



# GERIATRIC DENTISTRY

A Comprehensive Review of How to Manage the Aging Patient

DRS. NICHOLAS TONG & CHRIS WYATT

The North American population is aging and most dental practices have significant portions of their patient pool over the age of 65. There is great clinical heterogeneity amongst older adults, ranging from functionally independent to frail to functionally dependent. Multimorbidity, polypharmacy, and frailty contribute to functional decline in older adults and increase the risk of rapid oral health deterioration. Declines in cognition can affect patient co-operation for dental procedures, consent, and daily oral hygiene. Managing the dental needs of frail and functionally dependent older adults presents numerous clinical challenges in terms of treatment planning and treatment delivery. In this Continuing Education course, practical tips will be discussed for managing common clinical scenarios in complex older adults, with a focus on skills that can be used in private practice. This three day course will provide you practical, up to date, and clinically relevant information in Geriatric Dentistry with two days of lectures at UBC and a half day observing clinical activity in a dental clinic, located at a long-term care facility in downtown Vancouver.

## DIDACTIC PROGRAM | Saturday April 12 and Sunday, April 13

This continuing education course will cover medical, dental, and practice management considerations relevant to geriatric dentistry. These include:

- Key concepts in Geriatric Medicine and its relevance to dentistry and oral health
- Frailty and its impact on oral health
- Medical risk assessment in older adults
- Dementia Friendly Dentistry
- Rational treatment planning
- Rapid oral health deterioration framework
- Management of common ethical and legal issues (informed consent, Medical Order for Scope of Treatment, Advance Directives, Goals of Care)
- Oral effects of drug therapy, medication management, and avoiding drug related complications. Safe prescribing for older adults
- Root Caries management
- Difficult extraction of fractured teeth
- Preventive dental care for older adults
- Assessment for oral and IV sedation, General Anaesthesia
- Patient management tips to improve access to care, communication, and patient comfort
- Recognition and management of elder abuse/neglect
- Managing difficult patient behaviours, including behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia
- Safe patient transfer techniques, including wheelchair transfers
- Designing and delivering dental services for long term care facility residents such as; understanding the LTC system and different care settings, dental regulations in LTC, designing an effective dental program (staffing, clinical delivery models, equipment), contracts and financial management, quality assurance and program evaluation, integrating LTC and private practice, writing LTC orders, preventive care and staff in service training, interaction with LTC administrative staff, medical directors, and allied health staff

APRIL 12-14, 2025  
SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY

### TUITION:

	until March 7	after March 7
3 DAYS - Didactic & Clinical Observation		
Dentists	\$2095	\$2195
UP TO 15.5 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION		
	until March 7	after March 7
2 DAYS - Didactic Only		
Dentists	\$1595	\$1695
UP TO 12 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION		

Includes: handouts, continental breakfasts and lunches

Out of province dentists attending this program are not required to have a temporary license to practice as the clinical component of this course will be observation only. Dentists will not be treating or examining patients.

### SCHEDULE:

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Registration: 8:30 AM  
Lectures: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Lectures: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

UBC Faculty of Dentistry  
2151 Wesbrook Mall, UBC, Vancouver

#### MONDAY, APRIL 14

Clinical 8:30 AM - 12 PM  
Observation (Morning)  
LongTermCareFacility, DowntownVancouver

### REGISTER:

[dentistry.ubc.ca/cde](http://dentistry.ubc.ca/cde)

### CONTACT

P: 604.822.6156

E: [cde@dentistry.ubc.ca](mailto:cde@dentistry.ubc.ca)



### OBSERVATION OF CLINICAL ACTIVITY | Monday, April 14 (half day)

Each participant will spend half a day (3.5 hours) observing clinical activity in a dental clinic, located in a long-term care facility in downtown Vancouver. The observation session includes:

- Patient medical record review
- Tour of long-term care environment and discussion of organization of long-term care services
- Shadowing of clinical care for a functionally dependant Long Term Care facility resident: Review of behaviour guidance techniques, safe patient transfer, etc

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this Continuing Education course, participants will be able to:

- Describe practical skills that clinicians can use chair side to foster a positive experience for frail and functionally dependent older adults in the operatory
- Examine the impact of evidence-based risk factors in treatment planning in functionally independent older adults compared to their frail/functionally dependent counterparts, including cognitive decline, multimorbidity, and frailty
- Employ a shared decision-making framework with geriatric patients/caregivers
- Describe practical skills that dental administrative teams can use to create a positive office experience for older adults
- Employ clinical techniques to manage root caries in older adults
- Evaluate various treatment plans for medically complex older adults in the setting of rapid oral health deterioration



### CLINICIANS



NICHOLAS TONG, BHSc, DDS, MSc, FSCD, FACD is an Assistant Professor of Teaching at the UBC Faculty of Dentistry in the Division of Prosthodontics and Dental Geriatrics. He is the Program Director for the UBC General Practice Residency. Dr. Tong graduated with BHSc degree from McMaster University, a DDS degree from the University of Toronto, a GPR certificate from the University of Alberta Hospital, and a MSc (Craniofacial Science) degree from UBC. He is a staff dentist with the UBC Geriatric Dentistry Program, treating frail and functionally dependent patients in Long-Term Care. Dr. Tong is Chair of the Geriatric Dentistry Committee with the British Columbia Dental Association, a Fellow with the Special Care Dentistry Association and American College of Dentists, and a Director at Large with the American Society for Geriatric Dentistry.



CHRIS WYATT, BSc, DMD, Dip Pros, FRCDC is Professor and Chair of the Division of Prosthodontics & Dental Geriatrics in the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of British Columbia. Dr. Wyatt graduated with a DMD degree from the University of British Columbia in 1986, a diploma in Prosthodontics in 1995, and an MSc in Dentistry in 1996 from the University of Toronto. He is the director of the UBC Geriatric Dentistry Program and is a member of the Geriatric Dentistry Committee of the British Columbia Dental Association.

### CANCELLATION POLICY

Limited Enrolment Courses require a minimum of 21 days notice for a full refund less \$100.00 administration fee. Cancellations made between 21 and 14 days prior to the first day of the program will receive a 50% refund. No refund will be granted for cancellations made less 14 days prior to the first day of the program. Continuing Dental Education at The University of British Columbia reserves the right to cancel courses or switch instructors if deemed necessary by low enrolment, instructor cancellation or other unforeseen issues. In case of course cancellation a full refund will be issued.



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DISCLAIMER: Dental education institutions have an obligation to disseminate new knowledge related to dental practice. Some presentations may include controversial materials or commercial references. Sponsorship of a continuing education course by The University of British Columbia does not imply endorsement of a particular philosophy, procedure or product by The University of British Columbia. Fee in full must accompany registration. The tuition fee is deductible for Canadian Income Tax purposes. See cancellation policy.