

**2.3.2 Student-centric methods, are used for enhancing learning experiences by:**

**Experiential learning**

**Integrated/Inter-disciplinary learning**

**Participatory learning**

**Problem-solving methodologies**

**Self-directed learning**

**Patient-centric and Evidence-based learning**

**The Humanities**

**Project-based learning**

**Role play**

**Response:**

To enhance student-learning experience, we have implemented student-centric methods in all our teaching programmes. The teaching-learning methods adopted are:

**Experiential learning:**

All students are required to undergo various levels of preclinical work and hands-on practice of all the dental procedures that they need to perform on patients. It's done to enhance competency through Preclinical lab based education. 50% of undergraduate training and 75% of postgraduate courses focus on experiential learning. Students maintain log books, participate in departmental & interdepartmental discussions, attend and present journal clubs, seminars, Posters and Clinical Club meetings at regular intervals. They present scientific papers & Posters at national/international conferences.

**Integrated/Interdisciplinary learning:**



Dr. K. GEORGE VARGHESE  
PRINCIPAL  
Pushpagiri College of Dental Sciences



Elective postings are offered across disciplines to enhance interdisciplinary learning. Faculty members, postgraduates and interns participate in Clinical Club meetings which provide opportunities for interdisciplinary discussions. Co-curricular activities by the students also aid in integrated professional learning. Students in clinics assist their seniors, faculties during major procedures as well as patient demos are also given.

### **Participatory Learning:**

Participation in open-ended questioning in classrooms and clinical postings encourages clear communication and provides students with reassurance that their thoughts and ideas matter. Also it changes the attitude of students making them more confident in their approach. Participatory learning provides students with programmes in a structural manner to gain real-life experiences. Students are posted in rural and urban health centers facilitating community interaction. Camps are conducted where students visit various communities, old age homes and children's home, public and mental health institutes. Symposiums are conducted on career prospects, innovation, development of soft skills & leadership qualities among students.

### **Problem - Solving Methodologies:**

Problem solving approach is used in all the departments for developing analytical skills. Clinical case diagnosis, development of management strategies for different case scenarios, projects, classroom and homework assignments etc.

### **Self-Directed learning:**

College uses Zoom, Google meet, Dhooth platforms for online teaching where students can record the classes, or PowerPoint presentations by faculty are passed onto students which facilitates students to have re-learning and remote-learning as self-directed learning. At the end of a Lecture class students are allotted sometime to relax and analyse things. It also allows them time to process what they have been learning without the help of others. We also provide students with multiple reference books for a subject, thus giving them options to choose from according to their understanding.



Dr. K. GEORGE VARGHESE  
PRINCIPAL  
Pushpagiri College of Dental Sciences

**Patient-centric and Evidence-based learning:**

Students have regular clinical postings in all the departments not only are they introduced into the clinical practice in all the dental specialities but also given postings in general medicine and surgery departments in general hospital as well. Evidence-based learning is provided through clinical audits, quality assessment and clinical trials to make them understand patient care outcomes.

**Learning in the Humanities:**

Camps are organised at various orphanages, old age homes as well as schools for students to understand the essence of giving back to the society and the underprivileged. Also we offer Counselling and Guidance, Interpersonal Skills development projects, Stress management talks. Students are encouraged to be more empathetic towards patients.

**Project-based learning:**

For analytical and creativity skills, projects are included in UG-PG programmes. Our Focus is on research as well as general awareness programs to increase dental awareness among people. Write-ups in popular magazines, Flash mobs, Rallies, Patient motivation programs where students interact with bystanders to encourage them to seek treatment for dental issues. We also encourage them to publish the project outcomes.

**Role-plays:**

Role Plays on simulated scenarios are practiced in various students' programmes. Role plays by students for understanding of general public such as Oral Cancer Awareness week, Dentist day, No Tobacco Day, Green club etc.



Dr. K. GEORGE VARGHESE  
PRINCIPAL  
Pushpagiri College of Dental Sciences