



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Oral Care Protocols for Patients With Special Needs

2526-2-I0301D031-I0301D038M

Aims

The aim of the module:

- a) To acquire an in-depth understanding of the main clinical, physical, and psychosocial conditions that characterize patients with special needs;
- b) To familiarize with the guidelines and operational protocols for managing patients with special needs;
- c) To develop the ability to assess global risk, oral risk, to plan targeted preventive interventions, and adapt both home and professional oral hygiene protocols for patients with special needs;
- d) To enhance communication and operational skills in order to effectively interact with patients with special needs, caregivers, families, and other healthcare professionals, within the framework of multidisciplinary, integrated, and coordinated management.

Contents

- Definition and Classification of patients with special needs
- Philosophy of approach at the Odontoiatric Clinic of IRCCS San Gerardo dei Tintori
- Principles of clinical and communicative management
- Management protocols and guidelines for the care and multidisciplinary management of patients with special needs
- Motivational strategies and involvement of special needs families and caregivers

Detailed program

Module 1 – Introduction to Patients with Special Needs

- Epidemiology of patients with special healthcare needs;
- Health needs of the current population;
- Characteristics and specific features of patients with disabilities and frailty;
- CF – International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health.

Module 2 – Patient Assessment and Clinical Management

- Impact of oral health within the context of patients with special needs;
- Pediatric age and related considerations;
- The concept of frailty: epidemiology, definition, multimorbidity, and polypharmacy;
- The concept of oral frailty and inflammaging;
- Systemic and oral characteristics of patients with special needs and risk assessment methodologies;
- Clinical philosophy and approach of the Dental Clinic at IRCCS San Gerardo dei Tintori.

Module 3 – Management Protocols for Patients with Special Needs and Frailty: Part I

- The patient with disability: motor, sensory, and cognitive impairments;
- The diabetic patient: clinical and therapeutic considerations;
- The cardiopathic patient: integrated management and clinical monitoring.

Module 4 – Management Protocols for Patients with Special Needs and Frailty: Part II

- The oncologic patient: diagnostic framework, oral implications of disease and pharmacotherapy; chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and MRONJ (Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw);
- The immunocompromised patient: hemato-oncologic diseases, platelet deficiency, pre-transplant and post-transplant management;
- Communication strategies and anxiety management for patients, families, and caregivers;
- Anxiolysis and conscious sedation in Dentistry: protocols and clinical applications.

Prerequisites

Teaching form

The course consists of 4 face-to-face lectures, each lasting 2 hours, delivered in an instructional format.

Textbook and teaching resource

Handouts and slides

Semester

I semester, 2 year

Assessment method

The module's written exam will consist of 15 multiple-choice questions (CLOSED-ENDED QUESTIONS) designed to assess the candidate's preparation on the exam syllabus.

Office hours

On appointment

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
