

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE UNIT FOR DOCTORAL STUDIES  
AT VILNIUS UNIVERSITY**

<b>Scientific Area, Field of Science</b>	Medical and Health Sciences (M 000): Odontology (M 002); Public Health (M 004)			
<b>Faculty, Institute, Department/Clinic</b>	Faculty of Medicine Institute of Odontology			
<b>Course unit title</b> (ECTS credits, hours)	<b>Public Oral Health</b> 6 credits (160 hours)			
<b>Study method</b>	<b>Lectures</b>	<b>Seminars</b>	<b>Consultations</b>	<b>Self-study</b>
Number of ECTS credits	-	0,5	0,5	5
<b>Method of the assessment</b> (in 10 point system)	<p>Presentation evaluation. Presentation topic should be discussed and decided with the lecturer coordinating the unit. Student should review, analyze, and present the newest research findings that are related to the topic. The following aspects are evaluated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Structure of the presentation, comprehensiveness, and quality of the material (2 points);</li> <li>- Clear presentation of knowledge, argumentation, critical thinking (2 points);</li> <li>- Conclusions and limitations (2 points);</li> <li>- Clinical recommendations, evidence-based statements (2 points);</li> <li>- Discussion, ability to answer questions (2 points).</li> </ul> <p>Minimal passing score – 5.</p>			
<b>PURPOSE OF THE COURSE UNIT</b>				
<p>To provide a comprehensive understanding of public oral health and its application to the prevention and treatment of oral diseases; to provide an opportunity to understand the concept of public oral health, to learn to apply the basic principles of primary health care, to apply the theory and practice of epidemiology, statistics and social sciences in public oral health, to understand the principles and practices of planning and evaluating oral health promotion interventions and the oral health care system.</p>				
<b>THE MAIN TOPICS OF THE COURSE UNIT</b>				
<p>Fundamentals of public oral health. An introduction to the social and historical context of public oral health and evidence-based dentistry. Planning population-based oral health programs: principles and practices of public health, the relationship between general public health and oral health. Principles of organization and implementation of health education (programs). Approach to primary health care. Provision of oral health care services and their financing, problems of access to these services. Inequality in oral care - the social context of oral care. Assessment of oral health needs. Evaluation of scientifically based data. Program management.</p> <p>Principles and methods of oral epidemiology: measurement techniques, identification of risk factors, disease prevalence in the population. Collection, analysis, interpretation and presentation of results of scientific data in dentistry. Statistical issues related to the design and analysis of public oral health studies. Public health aspects of oral diseases and disorders: dental caries, periodontal diseases, oral cancer, dental traumatic injuries, enamel development defects,</p>				

dento-facial lesions, tooth wear. Tendencies in oral care. Individual and social preventive measures, their selection.

Principles of oral health promotion. A theory-based approach to the planning, implementation and evaluation of oral health education programs, funding and legal aspects. Practical aspects of oral health promotion. Public strategies for dental caries prevention. Oral health care education. Nutrition, dietary guidelines and food policy. Water fluoridation and other fluoride applications. Fissure and pits sealants. Oral hygiene. Use of chemical preparations.

Organizational principles and models of oral health care delivery. Patterns of oral health care in different countries. Principles and practice of health economics.

### **RECOMMENDED LITERATURE SOURCES**

1. Mariño R, Ravisankar G, Zaror C. Quality appraisal of economic evaluations done on oral health preventive programs-A systematic review. J Public Health Dent. 2020;80:194-207.
2. T.L. Gauger, L. A. Prosser, M. Fontana, P. J. Polverini. Integrative and collaborative care models between pediatric oral health and primary care providers: a scoping review of the literature. Journal of Public Health Dentistry 78(2018) 246-256
3. R. T. Firmino, C. Castro Martins, L. dos Santos Faria, S. M. Paiva, A. F. Granville-Garcia, F. Calixto Fraiz, F. Morais Ferreira. Association of oral health literacy with oral health behaviors, perception, knowledge, and dental treatment related outcomes: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Journal of Public Health Dentistry 78(2018) 231-245
4. I. Chestnut. Dental public health at a glance. Willey Blackwell, 2013.
5. J. Mason. Concepts in dental public health. 2nd ed. Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2020
6. Community Oral Health. Pine C., Harris R., editors; 2nd ed. Quintessence Publishing Co. Ltd. 2007.
7. Prevention in Clinical Oral Health Care. Cappelli D.P, Mobley C.C., editors. Mosby Elsevier, St.Louis, USA. 2008.
8. Dental caries: The disease and its clinical management. Fejerskov O., Kidd E. Oxford: Blackwell Munsgaard, 2008.

### **CONSULTING LECTURERS**

1. Coordinating lecturer: Vilma Brukienė (Prof. Dr.).

2. Vytautė Pečiulienė (Prof. Dr.).

3. Alina Pūrienė (Prof. Dr. HP).

4. Lina Džiaugytė - Eyeberdiyev (Assist. Prof. Dr.).

### **APPROVED:**

By Council of Doctoral School of Medicine and Health Sciences at Vilnius University:  
29<sup>th</sup> of September 2022

Chairperson of the Board: Prof. Janina Tutkuvienė