MASTER OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY PROGRAM
1. INTRODUCTION:

The Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is a new surgical specialty program, which will be offered by the School of Dental Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia. It is planned to train dental graduate to be a specialist in Oral and Maxillofacial surgery. This will cater to the need of the country in the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery and to be recognized internationally.

2. BACKGROUND:

The program in Oral and Maxillofacial surgery is a continuous 48-month course duration that prepares the graduate for the practice of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery covers that part of surgery which deals with the diagnosis, surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, injuries and defects of the human jaws and associated maxillofacial structures. The four-year program is designed to prepare residents for a career in education, research, or clinical practice in the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery. Clinical training is aimed at providing the resident with the broadest possible exposure to oral and maxillofacial surgery including: dentoalveolar surgery, trauma, orthognathic, craniofacial surgery, temporomandibular joint surgery, pre-prosthetic, reconstructive, head and neck oncology surgery, implant surgery, treatment of pathology and cosmetic surgery. The Oral and Maxillofacial department at School of Dental sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia will be conducting this program. This program will prepare the candidate for holistic management of patients in Oral and Maxillofacial specialty. The scope of Oral and Maxillofacial surgery and length of training fulfills the guidelines of training defined by the Asian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (2005).

At present, the University of Malaya is the only university in our country offering dental graduates to pursue their study in the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. As a result, the need for a similar program established by the School of Dental Sciences is recommended to increase the number of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons in our country.
3. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery degree is designed to provide candidates with the opportunity to advance their knowledge and skills in the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The program is designed to facilitate the advanced development of clinical, academic and research skills necessary for them to further their career in academia, research or specialty practice. This course provides the educational component required for specialist training.

4. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

On completion of the Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery course, the candidates should be able to:

1) Be exposed to the full scope of oral and maxillofacial surgery.
2) Provide the candidates with knowledge in medical and surgery relevant to oral and maxillofacial surgery.
3) Provide the candidates with knowledge of basic sciences relevant to clinical applications and research.
4) Provide the candidates with clinical skills training in oral and maxillofacial surgery.
5) Provide the candidates with good problem solving ability in the management of oral and maxillofacial diseases.
6) Expose the candidates to multidisciplinary approach in management of oral and maxillofacial problems.
7) Maintain self-development by continuing education and knowledge updating.
8) Prepare individuals for a career in the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery in Malaysia and to be a leader in a multi-disciplinary team.

5. PROGRAM OF STUDY

The Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery program is a coursework program.

6. DURATION OF STUDY

The minimum duration of study is four (4) years while the maximum is seven (7) years. However, each case is judged on a case-by-case basis.
7. STUDY FEE

The fee for the Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery program is RM 30,000 per academic year.

8. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Qualifications for admission

The candidate should:

a) Have a bachelor’s degree in Dentistry (BDS, DDS or an equivalent degree).

b) Have at least three years post registration experience in dentistry, either in Ministry of Health (MOH) or other institutions recognized by the University Senate.

c) Obtain at least a credit in Bahasa Malaysia in SPM (for Malaysian citizen) or equivalent examination.

d) Obtained at least minimum English requirements; Level 6 for IELTS or 550 for TOEFL or passed the examination set by USM Language Centre (for non-Malaysian citizens)

e) Passed the assessment for admission, which has been decided by the School and Ministry of Health.

f) Have passed Primary Examination of FRACDS or Part A of MFDS to be exempted from the 6 months basic medical and dental science course.

g) Be registered with Malaysian Dental Council.

h) Have good physical and mental health.
9. ADMISSION APPLICATION

Application form can be obtained from Institute of Postgraduate Studies by attaching an envelope (measuring 28cm × 40cm) and RM 1.20 stamp. Please write “Postgraduate Studies Application” and Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery on the top left of the envelope. The candidates are also required to enclose a Money Order or Postal Order RM 10.00 under the name of Universiti Sains Malaysia and send it to:

Dean,
Institute Of Postgraduate Studies,
Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800,
Minden, Penang

Every application must be attached with academic qualifications and certified clinical experience and 2 passport photographs.

All applicants must be certified by the School Board and the final decision will be made by the University Senate.

Any queries pertaining to the contents of program, program structure and others, can be directed to the School of Dental Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Health Campus, 16150 Kubang Kerian, Kelantan.

10. PROGRAM STRUCTURE

This program shall consist of three phases: Phase I, II and III.

10.1 Phase 1 is the first year of the Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery program. It comprises of instructions in Basic Medical and Dental Science subjects such as Pathology, Physiology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Anatomy and Histology over a period of six (6) months. The candidates have to sit for their FRACDS primary examination at the end of semester I Year 1. The final six (6) months of Year 1 comprises of General Dentistry lectures, attachment in the oral maxillofacial unit as well as introducing the students to research methodology and biostatistics.

10.2 Phase II is the second year of the program. It comprises of a research component and clinical attachment over a period of 12 months including training in the Oral and Maxillofacial and Head and Neck Surgery in USM.

10.3 Phase III is the third and fourth year of the program. Year three includes research component leading to the submission of dissertation followed by a defense viva. There will also be course work such as lectures, seminar and review of past year questions as a preparation for the students to sit for their FRACDS Part II examination. There will be a hospital residency training
program at the selected departments in HUSM (12 months). The hospital residency training program includes rotations in Anaesthesia, Internal Medicine, General Surgery, ORL and Accident & Emergency Unit.

The Year Four program comprises of a three (3) month clinical attachment in the specialty, either in the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Malaya or other clinical training centres recognized by the University.
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<th>Phase</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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| I     | 1    | 6 months | Basic Medical and Dental Sciences  
**Assessment:**  
FRACDS Primary Examination.  
Introduction to Research  
Methodology and Biostatistics  
Lectures on various specialties of Dentistry  
Clinical Practices  
**Assessment:**  
Continuous Assessment |
| II    | 2    | 12 months | Research Project  
Clinical training  
**Assessment:**  
Continuous Assessment |
| III   | 3    | 6 months | Research  
Hospital residency training  
**Assessment:**  
Continuous Assessment  
FRACDS Final Examination  
Research  
Hospital residency training  
**Assessment:**  
Submission and Defense of Dissertation |
|      | 4    | 12 months | Specialist training at recognized centres  
**Assessment:**  
Continuous Assessment  
Final Examination |
11. DEGREE AWARDED

The candidates will be awarded with Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (MOMF Surg) upon the completion of this program.

DETAILS OF STUDY PROGRAM

In general, approximately 50% of time in the program is committed to clinical training and experience. The remainder of the time is committed to coursework (20%) and research (30%). This distribution is in accordance with the international best practice for clinical specialisation in dentistry.

The clinical training and exposure are in the disciplines of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Otorhinolaryngology, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Anaesthesiology, Accident & Emergency Unit.

The candidates will also be required to participate in the undergraduate teaching programs of the School at an appropriate level, as part of their training. This will normally consist of preclinical and clinical supervision of undergraduate students, for at least one session per week throughout the Master of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery program.

YEAR 1

The candidates will study Basic Medical and Dental Sciences subjects for 6 months and sit for Primary examination of the Fellowship of Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons (FRACDS) in early December. The candidates will also need to undertake clinical training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and lectures in general dentistry for the final six months. They will also attend Research Methodology and Basic Statistics classes to introduce them to critical analysis of literature, planning a research design and protocol and writing a thesis. This is intended to assist them to develop the necessary analytical and writing skills that are needed for thesis preparation and publication. Identification of suitable study area and discussions regarding research projects with respective supervisors will be carried out during the final six months of Year 1.

Assessments:

FRACDS Primary Examination
Continuous Assessment
**YEAR 2**

Embarkation of research projects shall start early, as soon as the proposal has been approved. The students are advised to complete their research project and data collection and analyses during Year 2. Clinical exposure over a period of 12 months involves training in the Oral and Maxillofacial and Head and Neck Surgery specialty in HUSM.

The candidates will observe and manage cases that are of increasing complexity. They will also need to present some seminars on more advanced topics at regular intervals. Some multidisciplinary seminars involving other disciplines, such as Orthodontics, Prosthodontics, Paediatric Dentistry and others will be carried out to render the candidates with the multidisciplinary approach of managing Oral Maxillofacial cases.

Assessment includes end of Year written and clinical examination (FRACDS part II) and continuous assessment based on clinical logbook. The students will need to present some seminars regarding certain topics.

**Assessment:**

**Continuous Assessment**

**YEAR 3**

The hospital residency training program at selected departments in HUSM (12 months) includes rotations in ORL, Anaesthesia, Internal Medicine, General Surgery and Accident & Emergency unit.

Assessment will be based on overall clinical performance including patient management throughout the period. Patient cases are folioed and will be presented at regular intervals throughout the program. The candidate will also need to present some seminars on selected topics on regular basis and review some past year questions as a preparation for the candidates to sit for their FRACDS Final Examination.

Submissions of dissertation shall be done three months before the end of year 3, followed by a defense viva. The candidates are also encouraged to publish their work and present at the national and/or international dental research conference.

**Assessment:**

**FRACDS Final Examination**

**Submission and Defense of Dissertation**

**Continuous Assessments**
YEAR 4.

The candidates will undertake their clinical attachment in the Oral and Maxillofacial surgery unit at selected centres recognized by the university over a period of twelve (12) months in Year 4. A local supervisor will be selected to assist and monitor the candidate’s progress throughout the period.

The candidates will see and manage cases that are more complicated in their final year of clinical practices. They will also need to present some seminars on more advanced topics at regular intervals. Some multidisciplinary seminars involving other disciplines such as Restorative and Orthodontics may be carried out to render the candidates with multidisciplinary approach in managing certain dental cases. Continuous assessment is based on clinical logbook

As part of their examination, the candidates will present their case reports based on cases that they had encountered and managed.

Assessment:

Continuous Assessments
Final Examination