DISEASE PROCESSES (DSPR)

DSPR 136. Cariology. 1 Unit.
This course in cariology includes development, distribution and determinants, role of fluorides, clinical features, risk assessment, and prevention of caries. The course will enable students to understand the etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical aspects of caries, which will complement the Problem-Based-Learning module, Epidemiology for Clinical Dentistry. In addition, this course will prepare the first-year students for their sealant rotation where they will be observing clinical features of caries in children before placing sealants on appropriate teeth.

DSPR 139. Neoplasia and Genetics. 1 Unit.
Neoplasia and its sequelae are a major healthcare problem in the United States and across the world. I would like dental practitioners and students to have a thorough understanding of and to be articulate in describing the aspects of neoplastic disease, ranging from theory to clinical impact. This understanding rests on familiarity with basic principles of genetics which increasingly is recognized to be implicated in the pathophysiology, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of a variety of diseases not limited to neoplasia. Such knowledge is essential in being able to: confidently and compassionately manage patients; speak comfortably with colleagues in other medical specialties; entertain the possibility of neoplastic disease in the appropriate clinical scenario.

DSPR 232. Periodontics. 1 Unit.
The second-year course in periodontology focuses on the application of basic principles of periodontology in diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease. Emphasis is placed on development of clinical skills and diagnosis of periodontal disease in the first half of the course, ending with informal discussion of actual cases. Pre-surgical treatment planning is introduced in the second half of the course to prepare for the third year.

DSPR 234. Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. 3 Units.
The practice of dentistry includes a routine 90-second head and neck exam on all new patients as well as the proper identification and management any and all abnormalities of the oral cavity, salivary glands and jaw bones. In order to confidently and compassionately provide comprehensive care to the dental patient, the dentist must be aware of and qualified in managing diseases native to the oral and maxillofacial regions and systemic or dermatologic diseases with oral and maxillofacial manifestations. Many systemic conditions with oral and maxillofacial manifestations have been taught in your general pathology lectures and will at most be mentioned in passing due to time constraints. You will be introduced to approximately 300 diseases in this course. I want all of you to succeed in this challenging course. Success entails recognizing that oral and maxillofacial pathology is best thought of as a foreign language, and must be learned, practiced and rehearsed as such to achieve mastery and confidence.

DSPR 239. Neoplasia. 1 Unit.
Topics covered in this educational module include tumor nomenclature, features of benign versus malignant tumors, cytologic characteristics of cancer cells, pathogenesis and prognosis.

DSPR 333. Management of Medical Emergencies. .5 Unit.
The purpose of this course is to comprehensively review the recognition and management of common medical emergency situations that a dentist is likely to encounter in the dental office.