



# ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY RESIDENCY (1-YEAR) VA Medical Center, Bay Pines, Florida

**T**he *Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program* at the Bay Pines VA Medical Center is a one-year residency which accepts two residents per year. Our primary goal is to provide the recent graduate with continued opportunity for professional growth and advancement. This comprehensive program prepares the resident to meet the oral health needs of a wide variety of medically compromised ambulatory and hospitalized patients, plus it advances the residents knowledge and skill in clinical dentistry by exposing them to a significant number of supervised, comprehensive treatment experiences. The program provides residents with the opportunity to interact with physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers and other health care professionals as part of a multi-disciplinary health care team.

The *program curriculum* is conducted at the postgraduate level (PGY-1) and consists of didactic clinical instruction in all areas of dental treatment modalities under the guidance of experienced professionals. Emphasis is made in the treatment planning and comprehensive treatment of medically compromised patients through weekly formal case presentations where all aspects of patient management are discussed. Residents have the opportunity to manage from admission to discharge those patients who are admitted to the Dental Service. Ward rounds, operating room cases and assignment to other services are some of the activities that complement the clinical curriculum. The didactic phase of the program consists of journal clubs, conferences and demonstrations at the VA Medical Center.

The *Bay Pines VA Medical Center* is located on Boca Ciega Bay in Pinellas County. The site, originally constructed in 1933 by the Veteran's Administration in Mediterranean Style, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Medical Center today provides comprehensive medical care including acute medical, surgical,

neurological, rehabilitative, stress recovery, substance abuse, and psychiatric care. The 529-bed complex includes an acute medical and surgical hospital, a psychiatry unit with a Post Traumatic Stress Recovery Unit, a Substance Abuse Treatment Unit, and a Nursing Home. The facility also operates an ambulatory care clinic in Ft. Myers, and Outreach Centers in Charlotte County, Clearwater, Collier County, Highlands County, Manatee County, St. Petersburg, and Sarasota.



The *hospital dental clinic* is located in a three-story building adjacent to the main hospital consisting of fourteen dental operatories (hygiene, dental, and oral surgery), a central sterilizing room, and an on-site dental laboratory.

Seven staff dentists, three dental hygienists, twelve dental assistants, one lead assistant, four dental laboratory technicians, and two front office staff comprise the full-time staff. The breakdown of the professional dental staff is as follows:

- ◆ Oral Surgeon (Board Certified)
- ◆ Prosthodontist (Board Certified)
- ◆ General Dentists (5)

The *AEGD Residents* are expected to have full-time commitment to the program during their academic year. This translates to on-time attendance at all scheduled lectures and conferences while devoting time beyond regular clinic hours to program related activities such as hospital ward rounds. Residents are encouraged to actively participate in all case presentations, treatment planning discussions and to critically analyze and discuss scientific articles during the journal club meetings.

During the off-service rotations, residents must adhere to the policies and work schedules of the services to which they are assigned. They will be under the direct supervision of the attending staff or the senior resident in charge.

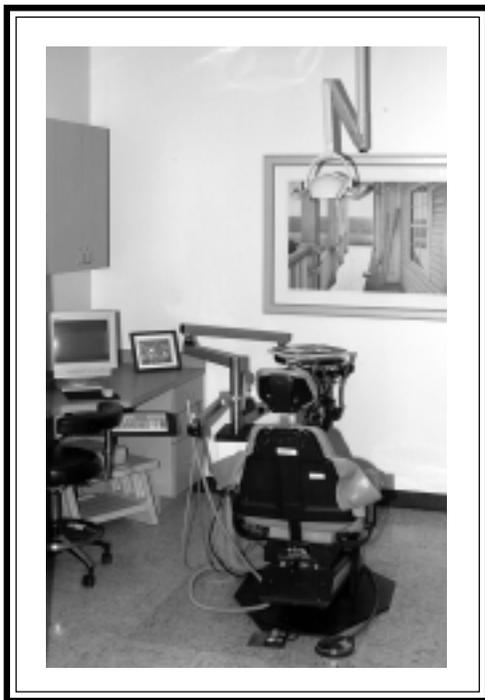
Residents are expected to diagnose and treat veteran patients in a diligent and compassionate manner and to relate well and respectfully to fellow workers and the general public. Appropriate dress and



appearance is required for all activities associated with the program. Scrub-wear is provided.

The salary is approximately \$36,450 per year. The residents are entitled to ten days annual leave accrued during the academic year. Administrative leave may be granted to attend continuing education courses.

Formal evaluations of the residents are conducted quarterly by the attending staff. **A certificate** is granted by the Department of Veterans Affairs after satisfactory performance and completion of all program requirements and favorable recommendation of the attending staff and program director.



***The application requirements are:***

- ◆ Be a graduate (DDS or DMD) of an ADA accredited dental school.
- ◆ Complete application form (VA form 10-2850b), available upon request.
- ◆ Letter from the dental school dean's office stating grade point average and class standing.
- ◆ Transcripts from dental school.
- ◆ National Board Scores (Part I, Part II if available.)
- ◆ Curriculum Vitae and/or biographical sketch.
- ◆ Brief (one page) essay stating reasons that motivate the candidate to apply for an AEGD program.
- ◆ Letters of recommendation from three dental school faculty.

***Completed application*** and materials should be sent to the following address:

Irma M. Tassi, D.M.D.  
Director, AEGD Residency Program  
Dental Service (160)  
Bay Pines VAMC  
P.O. Box 5005  
Bay Pines, FL 33744  
(727) 398-4331  
Fax (727) 319-1146

The deadline for submission of application and all materials is December 31. Selection of residents and letters of notification will be sent by March 1.

