

Best Practice

1. Community Dentistry program through Mobile Dental Van.

- The institution intended to sensitize its faculty and students on its institutional Social Responsibilities. The above mentioned objectives were achieved by way of the various social programs in the form of dental camps, street plays and workshop/sensitization programs which involved the students and faculty.
- Dental camps were conducted at various neighborhood villages, schools and in collaboration with local NGOs. These were majorly diagnostic camps in order to create awareness among the public as well as educate students and faculty about prevalence of different oral conditions/diseases the exist.
- Street plays and workshop/sensitization programs organized by the students and faculty basically aimed at educating the public against relevant topics like harmful effects of tobacco, oral cancer, benefits of good oral health, etc.
- The dental van was a unique/valuable addition to the extension activity of the institute. It had 2 in built dental chairs to facilitate dental treatment to a small group of patients.

The Practice :

The social outreach programs that have created an impact on student's campus experience are as follows
Regular Dental camps are conducted by the institution in the villages of Parbhani, and districts that sensitizes the students towards social/societal concerns.

- Observation of "N-Tobacco-Day" observed on 31st May and "Oral Hygiene Day" on 1st August every year.
- Conducting dental check up camps at various schools.
- Conducting poster competitions for students for anti tobacco, anti cancer and other socially relevant topics.
- Collaborating with local NGO's for conducting dental camps in certain areas to create awareness and educate the public.
- Street plays are performed by students for educating public against use of tobacco/tobacco related products that could be carcinogenic.
- Organizing seminars/workshop related to social issues.

Evidence of success/visible evidence/influence.

More than 3 programs have been successfully conducted since 2017 which aimed at development of dental awareness amongst the students and faculty towards the community that in turn contributed greatly to their holistic development.

Problems encountered:

The community program through its various means has contributed immensely to develop societal concerns over dentally relevant issues amongst the students and faculty. It has also successfully cultivated a sense of dental awareness amongst the common people.

However the dental camps conducted at various villages, schools and in collaboration with local NGO's though effective in delivering dental education to the masses, are lacking behind as far as actual advanced dental treatment for large number of patients is concerned.

The dental van is equipped with single dental chair making it insufficient to render treatment to many patients in a single visit leading to long queues of increased waiting time.

People from distant villages in the neighboring districts are not able to reach to the dental hospital for getting their treatment done as they have issues with transportation.