



FACULTY OF MEDICAL DENTISTRY  
Medical University of Lublin



INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

# „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care”

Lublin, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023

POST-CONFERENCE MATERIALS  
Editing: Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D.

The event was held under the patronage of  
His Magnificence, the Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, the Marshall of the Lublin Province,  
the Governor of the Lublin Province and the Mayor of the City of Lublin.



Rector of the Medical University of Lublin  
Prof. Wojciech Zakuska, MD, Ph.D.

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The publication was released as part of the conference titled  
„Defining standards for patient safety in dental care”, which was funded by state budget funds  
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Republic  
of Poland



Ministry of Education and Science  
Republic of Poland

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International Scientific and Educational Conference

## „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care”

Lublin, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023

*Dear Readers!*

The constantly evolving standards for patient safety in comprehensive dental care, as well as the most recent scientific reports on pharmacotherapy in dental treatment, necessitate that dentists and other members of the dental team, such as dental hygienists and assistants, dental technicians, and others, continuously broaden their knowledge and enhance their awareness in this field.



Enhancing dental patient safety should be a multifaceted process that incorporates both technical and functional safety aspects. The technical aspect includes professional performance as evidenced by appropriate qualifications, practical skills, and the experience of dental team members, a relevant number of medical personnel, proper sanitary and hygienic conditions in the premises where patients receive dental treatments, and the appropriate technical state of medical apparatus and equipment. The functional aspect includes the professional dentist-patient relationship, which includes communication with the patient in the widest sense by giving clear information, demonstrating empathy and understanding, as well as communicating and showing respect within the dental team.

During the two-day conference and events commemorating the 50th anniversary of academic dentistry in Lublin, prominent Polish and international experts presented a wide range of solutions pertaining to the development of educational activities in pre- and post-graduate education for the safety of patients and dental team members at all organisational levels.

The events held at the Medical University of Lublin offered a unique opportunity to gain knowledge, share ideas, establish professional contacts, and, most importantly, showcase accomplishments and collaboratively organise activities that impact patient safety in the Polish oral health care system.

*Let us reminisce these moments together.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renata Chatas".

**Professor Renata Chatas, MD, Ph.D.,  
Chairperson of the Organising Committee**



# Safe pre-clinical and clinical educational environment at the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin

Enhancing safety principles for dental education

- Deans' Educational Meeting
- Development of the educational infrastructure

## DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR DENTAL EDUCATION

- „Advances in Dental Education” Deans' Educational Meeting

KATARZYNA KAMIŃSKA-PIKIEWICZ, JOANNA ZUBRZYCKA

On 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Medical University of Lublin hosted a meeting for individuals in charge of medical and dental education in Poland and worldwide. The meeting was organised by the Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin, Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D. The event was participated in by the Deans and Vice-Deans of the Faculties of Medical Dentistry of Medical Universities located throughout Poland: Gdańsk, Szczecin, Poznań, Wrocław, Katowice, Łódź, Warsaw and Lublin and from abroad: Croatia, Turkey, the USA, the Netherlands, Brazil and Japan. The Deans' Educational Meeting, which was a part of the Conference titled „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care”, has now been added to the Lublin meeting schedule.

The aim of the session was to discuss the most significant organisational and legal aspects pertaining to the operation of medical dentistry faculties of medical universities and the education of students at these faculties and to familiarise the participants with the guidelines for OSCE examinations.

3rd International Symposium on "Advances in Dental Education"  
DEANS' EDUCATIONAL MEETING

Lublin, 8th December 2023, Collegium Novum, room 302



FACULTY OF MEDICAL DENTISTRY  
Medical University of Lublin



The event was held under the patronage of His Magnificence, the Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, Professor Wojciech Załuska, MD, Ph.D.

SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

**11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Opening of the Symposium**

Professor Wojciech Załuska, MD, Ph.D., Rector of the Medical University of Lublin  
Professor Kamil Torres, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs of the Medical University of Lublin  
Professor Renata Chalas, MD, Ph.D., Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin

**11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. DEANS' EDUCATIONAL MEETING. PART 1**

**"OSCE as a tool on the quality-focused educational path for a medical dentistry faculty"**  
Professor Tomasz Konopka, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean for Education in the Field of Medicine and Dentistry of the Medical University of Wrocław  
**"Results of the first edition of the Pre-OSCE examination at the Medical University of Lublin"**  
University Professor Beata Piórkowska-Sirachucha, MD, Ph.D., Chairperson of the Faculty Pre-OSCE Team  
University Professor Magdalena Horodźńska, MD, Ph.D., Acting Head of the Simulation Laboratory for Patient Safety of the Department of Medical Education of the Medical University of Lublin  
University Professor Katarzyna Serna-Boś, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin

**Discussion Panel. Part 1**

Professor Aida Kuslak, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean for Educational Affairs, Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University of Gdańsk  
Associate Professor Agnieszka Drożdżak, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry of the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin

**12:15 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. Coffee break**

**12:45 p.m. - 01:45 p.m. DEANS' EDUCATIONAL MEETING. PART 2**

**"Why should future dentists be taught clinical reasoning?"**  
Professor Katarzyna Drabko, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University of Lublin  
**"The application of highly advanced technology in the students' education at the faculty of medical dentistry"**  
Professor Małgorzata Śliucha-Nowak, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the Medical University of Silesia in Katowice  
**"The student portfolio as an assessment method of the practical clinical teaching at the faculty of medical dentistry"**  
Leszek Szalewski, MD, Ph.D., Acting Head of the Digital Dentistry Laboratory of the Medical University of Lublin

**Discussion Panel. Part 2**

Professor Mariusz Lipski, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry of the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin  
Professor Monika Lukomska-Szymańska, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean for Scientific Affairs and Teaching of the Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University of Łódź

**01:45 p.m. - 02:45 p.m. DEANS' EDUCATIONAL MEETING. PART 3**

**"Tutoring for newly hired employees at the Medical University of Lublin: 39 courageous individuals"**  
Tomasz Kucmiń, MD, Ph.D., Acting Head of the Department of Didactics and Medical Simulation, Department of Medical Education, Medical University of Lublin  
**"Contemporary academic teacher model: lecturer or mentor?"**  
Luciano Augusto Cano Martins, MD, Ph.D., "NAWA MEDYK" scholarship holder

**"Teaching assistant - A new role for a medical student"**

Michał Siwek, 6th-year student of medicine at the Medical University of Lublin, NAWA Council Member, Representative of the Students' Parliament of the Republic of Poland

**Discussion Panel. Part 3**

Associate Professor Ewa Czochrowska, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean for the International Cooperation, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University of Warsaw  
Professor Karolina Gerreth, MD, Ph.D., Head of the Department of Paediatric Dentistry, Poznan University of Medical Sciences

**02:45 p.m. - 03:30 p.m. Lunch break**

**03:30 p.m. - 04:30 p.m. DEANS' EDUCATIONAL MEETING. PART 4**

**"Dilemmas in implementation of a cardiology curriculum"**

Professor Margherita Fontana, Director of the Global Initiatives Program in Oral and Craniofacial Health, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA  
Professor Carlos Gonzalez-Cabezas, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA

**"How to make a dental school internationally recognizable - experiences from the School of Dental Medicine"**

Professor Marin Vodanović, Vice-Dean for Teaching and Students, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia  
Professor Ivan Galić, Vice-Dean for Dental Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Split, Croatia

**Discussion Panel. Part 4**

Professor Hirvoje Brkić, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia  
Professor Funda Akalın, Faculty of Dentistry, Ankara University, Turkey

**04:30 p.m. - 05:30 p.m. DEANS' EDUCATIONAL MEETING. PART 5**

**"Simulation, new opportunities for quality assurance of dental education and care"**

Associate Professor Marjole Vervoorn, Ph.D., Director Bachelor, ACTA Amsterdam, Netherlands

**"Application of SIMROID in dental education for super-aging society"**

Professor Toshiyuki Nagasawa, Professor Yoshihiro Abiko, Professor Yasushi Furuichi, School of Dentistry, Health Sciences University of Hokkaido, Japan

**Discussion Panel. Part 5**

Assistant Professor Carlos Serrano, Ph.D., Digital Dentistry, ACTA Amsterdam, Netherlands  
University Professor Jarosław Sobieszkański, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry, Medical University of Lublin, Poland

**05:30 p.m. - 06:00 p.m. Closure of the Symposium**

**06:00 p.m. Closing meeting and a gala dinner**

The project was funded from the state budget funds granted by the Minister of Education and Science under the "Excellent Science II" programme.



During the Symposium, lectures were given by the following persons: Professor Tomasz Konopka, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry of the Medical University of Wrocław, Professor Małgorzata Skucha-Nowak, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the Medical University of Silesia in Katowice, Professor Katarzyna Drabko, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University of Lublin, University Professor Beata Piórkowska-Skrabucha, MD, Ph.D., Chairperson of the 2022/2023 Faculty Pre-OSCE Team, Leszek Szalewski, MD, Ph.D., Acting Head of the Digital Dentistry Laboratory, Medical University of Lublin, Tomasz Kucmin, MD, Ph.D., Acting Head of the Department of Didactics and Medical Simulation, Department of Medical Education, Medical University of Lublin, Luciano Augusto Cano Martinis, MD, Ph.D., „NAWA MEDYK” scholarship holder and Michał Siwek, sixth-year student of medicine at the Medical University of Lublin, NAWA Council Member, Representative of the Students’ Parliament of the Republic of Poland. The lectures were also given by the following foreign visitors: Professor Margherita Fontana, Director of the Global Initiatives Program in Oral and Craniofacial Health, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA, Professor Marin Vodanović – Vice-Dean for Teaching and Students, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia, Associate Professor Marjoke Vervoorn, Ph.D., Director Bachelor, ACTA Amsterdam, Netherlands and Professor Toshiyuki Nagasawa – School of Dentistry, Health Sciences University of Hokkaido, Japan.



*Professor Kamil Torres, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs at the opening of the Symposium*



surgery, maxillofacial oncology, prosthetics, gerostomatology, periodontal and oral mucosal diseases, orthodontics and communication. It includes learning outcomes from subject groups F and H.

In conclusion, Professor T. Konopka stated that the OSCE instrument is a component of a quality-oriented academic dental education approach. It is also a profound logistical endeavour that requires a well-paid, professional medical personnel, the necessary equipment, and the associated costs. It is recommended that an OSCE expert team be formed to develop common guidelines that are followed by all medical universities. While the OSCE-1 is scheduled for the 2026-2027 academic year and OSCE-2 for 2029-2030, preparatory and organisational activities should be initiated now.

University Professor Beata Piórkowska-Skrabucha, MD, Ph.D., then discussed the results of the first Pre-OSCE for second-year students of the medical dentistry faculty, which was administered at the Medical University of Lublin during the winter session of the 2022–2023 academic year. The aim was to give students an opportunity to become familiar with the OSCE structure and cope with the stress of the examination. Since it is a formative exam, the Pre-OSCE helps students identify the areas that need to be improved. Following the examination, in addition to the grade, students receive feedback in the form of a report. The examination consists of three units: „Dental anatomy”, „Clinical communication” and „Preclinical teaching in conservative dentistry”. Each unit requires students to complete two tasks in 20 minutes. A unit was passed when a student achieved a 60% threshold on each task. During the examination, academic teachers serve as both technical coordinators and examiners. In order to analyse the Pre-OSCE-related experience, a survey was conducted among students, examiners, academic teachers of the examination subjects, and technical staff. The initial observations made it possible to draw the following conclusions: for the students, the course-related academic teachers are a considerable source of information about the examination, the students require very accurate feedback; standardisation of teaching and the academic teachers' work is of key importance. Moreover, the examination was a stressful experience for the majority of the students. However, the opportunity to safely verify the students' skills in a medical simulation setting should be emphasized.

The subsequent speaker, Professor Katarzyna Drabko, MD, Ph.D., raised the issue of teaching clinical reasoning to future dentists. A key component of the patient's treatment is the application of clinical reasoning. Teaching clinical reasoning is hindered by time constraints, too large student group size, an insufficient number of patients, or simultaneous patient care. However, all these issues can be combined with satisfactory outcomes in simulation settings.



PHOTO BY OLGA MATOSIUK

*Welcoming the guests*

The clinical reasoning process entails collecting and organising basic data (patient's medical history, physical examination based on audio recordings of the patient, films, photographs, examination results), formulating a diagnosis hypothesis, searching for similar cases (based on literature, databases, and additional examinations), re-analysing the information and examination results, and, finally, making a diagnosis. The benefits of clinical reasoning in a „clinical simulation” setting include the possibility of effective adult education, „safe” error making, „social safety”, stimulation of the reflection by analysing the effects of one's own decision, and the ability to standardise education.



PHOTO BY OLGA MATOSIUK

At present, the Medical University of Lublin is implementing a project to improve the development of a distance learning system by creating an electronic system called the „Virtual Interactive Patient”. The aforementioned system allows students to improve their clinical reasoning skills.

An interesting point of the conference was a presentation by Professor Małgorzata Skucha-Nowak, MD, Ph.D., who discussed the application of modern and safe technology to educate students at the medical dentistry faculty. Teaching students requires ongoing development and adaptation of educational methods and methods of verifying acquired knowledge to the ever-changing environment. The aim is to prepare the students for their future work in a dental practice, where they will be required to use, among other tools, intraoral scanners, lasers, and CBCT image analysis on a daily basis. It should be noted that some lectures of the medical and dental faculties at the Medical University of Silesia are available online. This enables students to become familiar with the course materials in a self-determined period of time. The electronic material collections at the Medical University of Silesia’s library are, subsequently, innovative tools for theoretical education. The students may assess their level of knowledge by employing the „*Medic learn*” platform, where lecturers post test questions.

Pre-clinical teaching is a significant component of student training, with classes held in the cutting-edge Medical Simulation Centre, which uses independently developed 3D printing of phantom teeth. In addition, instructional videos available on the online platform also aid in practical skill training and student preparation. One of the most innovative projects of the Medical University of Silesia is the virtual dentist’s office. It offers a representation of a one-chair dentist’s office in virtual reality. Modern technologies are also implemented in clinical classes, such as the creation and analysis of CBCTs and the use of lasers in dental surgery and periodontics. In conclusion, the professor stressed that while the introduction of innovations and safe technologies is associated with high costs and the requirement for ongoing training of teaching staff, it also improves, enhances, and raises the level of the teaching process for students.

The opportunities to employ the portfolio as a cutting-edge method for student assessment were presented by Leszek Szalewski, MD, Ph.D. A portfolio is, by definition, a collection of an artist’s work. In a broader sense, the term describes a document that presents an individual’s prior accomplishments and achievements related to his or her profession. The portfolio can take many different forms, depending on the type of work. It may consist of, for instance, artwork, photographs or presentations of finished projects, or links to them.

The use of this approach during the dental student's educational process enables the assessment of the student's progress, the identification of strengths and weaknesses, the recording of the learning and development process, the ability of self-assessment, self-reflection and self-improvement skills, as well as feedback from peers and teachers. A portfolio can include x-rays, scans or photographs. It can demonstrate the clinical situation before and after the patient's treatment. The method is used in a variety of ways in universities worldwide, including the United States, Brazil, Indonesia, and the United Kingdom. The disadvantages of this method include the need for appropriate equipment, staff training and additional time to prepare the documentation.

The attendees were also interested in a speech by Tomasz Kucmin, MD, Ph.D. on the introduction of the „Academic Tutoring” pilot programme of tutoring for newly hired employees at the Medical University of Lublin. The goal of this program is to help these people with their onboarding, their development based on their interests, aptitudes, and abilities, and dealing with professional-related issues. It is also intended for staff that received a negative assessment from students in their last evaluation. With regard to the programme's assumptions, after development of a detailed programme plan, academic teachers that had undergone appropriate tutor training were selected to the programme. The Tutees were then assigned to the Tutors. The Tutor's care for the Tutee should be tailored to his or her needs. Tutoring meetings take place over a minimum of two months and consist of at least five meetings totalling five clock hours. The meetings are held on-site and/or online. Tutorials may include support such as a problem-based interview using a „case study”, an identification of the Tutee's strengths and weaknesses and objectives of teaching activities, a course visit, an analysis of the teaching workshop, provision of developmental guidance based on individual needs and abilities, introduction to new teaching techniques, and the use of multimedia tools in teaching. The programme concludes with an evaluation, which primarily consists of the Tutor and Tutee's assessments.

Afterwards, discussion about whether the contemporary academic teacher should be a mentor or lecturer was opened by Luciano Augusto Cano Martins, MD, Ph.D. from Brazil. He emphasised that all academic staff members are expected to enhance theoretical and practical teaching, research, and scientific activities in order to improve the educational process. At present, academic teachers can work together with their fellow scientists from other countries. This allows them to share their teaching methods experiences and expand both their theoretical and practical knowledge.

They can teach students from all over the world, which takes a great deal of commitment and effort but is also rewarding. During his year-long stay in Poland, Luciano Augusto Cano Martins, Ph.D., had the opportunity to meet excellent teachers from Croatia, Jordan, Turkey, Costa Rica, and Japan. He conducted classes for students from the USA, Norway, Taiwan, Ukraine and Poland. Luciano Augusto Cano Martins stressed that English-speaking students must go through several steps before adapting to the new culture of the country they have chosen to study in. Based on his experiences at the Medical University of Lublin, he stated that Polish is one of the most challenging languages to learn. Finally, he concluded that modern teachers should be more active and engaged in academic life. They need to be more than just lecturers to provide a better and safer educational environment for their students.

The Deans' Educational Meeting is an event where students have an opportunity speak up. The students' representative was sixth-year medical student Michał Siwek, who spoke about the „Academic Teacher Assistant” project. Its main assumption is that students participate in teaching activities as a teacher assistant. The programme's goal is to engage students in teaching, to produce experienced individuals who are prepared to work at the university following their graduation, and to improve the quality and safety of education by involving greater numbers of persons in the process. The programme allows enrolment for a maximum of one unit per semester. To date, regulations have been developed, a survey of student expectations has been conducted, a pilot program has been launched, and extensive non-academic promotion has taken place. Now, the goal is to complete the pilot programme, learn lessons from it, launch an IT system specifically for the programme, and then introduce a full-scale version. The most difficult task is to adapt the programme assumptions to the legal framework under which the University operates.

A discussion about patient safety standards in dental education was launched by a number of foreign visitors, among others, Professor Margherita Fontana from the USA, who discussed the challenges encountered in implementing the cariology curriculum. Cariology aims to prepare graduates to be active, self-directed learners of critical thinking and problem solving in dental caries. Following graduation, a dentist must be capable of detecting, diagnosing, assessing risk, preventing, and treating this disease both on an individual and societal level, as well as of reassessing the outcomes of interventions. In a properly-defined cariology curriculum that integrates theoretical, pre-clinical, and clinical teaching, clinician training and calibration, factors that can contribute to success include effective communication between persons in charge of each of the five curricular areas, opportunities for interprofessional education in dental caries treatment, correct health status recor-

ds, and outcome assessment. In conclusion, Professor M. Fontana emphasised the importance of implementing best practice guidelines for dental caries treatment. There are numerous obstacles between science-based recommendations and their implementation in practice. The application and dissemination of scientific evidence in practice and education are affected by a wide range of internal and external factors.

Professor Marin Vodanović from Croatia also spoke in the discussion, and answered the question „How to make a dental school internationally recognisable?”. The mission of the dental school or department is to innovate and achieve excellence in dental education, research and treatment in order to create a modern dentist who can face change and societal and global challenges, as well as to adapt to the demands of contemporary society. Educating high-quality and internally recognisable dentists requires motivated, trained academic teachers, adequate space and equipment for teaching pre-clinical and clinical skills, and a sufficient number of patients for clinical practice. The Professor gave an overview of the steps being taken in Zagreb to make the dental school recognisable. These are, among others, publishing articles in reputable international journals; publishing university books and textbooks, particularly in English; academic teachers being members in various international organisations; having a suitable plan for the advancement of teaching and research; hosting international congresses; having visiting scholars; publishing journals, student magazines, and e-newsletters; creating a global network of students, academic teachers and graduates; establishing student associations; and developing internet marketing. In conclusion, Professor Marin Vodanović stressed that in order to be recognised internationally, a dental school or department must first have an excellent reputation and recognition at the national level.

In her subsequent presentation, Marjoke Vervoorn, Ph.D. from the Netherlands, emphasized the benefits of utilizing contemporary medical simulation methods. Medical simulation provides new opportunities for ensuring quality and upholding high standards in dental education and treatment. This aims at meeting the needs of students, patients and dentists. During pre-clinical classes, various technologies are used, including phantom teeth, extracted human teeth, and modern devices such as the Simodonts and SIMtoCARE training simulators. It is especially recommended to incorporate virtual reality into pre-clinical and clinical classes. VR technologies can increasingly create safer, more flexible and affordable curricula of better quality. They improve efficiency, lower costs and ensure patient, student and academic teacher safety. The speaker emphasised that learning can be improved by combining virtual reality with traditional pre-clinical and clinical classes, which requires the involvement and training of team teachers, as well as continuous managerial support.



PHOTO BY JAROSŁAW SOBIESZCZAŃSKI

*Symposium participants at the end of the meeting*

In the symposium's last lecture, Professor Toshiyuki Nagasawa from Japan discussed the potential of using the SIMROID system for dental education in cases involving older people treatment. The importance of medical safety in dental education is growing as the population ages. Older patients are frequently at risk for procedures that are safe for younger patients. To date, simulator training has mostly concentrated on acquiring the skills and methods required for treatment, with little consideration given to the comfort and stress of a patient. However, it is now acknowledged that in dental education, stress during treatment should be considered to a greater extent. A multifaceted training programme, combined with an interactive robotic simulation system, SIMROID, was introduced to refine the ideal of human-centred behaviour. The Professor presented the procedure for taking a dental impression in an older patient by using the SIMROID system. Additionally, he described a scenario in which a patient has a vomiting reflex-related complication during the procedure. For medical safety education in an ageing population, the SIMROID system can be helpful as it allows inexperienced individuals to perform risky clinical procedures and repeat them until they are completely capable of doing so.

The symposium's convention was to present issues from the perspectives of university officials, academic teachers and students. The lectures addressed interesting and significant topics for the operation of medical dentistry faculties. They were accompanied by discussion and experience sharing between representatives of various Polish and international universities. The invited guests were impressed

with the organisation, speaker selection and conference topics. The symposium was held in a pleasant, scientific atmosphere and was deemed successful and informative. The organisers promised to continue educational activities aimed at implementing good practices and patient safety standards in dental care to pre-graduate students.

**DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR DENTAL EDUCATION**

- Development of the education infrastructure

# Dental simulation at the Integrated Interdisciplinary Medical Simulation Centre of the Medical University of Lublin

JAROSŁAW SOBIESZCZAŃSKI

The Integrated Interdisciplinary Medical Simulation Centre of the Medical University of Lublin is located in the campus of the Medical University of Lublin



*Medical Simulation Centre in Lublin*

PHOTO BY LESZEK SZALEWSKI

at ul. Chodźki 4. The dental simulation area takes up the third floor of the building, which is nearly 1,000 square meters of modern teaching space, where medical dentistry and dental hygiene students are taught by academic teachers from the Faculty of Medical Dentistry. The main concept of the Medical Simulation Centre's (MSC) dental simulation education is to integrate the expertise of the academic teachers with contemporary teaching methods that consider student activation strategies, work with simulated patients, and use of low, medium, and high reliability simulations, along with the implementation of medical simulation scenarios and state-of-the-art equipment. The MSC's conditions make it possible to safely acquire the knowledge, abilities and skills required for clinical work and future practice as a dentist or dental hygienist. The students are taught in accordance with current global trends, with a focus on continuous development and a friendly and safe educational environment.

The dental educational facilities include 5 phantom rooms and 48 dental units with phantom busts training simulators. This considerable number of stationary units is supplemented by three mobile units used in special circumstances, such as during Pre- or Mini-OSCE examinations. The mobile equipment of the MSC's educational facility also includes two mobile microscopes and a 3D intraoral scanner. In addition to the phantom units, dental training is conducted in the Virtual Simulation Room, which includes 5 haptic training simulators for virtual dental procedures and controlled complications. Phantom units allow users to learn how to perform various dental procedures with proper ergonomics in conditions similar to real-world clinical settings. This teaching stage is necessary for students to gain sufficient competence to safely advance to patient work in later academic years. In addition, the MSC's educational teaching facilities include two computer rooms, one of which is designed for teaching dental and maxillofacial radiology. In this room, the classes are held on 15 computer workstations that are equipped with radiological simulation software. In the second computer room with 20 workstations, simulation classes are conducted using software for computerised model analysis and computerised cephalometric analysis, as well as for keeping patient records at the dentist's office. Additionally, this room allows for computer-based credits and examinations using the ACEM and Moodle system. On the third floor of the MSC's building, the educational facilities are supplemented by two seminar rooms.

Each room has a complete multimedia centre with projectors, tablets, TVs, monitors and sound equipment for presentations and demonstrations both inside and outside the building.

The large equipment required for dental simulation tasks is supplemented by full resources of small dental equipment, including the devices and instruments required to perform simulated procedures in every area of dentistry.

In addition to the students' teaching in accordance with the curriculum's standards, the Medical Simulation Centre offers a variety of courses, workshops, demonstrations, competitions and conferences, many of which are cyclical. Due to the fact that classes from various medical areas are held in the same building, dentistry can be integrated with other medical faculties. This allows for the formation of interprofessional groups, as well as the development of new opportunities and teaching methods that enhance the safety of dental procedures performed in the simulation setting while avoiding potential treatment complications in the real-world clinical setting.

## University Dental Centre in Lublin

ELŻBIETA PELS

Since 2020, the University Dental Centre (UDC) in Lublin has been offering cutting-edge, rational and effective dental treatment by adapting the facility to the currently applicable standards and legal requirements for the safety of provi-



*University Dental Centre in Lublin*

PHOTO BY LEŚZEK SZALEWSKI

ding health care services to patients, but also for teaching students of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin. The new UDC facility satisfies the requirements for increased functionality and efficiency. It makes it possible to expand dental services to include more tasks, enhance diagnostics and treatment, and develop services that are suited to the demographic trends of the region. Patients can now more easily access dentists from all specialities, which helps to ensure that adults, children and individuals with disabilities receive the clinical services they need in the field of modern dentistry. At the same time, new organisational solutions based on its potential enable comprehensive dental therapy and diagnostics. The facility located at ul. Chodźki 6 provides comprehensive dental care for patients through a modern IT system that ensures information flow between units and improves patient safety.

The new location of the UDC facility in Lublin has a positive impact on the development of the region's dentistry and healthcare organisation, resulting in higher-quality medical services for patients. Additionally, cutting-edge equipment enables the application of modern and innovative technical solutions, which has a significant and positive impact on student education while also improving the comfort and health and safety of the Centre's personnel and students. The considerably larger building floor area opens up more educational opportunities and increases the number of full-time and part-time students.

The facility has a total usable floor area of 9,013.83 m<sup>2</sup> and consists of a multi-purpose lecture room for 120 people, seminar rooms, practice rooms and teaching and pre-clinical rooms of individual Departments and Chairs. The UDC's clinical rooms offer dental services through 140 state-of-the-art dental units and a general anaesthesia procedure room. Doctors have access to 149 computer units for keeping electronic patient records and processing electronic prescriptions and sick notes. Dentists and medical staff involved in patient health care use tablets to accept patient consent for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures used in each facility, thereby significantly improving doctor-patient relationships.

The facility's central sterilization system serves all clinical units, and a system of two sterile elevators (inaccessible to unauthorised persons) secures communication between them. One type of elevator delivers sterilized tools for use during diagnostic and treatment procedures, while another, separate, non-sterile elevator transports the tools and equipment to the central sterilization in secured containers after the procedures are completed.

The UDC facility in Lublin is equipped with mechanical supply and exhaust ventilation and central air conditioning with the potential for humidification and heat recovery. The air is filtered through three stages, depending on the function of the rooms where the system operates. The facility's considerably larger usable

floor area (which includes internal and external lighting, security and fire protection systems and a power generator), increased number of modern and automated medical equipment and devices, and cutting-edge powered equipment, such as automatic air conditioners and fans, enable 2-4 air exchanges per hour in X-ray rooms, 10 air exchanges per hour in the clinical room for procedures under general anaesthesia (with the addition of HEPA E11 filters), and 3 air ventilations per hour in the remaining clinical rooms.

The UDC facility is equipped with modern gas compression and expansion systems, as well as a water treatment plant equipped with a DEMI system and reverse osmosis technology. The BMS system controls the majority of the UDC's installations and devices. These devices and their technological solutions guarantee the highest level of epidemiological safety for patients and medical personnel.

The UDC's advantage is that it is equipped with cutting-edge medical apparatus. It should be noted that the UDC facility is continuously improving its standards, and has been recently equipped the unit with a dental cone beam computed tomography device, a rotary heat sealer with a printer, tablets for electronic patient consents, and other modern medical devices.

The top-quality equipment and premises infrastructure of the UDC in Lublin ensure an excellent foundation for implementing the unit's statutory objective, which is to provide dental services to patients, as well as pre-graduate and post-graduate training of medical personnel in line with best dental care safety standards.

# Interprofessional education as a model of good practices in dental education and treatment

- Safety of dental diagnosis and therapeutic decisions
- Safety of dental pharmacotherapy and medication reconciliation

BEATA PIÓRKOWSKA-SKRABUCHA, PIOTR STACHURSKI

The advancement of interprofessional education is consistent with the current recommendations of leading national and international organisations that establish standards for pre-graduate and post-graduate education in the biomedical sciences. Modern healthcare systems are also based upon collaboration between representatives of different medical professions. The significance of an interdisciplinary approach in the diagnostic and therapeutic process, as well as the rehabilitation of the patient's masticatory system, should be emphasised already during student classes. The cooperation between experts and representatives of the medical professions translates into measurable benefits for patients, as well as for future dentists. The patient has the opportunity to receive therapy in accordance with the highest standards, which results in the best therapeutic effect, thanks to the collaboration of numerous specialists from different medical fields. In turn, the student learns the appropriate treatment plan in a complex interprofessional setting by actively participating in the patient's planning and treatment process.

On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023, two interprofessional sessions were held at the International Scientific and Educational Conference titled „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care”, with the participation of outstanding specialists from Poland and abroad. The opening lecture in English titled „*Dental Education – American Dream: Moving Dentistry Towards Evidence-Based Caries Management*” was given by Professor Margherita Fontana, Director of the Global Initiatives Program in Oral and Craniofacial Health, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor,



## International Scientific and Educational Conference "Defining standards for patient safety in dental care"

Lublin, 8th and 9th December 2023



FACULTY OF MEDICAL DENTISTRY  
Medical University of Lublin



### EVENT AGENDA

#### 8th December 2023

11:00 a.m. - 06:00 p.m. DEANS' EDUCATIONAL MEETING. 3rd International Symposium on "Advances in Dental Education"

#### 9th December 2023 /Collegium Maius lecture hall - Lublin, ul. Jaczewskiego 4/

09:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Teaching Dentistry at the Medical University of Lublin

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Opening of the conference

Opening lecture: "Dental Education – American Dream"

- Professor Margherita Fontana, Director of the Global Initiatives Program in Oral and Craniofacial Health, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA

11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Coffee break

#### ▶ INTERPROFESSIONAL SESSION PART. 1. Safety of dental diagnosis and therapeutic decisions

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. "Right to medical information"

- Associate Professor Rafał Kubiak, Ph.D. in Law, Director of the Medical Examination Centre in Łódź

12:30 p.m. - 01:00 p.m. "Teaching communication as an element of building safety in health care"

- University Professor Magdalena Horodeńska, MD, Ph.D., Acting Head of the Simulation Laboratory for Patient Safety at the Department of Medical Education of the Medical University of Lublin

01:00 p.m. - 01:15 p.m. Discussion - Moderators: Professor Małgorzata Skucha-Nowak, MD, Ph.D., Professor Anna Torres, MD, Ph.D.

01:15 p.m. - 02:00 p.m. Lunch break

#### ▶ INTERPROFESSIONAL SESSION. PART 2. Safety of dental diagnosis and therapeutic decisions /In English/

02:00 p.m. - 02:45 p.m. "Ensuring safety in dental radiology procedures"

- Professor Kaan Orhan, Dean of Dental Faculty, Ankara University, Turkey

02:45 p.m. - 03:15 p.m. "Dental Identification in Disasters and the Importance of Antemortem Dental Data"

- Professor Hrvoje Brkić, Head of the Department of Dental Anthropology, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia

03:15 p.m. - 03:30 p.m. Discussion - Moderators: Professor Ingrid Różyło-Kalinowska, MD, Ph.D. and Professor Grzegorz Teresiński, MD, Ph.D.

#### ▶ INTERPROFESSIONAL SESSION. PART 3. Safety of dental pharmacotherapy and medication reconciliation

03:30 p.m. - 04:05 p.m. "Aspects of polypharmacy in dentistry. Patient safety"

- Professor Marek Drożdżik, MD, Ph.D., Head of the Department of Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and the Department of Pharmacology at the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin

04:05 p.m. - 04:45 p.m. "Safe pharmacotherapy of the gerontomatological patient. Interprofessional cooperation between dentist and pharmacist"

- University Professor Aleksandra Szopa, Pharm.D., Jan Sobczyński, Pharm.D., Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Care, Medical University of Lublin

04:45 p.m. - 05:00 p.m. Discussion - Moderators: Professor Mariusz Lipski, MD, Ph.D., University Professor Rafał Pietraś, Pharm.D.

05:00 p.m. - 05:30 p.m. Closure of the conference and competition with prizes

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### PARTNERS



### HONOURABLE PATRONAGE



Rector of the Medical University of Lublin  
Prof. Wojciech Zaluska, MD, Ph.D.



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JAN SOBECZYŃSKI



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JAN SOBECZYŃSKI

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Republic  
of Poland



Ministry of Education and Science  
Republic of Poland



*Professor Margherita Fontana during the opening lecture*

USA. The Professor talked about how scientific research contributes to the creation of new technologies, highlighting their significance for clinical care and health education in both medicine and dentistry. Numerous interrelated factors, such as clinical care, national health policy and scientific research, affect the final therapeutic effect. The implementation and teaching of contemporary prevention and treatment principles based on the findings of recent scientific research is crucial in dental education and should be incorporated into clinical practice. The lecturer shared her personal experience in teaching cariology in a four-year academic program at the University of Michigan, School of Dentistry. In addition, she emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration between doctors and scientists in developing new diagnostic methods and therapies (preclinical and clinical studies), with the goal of obtaining reliable research results and interpreting them properly.

The moderators of the first lecture panel in the Interprofessional Session titled „Safety of dental diagnostic and therapeutic decisions” were: Professor Małgorzata Skucha-Nowak, MD, Ph.D. (Medical University of Silesia in Katowice) and Professor Anna Torres, MD, Ph.D. (Medical University of Lublin). The topic of the speech of Associate Professor Rafał Kubiak, Ph.D. in Law, Director of the Medical Examination Centre in Łódź and a researcher at the University of Łódź and the Medical University of Łódź, was the „Right to medical information”. Based upon the provisions of the following legal acts: the Act on Patients’ Rights and the Patient’s Rights Ombudsman, the Act on the Professions of Physician and Dentist, the Regulation

of the Minister of Health of 6 April 2020 on the types, scope and templates of medical documentation and its processing method, the Code of Medical Ethics, as well as interpretations of various court orders, the speaker discussed the principles of meeting the information obligation regarding the doctor - patient relationship, and stressed that obtaining information is necessary to make therapeutic decisions and it is a prerequisite for their legal effectiveness. In his detailed presentation, Professor R. Kubiak covered the functions of the patient's right to obtain medical information, including its objective and subjective scope, how the right is transferred and limited, the aspects of liability for non-compliance with the information obligation, and the problem of access to medical documentation. These issues are critical to future dentists' education and clinical practice.

The subsequent topic was „Teaching communication as an element of building safety in health care”. The lecture was delivered by University Professor Magdalena Horodeńska, MD, Ph.D., Acting Head of the Simulation Laboratory for Patient Safety at the Department of Medical Education of the Medical University of Lublin. Communication plays a significant role in interprofessional contacts, and it should be learned throughout the professional careers of medical personnel, especially if there was insufficient time in this area during pre-graduate training. The current educational standard for the medical and medical dentistry faculty includes learning outcomes in medical communication, which are implemented in the first year of studies and verified through OSCE-type examinations. In addition, the speaker stated that medical universities are developing a program aimed at teaching communication skills and improving the competences of academic teachers, as well as conducting scientific activities related to medical communication.

The second part of the panel, which was presented in English, was led by Professor Ingrid Różyło-Kalinowska, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin) and Professor Grzegorz Teresiński, MD, Ph.D. (Medical University of Lublin). The topic titled „Ensuring safety in dental radiology procedures” was discussed by Professor Kaan Orhan (Dean of Dental Faculty, Ankara University, Turkey, Department of Dentomaxillofacial Radiology, Medical Design Application and Research Centre (MEDITAM), Ankara University, Turkey). Three fundamental principles for radiation safety that were developed by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP), that is: principle of justification, optimization of protection and application of dose limits, provide guidelines for the protection of patients, radiological personnel and other persons staying within a dental clinic from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation. Important factors affecting the safety of using radiological equipment, as well as the technical aspects of performing radiological procedures on adults, children and pregnant women were covered in the lecture.



*Professor Kaan Orhan presents the final motto of the lecture*

Professor Hrvoje Brkić (Head of the Department of Dental Anthropology, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia) discussed techniques for identifying the deceased using tooth analysis in a lecture titled „Dental identification in mass disasters”. The presentation demonstrated current methods for identifying victims of large-scale incidents caused by wars, terrorist attacks, air and land disasters, as well as natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis. The importance of identifying victims based on dental features has been incorporated into Interpol’s (International Police Organisation) guidelines. The team in charge of victim identification should consist of a forensic pathologist, a fingerprint expert, a forensic anthropologist, a molecular biologist and a forensic dentistry specialist. The dental-related identification assessment is based on radiological images, dental age assessment and comparative DNA tests. During the lecture, interesting examples were presented that demonstrated the possibility of correctly identifying the deceased as a result of three key components, that is, properly performed radiological images, the doctor’s experience and knowledge acquired during professional work. The combination of the aforementioned components guarantee safety with regard to the choices made during identification process.

The last Interprofessional Session concerned „Safety of dental pharmacotherapy and medication reconciliation”. The moderators were: Professor Mariusz Lipski, MD, Ph.D. (Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin) and University Professor Rafał Pietraś, Pharm.D. (Medical University of Lublin). The lecture entitled „Aspects of polypharmacy in dentistry. Patient safety” was given by Professor Marek Drożdżik, MD, Ph.D., Head of the Department of Experimental and Clinical



PHOTO BY MAREK GRZYCIAK

*Interprofessional Session Moderators, Professor Ingrid Różyto-Kalinowska, MD, Ph.D., and Professor Hrvoje Brkić*

Pharmacology and the Department of Pharmacology at the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin. The necessity of implementing combined treatment, or „polytherapy”, which involves taking multiple medications at once, may result in polypharmacy, i.e., the irrational intake of multiple medications at once in an inappropriate combination, dosage or quantity. Proper pharmacotherapy is critical for achieving the desired therapeutic effect while avoiding undesirable medication interactions (pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic). The presentation covered the most widely used medications in dentistry, broken down by dental speciality, while accounting for the potential for side effects or a reduction in their effectiveness when used in combination with other patient treatment preparations.

The lecture summarising the conference was delivered by University Professor, Aleksandra Szopa, Pharm.D. and Jan Sobczyński, Pharm.D. from the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Care of the Medical University of Lublin, who highlighted the significant role of pharmacists in the care of dental patients: „Safe pharmacotherapy of the gerostomatological patient. Interprofessional cooperation between dentist and pharmacist”. Ageing is a progressive and widespread damage to all bodily functions that causes a loss of adaptive capacity in response to stress due to a reduction in the body’s homeostatic reserve. Older patients are more likely to develop age-related diseases, necessitating treatment by a variety of specialists and the use of a wide range of medications. The body ages in quite different ways, so treating geriatric patients with a customized approach that takes into consideration their particular requirements, limitations and health objectives is of key importance. Treating should never cause harm, so it is crucial to consider

both the patient's self-administered medications and those prescribed by other doctors. Failure to follow this rule results in polypharmacy and polypragmasy and its dangerous consequences. The presentation covered the criteria for appropriate geriatric medication (such as the Beers list, START criteria, STOPP criteria and the Priscus list), as well as the principles of optimising it in collaboration with the full interprofessional team that is handling the patient's treatment, including the doctor, dentist, nurse, physiotherapist, laboratory diagnostician and dietitian.

Experts from a wide range of medical specialities gave incredibly engaging speeches at the International Scientific and Educational Conference titled „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care”, which integrated the clinical and scientific communities around a single objective, that is, enhancing dental care and increasing its safety standards. Every speaker emphasized how challenging this task is and how it must involve all medical professions - starting with pre-graduate training and continuing throughout their professional and team work.

## Educational activities for students, academia and the local community aimed at raising awareness of healthcare safety standards

- Medical dentistry and dental hygiene students' workshop on work and prevention principles in a safe educational environment
- „Dentistry through the eyes of students” photography exhibition
- „Charm of the historic dentist's office” historical exhibition

The aim of the events surrounding the International Scientific and Educational Conference titled „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care” was intended to make activities and information available to as many recipients as possible. Medical dentistry and dental hygiene students were among audience of the interprofessional workshops. All conference participants could attend a photographic exhibition. In turn, the academic community and Lublin residents were invited to view a historical exhibition that depicted the evolving working environment of the dentist over time. This fact becomes even more important when considering the efforts made to raise awareness of the academic community about dental patient safety and the accomplishments of the students and academic teachers at the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin.

# Medical dentistry and dental hygiene students' workshops on work and prevention principles in a safe educational environment

WOJCIECH ŚWIĄTKOWSKI, JOANNA ZUBRZYCKA,  
PAWEŁ MAKSYMIOUK, MAGDALENA HORODEŃSKA

Between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023, workshops for students at the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin were one of numerous events that took place in connection with the conference. These provided an excellent opportunity to present current developments in modern teaching methods, as well as clinical work-related topics for future graduates. As part of the event, the following three workshops took place: „Safe work ergonomics in the dental practice”, „Safe learning of dental procedures in mixed and virtual reality haptic simulation” and „Communication with a dentophobic patient”.

## **Safe work ergonomics in the dental practice**

The first workshop, which was included in the conference agenda, was about work ergonomics in a dentist's office. A dentist's profession entails a lot of responsibility that requires concentration and precision. Because of the limited workspace and challenges in access to oral cavity, the musculoskeletal system is subjected to undue strain. In addition, dental treatments are usually lengthy and require a static position. The repeated forced loading on the musculoskeletal system caused by prolonged sitting and static position creates an abnormal movement habit of posture, resulting in stereotyped movement disorders. Working in non-ergonomic positions for extended periods of time exposes the musculoskeletal system to the effects of overload. In the European Union, musculoskeletal disorders rank among

the most prevalent disease entities. Muscular imbalances affect 63-93% of all active dentists, and these dysfunctions frequently cause psychological problems.

The aim of the workshop prepared by a team from the University of Prešov in Slovakia under the guidance of Wioletta Mikuláková, Ph.D. was a presentation of ergonomic principles for work organisation in a dentist's office and treatment procedures. As part of the lecture and presentation, participants learned about the fundamentals of environment ergonomics and dentist's office work ergonomics. The operator's proper position during dental procedures, the design of an ergonomic chair, and other accessories to facilitate work or instrument transfer were discussed. Additionally, the workshop participants learned about the most prevalent conditions that impact dental professionals, including carpal tunnel syndrome, cubital tunnel syndrome, Guyon's canal syndrome, de Quervain's syndrome, myofascial pain syndrome, thoracic outlet syndrome, rotator cuff tendonitis, spinal pain syndromes, herniated and degenerative discs.

In addition, students could participate in practical classes aimed at demonstrating the basic preventive exercises used to reduce excessive strain on muscle groups and the osteoarticular system of dental personnel. Relaxation techniques for increased muscle tension and the trigger points in tense muscles were demonstrated. Moreover, neuromobilization techniques for peripheral nerves and spinal pain management options were presented. The aforementioned workshop served as an excellent platform for increasing

WPROWADZENIE:  
*Dr. Wioletta Mikuláková*

CWICZENIA:  
*Dr. Lucia Andrášková*  
*Dr. Lucia Hudačková*  
*Dr. Michal Ferko*  
*Dr. med. Pavol Malajčík*

ZAPRASZAMY NA WARSZTAT W JĘZYKU POLSKIM  
DLA STUDENTÓW KIERUNKU  
LEKARSKO-DENTYSTYCZNEGO I MIĘSIENIOWYCH STOMATOLOGICZNEJ

**"BEZPIECZNA ERGONOMIA PRACY  
W GABINECIE STOMATOLOGICZNYM"**

08.12.2023

16:00-18:00

HALA SPORTOWA  
UL. CHODŹKI 15  
SALA KONFERENCYJNA 129  
SALA FITNESS 048

**ZAPISY**

02.12.2023 19:00  
PRZEZ FORMULARZ DODATKOWY  
ZAREZERWOWANY NA STRONIE SŁOJECIA

071 718 0900

CELEM WARSZTATU JEST  
PREZENTACJA ZASAD  
ERGONOMII W ASPIEKcie  
ORGANIZACJI PRACY  
GABINETU  
STOMATOLOGICZNEGO.  
PRZEDSTAWIENIE BĘDĄCICH  
POSIADAWCÓW CWICZENIA  
PROFILAKTYCZNE  
MINIMALIZUJĄCE NADMIERNE  
PRZECIĄŻENIA UKŁADU  
MIĘŚNIOWO-SZKIPELNOGO  
PERSONELU  
STOMATOLOGICZNEGO

50 LAT  
FACULTAS DENTARUM  
PREŠOV (1923-2023)



A team of instructors from the University of Prešov

student interest in a given issue. The implementation of work ergonomic principles aims to maintain high performance, support mental and physical health, improve work comfort levels, and ultimately enhance quality of life of dental practitioners. By introducing and adhering to work ergonomic principles, students learn how to reduce the risk of chronic injuries, which can result in serious health problems and career shortening. This aspect of education is becoming increasingly important in terms of long-term dental practice, where physical health has a direct impact on service quality, motivation and ability to work in the profession.



*Students during practical classes with Wioletta Mikuláková, Ph.D.*

PHOTO BY PAWEŁ MAKYMIUK

### **Safe learning of dental procedures in mixed and virtual reality haptic simulation**

The advancement of modern dental teaching methods, particularly the employment of haptic phantoms and other innovative educational techniques, is creating new opportunities for both students and academic teachers. In addition to enhancing the teaching process, these techniques also help to improve treatment effectiveness, patient welfare, and the physical and mental well-being of future dentists.

During this training, students could work with the most recent and modern haptic training simulators, previously unavailable in Poland. SIMtoCARE Dente introduces students to the virtual world of dentistry at various institutions, including King's College London and the University of Leeds, as well as in Lublin during the workshops. Working on the SIMtoCARE Dente training simulators gives students a realistic treatment experience, aids their entrance into the previously unknown world of dentistry, and allows them to perform treatment procedures that would otherwise be unavailable in the real world. Obviously, the workshop is not only about the equipment, but, above all, about the lecturers. These workshops were conducted by an international team: Gulbike Demirel, Ph.D. (Turkey, Ankara University), Merve Ceylan, Ph.D. (Netherlands, ACTA University in Amsterdam) and

Wojciech Świątkowski, Ph.D. and Joanna Zubrzycka, Ph.D. (Medical University of Lublin).

The workshops were broken down into modules, during which students practised previously discussed procedures on haptic simulators. The first module covered conservative dentistry and carious cavity preparation, which was followed by periodontics and periodontal pocket depth measurements. The next stage involved testing both direct and indirect nerve block anaesthesia. Dental surgery? Nothing easier. Students had the opportunity to attempt removing a retained wisdom tooth. Subsequently, an intra-oral scan appeared in „our virtual world,” allowing us to try grinding the teeth of the lateral section for prosthetic crowns. Finally, the workshop included a free style component in which students worked on their own cases under the guidance of instructors.

This cutting-edge teaching tool gave students the opportunity to practice complex dental procedures in a secure virtual reality setting. The benefits include not only a realistic treatment experience, but also the opportunity to learn and experiment without risk to real patients, which increases students' confidence and improves their practical skills.

Haptic phantoms, such as the SIMtoCARE Dente training simulators, offer a unique opportunity to learn and enhance skills in a secure environment. This innovative approach enables the practical application of theory without the risks associated with direct patient care, which is especially useful in the early stages of medical education. This allows students to experiment with various clinical scenarios, and learn how to manage complications in a stress-free manner, which translates into increased confidence and competence in future professional practice. All these aspects constituted a summary of the workshops.

Dr. Witold Cypła  
Dr. med. Joanna Zubrzycka  
Dr. med. Wojciech Świątkowski  
Dr. Dr. Paweł Dudał

ACTA  
UNIVERSITATIS MEDICAE LUBLINENSIS  
UNIVERSITATIS MEDICAE LUBLINENSIS

ZAPRASZAM NA WARSZTAT W JĘZYKU ANGIELSKIM  
DLA STUDENTÓW 4 I 5 ROKU  
KIERUNKU LEKARSKO DENTYSTYCZNEGO  
POLSKO-ANGIELSZCZYNIEGO

**"SAFE LEARNING OF DENTAL  
PROCEDURES IN MIXED AND VIRTUAL  
REALITY OF HAPTIC SIMULATION"**

"BEZPIECZNA NAUKA PROCEDUR STOMATOLOGICZNYCH W ROZSZERZONEJ  
I WIRTUALNEJ RZECZYWISTOŚCI SYMULACJI HAPTICZNEJ"

09.12.2023  
12:00-14:00

HALA SPORTOWA  
UL. CHOCIMKI 15  
SALA KONFERENCYJNA 129

**ZAPISY**

02.12.2023 19:00  
PRZEZ FORMULARZCZOKOIE  
ZAMIECZONY NA STRONIE SO-LECIA

LIMIT: 16 OSÓB

SIMtoCARE  
SIMEDU

PODczas warsztatu  
STUDENCI PRZENIOSĄ SIĘ  
W ŚWIAT ROZSZERZONEJ  
I WIRTUALNEJ  
RZECZYWISTOŚCI DAJĄCEJ  
ZŁUDZENIE PRACY W JAMIE  
USTNEJ PACJENTA,  
WYKONUJĄC ZABIEGI  
Z RÓŻNYCH DZIEDZIN  
STOMATOLOGII

50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF LUBLIN (1973-2023)



Students during work with the SIMtoCARE haptic training simulator

## Communication with a dentophobic patient

Dentophobia, defined as an extreme fear of visiting and being treated in a dentist's office, is a common issue that affects children, adolescents, and adults. Dentophobic patients avoid follow-up appointments and treatment, resulting in the dental disorders diagnosed at a later stage, as they only visit dentists when they are in severe pain. Dentophobia, as one of the phobias, is a psychological issue that is difficult to discuss without a clinical context. Knowledge of both psychology and dentistry is required to ensure the patient's complete safety during the treatment process. In light of the above concerns, a workshop on dentophobia was organised for students, which was led by Magdalena Horodeńska, MD, Ph.D.

Both Polish and English-speaking medical dentistry students participated in the event. Under the direction of a psychologist and a dentist, the workshops were conducted in English and provided a broad perspective that was essential for comprehending this phenomenon.

In the introduction, the diagnostic criteria for dentophobia were discussed, with a focus on raising students' awareness of the problem's multifaceted nature, which includes the occurrence of severe, difficult-to-manage anxiety. It was stressed that a dentophobic patient is simply incapable of overcoming his or her fear. The differences between anxiety and fear were also talked about. In the further part of the workshop, participants were engaged in a discussion aimed at understanding the causes that contribute to the development of dentophobia, as well as the perspective of the patient who wishes to have dental treatment and at the same time has psychological difficulties. Subsequently, it was determined that empathy, patience, openness and the ability to identify the patient's emotions and feelings could have an impact on the effectiveness of working with a dentophobic patient. Later, case studies from the instructors' and students' practice were used to identify suitable solutions that were adapted to the various scenarios encountered in the dentist's office. The meeting ended with the development of principles for working with a dentophobic patient. The students demonstrated great commitment and were eager to share not only their opinions and ideas, but also their observations

*Dr n. med. Magdalena Horodeńska, prof. ucz.  
Prof. dr. Hanna Nishanu*

ZAPRASZAJĄ NA WARSZTAT  
W ZĘBYKANGIELSKIM DLA STUDENTÓW  
KIERUNKU LEKARSKO-DENTYSTYCZNEGO  
POLSKO- I ANGLOJĘZYCZNEGO

**"COMMUNICATION SKILLS WITH  
A PATIENT WITH DENTOPHOBIA"**

**"KOMUNIKACJA Z PACJENTEM Z DENTOFOBIA"**

09.12.2023  
14:00-16:00

HALA SPORTOWA  
UL. CHODŹKI 15  
SALA KONFERENCYJNA 106

**ZAPISY**

02.12.2023 19:00  
PRZEZ FORMULARZ GOSDLE  
ZAMIESZCZONY NA STRONIE 50-LECIA

LIMIT: 16 OSÓB

UMIĘTNOŚCI KOMUNIKOWANIA  
SĄ NIEWYMIERNIE WAŻNE  
W PRACY LEKARZA DENTYSTY,  
A PRACA Z PACJENTEM, KTÓRY  
BOI SIĘ WIZYTY U DENTYSTY JEST  
WIELKIM WYZWANIEM.  
W TRAKCIE WARSZTATU  
ZASTANOWIMY SIĘ NAD  
PERSPEKTYWĄ PACJENTA  
I POSZUKAMY UMIEJĘTNOŚCI  
KTÓRE MOGĄ WPŁYWAĆ NA  
SKUTECZNOŚĆ PRACY W TAKIEJ  
Sytuacji. Warsztat jest  
PROWADZONY W NURCIE  
NAUCZANIA OPARTEGO  
O DOŚWIADCZENIE (EXPERIENTIAL  
LEARNING) I UMIEJĘTNOŚCI  
(SKILLS BASED APPROACH)

UNIWERSYTET  
LODŹ  
BERN

50  
LECI  
UNIWERSYTETU MEDYCYNICZNEGO  
W ŁODZI 1920-2020

and experiences. The event provided them with a solid foundation for further investigation into the psychological aspects of working with patients.

Understanding and effectively managing dentophobia is critical for improving dental care quality. These abilities are required to overcome fear of dental treatment and establish trust between a patient and a dentist. Improved communication and understanding of the patient's needs help to reduce the stress and anxiety associated with dental appointments, which is especially important as dental care becomes more accessible and regular. This knowledge makes it possible to establish a stronger relationship with a patient and is extremely valuable in clinical practice. It also helps to reduce treatment-related stress for both patients and dentists, which increases the safety of the dental procedures.

### Summary

The workshop organisers intended to present a holistic approach to dentistry education, in which acquiring knowledge and technical skills is just as important as developing soft skills and taking care of one's own health. Such comprehensive education contributes to the development of highly qualified, empathetic, and self-aware dentists that are prepared to face the challenges of modern dentistry. The incorporation of new technologies, such as haptic phantoms, as well as the development of interpersonal skills and work ergonomics, is a strength and innovation of modern dental education, with the goal of improving not only clinical practice, but also patient's experience and dentist's well-being.

The instructors' commitment and the students' interest exceeded all expectations. In addition, the workshop allowed students of various years and majors to integrate, have constructive conversations, and broaden their learning opportunities.

## „Dentistry through the eyes of students” photography exhibition

LESZEK SZALEWSKI

On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023, a photo exhibition was officially opened in the lobby of the Collegium Maius of the Medical University of Lublin. The Dental Photography Section of the Polish Association of Dental Students in Lublin, founded in 2021 as a student initiative to inspire young dental students with the art of photography, prepared and co-organised the photo exhibition. During its activity, the Dental Photography Section has also helped to promote dentistry as both a scientific and an artistic field. The photo exhibition was held during

the conference, showcasing the most recent 20 outstanding photographs taken by the Dental Photography Section students and their academic advisor, Leszek Szalewski, MD, Ph.D., during various photographic meetings. The photographs were printed on large canvases and displayed on painting easels, emphasising their artistic quality. All of the photographs demonstrated not only the participants' advanced technical skills, but also their passion and unique perspective on dentistry. The exhibition was divided into two sections. The first part showcased photographs from the „Dentistry at the Medical University of Lublin” series, which was developed in cooperation with all units of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry and demonstrated the scope of their work. Other photographs incorporated dental motifs into everyday life, such as toothbrushes placed on autumn leaves, a clock



*Members of the Dental Photography Section with academic advisor, Leszek Szalewski, MD, Ph.D., during the photography exhibition*

PHOTO BY LESZEK SZALEWSKI



*Results of the Photography Contest*

AUTHOR LESZEK SZALEWSKI

made from toothbrushes and chewing gum, and a bouquet of beautiful spring flowers and dental hygiene accessories.

The photography exhibition could be easily seen in the Medical University of Lublin's public areas, allowing everyone at the University to admire all of the works on display. Following the photography exhibition, a Photography Contest was held, during which the University community selected the three most moving and motivational images from the collection.

First place was awarded to a photograph that perfectly captures the spirit of dentistry. It showed a sharp, abrasive disc presented expressively, perhaps even artistically. The work perfectly illustrates that a dentist is both a doctor and an artist. The authors of the photography are: Rafał Terlecki, Wiktoria Roszkowska, Aleksandra Kossoń, academic advisor: Leszek Szalewski, Ph.D.

Second place was given over to a photograph that provides justification for biophysics as a subject in the dental curriculum. The photograph depicts a combination of teeth and light play, in which the dual polarization of the light beam transforms teeth into sparkling jewels. The author of the photography is Leszek Szalewski, Ph.D. Third place was awarded to a photograph that impressed the community not only for its aesthetics, but also for the delicate nature of its portrayal of the subject. Its pastel colours beautifully highlight the combination of medicine and floral motif. The authors of the photography are: Wiktoria Zowczak, Izabela Bobel, Sara Lidke, academic advisor: Leszek Szalewski, Ph.D.

The effects of work of the Dental Photography Section's members are now accessible to a wider group of viewers as they are displayed on the walls of the

University Dental Centre and the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin. This is due not only to their talent, but also to their dedication to passion, which includes attending Section meetings in their free time and perfecting their photographic skills. The development of students' passions during their studies, as well as the opportunity to share the results of their achievements, is an example of best practices and collaboration. It also reveals how young people's commitment, determination, and talent can help to advance scientific and artistic fields. This is a story of inspiration for generations of students at the Faculty of Medical Dentistry that wish to not only study dentistry but also showcase its beauty to the world.

## „Charm of the historic dentist's office” historical exhibition

EWA GŁADYSZ, KATARZYNA SARNA-BOŚ

The conference participants also had the opportunity to see the „Charm of the historic dentist's office” historical exhibition.

The owner of the remarkable collection of exhibits is Piotr Kuźnik, a dentist from Częstochowa, who has a passion for collecting artifacts that document the history of dentistry, from the earliest oral health care practices, to the post-war years. The collections made available by the Museum of Dentistry included artefacts dating from ancient Rome, to the communist era, including well-known brands like: Colgate, Listerine, Corega, and Lacalut.

As part of the event, three locations hosted the exhibitions organised by Magdalena Piwowska, curator of the Museum of the History of the City of Lublin:





PHOTO BY OLGA MATOSIUK

Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, Professor Wojciech Załuska, MD, Ph.D., and the Director of the University Dental Centre, Associate Professor Elżbieta Pels, MD, Ph.D., during the opening of the historical exhibition

1. Collegium Maius, Medical University of Lublin, ul. K. Jaczewskiego 4
2. University Dental Centre of the Medical University of Lublin, ul. Chodźki 6
3. Museum of the History of the City of Lublin - Branch of the National Museum in Lublin (the Cracow Gate).



PHOTO BY OLGA MATOSIUK

Professor Ingrid Różyło-Kalinowska, MD, Ph.D., curious about the radiological exhibits

Visitors to Collegium Maius could view a variety of dental chair models, beginning with the oldest, which date back to around 1880, and ending up with the Polish People's Republic times. The Warsaw and Moscow-based Dobronoki & Schiele company produced one of the unique dental chairs at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. The original painting, which featured intact floral motifs, could be admired from this chair. A Ritter dental chair covered in green leather from the 1920s was another noteworthy item. The exhibition, moreover, included an X-ray machine manufactured by SANITAS in Berlin in the 1930s. The historical exhibition also included furniture from interwar dental offices and dental drills, the most interesting of which was a drill manufactured by Ash in the United States at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. In addition, an EMDA device for dental electrotreatments from 1920s was exhibited. What is more, the historical exhibition featured American amalgamators from the 1930s and 1940s, a variety of shade guides from the same time period, and sets of historic dental materials - the first of which were from the 1920s. The University Dentistry Centre showcased dental hygiene products from the most well-known companies, including toothpastes and tooth powders, dating back to around 1850 and ending with the Polish People's Republic period. The oldest, which originated in England and the United States, were packaged in beautiful and unique porcelain. One of Colgate's more interesting products was the first toothpaste in a tube, which was manufactured in 1896. The exhibition also featured the first preparations made by Odol, Corega, Blend-a-Med, and EMAIL DIAMANT in separate display cases. Older visitors expressed nostalgia for popular toothpaste brands from the Polish People's Republic times, including Nivea, Pomorin, Biały Ząbek, and Lechia.

Within the Cracow Gate's Museum of the History of the City of Lublin, locals and visitors could become acquainted with special dental instruments used by dentists over the years and



*Presentation of dental instruments*

the world's first DeTrey dental fillings. This unique exhibition space with a view of the Old Town was further enriched by an intriguing arrangement of dental office information boards, as well as occasional leaflets and posters on dentistry-related subjects. The visitors were left with unforgettable impressions.

The exhibitions were organised with the goal of making the long-standing technologies, methods, and practices in dentistry and oral hygiene more accessible to visitors. The exhibits were presented in an interesting and colourful manner, demonstrating the tools and products used by our ancestors to ensure the comfort of healthy teeth.

While some of the exhibits made us shiver, others made us smile. However, they clearly demonstrated the advancements that have occurred in dentistry so as to ensure the highest level of patients' safety during a visit to the dental office.

Dental safety is constantly evolving, with key areas that have changed over the years including dentist's office equipment, hygiene, disinfectants, blood-borne infection prevention and new technologies. As compared to today's standards, basic hygiene practices were more limited in the past. However, managing infection risks and upholding high standards are major aspects of both historical and modern dental practice. The exhibits on display demonstrated the advancements in technology that were made to accomplish the primary objective of improving patient and dental personnel safety.



*Ash portable dental drill*

PHOTO BY RENATA CHALAS

## 50 years ago...

BEATA PIÓRKOWSKA-SKRABUCHA, RENATA CHAŁAS

On 15<sup>th</sup> May 1973, more than 50 years ago, the Medical University's and the Lublin region's authorities finally succeeded in their long-term effort to open a dentistry department in Lublin and start training future dentists. On 1st September 1973, Marian Śliwiński, then Minister of Health and Social Welfare, ordered the formation of the Department of Dentistry at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical Academy of Lublin. The Ministry's approval to open the Department of Dentistry included a requirement that it be housed in a suitable building. The authorities of the city of Lublin donated two interconnected buildings at ul. Kliniczna for the needs of future dentistry (currently ul. Karmelicka 7). These buildings were originally designed for the Municipal Specialist Clinic.

The responsibility of organising education in the newly established field of study was given to Associate Professor Grażyna Jarząb, Ph.D. (who served as the Vice-Dean for the Department of Dentistry of the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical Academy of Lublin (from 1973 to 1974)) and then to Associate Professor Maria Strużak-Wysokińska, Ph.D. As early as October 1973, a total of 75 dental students were enrolled. There were many more study applicants, with 6.3 for each spot, and only the best were admitted. The first few years of teaching dentistry at the Medical Academy of Lublin were difficult, due to, among others, the facility conditions.

In 1973, the city-donated buildings remained unfinished. As a result, before the buildings were developed, dentistry students attended classes in the tenement



*Order on the establishment of the Department of Dentistry*

house at ul. Lubartowska 58. It housed the Department and Clinic of Dentistry of the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical Academy of Lublin, which was organised and headed by an outstanding dentist, indeed, a man who is considered to be the creator of the Lublin school of dentistry, Professor Józef Jarząb, MD, Ph.D., and then by Associate Professor Grażyna Jarząb, MD, Ph.D. (from 1962). It should be noted that prior to the formation of the Department of Dentistry and the start of the Clinic's dental student education, in addition to therapeutic, scientific, and training (postgraduate) activities, classes were conducted with fourth-year medical students. As a result, there were not enough lecture or training rooms. Ten-student groups were provided with a single, five-seat clinical room, and classes were also held in the building's basement. Furthermore, the organisation of scientific staff was difficult as there were not enough medical professionals in the region that would be willing to be responsible for training of the next generation of dentists, nor were there enough assistant personnel. As a result, in the early years of operation of the Department of Dentistry, academic teachers and assistant personnel came from both the Lublin region and other parts of the country.

The establishment of the Institute of Dentistry, a modern teaching facility for students, was the subsequent step in the history of dentistry education at the Medical Academy of Lublin. The organisational changes, which were ordered by the Minister of Health and Social Welfare on 18th September 1974, went into effect on 1st October 1974. The Institute's structures included the Clinics of the Department of Dentistry, which had previously been part of the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical Academy.



SOURCE: ARCHIVAL MATERIALS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN

*The building of the Institute of Dentistry at ul. Karmelicka 7*



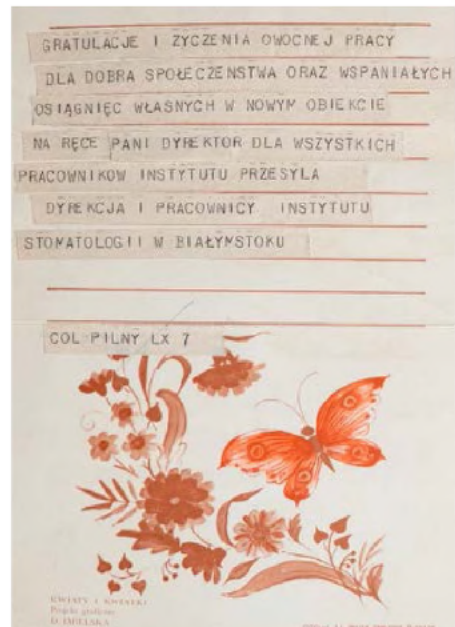
SOURCE: ARCHIVAL MATERIALS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN

Professor Grażyna Jarzab, MD, Ph.D., during the opening of the Institute of Dentistry

The first director of the Institute was the then Vice-Dean of the Department of Dentistry, Professor Grażyna Jarzab, MD, Ph.D. (1974–1984), and the Vice-Dean for the Department of Dentistry of the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical Academy became Associate Professor Maria Strużak-Wysokińska, MD, Ph.D. – Head of the Department of Conservative Dentistry. The Institute's first of two two-story



Occasional congratulation telegram



SOURCE: ARCHIVAL MATERIALS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN



SOURCE: ARCHIVAL MATERIALS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN

*Modernly equipped phantom room in the 1970s*

buildings was opened during the third year of teaching dentistry. At the time, there were more than 200 students (three age groups of students).



SOURCE: ARCHIVAL MATERIALS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN

*Fifth-year students during clinical classes 50 years ago*

The building, which was temporarily referred to as building „B,” included a lecture hall and modernly equipped training premises, including a phantom room that was used for conservative dentistry, as well as negatoscopic, orthodontic and prosthetic rooms. A Dental X-ray Diagnostics Laboratory was also set up under the supervision of T. Katarzyna Różyło, MD, Ph.D., which was equipped with, among other items, a panoramic X-ray machine (at that time there were only a few such devices in the country). The building also had a library and a conference room. On 23rd April 1976, third-year medical dentistry students began treating patients for the first time. A total of two 6-station clinical rooms were put into use and the first patient was given flowers. At that time, intense work was being done to complete the development of building „A” so as to be totally patient-treatment-ready. Finally, beginning in October 1976, all teaching activities were conducted entirely within the five-story building of the Institute of Dentistry. The fourth floor housed an oral surgery clinic with patient beds, the third floor was dedicated to outpatient surgery, the second floor was reserved for orthodontics, the first for dental prosthetics, and the ground floor was designed for conservative dentistry.

It should be noted that at the time, the facility was one of the most advanced institutes in the country. The usable floor space, which was more than 3,000 square meters, consisted of treatment rooms, a 40-patient bed maxillofacial surgery department, labs, and student training rooms furnished with state-of-the-art diagnostic and therapeutic apparatus. The Institute of Dentistry had 56 dental chairs with modern electromedical and diagnostic equipment supplied by Czechoslovakia, the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, France and the United States. Teaching, therapeutic and scientific activities were undertaken by four Units representing the basic dental disciplines: dental and maxillo-facial surgery (Head: Professor Grażyna Jarząb, MD, Ph.D.), orthodontics (Head: Anna Komorowska, MD, Ph.D.), dental prosthetics (Head: Associate Professor Maria Kleinrok, MD, Ph.D.) and conservative dentistry (Head: Associate Professor Maria Strużak-Wysokińska, MD, Ph.D.). The research and teaching staff was made up of former assistants, with the majority being students of Professor Józef Jarząb, founder of the Dental Clinic, creator of Lublin dentistry. At the time, in addition to the management staff of 4 independent research scientists, there were 34 assistant dentists and 78 middle and lower-level employees. This small group of academic staff members took on the task of organising and, more importantly, teaching pre-graduate and postgraduate students based on the current curriculum for training future dentists.

The Institute of Dentistry’s building was officially opened on 29th November 1976, in the presence of the University officials, including the then-Rector of the Medical Academy, Professor Bolesław Semczuk, MD, Ph.D., Director of the Institute, Professor Grażyna Jarząb, MD, Ph.D. and Minister of Health and Social Welfare,



SOURCE: ARCHIVAL MATERIALS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN

Authorities of the Medical Academy and the Department of Dentistry in 1973

Marian Śliwiński. The ceremony was also attended by provincial and municipal political and administrative officials, as well as members of the academic community.

The first group of graduates from the Department of Dentistry of the Medical Academy of Lublin consisted of 72 individuals. Following graduation in 1978, the young dentists started working in dental centres and dentist's offices across the country, while some found their jobs at the Institute of Dentistry.

During the Institute's first ten years of operation, many new teaching methods were introduced, and those that were already in use were updated. These innovations included the use of CCTV, the introduction of phantoms for pre-clinical training in conservative dentistry and oral surgery, the application of a new tooth modelling technique in dental prosthetics pre-clinical classes, and the introduction of exercise blocks on masticatory organ dysfunctions (at that time, it was a relatively new area of dentistry, that is dental gnathophysiology). The employees and students of the Institute, in addition, organised scientific and social camps and so-called „White Sundays” to conduct epidemiological research and provide specialised dental services in regions with inadequate dental care. The Institute of Dentistry underwent a very rapid development. In 1976, the National Bank of Medical Technical Means was established at the Clinic of Dental and Maxillofacial Surgery. This had the mission of providing modern osteosynthesis sets to national



SOURCE: ARCHIVAL MATERIALS OF THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF LUBLIN

10th Anniversary of the Institute of Dentistry

maxillofacial surgery clinics. Three years later, the clinic began treating pathological changes in the oral cavity with a cryogenic apparatus. In 1980, the Clinic for Diseases of the Oral Mucosa and Periodontium was established at the Department of Conservative Dentistry where hydrotherapy with Nałęczów mineral water was used to treat periodontal diseases. The Congenital Facial Abnormalities Clinic was established in 1981, first at the Department of Orthodontics and later at the Department of Maxillofacial Orthopaedics. The Department of Developmental-Age Dentistry was established that same year, followed by the Department of Periodontology in 1993. In 1996, the Department and Institute of Prosthetic Dentistry, which included the Laboratory of Functional Disorders of the Masticatory System (established in 1975 as the first in the country), was modernised and equipped with the latest specialist equipment.

During the first ten years of operation of the Institute of Dentistry, 521 dentists were educated.

Teaching classes for dentistry students were held continuously in the Institute of Dentistry's building at ul. Karmelicka 7 for 45 years, until September 2020. From the academic year 2020/2021 onwards, students receive their education in the modern building of the University Dentistry Centre in Lublin. In the same year, the Faculty of Medical Dentistry underwent a structural change, consisting of only dental units.

The educational programme was gradually expanded to include new fields of study related to general oral health and rehabilitation. Teaching in the field of dental technology began in 2008, and a dental hygiene programme was launched in 2015. The start of English-language medical dentistry education in 2008, which followed a programme that was exactly the same as the Polish-language programme, was a significant milestone in the history of dentistry education at the Lublin Alma Mater and in the internationalization of the Faculty. Over 500 English Division graduates, including those from Taiwan, Saudi Arabia, Norway, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States, have already completed these studies. The Department of Dentistry developed dynamically thanks to the work of successive Vice-Deans: Professor Grażyna Jarzab, MD, Ph.D., Professor Maria Strużak-Wysokińska, MD, Ph.D., Professor Krystyna Fetkowska-Mielnik, MD, Ph.D., University Professor Maria Hutowska-Łukasiewicz, MD, Ph.D., Professor Teresa Bachanek, MD, Ph.D., Professor Maria Mielnik-Błaszczak, MD, Ph.D., Professor Jolanta Szymańska, MD, Ph.D., University Professor Barbara Tymczyna-Borowicz, MD, Ph.D. As of 1st September 2020, Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D. became the Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry.

With time, the organisational structure has gradually changed, and additional scientific-didactic-clinical units have been separated from the four departments. These include: oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, dental prosthetics, and conservative dentistry. Such units were founded together with the Institute of Dentistry, which represented the fundamental dental disciplines. The Faculty of Medical Dentistry currently provides specialised education in the following Departments, Chairs, and Laboratories:

- Chair and Clinic of Maxillofacial Surgery (Head: Professor Tomasz Tomaszewski, MD, Ph.D.)
- Department and Institute of Oral Surgery (Head: Professor Mansur Rahnama-Hezavah, MD, Ph.D., Doctor Honoris Causa)
- Chair and Department of Oral Medicine (Head: Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D.) with the Preclinical Dentistry Lab (Acting Head: University Professor Jarosław Sobieszczęński, MD, Ph.D.)
- Chair and Department of Periodontology (Head: Professor Joanna Wysokińska-Miszczuk, MD, Ph.D.)
- Department and Institute of Developmental Age Dentistry (Head: Professor Maria Mielnik-Błaszczak, MD, Ph.D.)
- Chair and Department of Conservative Dentistry with Endodontics (Head: University Professor Barbara Tymczyna-Borowicz, MD, Ph.D.)
- Chair of Integrated Dentistry (Head: Professor Jolanta Szymańska, MD, Ph.D.)

- Department of Jaw Orthopaedics (Head: University Professor Agnieszka Lasota, MD, Ph.D.)
- Department of Dental Prosthetics (Head: University Professor Janusz Borowicz, MD, Ph.D.)
- Department of Dental and Maxillofacial Radiodiagnostics (Head: Professor Ingrid Różyło-Kalinowska, MD, Ph.D.) with the Digital Dentistry Laboratory (Acting Head: Leszek Szalewski, MD, Ph.D.)
- Independent Unit of Functional Masticatory Disorders (Acting Head: Monika Litko-Rola, MD, Ph.D.)

The establishment of the Department of Dentistry at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical Academy of Lublin in 1973 was unquestionably a breakthrough moment in the development of the Lublin school of dentistry. However, this advancement would not have been possible without the dedication, hard work and perseverance of many great individuals in Lublin dentistry, such as educators, clinicians and scientists, the names of whom would be difficult to list here. However, it should be noted that as a result of their efforts, over 5,000 dental professionals have already graduated from the Medical University of Lublin.

Therefore, on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023, a conference titled „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care” was held in Lublin, along with an anniversary session. The 50th anniversary celebrations started in a unique way as a string quartet introduced the solemn mood for participants that arrived at the event.



A concert by the Anima string quartet introducing the anniversary-related solemn mood

Then, the first of several film materials depicting the current Faculty of Medical Dentistry was shown at the event. His Magnificence, the Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, Professor Wojciech Załuska, MD, Ph.D., expressed his gratitude to the entire Faculty community for the enormous contribution to the advancement of dentistry during this period. He stated that without the dedication, hard work and perseverance of many people, so many advancements would not be possible. His Magnificence, the Rector concluded his speech by wishing all the gathered continued success in both teaching and science. Later, Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D., the Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry spoke up and stressed the fact that participants in this ceremony are still shaping this half-century history. She then invited everyone to see the subsequent film material. Both the recollections of the faculty graduates and the chronicles of the units that were a part of the Institute of Dentistry of the Medical Academy of Lublin at the time served as reminders of the exciting history of dentistry in Lublin.

The student representatives, Julia Kloc, third-year representative of the medical dentistry studies, and Sylwia Szwed, fifth-year representative of the English-speaking students, expressed congratulations on the Golden Anniversary of academic dentistry in Lublin. Moreover, students from the Polish Association of Dental Students' Branch Office in Lublin produced a film that showed past and present teaching process through the eyes of students.



PHOTO BY MAREK GRZYCIAK

*Words of gratitude to the University Authorities*

In recognition of the significant contribution to the advancement of dentistry education, the following current and former University's Authorities were given special words of thanks and flowers: His Magnificence Rector, Professor Wojciech Załuska, MD, Ph.D., Professor Andrzej Drop, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Rector, Professor Kamil Torres, MD, Ph.D., former Vice-Deans for Dentistry: Professor Teresa

Bachanek, MD, Ph.D., Professor Maria Mielnik-Błaszczak, MD, Ph.D., Professor Jolanta Szymańska, MD, Ph.D. and University Professor Barbara Tymczyna-Borowicz, MD, Ph.D.

The Medal of the Medical University of Lublin was also awarded to Professor Grażyna Jarząb, MD, Ph.D., an outstanding figure of Lublin dentistry, the first Vice-Dean of the Department of Dentistry and long-time Director of the Institute of Dentistry, Head of the Chair and Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, on behalf of His Magnificence, the Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, Professor Wojciech Załuska, MD, Ph.D., decorations were given over by the University Authorities, namely Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D., Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry, University Professor Jarosław Sobieszkański, MD, Ph.D., Vice-Dean of the Faculty and Head of Dean's Office, Ewa Gładysz, M.Sc. Eng.



Awarding the medal to Professor Grażyna Jarząb, MD, Ph.D.

PHOTO BY EWA GŁADYSZ



Awarded visiting professors

PHOTO BY MAREK GRZYCIĄK

In addition, special thanks were expressed to foreign guests that actively participated in the academic life of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin in both teaching and research areas. The Deputy Mayor of

Lublin, Mariusz Banach and the Dean of the Faculty, Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D. presented congratulatory medals to visiting professors of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry, Professor Kaan Orhan, Ph.D., Dean of the Dental Faculty, Ankara University, Professor Marin Vodanović, Vice-Dean for Teaching and Students, School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb and Professor Margherita Fontana, Director of the Global Initiatives Program in Oral and Craniofacial Health, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Along with the lovely musical surprises that the attendees could enjoy during the ceremony, His Magnificence, the Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, Professor Wojciech Załuska, MD, Ph.D. and the Dean of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry, Professor Renata Chałas, MD, Ph.D. provided the guests with a delicious gift, that is, a huge anniversary cake made by one of Lublin's leading confectioneries.



Anniversary cake

PHOTO BY MAREK GRZYCIAK

With over 50 years of experience in dental education, we are constantly seeking new, better, more advanced, and more effective methods of educating dental students in a safe educational environment, including innovative safe technologies that meet the highest international standards. The Faculty of Medical Dentistry continues the work of the pioneers of dental education in Lublin by following this path in teaching.



*Commemorative logo by Piotr Marciniak*

## What is ahead of us...?

INGRID RÓŻYŁO-KALINOWSKA, RENATA CHAŁAS

„We know what we are, but know not what we may be”

*William Shakespeare, Hamlet*

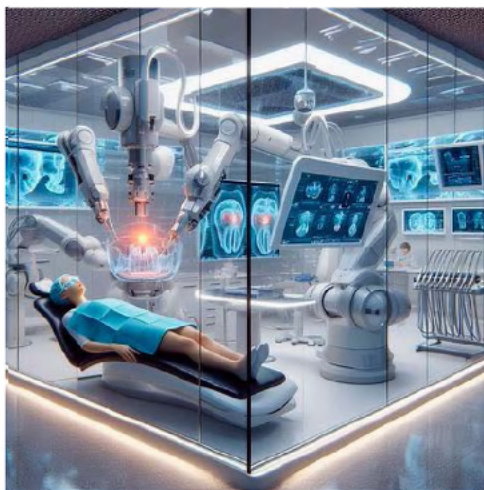
The future is much closer than we think... Never before in human history has there been such a rapid advancement in technology, information technology and civilization, accompanied by an increase in the amount of data and its sources. Never before have individuals from such a brief period of time been referred to as a single generation. This is critical in the education of students, who are from a completely different generation than their teachers, including the youngest ones. The rapid changes in how we obtain information, learn and communicate are driving academics to constantly modify their teaching methods, as well as driving universities to invest in cutting-edge, but at the same time, safe technologies. In contemporary times, it is extremely challenging to describe the future because what we currently perceive as the future will soon become the present. However, there can be no future without a past and a present, and it is difficult to imagine a monograph published in conjunction with the organisation of an educational conference that does not attempt to look ahead.

To ensure the highest quality of education at the faculty of medical dentistry in Poland, a revised regulation on the educational standards for practising, inter alia, dentistry, was published in 2023. The changes address a long-standing demand from the medical community for more practical skills classes, as well as classes on professional communication with patients and their families, and on team communication. It was also emphasised that learning outcomes should be updated in light of ongoing progress in the disciplines of medical sciences.

In accordance with the new criteria, a mandatory OSCE standardised examination was introduced in the fifth year as a method of verifying learning outcomes in the skills trained during the study. When examining these modifications, it should be noted that the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin is not only prepared to adopt the new conventions, but that many of its recommendations - such as OSCE examinations, including the Pre-OSCE and Mini-OSCE - have already been put into practice. Obviously, this does not release the Faculty from the obligation to maintain the development and quality of education inherent in its mission. The subsequent example of innovation is the introduction of contemporary, distinctive content to optional classes, which enhances the University's offer and makes it more competitive in the educational market.

In recent years, dentistry has evolved to an unrecognisable degree. As a matter of fact, the adjective „digital” can now be used to describe every field of dentistry. Digital dentistry refers to treatment planning based on digital patient records, such as photographs and radiographs, navigation during treatment, and digitized documentation of treatment progress and results. It also improves safety in dental diagnosis and treatment. As part of the new study programmes and the ongoing e-learning, the Faculty of Medical Dentistry is embracing the future by incorporating teaching elements in this field.

The use of virtual reality technology in the future can greatly aid the achievement of learning outcomes through distance learning techniques. With the right VR (virtual reality) goggles and software, the student will be able to follow the course material at any time and place. It should be noted that virtual dental offices, X-ray labs, anatomy labs and surgical rooms are already available. The next step will be to create fully virtual simulators in other fields so that students can practice their practical skills in a secure virtual setting without any limitations. In the near future, no doubt, artificial intelligence-powered robots will assist or even replace academic teachers.



*The future of dentistry through the eyes of AI-powered technology. The image of "future of dentistry" generated by Microsoft Copilot*

The dental profession requires collaboration with a team that includes not only other dentists, but also dental hygienists, dental assistants, medical registrars, dental technicians, and, more commonly, electroradiology technicians and physiotherapists. Thus, the challenges faced today by the Faculty of Medical Dentistry include introducing interprofessional teaching to encourage students to work in teams from the pre-graduate training stage, indicating the benefits and drawbacks of teamwork, and developing mechanisms for team cooperation and communication.

Internationalisation, which includes offering English-language courses to international students and involving international staff in this process, is a crucial component of the advancement of medical education. The first English-speaking academic teacher at the Faculty of Medical Dentistry was Luciano Augusto Cano Martins, Ph.D. from the University of Campinas in Piracicaba, Brazil, who was employed by the Department of Dental and Maxillofacial Radiodiagnostics at the Medical University of Lublin under a NAWA MEDYK grant.



PHOTO BY MAREK GRZYCIAK

*Luciano Augusto Cano Martins, Ph.D., promoting our Faculty during the conference*

Obtaining subsequent grants to broaden the group of academic teachers with people who have received their education and professional experience in other countries, exchanging views, experiences and teaching methods while also overcoming language barriers and potential cultural differences, is a significant benefit to future medical staff education and postgraduate or doctoral training.

Investing in contemporary training for academic staff members will also be important in the future so that they can keep up with the rapid changes in dentistry. In addition to professional training, it is also of key importance to put emphasis on broadening knowledge and enhancing skills in teaching activities, introducing new teaching methods, and ways of assessing learning outcomes, as well as involving students in peer assessment and collaborative teaching. Additionally, it is crucial to focus on developing soft skills. The dental profession requires individuals to gain knowledge and skills based on the most recent scientific research, necessitating ongoing education and training.

In addition to teaching, the future encompasses all activities pertaining to students' time within the University walls. This includes enhancing student activities through additional workshops, conferences, courses, and summer and winter schools. It also involves changing the recruitment procedure and promoting the University to attract the top high school graduates. Moreover, it involves maintaining contact with graduates who, even if they do not become academic staff members, are ambassadors for our University and external stakeholders.

In conclusion, the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin has already embarked in a brand-new era of dentistry education in accordance with the most recent standards, and the Polish Accreditation Committee's favourable opinion. We can anticipate more advancements in the years to come. We are looking forward to seeing them...

# Conclusions

RENATA CHAŁAS, BEATA PIÓRKOWSKA-SKRABUCHA

## „Defining standards for patient safety in dental care”

**P**atient safety in medical and comprehensive dental care is a top priority for both the healthcare system and the entire academic community. Defining patient safety standards is a critical component of providing high-quality dental services and protecting patients' health. The instruments that lead to the above objective are the pre- and post-graduate education of dentists and other dental team members, as well as physicians, pharmacists and representatives of other medical professions.

During the two-day conference, prominent Polish and international experts presented a variety of solutions and recommendations related to the development of educational activities in pre- and post-graduate education for the safety of patients and dental team members at all organisational levels, as shown below.

### **Patient safety:**

- Dental procedures must be carried out in accordance with the latest guidelines and safety standards developed by national and international organisations and associations (PTS, WHO, ADA, FDI, etc.).
- Medical staff should undergo periodical training in infection prevention techniques.

### **Education and training of dental team personnel and teaching staff:**

- Regular training helps in performing dental services in compliance with current procedures and standards and in improving the quality of pre- and post-graduate training.
- Infection prevention, risk management and first aid training should be mandatory.
- Communication with patients and among dental team members, teaching staff and students should be enhanced.
- It should be stressed that patient safety is also dependent on effective communication among members of the medical team.
- Communication with patients entails not only providing clear information about health condition, but also showing empathy and understanding.
- Emphasis should be placed on enhancing communication skills among students.

### **Enhancing the curriculum:**

- The curriculum should be adapted to meet the changing labour market and dental advances.
- Modern methods such as medical simulation, e-learning and interactive educational tools, should be incorporated into pre-graduate education.
- The number of practical teaching hours should be increased.
- OSCE-type practical examinations should be introduced at different levels of student training.

### **Infrastructure and technology:**

- Investment must be made in modern teaching and research infrastructure.
- Advanced technology must be implemented in both teaching and dental practices that would have an impact on the quality of student education.

### **Scientific research:**

- Interdisciplinary research must be conducted and funding for research projects must be increased.
- Cooperation between various departments and research centres nationally and abroad should always be promoted.

**International cooperation:**

- International exchange programmes for both students and teaching staff must be developed.
- Collaboration must continue and be enhanced with leading dental universities worldwide, including participation in international conferences and research projects.

**Supporting the career growth of students and graduates:**

- Tutoring programmes for students must be developed.
- Job fairs and other events to help graduates establish professional contacts should be organised.

**Cooperation with the local community and external stakeholders:**

- The role of the Medical University and the University Dental Centre in providing dental care to the local community must be emphasised.
- Collaboration with local dental offices to ensure that students can practice their skills outside of the university setting must be enhanced.

The solutions and recommendations presented will undoubtedly improve patient safety standards in dental care while also increasing patient confidence in dental services. Additionally, they indicate the path that the Faculty of Medical Dentistry should follow in order to enhance the quality of teaching and scientific research and to strengthen its position both domestically and globally.

# Acknowledgements

RENATA CHAŁAS

For the Faculty of Medical Dentistry of the Medical University of Lublin, 2023 was a unique year. It was 50 years ago that the founders of Lublin's academic dentistry realised their dream of establishing a modern centre for training future dentists in this region of Poland. Persistence in pursuing the goal, building a team of academic teachers, creating learning facilities and recruiting students all addressed the health needs of the Lublin region's residents. This objective is still being achieved today by later generations of teaching staff, all now in a modern building where dental students of successive age groups graduate from the University.

The International Scientific and Educational Conference titled "Defining standards for patient safety in dental care" that was held on 8th and 9th December 2023, and the accompanying 50th Anniversary, brought together many people that valued the past and the future enough to organise meetings, sessions, workshops and exhibitions to showcase the accomplishments of numerous generations for whom the development and quality of dental education were the top priority.

These values are especially significant today when Lublin dentistry is attracting the top high school graduates, and Lublin graduates frequently achieve the highest scores on the Medical-Dental Final Examination (LDEK).

It was a great honour for me and the Dean's College of the 2020–2024 term to be able to complete this task with the great support of His Magnificence, the Rector of the Medical University of Lublin, Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs of the Medical University of Lublin, members of the Organising Committee, Heads of Units of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry, the Dean's Office staff, Project Supervisors from the Support Centre for Science and Development of the Medical University of Lublin, Academic Teachers, Students and Event Partners.

Let this publication be an opportunity to contemplate, reflect on and reminisce about these meetings and the wonderful fifty years that have passed, and, most

importantly, to express our admiration of our teachers, many of whom are no longer with us, but whose memories live on. The joy and pride that accompanied us throughout all of the anniversary events will serve as inspiration for the continued development of the Faculty of Medical Dentistry in Poland and around the world, as well as the organisation of subsequent meetings.

*I would like to thank every one of you, both present and absent,  
for your support and motivation.*

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PHOTO BY RENATA CHAŁAS

