

GOALS
THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

In order to fulfill its mission, the School of Dental Medicine will continuously strive to achieve excellence by pursuing the following goals:

I. Curriculum

General

1. Promote contemporary methods of information acquisition and critical analysis as a means to life-long learning and continued competency.
2. Allow dental students to acquire the skills necessary to perform physical and behavioral evaluations that will enable them to safely deliver dental care and support and reinforce the management of patients with a broad range of diseases and conditions.
3. Seek ways to provide service to the community in conjunction with meeting the needs of its educational programs.

Basic Sciences

4. Ensure a strong basic medical science curriculum provided as a common experience for dental and medical students.
5. Achieve optimum integration of instruction in the basic medical sciences and clinical sciences over the four years of the predoctoral curriculum.

Clinical Sciences

6. Develop patient care skills through involvement in clinical programs over the four years of the predoctoral curriculum.
7. Develop a core curriculum for predoctoral students based on the essential competencies needed by all practitioners for the delivery of safe and effective oral health care.
8. Develop a system whereby attainment of competencies will be judged on a direct evaluation of knowledge and skills rather than solely on experiential requirements.

II. Patient Care

9. Implement a patient-centered system of care that supports education and an integrated research component.
10. Increase the diversity of educational settings in order to broaden the general scope of clinical education and practice.
11. Emphasize individual assessment of risk and differential need in diagnostic and treatment selection activities.
12. Promote the concept that oral health care is an integral component of total patient care.

III. Faculty

13. Develop in-service training and professional development programs to enhance the competencies of faculty consistent with scientific advances and the expansion of knowledge in the dental sciences, ensure consistency and currency of teaching, and promote interdisciplinary teaching.
14. Develop mechanisms and resources to support scholarly activities consistent with the expectation that all faculty engage in such activities.

IV. Professional Relations

15. Promote a stronger relationship between the School of Dental Medicine and its alumni and other community dentists.
16. Strengthen and expand all working relationships with the School of Medicine and create opportunities to interact with the greater health care community.

V. Research

17. Promote and foster transitional research activities in basic and clinical sciences.