

## **Details of Ragas Dental College Institutional social responsibility activities in the neighborhood community during the last 5 years**

Ragas Dental College and Hospital (RDCH) over the period has developed extension activities intending to reach out and promote healthy practices and provide oral health care services to the rural population, especially in the immediate surroundings. These activities not only fulfill the institution's social responsibility but also sensitize the students and interns on social and oral health-related problems prevailing at the community level.

The Department of Public Health dentistry together with the head of the institution schedule and coordinate the extension activities like organizing oral health camps and supervising student training in the primary and rural health centers. They play a leading role in planning and implementation of the schedule for the deputing staff, faculty and the students to the sites of extension activities. The areas of extension activities are widely distributed indifferent parts of the adjoining areas along the East Coast Road and reach out the families in the villages to provide advice on preventive oral healthcare and improving general health including sanitation and cleanliness, as a part of Swachh Bharath mission.

Medicines, tooth pastes and brushes are regularly distributed free of cost and expert consultation in the dental hospital are arranged for needy patients. Camps in nearby school provide an opportunity to check oral health status of students. The institute works in close collaboration with National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disability (NIPMED) and caters to oral health needs of the inmates.

The institute in the pre-COVID era had been conducting 6 camps per week [Report attached] Besides the same, students and college actively takes part in annual Island ground exhibitions, mass screening programs to create awareness on oral health requirements. The college plans and creates awareness about women empowerment, address ragging issues, keeping environment clean besides the regular curriculum. RDCH also works in collaboration with geriatric homes, homes for destitute women, to provide oral health care to these

marginalized and vulnerable groups of people. RDCH also works in tandem with hospitals run by minority and religious entities to provide oral health care of population free of charge. RDCH is also actively involved with the services rendered by the Tamil Nadu- Chennai Chapter of St John Ambulance brigade.

The college houses a special tobacco cessation clinic that helps patients to quit smoking and smokeless tobacco use. It also imparts on-hand training to all BDS students in tobacco cessation counselling. The details are attached herewith. Department of Public health Dentistry and the Department of Oral Pathology have collaborative work to reach certain targeted high risk and vulnerable population, identify early oral cancer and institute appropriate treatment. Also, they engage in risk reduction protocols for these vulnerable populations. Events such as International Yoga Day etc are regularly celebrated. Students are encouraged to participate in various activities of social and environmental awareness issues. Feedback from students confirmed positive response to their experience in the extension activities.

#### **Activities include**

**1. Women Empowerment awareness program - <http://rdc.ac.in/womens-day/>**

**2. Anti-Tobacco Awareness initiatives and oral health day activities:**

To create awareness and improve the knowledge, attitude and behavior about the oral health

- <http://rdc.ac.in/wohd-2022/>

**3. SC/ST flagship training program**

As part of SC/ST flagship training program under National institute for empowerment of persons with multiple disabilities (NIEPMD), Muttukadu, we the department of Public Health Dentistry, Ragas Dental College, Uthandi organised a dental awareness and screening camp among IRULAR tribal community at Pattipulam and thiruvandanthal, rural hamlets near by the college.

**a. <http://rdc.ac.in/social-responsibility-irular-community-hall-pattipulam>**

- b. <http://rdc.ac.in/social-responsibility-irular-community-hall-thiruvandhurai/>
4. **Voters Awareness Day** - <http://rdc.ac.in/voters-day/>
- Creating awareness about the need for voting in all elections as well as encouraging enrolling and voting – Basically motivating local population in governance.
5. **Local School Oral hygiene programs**
6. **Celebrating World Health Day** – by arranging sensitization lectures.  
<http://rdc.ac.in/world-health-day/>
7. **LEPROSY AWARENESS DAY** – “SPARSH” <http://rdc.ac.in/skin-programme>
8. **Swachh Bharat Mission** is the flagship cleanliness campaign conducted by the Government of India. This Clean India Mission was conceptualized and launched by the Indian government in Hon. Prime Minister of India 2014 to eliminate rampant open defecation and improve solid waste management across the country, especially in the rural parts of India. Our institute regularly conducts program for Swachh Bharat aims to achieve the vision of a 'Clean India'. The **Swachh Bharat** program conducted in our institute on 3rd October every year and our students actively participate to educate the benefits of swachh Bharat to the general public and the patients. They formed long human-chains and spread the awareness to cover a large audience in the adjoining community



## 9. Medical Service during COVID-19 Pandemic

During the recent 2020 COVID19 pandemic, our institutional facilities were voluntarily surrendered for creating COVID19 isolation facility. Several local populations who were infected with COVID19 were admitted in the facility. The hospital facilities were helpful for the local community to get treated by the community. Later, the hospital also was providing active COVID19 immunization when they were opened to the public.