



Department of Dentistry  
General Practice Residency  
Program Brochure

**Erie County Medical Center  
Department of Dentistry  
General Practice Residency in Dentistry  
462 Grider Street  
Buffalo, NY  
716-898-3000**

The primary goal of the General Dentistry Postgraduate Program is to prepare our graduates for a career in general practice dentistry. This Advanced Education Program in General Dentistry is a 12- month hospital based GPR program that is designed to offer a balanced clinical and didactic curriculum in all aspects of dentistry in a hospital based setting. This program will provide the residents a full range of clinical experiences under the direct supervision of the attending dentists supplemented by didactic training in all dental specialties.

Our mission is to provide each resident with clinical and didactic experiences in all facets of general dentistry including treating patients in a hospital setting. This includes patients with behavioral management needs, emergency medicine, operating room dentistry, and treatment of developmentally and medically compromised patients, trauma management, maxillofacial prosthetics, and exposure to patients with head and neck cancers. The clinical experiences are supported by a structured didactic seminar that encourages critical thinking appropriate to post graduate level education in general dentistry and hospital-based rotations that offer exposure to various aspects of medicine.

The overall curriculum is designed to prepare our graduates to enter into the contemporary practice setting of general dentistry with greater knowledge, skill set, confidence and efficiency above and beyond the training they received in their respective undergraduate dental training programs. Graduates will become more proficient in all aspects of dentistry and equipped to manage medically compromised patients, efficiently assess urgent needs, think critically and perform appropriate treatment.

This GPR program has been planned in accordance with the guidelines for postdoctoral education of the American Dental Association Council on Dental Accreditation. Upon completion of the program, the residents receive a certificate of completion.

Program Director: Rachael Rossitto, DDS  
Erie County Medical Center  
Department of Dentistry / Oral Oncology and  
Maxillofacial Prosthetics  
462 Grider St  
Buffalo, NY 14215  
[rrossitto@ecmc.edu](mailto:rrossitto@ecmc.edu)

Associate Program Director: Kathryn Korff, DDS  
Erie County Medical Center  
Department of Dentistry / Oral Oncology and  
Maxillofacial Prosthetics  
462 Grider St  
Buffalo, NY 14215  
[kkorff@ecmc.edu](mailto:kkorff@ecmc.edu)

Program Coordinator: Pamela Isch 716-898-1686 [pisch@ecmc.edu](mailto:pisch@ecmc.edu)

### **Admissions**

Starting Date- Orientation begins at the end of June, patient care is July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> annually

Application- Postdoctoral Application Support Service (PASS), match code GPR 593

Degree/Certificate Offered- Certificate

Length of Program- 12 months, optional second year

Enrollment size – 15 residents

Admission Criteria- DDS or DMD from a 4 year accredited U.S. or Canadian Dental School

### **Salary Stipend**

Salary and benefit package information available online:

<http://medicine.buffalo.edu/offices/gme/residents/employment/salary-benefits-support.host.html/content/shared/smps/gme/r/fin-supt/salary-benefits.detail.html>

Residents are entitled to ten (10) vacation days and five (5) sick.

### **Percentage of Resident Time**

Didactic- 10%

Clinical – 80%

Non- Clinical Rotations- 10%

### **Past Residents' Experiences**

The following represents an approximation of the chair-side procedures an average resident accomplishes in one year.

- Comprehensive oral evaluations: 115
- Endodontic procedures: 29
- SRP by Quad: 24
- Complete denture units completed: 17
- Removable partial denture units completed: 9
- Simple Extractions: 430
- Surgical Extractions: 46
- Direct Restorations: 216
- Fixed units (PFM, FCC, Ceramic): 18
- Periodontal surgical procedures: 5
- Implant Procedures: 6
- Operating Room Cases: 12

## **Additional Experiences**

- Oral evaluation and treatment prior to head and neck surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, cardiac surgery, solid organ transplantation.
- Special needs dentistry
- Access to diode lasers, CBCT imaging, intra oral scanner, 3-D printer
- Maxillofacial prosthetics
- Evaluation and treatment of patients in a long-term care facility
- Robust Didactic program
- Nitrous Oxide Sedation

## **Goals and Objectives:**

**Goal 1:** Provide a full range of general dentistry and specialty services for a variety of patients including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the medically compromised.

### **Objectives:**

- The resident will provide high quality patient care to those whose medical, physical, social or psychological situations make it necessary to modify normal dental routines in order to provide dental treatment.
- The resident will gain a deeper understanding of general medicine and the relationship between systemic disease state and proposed dental treatment.

**Goal 2:** Function effectively and efficiently in multiple health care environments within interdisciplinary health care team in a hospital setting.

### **Objectives:**

- The resident will become proficient in operating room protocol.
- The resident will interact with other hospital departments through consultation and through various rotations.
- The resident will understand hospital organization.
- The resident will utilize practice management skills to work as an effective dental team member.

**Goal 3:** Educate GPR residents with knowledge and skills beyond the pre-doctoral level, enhance evidence-based decision-making and to incorporate lifelong learning into professional practice.

### **Objectives:**

- The resident will use advanced knowledge in planning and executing treatment plans.
- The resident will incorporate knowledge of technology-based information in patient care.
- The resident will develop critical thinking in treatment planning seminars and literature review that will allow for evidence based clinical decision making in patient care delivery.
- The resident will incorporate ethical decision making into the delivery of oral health services.

**Goal 4:** Understand the oral health needs of communities and engage in community service.

### **Objectives:**

- The resident will be able to promote the importance of daily oral care and maintenance.
- The resident will participate in community service events such as Give Kids a Smile Day and local Smile Education programs.

## **Rotations:**

- **Anesthesia:** Residents will spend 80 hours in the ECMC operating room with the anesthesia team. Residents will shadow and assist in the preoperative evaluation of patients, venipuncture techniques, monitoring of patients during general anesthesia, intubation and management of patient recovery.
- **Internal Medicine:** Residents will spend 80 hours in a busy, comprehensive family medicine practice located on the ECMC campus working side by side with physicians, physician assistants, nurses and students. They will learn to obtain medical history and perform physical examinations and make treatment recommendations in a primary care setting. Residents will be assisting the medical team in comprehensive patient evaluation and treatment.

**On-Call Duty:** Residents are placed on rotations of three to four days for floor consultations and pager call for after-hours emergency calls. They will learn how to triage and manage dental trauma and oral infections.

**Didactics:** Residents dedicate four to six hours weekly to lectures, treatment planning seminars and literature review.

## **Dental Department Sites within ECMC GPR:**

- **General Dentistry:** Located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of ECMC main hospital. Residents will see patients for both comprehensive care and urgent care needs. Residents spend the majority of their time at this clinical site with assigned rooms and assistants on a monthly rotation.
- **Terrace View:** Terrace View Long Term Care facility consists of nursing home services, short-term rehabilitation facilities, a ventilation unit, a behavioral intervention unit, a bariatric unit and a division for patients with Alzheimer's disease and dementia. The residents in the program will gain experience screening and treating patients in this facility on a rotating basis alongside an attending.
- **Oral Oncology:** All Residents, both PGY-1 and PGY-2 have the opportunity to work in the Center for Oncology Care, a state-of-the-art facility adjacent to the main hospital. Residents will work side by side with dental attendings before, during, and after the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, and other specialized oral and head and neck conditions. They will learn how to diagnose and manage many oral conditions such as oral pre malignant diseases. They will gain an understanding of the oral complications of cancer therapy and gain confidence in recognizing and treating these complications. Residents will be exposed to dental rehabilitation and reconstruction of cancer patients, including dental implants and maxillofacial prosthetics.
- **800 Hertel:** This brand new dental facility is located within a multidisciplinary health center offering coordinated care to patients in the community and those with special needs. The facility was designed to fully accommodate those with physical and intellectual disabilities.

### **Optional Second Year PGY2:**

ECMC offers an optional second year of training where these residents will work primarily out of the Oral Oncology Center.

**Goal 1:** Act as a Primary Health Care Provider to provide multidisciplinary comprehensive dental care to a wide variety of patients by obtaining training above the level of a GPR year 1 resident in the following disciplines:

- Prosthodontics
- Implant Dentistry
- Oncology
- Operating Room/Special Needs Dentistry

**Goal 2:** The GPR year 2 resident will gain administrative and teaching responsibility by:

- Mentoring pre doctoral students on Special Needs Dentistry
- Heading the quality improvement project chosen each year
- Opportunity to present a poster/research project at Special Care Dentistry (SDCA) or American Dental Education Association (ADEA)

*Note:* The optional second year is tailored to the resident's individual interests and professional goals. They spend more time on direct patient care with more complicated patient treatment plans than a PGY-1 resident and there are additional didactics and rotations above and beyond the PGY-1 level of training.