QUALIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SPECIALTY OF "DENTAL MEDICINE", EDUCATIONAL-QUALIFICATION DEGREE "MASTER" AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION "DENTAL MEDICINE DOCTOR"

At the Faculty of Dental Medicine at MU - Varna trains doctors in Dental Medicine, with the educational and qualification degree "Master". They are capable to implement successfully in real social environment the acquired knowledge and skills for the protection, restoration and improvement of the dental health of the population. The mission the Faculty is address towards public dental health needs.

In accordance with the Higher Education Legislation and the Ordinance of the Unified State Requirements for Acquiring Higher Education in the specialties "Medicine", "Dental Medicine" and "Pharmacy", the training in Dental Medicine at the Faculty of Dental Medicine at MU - Varna is with a duration of 5 years (ten semesters). The training include also Pre-graduate Traineeship after the 10th semester (135 working days or 1080 hours), as well as two training practices of 30 calendar days (150 hours) after the sixth and eighth semester.

The theoretical training is performet by the means of through compulsory, optional and facultative disciplines in the form of lectures, seminars, practical classes and individual activitis.

The practical training is perfomet by the means of practical classes during the semester education, training practices and Pre-graduate traineeship. The practical training of students includes a certain number of practical therapeutic activities.

The basic training at the Faculty provides the acquisition of the following basic knowledge and skills which ensure further continuous training:

- Adequate knowledge of the basic medical science, proper understanding of scientific methods, evaluation of scientifically established facts and data analysis;
- Adequate understanding of the structure, psychology and behavior of healthy and sick individuals and the influence of social factors upon dental health;
- Adequate knowledge of the structure and functions of teeth, mouth, jaws and surrounding tissues, as well as their influence upon common health and social well-being of the patient;
- Adequate knowledge of clinical medicine and dental medicine disciplines, which provides for the dental medicine doctor capability for proper interpretation of anomalies, lesions and diseases of teeth, mouth, jaws and surrounding tissues; adequate knowledge of the propylaxis', diagnostics' and therapeutic aspeces of dental medicine science.

As a consequence of the basic education, the dental medicine doctor has to gain the required skills for conducting all activities involving prevention, diagnostics and treatment of anomalies and diseases of teeth, mouth, jaws and surrounding tissues. The ultimate objective of the education is the traning of dental medicine doctors who are able to satisfy the public dental health needs at high professional level and to create conditions for prophylaxis of oral-dental disorders and promotion of dental health.

The achievement of the above-mentioned objectives is provided during students' training by the acquisition of sufficient competence on:

- 1. Professional behavioral patterns, Ethics and Law.
- 2. Communication and Interpersonal relationship.
- 3. Basic knowledge of medicine and dental medicine pre-clinical and clinical disciplines.
- 4. Collection of clinical and para-clinical data, clinical cases-related interpretations, analysis and judgment and decision making.
- 5. Diagnostic procedures and organization and performance of treatment plan.

- 6. Establishment, preservation and restoration of dental health by the means of adequate competence on: Oral Medicine, Paradontology, Cariesology and Endodontics, Oral Surgery, Pain and Stress Management, Prosthetics, Orthodontics, Emergency Conditions.
 7. Promotion of Dental Health.