

#### 7.2.1: Institutional Best Practices

### FIRST BEST PRACTICE

#### **First Best Practice**

#### 1. Title of the Practice:

**Bystander Motivation** 

## 2. Objectives of the Practice:

- Provide free dental check-ups and oral prophylaxis, including pit and fissure sealants.
- Offer free oral cancer screenings and habit counseling.
- o Promote self-awareness among patients regarding their oral health.

#### 3. Context:

In a developing country like India, where oral health is often marginalized, this program aims to encourage bystanders to pursue necessary dental care.

#### 4. Practice Overview:

This program is implemented daily during clinical hours by interns from the Department of Public Health Dentistry. Activities are systematically documented in a register.

Bystanders accompanying patients in the Outpatient Department at Pushpagiri College of Dental Sciences are selected to participate voluntarily.

#### **Constraints/Limitations:**

Some bystanders may hesitate to undergo oral examinations since many do not have active dental issues and are asymptomatic.

## 5. Evidence of Success:

Interns have successfully screened and administered oral prophylaxis and pit and fissure sealants to a significant number of bystanders, in addition to providing oral health counseling.

# 6. Challenges Encountered and Required Resources:

A frequent challenge is the hesitation of bystanders to participate in oral examinations, largely due to the absence of visible oral health issues.

# **Required Resources:**

- OP Files
- Gloves, masks, head caps, and drapes
- Dental chairs with lighting
- Diagnostic instruments
- Scaling units
- o Pit and fissure sealants
- Documentation register

The institutional link to the museum: <u>Museum - Pushpagiri- Group of Institutions</u>





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#### **Second Best Practice**

#### 1. Title of the Practice:

Pushpavani Aarogyam – Live Dental Health Education Programme in collaboration with Radio Macfast, 90.4 FM.

#### 2. Objectives of the Practice:

- Foster community development.
- Provide accessible, high-quality dental health education weekly for the general public.

#### 3. Context:

Radio serves as an effective medium for disseminating crucial health information to the masses.

#### 4. Practice Overview:

The radio program is held every Thursday from 9:15 AM to 9:45 AM, led by Dr. Vinod Mathew Mulamoottil.

#### 5. Constraints/Limitations:

The program is conducted in Malayalam, the native language of Kerala, which posed a challenge for some staff and interns who were not proficient in the language. This was addressed by providing the Malayalam script in English.

### 6. Evidence of Success:

Radio Macfast, a community radio operated by MACFAST, broadcasts in five districts of Central Travancore (Pathanamthitta, Alleppey, Kottayam, Idukki, and Kollam) and has nearly one million listeners, with over 5,000 active participants.

# 6. Challenges Encountered and Required Resources:

The primary challenge is the Malayalam language, in which many faculty members and interns lack proficiency.

# 7. Required Resources:

- Transportation to and from the venue
- A fully equipped radio studio facility

The reports of the radio program conducted during the year 2023-24 are given at the link:

# 3.4.2.a - Pushpagiri- Group of Institutions



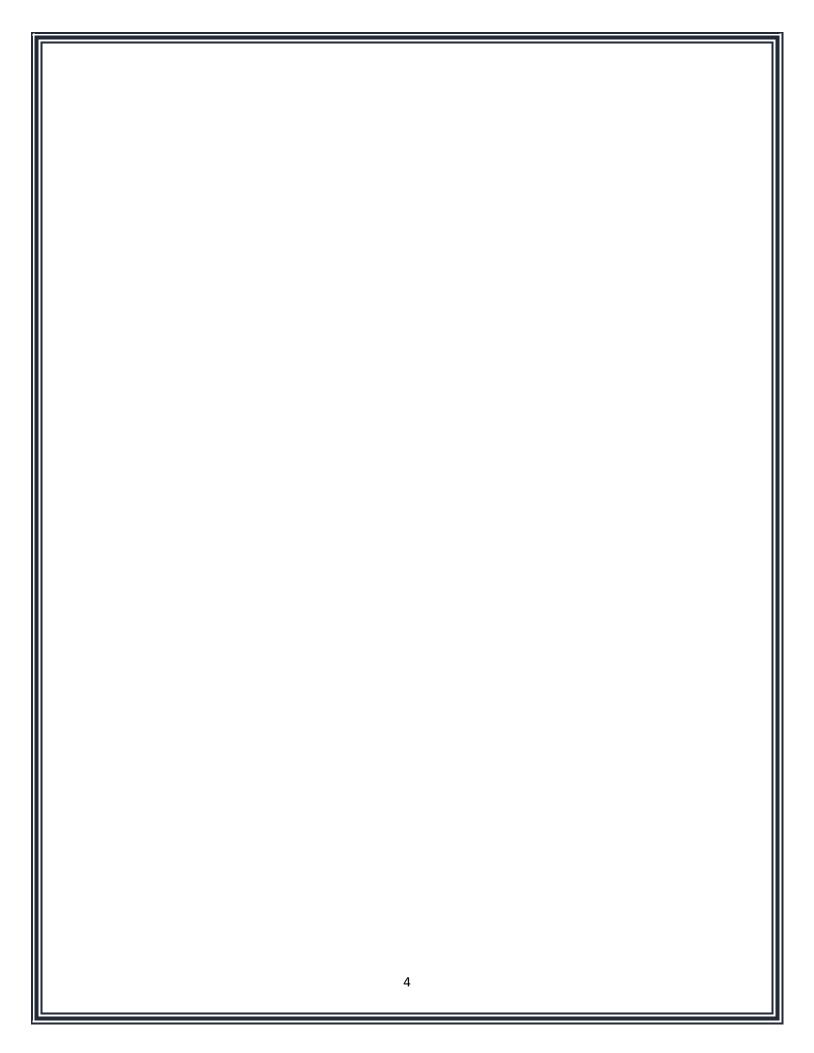




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