Dental Clinic</p>	