

Class 2019/2022

U LISBOA



Postgraduate specialty course in Endodontics

Faculdade de Medicina Dentária da Universidade de Lisboa

FMDUL

European Society of Endodontology accredited 3-years full time training

Guidelines for initiation in clinical activities and others

Welcome to the Postgraduate specialty course in Endodontics at Faculdade de Medicina Dentária da Universidade de Lisboa (FMDUL)

Dear student,

Thank you for your interest in our Postgraduation specialty course in Endodontics at Faculdade de Medicina Dentária da Universidade de Lisboa (FMDUL), Lisbon, Portugal. Our Specialty training is one of the very few European Society of Endodontology (ESE) accredited 3-years full time programmes.

This full time residency offers you the opportunity to develop experience and special skills in diagnosing, planning and treating patients needing endodontic procedures. I will also help you on research areas that are interesting and important to you. Our objectives are to give you access to the training, mentorship and support that will assure your success in Endodontic field during your professional career. Your individual career development is a major priority of our program and faculty team.

The training at Universidade de Lisboa provides you with a structured and robust opportunity to learn how to identify, plan and successfully approach a clinical condition requiring an endodontic approach. We are a growing department with highly productive faculty members with a range of interests who recognize and support the special needs and training needs of our students. Our close relationships with other departments, such as Prosthodontics, Periodontics, Oral Surgery or Implant Dentistry, expand our vision and better integrates the students in the multidisciplinary concept of Dentistry.

We are very proud of our program and the successes of our past courses and students. We recognize the unique backgrounds, values and skills each new student brings to the program. On behalf of the faculty team of the Postgraduation specialty course in Endodontics, we invite you to review the present “*Guidelines for initiation in clinical activities and others*”, and to contact directly with the faculty if any doubt emerges.

Sincerely,



António Ginjeira, MD, DMD, PhD

Associate Professor

FMDUL Endodontics chairman, and Advanced Programmes Director

Postgraduate specialty course in Endodontics

**Faculdade de Medicina Dentária da Universidade de Lisboa
FMDUL**

Guidelines for initiation in clinical activities and others

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1. PROGRAMME APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION

In order to proceed with a formal application and registration into the Specialty Course in Endodontics at FMDUL, each candidate should contact the school front desk in order to understand which documentation is required to each particular case. Having in consideration the multi-nationality of the Programme, students coming from different countries may require specific documentation. All that information is easily available and might be obtained in the school front desk.

If any doubt exists, if the provided information was not clear, or if any language barrier exists between the candidate and the school front desk officers, please feel free to contact directly the Programme director Prof. António Ginjeira for further clarifications and help in the application and registration process at any time.

APPLICATIONS – 1st phase

Number of students	4
Application process	15/04-10/07
Written exam	15/07
Interviews	17/07-18/07
Results	19/07
Course start	14/10

2nd phase

Number of places	Depending on the 1st phase candidates selection
Application process	22/07-31/08
Written exam	16/09
Interviews	18 e 19/09
Results	23 a 27/09
Course start	14/10

GENERAL CONTACT

Phone: (+351) 21 792 26 00

SCHOOL FRONT DESK CONTACTS

Phone: (+351) 21 792 26 31

Fax: (+351) 21 792 26 30

e-mail: secretaria@fmd.ul.pt

Academic Year Schedule: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00am to 2:00pm; and Wednesday from 9:00am to 4:00pm. (Lisbon time)

Vacation (August and September) Schedule: From Monday to Friday from 9:30am to 1:00pm

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR CONTACT

Professor António Ginjeira

e-mail: aginjeira@campus.ul.pt

2. OBJECTIVES

The Specialty Course in Endodontics is a full time course that aims to train health professionals, enabling them to comprehensively and fully treat all endodontic needs of the population. The curriculum of the course follows the guidelines outlined by most endodontic associations including the American and European associations so that international accreditation is possible upon completion.

After completion of the Postgraduate Course of Specialty in Endodontics, the Dentist should:

- a) Be able to assess and act according to the general health status of patients in need of endodontic treatment;
- b) Be able to assess the pre-existing conditions that may affect the realization of endodontic treatment;
- c) Be able to plan the treatment of patients requiring multidisciplinary care in dentistry;
- d) Master the techniques and skills needed to perform treatments in the field of Endodontics, appropriate to each individual case;

- e) Know the scientific literature considered classic and current in the field of Endodontics;
- f) Master the complexity of therapeutic techniques covered in the course;
- g) Master the pedagogic techniques of public presentation in order to enable their participation in continuing education.
- h) Be motivated to participate in continuous training throughout life.

3. LIST OF EQUIPMENTS/MATERIALS REQUIRED

The following equipment is required to each trainee before the preclinical and clinical activities:

- Apex Locator
- Endodontic motor
- Obturating system (System B and Obtura Unit, or similar)
- Ultrasonic Unit (with endodontic tips)
- X-ray positioning device
- Laptop
- Compatible memory card.

4. PROGRAMME DIRECTOR AND FACULTY TEAM

The staff group is composed by the programme director and the faculty team group. The programme director is a full-time faculty member and the main coordinator of the post-graduation endodontic programme. Has responsibilities on student's selection, revision of programme contents and guidelines, faculty and student's evaluation, recommended facilities maintenance and care, and final decision on student's evaluation. The faculty team group is composed by clinicians with advanced training in endodontics and are part-time trainers whose main responsibilities are to the supervision of the academic and clinical activities.

5. TUTORS

To each student (or trainee), a tutor and mentor will be assigned by the programme director and faculty team. The tutor will be an element of the faculty team group that will be in charge of supporting more closely that particular student on clinical activities (or research activities).

The students are incentivised to debate all situations with all faculty members. However, since each student is very specific and, due to the international range of the programme, may require a more personalised attention which can be provided by the tutor.

The tutor may change during the 3-years period, and if the student feels that another tutor is advisable for any reason, that request has to be made and justified to the programme director.

6. CLINICAL TRAINING

6.1. Preclinical Course

The preclinical course consists of a preliminary training before the clinical training providing care to the patients.

The preclinical course starts with the introduction to the clinical ethics and conducts, seminars on materials and equipment, safety precautions.

Seminar on surgical operating microscopes, orientation, standardization, calibration and coordination during use.

Seminar and practical on radiographic techniques.

Access cavity preparation of 40 selected teeth: upper and lower incisors, canines, premolars and molars, working length determination, preparation and calibration, master cone and obturation. All steps fully documented radiographically (initial, working length, master cone, obturation and final)

Seminars and practical on retreatments, retrieval of separated instruments, management of perforation and ledge bypass in-vitro.

All prepared cases well documented are presented to the faculty for assessment and grading at the end of the preclinical course.

Only after completing successfully the Preclinical training the trainees are allowed to proceed to clinical training program.

6.2. Clinical Program

Each student (trainee) is assigned to a cubicle to work after due orientation. Each student will have a specific tutor and mentor. Patients are allocated to student agenda prior to the appointments. Cases allocated are to be previously assessed before the start of each clinical session.

Clinical activities begin at 8:30am prior to this all students must have arrived and plan for the sessions, there are always two (2) faculty members present to assess four (4) students at each clinical session. Once patient is seated the students obtain medical and dental history, examinations, investigation and make a diagnosis and prepare a treatment plan with the supervision of a faculty member.

The patients are duly informed through the process of history to treatment plans, patients who consents to the treatment plan are given the budget to sign and treatment is commenced. All procedures performed by the students are according to the ESE guidelines.

With a previous authorization from the faculty member in charge, the trainee may look for another specialty opinion in multi-disciplinary approaches, or in medically compromised patients.

To ensure that students are capable enough to manage cases according to their theory knowledge and clinical experience, clinical case selection will be selected according to student capacity and will be ranked according case difficulty.

At the first year the students are supposed to perform primary treatments and anterior and premolar retreatment cases. At the second year, the molar retreatments are supposed to be introduced, and the more complex retreatment cases are supposed to be treated at the third year. However, due to the nature of the programme, in which there are not 3 classes at 3 different years, any case might be performed at any year, as long as the faculty members consider the student capable of performing the case. This is not valid for the surgical cases which are introduced by the second year only.

Clinical Case Requirement (recommendation year objectives)

First year: 40 clinical cases (recommended)

Second year: 70 clinical cases (recommended)

Third year: 70 clinical cases (recommended)

Total: Minimum 180 clinical cases, 10 of them endodontic microsurgeries (mandatory)

Are considered clinical cases counting for the Clinical Case Requirement cases of: preliminary treatments, retreatment, vital pulp therapy, regenerative endodontics, apicoformations or surgical cases. However, the students are also supposed to perform other clinical consultations such as follow-ups or endodontic evaluations for assisting other advanced education programmes in the school.

Clinical cases that did not reach the minimum quality requirement, can be passed to other students, and not counted for the final Clinical Case Requirement pool.

All clinical cases are supposed to be documented and presented in the Case-Presentation Seminars.

Students are not allowed to miss clinical training classes when patients have been scheduled. If a student intends to miss an appointment or day in classes, a previous requirement has to be made and approved by his tutor or by the programme director. However, students are allowed to leave in school vacations (Christmas, Easter or summer vacations) of national holydays. Home country religious holydays, even if they do not exist in Portugal, are considered by the faculty team, as long as they are previously informed of the days to have in consideration.

6.3. Case Documentation

All students should document primary and non-surgical re-treatments clinical cases according to the following requirements:

Radiographs (mandatory)

- 1 Pre-Operative X-ray
- Working length determination X-ray
- Master cone fit X-ray
- 1 Final X-ray
- 3 months follow up X-ray
- 6 months follow up X-ray
- 1 year follow up X-ray

Photographs (not mandatory, but students are advised to do it)

- Preoperative
- Access cavity and pulp chamber floor
- Pre-endodontic restoration photos
- Intra-operative findings or procedures – Posts and separated instrument removal, MTA plug, perforation repairs
- Final condensation
- Build-up

The photos are not required in case a video is performed and covers some or all of the above mentioned aspects.

All students should document surgical clinical cases according to the following requirements:

Radiographs (mandatory)

- 1 Pre-Operative X-ray
- 1 Pre-Operative CBCT
- Retrofilling X-ray
- 1 Final X-ray

Photographs (advisable)

- Pre-operative extra-oral
- Incision (Flap design)
- Elevated flap
- Bone/lesion picture
- After apicectomy and bone curettage
- After retro-preparation
- After-retrofilling
- Flap reposition and suture
- Follow-ups extra-oral

(other specific procedures such as perforation repair and or guide tissue regeneration should be captured also)

The photos are not required in case a video is performed and covers some or all of the above mentioned aspects.

6.4. Follow-up (recall) policy

The follow-ups are supposed to be made at 3 months, 6 months, 1 year, 2 years and 5 years. These follow-ups are supposed to be performed by the student who performed the clinical case if the follow-up time allows it, or by a student recalling a patient from a previous course.

7. RECORD OF CLINICAL PROCEDURES

All treatment procedures have to be evaluated and validated by a faculty member present in the clinic. After receiving the case, the trainee should debate the clinical case with the faculty

in charge, and only after a proper authorization, the trainee is allowed to proceed with the treatment. The clinical case has to be also explained and accepted by the patient, the endodontic consent forms should be given to the patient and then signed before starting any treatment. The performed procedures are to be introduced in the medical charts in the clinic software and properly evaluated and validated by a faculty member. The trainees are not allowed to send the patient away before the faculty members allow it.

8. PROGRAMME CONTENTS

8.1. Programme contents review and updates

All the “Introductory Seminars – Basic Sciences”, “Systematic Literature Reviews I and II” and remaining programme contents are reviewed by the programme director and faculty member in charge of each curricular unit on a yearly basis to assure that the topics are update, and according the most recent recommendations and standards.

8.2. Literature reviews and seminars

The faculty member sends the literature materials to the students one week prior to each session. All students prepare and submit the duly prepared presentations to the faculty latest two days to discuss prior to the literature seminar. All students are to be in attendance at all sessions except an official exemption is requested and granted. During the seminars the faculty member in charge nominate student to present each literature topic and all others contribute.

The main goal of the Literature Reviews and Seminars is to provide the students with the ability to keep updated in the long run of a life time career as an Endodontist

- Understand the importance of being updated
- Understand the fast pace of the changes that occur in Endodontics
- Understand the Endodontics as a dynamic science which requires a constant update
- Understand how and when to look for new information
- Be able to choose the more relevant literature among the vast published literature every month
- Be able to complement personal knowledge with new published literature
- Be able to use electronic databases, such as Pubmed, ScienceDirect, Embase, Lilacs, Cochrane Library and similar databases

- Know how to perform manual search in specific journals, and understand the impact and influence of each one
- Be able to debate a study of any Endodontics field
- Build a critical mind that understands the merits and limitations of a study of any Endodontics field

9. RESEARCH

The major goal of the programme is to create capacity to take care of patients. However, the capacity for developing research project is also an important objective of the programme.

The students are allowed to select any topic. And the faculty team will understand if that particular subject is possible to be addressed under the conditions made available in FMDUL or with collaboration with Universities or Schools in collaboration programs with FMDUL.

Any topic or content is acceptable for debate in the Research Seminars as long as it is well backed up by the trainee. The research seminars are supposed to complement the Evidence-Based Dentistry, Methodology in Investigations, Biostatistics, Bioethics and Deontology, and Epidemiology classes. The research seminars are mostly a student's mentor guidance to identify a feasible research project for the upcoming months. The trainees are encouraged to share with the faculty members what they see themselves doing in a research project. While the faculty member try to give some orientation regarding the real possibilities for developing the ideas or the best way to improve those same ideas. The final project will be defined after the conclusion of the 1st year curricular units related with research methodologies.

The project will be developed until the end of the programme. The time required to develop, prepare a manuscript, submit and publish a manuscript may very easily surpass the 3 years of the programme. To avoid losing the developed work, the students are advised to finish the field work, and prepare a first version of the manuscript and deliver it to his tutor by the end of the programme time. From that moment on the tutor will be in charge to guarantee the publishing of the developed work (if it has quality enough to be accepted and published). This way, the student can focus his time at FMDUL on the research itself and leaving the long periods of submitting, reviewing referees comments and publishing to the faculty team after the students are gone. The students, obviously, will receive the credits of their work in case the manuscripts become published.

10. CASE PRESENTATIONS

The Case Presentations will be held at Wednesday mornings. The cases should be well documented showing all aspects of the clinical procedure. The case documentation should follow the “3.3 Case Documentation” requirements. A special template for Case Presentations exists and will be delivered and explained by the faculty at a proper time. The main objectives and competencies to achieve with these sessions are: to be able to defend the clinical options or understand other better options, to be able to perform a correct case difficulty assessment, to be able to correctly document a case (radiographs, images, medical history), to be able to perform a correct diagnosis, and to be able to design a proper treatment plan.

11. SCIENTIFIC CONGRESSES AND SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

The students are incentivized to actively participate in scientific meetings. All students are required to attend and present posters at the European Society of Endodontology biennial meeting (ESE) and at Sociedade Portuguesa de Endodontologia (SPE) congress and participate at other available conferences every year.

12. EVALUATION SYSTEM AND FINAL EXAM

Several examinations will be made during the programme to evaluate the acquired knowledges on each programme curricular unit. All curricular units learning will be evaluated and the trainees’ scores will share with the students and debated if required. Although the academic evaluations of each students are given only by the end of each academic year, the students evaluation is made on a continuous evaluation mode, avoiding the need of intercalary evaluations, so that the programme can be adjusted to that particular student needs and authorize the transition of each students to the next stages according to their capacity and achievements. The programme director and the tutors may debate with each trainee the best way to overcome a particular difficulty or obstacle.

A final course exam will be held in the final month of the programme with the programme director and all the faculty members present and with the presence of an invited external faculty. This final examination will consist on the presentation of several clinical cases (the number will be previously defined) and the followed by a debate with questions and answers. Both internal and the external faculty member will evaluate the students according to its final exam performance.

13. FINAL EVALUATION

The course is organized by course credit system ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) and has the duration of three years on a full-time regimen. The total number of credits needed to complete the course is 180 ECTS. The evaluation of each curricular module of the course is expressed on a numerical scale of 0 to 20 points and a passing grade is in the range of 10 - 20 points. The overall evaluation of a student's performance in the course is also expressed on a numerical scale of 0 to 20 points. A passing grade is in the range of 10 - 20 points, as well as its equivalent in the European scale of comparability of classifications according to the terms stipulated in article 19 of the Law-Decree n° 42/2005, of February 22nd, altered by the Law-Decree n° 107/2008, of June 25th. The final grade attributed to a student at the completion of the course is a weighted average of the grades obtained in all the modules that compose the course. The average calculated up to two decimal places, and weighted by the respective number of credit units for each module. With the final grade, qualitative mentions may be attributed. They are as follows: Excellent (18 to 20 points), Very Good (16 and 17 points), good (14 and 15 points), sufficient (10-13 points) and Fail (less than 10 values).

14. CERTIFICATE

Successful completion of the course and graduation is attested by a certificate designated as Diploma, pursuant to the Law-Decree n.º 115/2013 of August 7th. The diploma includes the respective supplement to the diploma and is awarded by the Faculdade de Medicina Dentária da Universidade de Lisboa (FMDUL) within 90 days of its request by the person concerned.

15. GUIDELINES REVISION

The present Guidelines are reviewed by a reviewer committee, composed by the programme director and one programme faculty member, before the start of any new programme cycle.

Last revision: April 2019