UCLA VISITING SCHOLAR
DENTISTRY IN CHINA

Kunming Medical University
Yanhong Li
LIST

Country Demographics

Dental Education in China

Oral Health in China

UCLA Experience
Populations: 1,366,130,000 (2014)

# of Dentists:
- Nearly 120,000 (2012)
- Growing by about 15,000 annually

Ratio of population to dentists: 11,000:1

# of pediatric dentists: no data
Academic Requirements for Dental School

- High school graduates
- Nationwide entrance examination (SAT)
- Different dental schools have different admission scores
- No undergraduate pre-dental study is needed prior to entry into dental school
Requirements for graduation:

1. 5-year dental school program: Typical
   - **Tuition**: US$1,000 per year.
   - **Curriculum**: 4 years: didactics and laboratory course work
     1 year: compulsory internship rotations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Curriculum</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Study basic sciences together with medical students</td>
<td>Politics, English, Physics, Physical Education, Advanced Mathematics, Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Biology, Human Anatomy, Histology &amp; Embryology</td>
<td>948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td></td>
<td>Philosophy, English, Genetics, Biochemistry, Physical Education, Physiology, Microbiology, Pathology, Pathophysiology, Pharmacology</td>
<td>914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Attend lectures and grand round rotations in a medical hospital</td>
<td>Political Economy, Physical Diagnostics, Surgery, Laboratory Diagnostics, General Surgery, Traditional Chinese Medicine, Internal Medicine, Ophthalmology, Otolaryngology, Gynecology &amp; Obstetrics, Pediatrics, Dermatology</td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Further engage in dental didactic and laboratory course work and students begin making contact with patients</td>
<td>Latin, Oral Histopathology, Dental Anatomy &amp; Occlusion, Regional Anatomy, Endodontics, Orthodontics, Oral Surgery, Prosthodontics, Restorative Dentistry, Periodontics, Paedodontics, Preventive Dentistry</td>
<td>1165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Participate exclusively in patient care and prepare for the nationwide dental licensure examination</td>
<td>Clinical Training</td>
<td>1840</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Requirements for graduation:

1. 5-year dental school program: Typical

   - Requirement for graduation: Final exams at the end of each term
   - Degree: Graduates are awarded a bachelor of dental surgery degree (BDS)

   Examination guidelines:
   - Oral examination: 15-30 minute
   - Written examination: multiple-choice, essay questions, and short answers
   - Internal assessment: one-on-one interview between one to three examiners and the student
Requirements for graduation:

2. 3-year master-degree program:
   - Dental school graduates
   - Nationwide entrance examination (GRE)
   - Different dental schools have different admission scores
   - Publish one paper
   - Graduates are awarded a master of dental degree (MD)
Requirements for graduation:

3. 3-year doctor-degree program:
   - Dental school master graduates
   - University-wide entrance examination (GRE)
   - Publish 1-2 SCI papers
   - Graduates are awarded a doctor of dental degree (PhD)
Requirements for graduation:

4. 7–year master-degree program:
   • About 10 dental schools provide a seven year program which combines a five year BDS degree and a two year master degree.
   • Graduates are awarded a master of dental surgery degree (MD)

5. 8-year PhD program are also available in several top dental schools
   • Graduates are awarded a doctor of dental surgery degree (PhD)
Requirements for practicing dentistry: nationwide licensure examination

- It is the only examination that candidates for dental licensure in China must take
- A clinical part + A written part
- Be eligible to take it one year after the BDS diploma has been conferred
Requirements for pediatric dentistry / specialty practice

- General dentist
- Apply for the master degree program
- Participate short-time training program
State of health

- The 4th national oral-health surveys will be conducted in 2015
Map of Yunnan
25 OF 56 ETHNIC MINORITIES LIVE IN YUNNAN
Dental disease rates

- The 3rd national oral-health surveys in 2005
  - 5-year old: 66%
  - 12-year old: 29%

### Table 2: Caries status of children in Yunnan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ethnic Minority</th>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Caries Prevalence</th>
<th>DMFT ±SD (dmft±SD)</th>
<th>Rate of untreated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Naxi</td>
<td>6-13 year old</td>
<td>92.71%</td>
<td>6.33 ± 5.1</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Han (Huize)</td>
<td>12-year old</td>
<td>41.38%</td>
<td>0.44 ± 1.2</td>
<td>87.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Han (Kunming)</td>
<td>5-year old</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
<td>4.47 ± 4.39</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12-year old</td>
<td>53.5%</td>
<td>1.42 ± 1.83</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Dai</td>
<td>5-year old</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>7.0 ± 5.3</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Bulang</td>
<td>5-year old</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>5.8 ± 4.9</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12-year old</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>0.6 ± 1.1</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Barriers to dental care

• Lack of access to dental care: shortage and unequal distribution of dentists and the lack of facilities
• Lack of financing and public dental programs for children
• Lack of dental insurance
• Poor oral health care consciousness and knowledge of Local people
What key difference have you seen in US care vs China

• **Education**: Duration, curriculum, degree, requirements for practicing dentistry, relationship between professor and students

• **Research**: Lab, requirements for graduation

• **Clinical treatment**: Sedation, occlusive guidance, insurance, public dental programs
UCLA Experience

Key takeaway procedures, thoughts,

- Increase access to dental care: Dental education

Enhance education to local general dentists

Increase enrollment number of pediatric specialty trainees
Our public dental programs for children: good, but not enough

Fluoride Varnish Program for preschool children

Sealant Program for 7-9 year old children
Our public dental programs for children: good, but not enough

Dental program for homeless or disabled children

“Smile Train” program for children with cleft lips and palates
Our public dental programs for children: good, but not enough

Oral Health Education program
Key takeaway procedures, thoughts,

- Increase access to dental care: Dental education
- Appeal to government to increase the budget for public dental programs for children: CAMBRA
Key takeaway procedures, thoughts,

- Increase access to dental care: Dental education
- Appeal to government to increase the budget for public dental programs for children: CAMBRA
- Explore potential and feasible ways of dental insurance
Oral Health Education program: good, but not enough
The teaching reformation program to improve the ability of oral health education of undergraduates

- Write popular articles
- Design popular posters
- Participate in the popular speech contest
The teaching reformation program to improve the ability of oral health education of undergraduates
Key takeaway procedures, thoughts,

- Increase access to dental care: Dental education
- Appeal to government to increase the budget for public dental programs for children: CAMBRA
- Explore potential and feasible ways of dental insurance
- Enhance oral health education to improve oral health care consciousness and knowledge of Local people: enhance the cooperation with Pediatrician
Key takeaway procedures, thoughts,

- Increase access to dental care: Dental education
- Appeal to government to increase the budget for public dental programs for children: CAMBRA
- Explore potential and feasible ways of dental insurance
- Enhance oral health education to improve oral health care consciousness and knowledge of Local people
- **Practice sedation, occlusive guidance**
Recommendations for innovative change

- Enhance the academic exchange and cooperation between UCLA and dental school in China
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