

Geriatric Dentistry

Seminar/Lab./Clinic Academic year 1,2 credits
2·2·10

[Keywords] Demographics, aging, geriatric dental treatment, dysphagia, oral health care, in-home dental treatment

[Academics] Hisashi Koshino, Hideki Aita

[Course aims]

This course is aimed at becoming qualified as a geriatric specialist authorized by the Japanese Society of Gerodontology. This program is designed to foster excellent dentists with adequate knowledge, techniques, and behavior for geriatric dental treatment.

The maintenance of stomatognathic function is essential for healthy and high-quality life in the elderly. It is necessary to understand the physical and psychological nature of the elderly. The signs associated with aging are also seen everywhere in the stomatognathic system. Tooth loss seems to be related to aging factors, which can spoil the health of the elderly due to depressed homeostatic function. Moreover, knowledge about whole body management and pharmacokinetics is required for geriatric dental treatment, which is emphasized in the super-aged society in terms of the dysphagia and oral health care related to aspiration pneumonia, mastication, and with a contribution in, e.g., rehabilitation after stroke

[Course objectives]

The goals of this course are for the student to be able to:

1. Explain the demographics and aging theory.
2. Explain the physical and psychological nature of the elderly.
3. Explain whole body management and pharmacokinetics.
4. Practice geriatric dental medicine.
5. Provide oral health care with an understanding of its importance.
6. Examine the patient with dysphagia all through the stages of swallowing.
7. Provide dental treatments for the in-home and institutionalized elderly.

[Course content]

Class	Theme	Content	Academics
1	The demographics of aging.		
2	The physical and psychological nature of the elderly.		
3	Systemic disease in the elderly.		
4	Whole body management and pharmacokinetics.		
5	Oral health and oral care.		
6	Dental treatments for the patient with dysphagia.		
7	Essentials of geriatric dental treatment.		
8	Dental treatments for in-home and institutionalized elderly.		

[Grading policies]

Your overall grade in class will be decided based on class attendance and reports.

[Preparation for course]

Students must understand the clinical guidelines released by the Japanese Society of Gerodontology and Japan Prosthodontic Society in advance.