

ID:16063**Title:** Confidence, Learning Preferences and Practice Management Knowledge amongst Graduating Dentists Entering the Work Force*Jane Manakil, Roy George***Introduction/Background**

The Associations for Dental Educations in Europe and America recommended in curriculum restructuring the fundamental focus on clinical education should be evidence based patient care, but highlighted the need to include the teamwork, practice management and information/computer technology.

Purpose/Objectives

The undergraduate dental curriculum although should ensure competency in holistic patient care, they also need to be prepared to integrate into the dental work force and are familiar with the dynamics of practice management. This study explored the knowledge in practice management and their confidence in integrating into the mainstream dental work force.

Issues/Questions for exploration or ideas for discussion

In Australia and abroad studies have reported the dental graduates are not given adequate training in practice management and the future dental curriculum should address the business management training as an important component in the curriculum.

Results

Students (73.1%) indicated that they had only limited knowledge on management of practice although they claimed to have a high level of confidence in their skills, to work collaboratively with other colleagues and specialists.

Discussion

Practice management is considered as part of competency as a dental professional and student's are concerned about the future knowledge depths required to start a practice. In the current study a high percentage of graduating students perceived that they had insufficient knowledge on the practice management.

Conclusion

This study showed that students perceived that more in depth knowledge into practice management's and skills are essential in enhancing the integration process and employability.