

Community, Access, Reach, & Education in Pediatric Dentistry

SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN



Special Needs Children Course Syllabus

Course Titles:

Autism Spectrum Disorder
Speech & Language Pathology

Course Enrollment: Pediatric Dental Residents & Advanced
Clinical Trainees (ACTs)

Course Co-Chairs



Tanya Paparella, Ph.D.

Dr. Tanya Paparella is a specialist in the field of autism with more than 20 years of intervention and research with children on the autism spectrum. She is currently an Associate Clinical Professor in the Division of Child Psychiatry at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), a licensed clinical psychologist, and since 2001 Director of UCLA's Early Childhood Partial Hospitalization Program (ECPHP) which is an internationally recognized treatment program for young children with autism.

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Stephanny Freeman, Ph.D.

Dr. Stephanny F. N. Freeman is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Child Psychiatry at UCLA and a licensed clinical psychologist. She co-directs the Early Childhood Partial Hospitalization (ECPHP) Program at UCLA. Research interests include the social (peers and friendship) and emotional (recognition, empathy, and problem solving) development of children with developmental disabilities. Dr. Freeman also investigates and has published research-based intervention procedures on core deficits for preschool and young children with autism, best practice interdisciplinary interventions for children with autism, and play/social skills development in autism.

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Mirella Parra

Mirella Parra has been a part of the team at the UCLA KidsConnect Autism Treatment Program for 7 years and is currently serving as a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst. She is responsible for supervising staff in the clinical classroom and supporting parents with home goals. She develops individualized Behavior Intervention Plans, provides feedback after implementation, ensures the program's effectiveness and assists in promoting generalization. Currently, she is interested in disseminating information about behavior methodology to other healthcare providers and as well as training paraprofessionals, community providers, parents and caregivers on how to integrate Applied Behavior Analysis techniques in other settings.

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Kharifa Tan

Kharifa Tan is a speech-language pathologist who specializes in working with young children on the autism spectrum. She is currently working at UCLA's KidsConnect, an early intervention partial hospitalization program for children with autism and other developmental disorders. Kharifa has worked with children with special needs since 2009. She enjoys finding fun and creative ways to connect with her clients and navigate the world of communication.

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Autism Spectrum Disorder

Course Description

This three-part course aligns with CARE PD Goal A (Focus Area I) which is to enhance existing SPICE-PD residency curriculum to prepare post-doctoral pediatric dentists to provide care for underserved and special needs groups and communities in the evolving field of dentistry.

Course Competency

- Demonstrate the ability to describe ASD disorders and their health and dental implications
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate and adapt patient care to special needs/ASD children
- Demonstrate the ability to participate in interprofessional care across different health/behavioral disciplines.

Course Objectives

On successful completion of this course, residents will be able to:

- Identify and understand the behavioral characteristics that describe autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in children.
- Identify the red flag behavior characteristics associated with at risk pre-identified young children.
- Identify the characteristics of comorbid disorders and neurological factors.

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- Articulate the factors (e.g., environmental, cultural, access to care, etc.) contributing to poor oral health in ASD populations.
- Understand the process of identification of ASD in young children and assessments used to give a diagnosis.
- Understand the role of parents as resources to health professionals about their child's development and behavior.
- Learn about the treatment options for ASD/special needs children.
- Learn functional analysis of behavior.
- Learn simple, appropriate and effective techniques for child behavior management in the dental office.

Pre-requisites: Dental residents will review basic information about ASD as it relates to the practice of oral health. See required reading materials below.

Didactic Portion: Through a combination of classroom lecture and discussion, this course introduces dental resident students to ASD/special needs children and their unique health and oral health issues. Dental residents will learn behavior protocols for managing not typical child behavior at dental office settings by certified behavior analyst (BCBA).

Practical Experience: Dental residents will be given an opportunity to observe children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders in a treatment program. Dental residents will be assigned a child enrolled in the treatment program through the “adopt a family” process. During the practical experience portion, the dental resident will be expected to identify and analyze the behavior of their “adopted” child using ABA methodology. The resident will then complete a CAMBRA six step process using behavioral management techniques on their adopted child under the supervision of Semel Faculty. Finally, resident will schedule and complete a full dental exam in clinic on their “adopted” child (if possible depending on insurance issues).

Speech and Language Pathology – More Than Stutters

Course Description

Prepares post-doctoral pediatric dentists to recognize potential speech-language and feeding disorders, oral abnormalities, and make appropriate referrals in the evolving field of dentistry.

Course Objectives

After attending the course session, dental residents will be able to:

- Understand the general scope of speech-language pathologist
- Learn terminology
- Identify the characteristics of typical speech and language development
- Learn techniques to stop thumb-sucking & pacifier use
- Learn markers of atypical development
- Understand the effects of pervasive thumb-sucking and pacifier use on speech

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Autism Spectrum Disorder

Instructional Method (s) used in this course (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lecture | Projects |
| Seminar | Grand Rounds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature Review | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Problem-based learning/case studies |
| Resident Presentation | Clinical Rotations |
| Simulation lab | Other: _____ |
| Laboratory | |

GME Competencies addressed by this course (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient Care | Interpersonal & Communication Skills |
| Medical Knowledge | Professionalism |
| Practice-based learning and improvement | Systems-based practice |

CODA Standards addressed by this course (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| Biomedical sciences | Management of a contemporary dental practice |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Behavior guidance | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Growth and development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patients with special health care needs |
| Oral facial injury and emergency care | Hospital dentistry |
| Oral diagnosis, oral pathology, & oral medicine | Pulp therapy |
| Prevention and health promotion | Pediatric Medicine |
| Comprehensive dental care | Advocacy |
| | Teaching |

Evaluation Criteria/Methods

- Students will be evaluated based on attendance and active participation in discussions, lectures, treatment/case study session and rotation.
- Pre and post tests will be used to assess basic knowledge (if applicable).
- Faculty observational assessments will be used to provide students with performance feedback and additional strategies for future use.
- Annual post course online survey will be collected.

Remediation Policies

A customized remediation program will be designed to address areas of deficiency.

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Learning Resources & Readings:

All available online at UCLA MedHub prior to each class.

Part A:

- University of Washington DECOD Program (2010). Children with autism spectrum disorder. In Oral health fact sheets for patients with special needs. Retrieved from http://dental.washington.edu/wp-content/media/sp_need_pdfs/Autism-Dental.pdf

Part B:

- Session 1: Schreibman, L. (1988). Behavioral characteristics of autism In Autism, (pp. 14-27). Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications
- Session 2: Delli, K., Reichart, P.A., Bornstein, M.M., Livas, C. (2013). Management of children with autism spectrum disorder in the dental setting: Concerns, behavioral approaches and recommendations. Med Oral Patol Oral Cir Bucal, 18(6), 862-8.
- Session 3: Glasberg, B.A. (2008). Stop That Seemingly Senseless Behavior!. Bethesda, MD: Woodbine House, Inc. (Chapters 1 and 6)

Course Schedule

Offered yearly to 2nd year residents in the fall and spring quarters.

Title	Lecturer	Hours
Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	Dr. Tanya Paparella	2
Treatment Options for ASD	Dr. Stephanny Freeman	2
ABA for Dental Professionals	Mirella Parra & Kristin Hayashide	2
ASD Rotation – Fall Quarter	Mirella Parra	3
ASD Rotation Debrief – Fall Quarter	Mirella Parra	2
ASD Rotation – Spring Quarter	Mirella Parra	3
ASD Rotation Debrief – Spring Quarter	Mirella Parra	2
Speech & Language Part I	Kharifa Tan	2
Speech & Language Part II	Kharifa Tan	2
Speech & Language Observation & Session Debrief	Kharifa Tan	2

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