

## Community Engagement Activities Report Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) Program College of Dentistry

As part of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) program offered by the College of Dentistry, selected courses incorporate structured community engagement and community-based learning activities, aligned with program objectives.

Two courses within the BDS curriculum explicitly integrate community-oriented components that aim to enhance students' understanding of Dental Public Health, promote community oral health awareness, and support the development of preventive and population-based approaches to dental care.

### Courses Incorporating Community Activities

#### 1. DSPC-613 – Community Dentistry

This course is designed to build students' awareness of the principles of Dental Public Health and their application to community oral health. It emphasizes the distinction between clinical dental practice and dental public health, highlighting the role of prevention and population-based strategies.

Through this course, students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to design, plan, and evaluate community oral health programs using established planning cycles. Students are trained to critically analyze dental public health problems and propose practical, evidence-based solutions aimed at promoting oral health at both individual and community levels. The course also addresses the epidemiology of major oral diseases, including dental caries, periodontal diseases, and oral cancer, with a comparative focus on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and global trends. Additionally, common dental indices, health service planning, challenges in dental care delivery systems, and strategies to improve access to dental care are covered. [DSPC613-Community Dentistry Syllabus.pdf](#)

#### 2. DSPC-623 – The Practice of Dentistry in the Community

This course reinforces and applies Dental Public Health principles within a community practice context, focusing on translating theoretical knowledge into practical community-based applications. It emphasizes the role of dentists in addressing oral health needs at the population level through preventive, educational, and service-oriented initiatives.

Students develop competencies in planning and implementing community oral health programs, critically assessing public health challenges, and identifying appropriate preventive strategies for common oral diseases. The course includes applied learning

activities related to epidemiological assessment, literature review, and evaluation of oral health indicators, with particular attention to oral health issues in Saudi Arabia in comparison with international benchmarks. It also highlights the importance of health service planning and improving access to dental care within community settings.

[DSPC623-The practice of Dentistry in the Community-syllabus.pdf](#)

### **Annual Plan for Community Activities**

In addition to the integration of community engagement activities within the DSPC-613 and DSPC-623 courses, the Community Engagement and Industry Linkage Committee formulates an annual plan outlining the community activities to be implemented as part of the BDS program. This plan includes community-based activities embedded within the above-mentioned courses and ensures structured planning, coordination, and monitoring of community engagement initiatives.

[Annual Community Committee Plan.pdf](#)