DEN8767L: Clinical Oncology and Oral Pathology

Fall 2021

# Course Description:

The student will become familiar with specialized oral care for cancer patients, attend head and neck tumor conferences and demonstrate recognition and management of oral pathologic diseases.

# I. General Information

## Course Director:

Pamela Sandow

Office: D3-5

Email: [PSANDOW@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:PSANDOW@dental.ufl.edu)

Phone: (352) 273-5955

Course Credits: 1

Semester: Summer

## Contributing Faculty

Seunghee Cha (352) 273-6687 [SCHA@dental.ufl.edu](mailto:SCHA@dental.ufl.edu)

## Support Staff

Debi Engstrom (352) 273-6681 dengstrom@dental.ufl.edu TA / Grade Administrator

# II. Course Goals

The clinical course in oral oncology is designed to enhance the student’s ability to prevent and/or diagnose and manage oral complications from cancer therapy. Students will gain experience in obtaining comprehensive medical and dental histories from patients with life-threatening diseases. Intraoral and extraoral examinations, interpretation of hospital records, and diagnostic tests will be performed to assess the impact of cancer on the delivery of dental care. Students will educate patients in effective oral hygiene methods and preventive strategies to reduce the risk of caries, mucosal infections, and other complications of head and neck radiation and chemotherapy.

Attendance at the mock UF Health Head and Neck Tumor Conference lecture will provide students with additional experience in understanding the appropriate use of surgery, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy in the treatment of head and neck cancer.

# III. Course Overview

This is a clinical rotation course. Prior to attending the rotation, please read "Oral Health in Cancer Therapy: A Guide for Health Care Professionals, Third Edition" which can be found via the link in the document section.

An Oral Oncology clinical rotation will be assigned to each student for 1⁄2 day (1:00 PM to 4:30 PM on Mondays OR 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon on Thursdays) of semesters 8-11. If you are assigned the Monday afternoon rotation, it is optional for you to begin the rotation at noon. Regardless of the time you begin the Monday afternoon rotation, you are only required to stay 3.5 hours. Therefore, if you come earlier, you may leave earlier. The rotation will be in the Oral Medicine Clinic, D1-18. Students are to wear a clean, pressed lab coat for this rotation.

Students will be required to attend the UF Health Head and Neck Tumor Conference lecture which will be scheduled on the same day and time for the entire class. It will be the responsibility of each student to attend this event. Students should contact the Office of Education if they have not been scheduled for any of these requirements or if they have a conflict.

**It is the responsibility of the student to sign-in for the clinic and sign the attendance sheet for the lecture in order to receive credit.**

NOTE: Cell phones are NOT permitted in the Oral Medicine Clinic. They must be silenced in your back pack or left in your locker.

A multiple choice examination will be given in Spring semester, usually in March.

Student Course hours:

Orientation lecture - 1 hour

Independent Study ""Dental Management of the Head and Neck Cancer Patient Treated with Radiation Therapy" and "Dental Provider's Oncology Pocket Guide"" - 2 hours

Mock UFHealth Head and Neck Tumor Conference presentation - 2 hours

Clinical Oral Oncology Clinical Rotation - 3.5 to 4 hours

Examination - 1.5 hours

Total time: 10.5 hours

# IV. Course Outline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DN Status** | **3-4** |
| **Semester** | **8-9-10-11** |
| Course # | 8767L |
| Credit Hours | 1 |
| Course Expectations | 1 Rotation  (up to 4 hours)  1 Head/Neck Tumor Conference Lecture (1-2  hours)  Read text (2 hours)  Examination (1.0 hour) |
| Hours to complete | 9.0 |

# V. Course Material

Dental Management of the Head and Neck Cancer Patient Treated with Radiation Therapy

by Carol Ann Murdoch-Kinch, DDS, PhD and Samuel Zwetchkenbaum, DDS, MPH

Dental Provider's Oncology Pocket Guide

U.S Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

**Optional resource:**

HSC Dental Library Guide

# VI. Course Objectives

By utilizing the medical model for education, Oral Oncology clinical experiences will contribute to the following competencies:

1. Read in detail and synthesize the content of "Oral Health in Cancer Therapy: A guide for Health Care Professionals" (manual in the Document Section) as foundation knowledge for the rotation and to pass the final examination.

2. Thoroughly and accurately evaluate complex medical/dental histories.

3. Provide differential diagnoses of oral hard and soft tissue abnormalities associated with cancer and cancer therapy.

4. Assist in the prevention of oral disease processes and complications from cancer therapy through patient education.

5. Assist in the treatment of conditions associated with cancer therapy including: caries, candidiasis, bacterial infections, oral manifestations of chronic graft vs. host disease, osteoradionecrosis, xerostomia, etc.

# VII. Course Competencies

This course teaches to the following competency(ies) in the "Competencies for the New Dental Graduate".

Domain I: Critical Thinking

1: Critical Thinking: Use critical thinking and problem-solving, including their use in the comprehensive care of patients, scientific inquiry and research

methodology.

2: Evidence-Based Patient Care: Access, critically appraise, apply and communicate scientific and lay literature as it relates to providing evidence-

based patient care.

3: Apply biomedical science knowledge in the delivery of patient care.

Domain II: Professionalism

6: Appropriate Referral Provide oral health care within the scope of general dentistry to include recognizing the complexity of patient treatment and identifying when referral is indicated.

Domain III: Communication and Interpersonal Skills

7: Communication Skills: Apply the fundamental principles of behavioral sciences using patient-centered approaches for promoting, improving and maintaining oral health.

8: Diversity: Manage a diverse patient population and have the interpersonal and communication skills to function successfully in a multicultural work environment.

Domain IV: Health Promotion

9: Health Promotion & Disease Prevention: Provide oral health care within the scope of general dentistry to include health promotion and disease prevention.

10: Interprofessional Experiences: Communicate and collaborate with other members of the health care team to facilitate the provision of health care.

Domain VI: Patient Care

B. Establishment and Maintenance of Oral Health

26: Provide oral health care within the scope of general dentistry to include screening and risk assessment for head and neck cancer.

This course certifies to the following competency(ies) in the "Competencies for the New Dental Graduate".

Domain VI: Patient Care

B. Establishment and Maintenance of Oral Health

26: Provide oral health care within the scope of general dentistry to include screening and risk assessment for head and neck cancer.

# VIII. Evaluation

## Evaluation

Course Grade weight will be based on:

* One assigned Oral Oncology Clinical rotation (1/2 day). **Complete/Incomplete**
* Attendance at the Mock UF Health Head and Neck Tumor Conference presentation. **Complete/Incomplete**
* An Oral Oncology written examination (25 questions, multiple choice). The exam questions come from the manual, "Oral Health in Cancer Therapy: A Guide for Health Care Professionals." **The final examination for this course certifies competency in UFCD Competency 26 and must be successfully passed (70%) to pass the course. 100% grade weight.**

An examination will be given in semester 9 (spring). To be eligible to take the make-up exam, students must have either been on rotation for the scheduled examination or have an excused absence. **An excused absence requires that the Office of Academic Affairs and Dr. Sandow be contacted prior to the absence.** The make-up examination will be scheduled by the Office of Education and may include essay questions. If a student fails to take the make-up examination without notifying the Course Director, Dr. Sandow, they will fail the course.

## Competency Evaluation

This clinical course contributes to the competencies mentioned in Section VII.

The written examination for this course certifies attainment in UFCD Competency 26.

## Course Grading Criteria

A passing grade on exam, attendance and participation in the oral oncology clinical rotation, attendance at one Head & Neck Tumor Conference.

**Note: Students alone are responsible for completing all requirements of this course. Students must notify Dr. Sandow and the Office of Education if they have not been scheduled for any of the required elements of the course.**

## Course and Competency Remediation.

If the student fails to achieve a final passing grade of 70% or greater, a conference with the course director will be scheduled to determine the remediation requirement. Remediation will be designed for each individual, depending on the nature of the clinical course deficiency.

## Exam information

Honorlock will proctor your exams this semester. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You DO NOT need to create an account, download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7 and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, and a stable Internet connection. To get started, you will need Google Chrome and to download the Honorlock Chrome Extension. You can download the extension at [www.honorlock.com/extension/install](http://www.honorlock.com/extension/install).

When you are ready to test, log into the LMS, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking Launch Proctoring will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan of your room. Honorlock will be recording your exam session by webcam as well as recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device. Good luck! Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact us by live chat, phone (844-243-2500), and/or email (support@honorlock.com. If you encounter issues within the LMS, you may contact Your School's Online Support Services team at their number.

# IX. Administrative Practices

Administrative practices for all UFCD courses are universally applied. Exceptions to or deviations from these practices are stated in the individual syllabi by the course director. When not individually stated in the syllabus, course administrative practices default to those identified under "Course Policies" on the DMD Student Website:

<https://dental.ufl.edu/education/dmd-program/course-policies/>

# X. Grade Scale

**DEN8767L Grade Scale**

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| --- | --- |
| Method | Letter Grade |
| Scale | 100 |
| Tolerance | 0.5 (Final letter grades within this range will be rounded up) |
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-90 |
| C | 70-80 |
| E | 0-70 |