

## **Clinical Preceptorship in Basic/Clinical Research**

An Eleven-Month Continuing Education Program

### **OVERVIEW**

This non-degree and non-certificate program is designed for the individual with a dental degree, who wishes to gain scientific research training in basic or clinical research. At Rutgers School of Dental Medicine (RSDM) research extends well beyond oral health care, affecting many other areas of human health. Our scientists perform basic and clinical research in a wide range of areas, from prevention of caries and periodontal disease through microbiological research, to potential therapies for cancer, autoimmune diseases, and drug-resistant illness. Clinical research is also vital to enhancing oral health and if carried out appropriately, will reduce health care cost and improve quality of life for patients. For instance, through clinical research we gain insights and answers about the safety and effectiveness of drugs and other therapies.

This Preceptorship in Basic/Clinical Research is conceptualized to address the growing need for clinical scientist and scientists to be experienced in integrated research.

### **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

To become competent in research, participants must gain a current working knowledge of basic and clinical research, be competent to perform a proper assessment and develop deeper understanding of various research methodologies. This will be accomplished through a combination of focused didactic instruction in basic science and laboratory techniques, as well as an opportunity to conduct mentored research during the 11-month program. Participants are offered a supportive, learning environment to accomplish their professional objectives.

### **PROGRAM DESIGN/OBJECTIVES**

This program provides a strong opportunity for mentored basic science/clinical research. The curriculum is comprised of core didactic courses, assignments, research experience, and learning experiences through seminars, lectures, laboratory exposure and self-study activities. There is considerable flexibility in the selection and sequencing of the didactic and research components.

Each student is required to complete a rigorous program that will provide the necessary foundation for conducting research. Included are basic science and clinical research courses designed to give the participant a strong scientific and analytical foundation necessary to understand research. Students will take all applicable classes and trainings that are required for the lab where they will conduct their research. Students are also required to complete a manuscript of publishable quality for submission to a refereed scientific journal on a topic to be mutually determined by the student and faculty mentor.

**SCHEDULE**

- The eleven-month research Preceptorship starts on July 1 each year (see note on our website for late start options for this academic year.); it runs from Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day and may require extended time when conducting experiments in a laboratory.
- Participants of the 11-month program are allowed eight (8) additional days off for personal or sick days.
- Holidays and vacations coincide with the academic calendar schedule.
- The school may also close for national and state emergencies.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

Applicants should be individuals seeking to expand their experience and knowledge in the discipline of dental research. A demonstrable interest in basic and/or clinical research is desirable. All candidates should be available for a virtual interview (WebEx or Zoom) prior to acceptance.

- DDS, DMD or equivalent degree from foreign institutions (BDS)
- Submission of TOEFL examination scores (for international students).
- Two letters of recommendation.
- A personal statement describing your passion for research.
- Admission interview.

**COURSE COMPONENTS/DISCIPLINES**

Requirements for the Preceptorship are listed below and each requirement is briefly described on the following pages. Although a specific time period is allocated for each educational activity, the actual time listed is subject to change.

1. Course 1: Onboarding
  - a. Axium Training.
  - b. CITI training for Biomedical Researchers.
  - c. IRB registration.
  - d. Any other (Lab certification, if needed.)
2. Course 2: Laboratory Training (Dr. Cugini)
3. Course 3: Problem based learning in research design (2 hours, twice a week first 2 months?)
4. Course 4: Journal Club (bi-monthly, every other week 1 hour)
  - a. Selected pre-recorded NIH lectures on Principles and Practice of Clinical Research. (IPPCR)
  - b. Critical thinking and Critical Appraisal. (Dr. Quek)
  - c. Journal Club Assigned Reading, and participant Critical Appraisal. (Dr. Quek, Dr. Subramanian)
  - d. Journal Club presentations by participants.
  - e. Individual Project proposal presentation, relevant journal article presentation.
  - f. Primer on Grant writing- Specific Aims. (Dr. Cugini, Dr. Subramanian)
  - g. Individual Project research (results- end of year.)

**EVALUATION OF PARTICIPANT**

For satisfactory completion of the program, the Participant must:

Complete attendance requirements of the program.

Demonstrate didactic and basic science and/or clinical research knowledge as determined by the director and attending research faculty.

**FACILITIES**

The Rutgers School of Dental Medicine is located on the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Newark Campus. The medical and dental schools, graduate school of biomedical sciences, and University Hospital are grouped together on an attractive campus with convenient private parking.

**FACULTY****NARAYANAN RAMASUBBU, PhD**

**Program Director**

Professor and Associate Dean for Research  
Office of Research and Oral Biology

**MODUPE COKER, BDS, MPH, PhD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Oral Biology

**CARLA CUGINI, PhD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Oral Biology

**WEI HUANG, DDS, PhD, MSD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Orthodontics

**DANIEL KADOURI, PhD**

Associate Professor

Department of Oral Biology

**OLGA KORCZENIEWSKA, PhD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Diagnostics Sciences

**M. ALI SAGHIRI, DEng, MS, PhD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Restorative Dentistry

**EMI SHIMIZU, DDS, PhD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Oral Biology

**GAYATHRI SUBRAMANIAN, PhD, DMD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Diagnostic Sciences

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

- Have a DDS/DMD degree or its equivalent from a foreign institution.
- Payment of non-refundable applicant fee of \$200 U.S. (This can be paid online, see website for link.)
- Submission of a completed application form, including:
  - Documentation of your Objectives and Goals (see page 3 of the application form).
  - Curriculum Vitae, attach or insert a small photo to first page.
  - Verified copies from your dental school of your Transcript and Dental School Diploma.
  - Applicants with foreign degrees will be considered based upon an evaluation of their academic credentials. Submit an original Evaluation Report from one of the following: Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE - preferred) –or- World Education Services (WES). We recommend you request a report showing a breakdown by courses.
  - Applicants with English as a second language must attain a TOEFL score of 80 or higher; or an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) overall score of 6 or greater.
  - Two to three original Letters of Recommendation (see page 5 of application form).
  - Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and National Board scores are not required, but can be submitted in support of the application.
- Attend a personal interview through WebEx or Zoom.
- Be a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States, or a foreign national with a visa status acceptable to the CE program.

**Deadline for submission of application:** See website.

**Further Requirements upon receiving Pre-Acceptance into the program:**

The applicant must complete the following:

- Pay a non-refundable deposit within 10 business days of pre-acceptance notification. The formal acceptance letter is sent after the deposit is received. See “Tuition” on next page for more details.
- Submit Health and Immunization Forms per University policy (“Student Immunization and Health Requirements.”) Instructions and the required form are sent with the formal acceptance letter.
- Submit proof of Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification for BLS that will be valid for duration of program.
- Be cleared by a Background Check; an additional fee is required for this.
- Provide proof of Health Insurance from a U.S. based company. Insurance must remain active for full duration of the program.
- Licensed U.S. Dentists provide proof of Liability Insurance.

Due to time constraints, all correspondence from us is by email.  
If you need to contact us, please use our email address: [cde@sdm.rutgers.edu](mailto:cde@sdm.rutgers.edu).

**TUITION** (for the current Academic Year)

- The eleven-month Clinical Preceptorship tuition is a total of \$30,000 (US). Some additional fees and expenses may be applicable.
- A non-refundable deposit of \$3,500 is required to hold your place in the program; payment must be received within 10 business days of the pre-acceptance notification.
- The formal acceptance package will be sent upon receipt of the deposit.
- The balance of the tuition (\$26,500) is due one month prior to the start date of the program.

**CANCELLATION POLICY**

To participate in this program you must be pre-registered with the Office of Continuing Dental Education. No refunds of any tuition paid will be made after program has started.

**CREDIT**

This Clinical Preceptorship program offers a unique opportunity for didactic and hands-on clinical experience in the Departments of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry. It is a non-matriculated, continuing dental education program. If participant completes the program as designed, they will earn 1,430 continuing education credit hours.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Submit completed application to:

Rutgers School of Dental Medicine  
Continuing Dental Education  
110 Bergen Street, B701  
Newark, NJ 07103

Email: [cde@sdm.rutgers.edu](mailto:cde@sdm.rutgers.edu)

Website: <https://cde.sdm.rutgers.edu/clinical-preceptorship-programs/>