



UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS CHICAGO

College of Dentistry

**Zoya Ahmed # , Jocelyn Gonzalez #, Shahd Louaibi #,
Hajar Mchabcheb #, Dr. Rada #**

Department of [Oral Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences] UIC College of Dentistry



CLINIC &
RESEARCH
DAY

2025

Abstract Category: Population Health Sciences

Presenter Category: [Dental Student]

OBJECTIVES

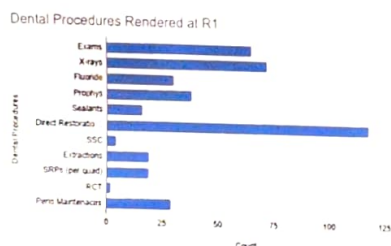
The Commission on Dental Accreditation Standard 2-25 defines special needs populations as those "whose medical, physical, psychological or social situations make it necessary to consider a wide range of assessment and care options". The objective of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of student-managed dental clinics in increasing access to oral healthcare for underserved and special needs populations.

METHODS

Data regarding number of patients treated, patient demographics (age/ special needs/ etc), number and type of procedures performed on each patient were collected at 3 different student-managed clinics. These two clinic sites are the RefugeeOne Dental clinic (which provides free dental services to recent immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers) and the El Valor Dental Clinic (which provides free dental services to Latinx patients who face intellectual and developmental disabilities). The data tracked the delivery of treatment outcomes as well as student participation and comfort in treating these populations.

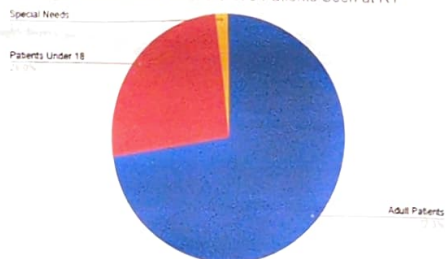
RESULTS

RefugeeOne Data

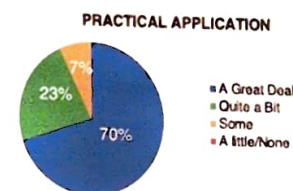
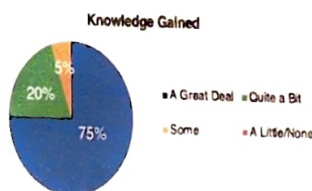


A clinical service form was collected after each R1 clinical session prompting students to document what types of procedures they performed that day. A total of 92 students completed the form with the following data gathered. Majority of the procedures rendered at R1 were direct resin composites (28.6 %) with x-rays (17.5%) and exams (15.8%) being second most common. Information about the demographics of the R1 patients was also collected with 26% being pediatric patients and another 1.7% being patient with physical/ mental disabilities.

Demographic Breakdown of the 175 Patients Seen at R1

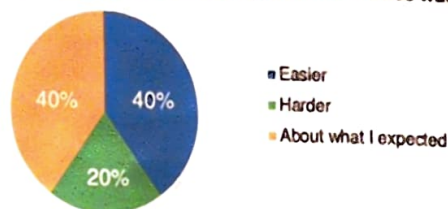


El Valor Data



A survey of patients and their families (n=60) was conducted El Valor to assess the knowledge they gained on oral hygiene and the efficacy of the oral health education sessions. More than 75% gained a great deal of knowledge and 70% gained a great deal of the practical application of the oral health in their day-to-day.

Caring for patients with developmental disabilities was:



To assess student comfort in working on and education special needs populations, a survey of dental students (n=30) was conducted. Students were asked to rate the experience and to rate the difficulty of the experience. A 100% of the students enjoyed the experience and all of them said if they had the opportunity to treat a person with special needs, they would probably try and treat instead of immediately refer to a clinic specializing in special needs dentistry.

CONCLUSIONS

The student-run dental clinics provide essential preventative and restorative care to patients with SHCN. Majority of the procedures performed at these clinics were phase 0 – phase 1 treatment. Moreover, these clinics increased students' confidence and comfort in treating patient with SHCN.