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## A Message from the Dean

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**We provide dental education that integrates medical care and welfare.**

As Japan becomes a super-aging society, our social needs for dental care are changing drastically due to factors such as changes in the structure of dental diseases observed, and the increase in the number of dental patients with systemic diseases. Therefore, in addition to preventing and treating dental diseases such as dental caries and periodontal disease thus far, future dentists are required to have basic knowledge in the characteristics of the elderly and systemic diseases, and must be able to gain an accurate



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understanding of the patient's condition, before selecting and providing an effective treatment through Interprofessional collaboration in health care, medical care, welfare, nursing care and other fields.

In order to train dentists in this new era, the School of Dentistry is implementing an Interprofessional education that capitalizes on the characteristics of comprehensive medical universities. In the new curriculum, collaborative lectures and practical training with the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Nursing and Social Services, School of Psychological Sciences, and School of Rehabilitation Sciences will be incorporated sequentially from the first year, and students will be taught the importance of handling the elderly, sick, disabled, and home care patients. In terms of clinical training, students are given practical training at the HSUH Hospital and the HSUH Dental Clinic. In addition to this, to help students acquire basic knowledge, skills, and attitudes regarding local dental care and cooperation with people of other professions, students also receive practical training at off-campus medical institutions and Facilities covered by Public Aid Providing Long-Term Care to the Elderly, as well as practical training in conducting home-visits dental care is provided to people who require long-term care at home. By facilitating this, we are striving to develop dentists who will approach their work from the standpoint of local and multidisciplinary cooperation.

The School of Dentistry at HSUH welcomes all of you who are aiming to become dentists in the new era. Pursue your studies and club activities in the vast natural environment of Hokkaido, and meet wonderful academics, seniors, and friends along the way.

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Dean, School of Dentistry