

# 34<sup>th</sup> American Dentistry Congress & 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress on Dental Health and Oral Care

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## Palliative care – the need and scope for dentists

### Background:

There is a steep raise in the population requiring palliative care in the world. The gaps in palliative care as per World Health Organization (WHO), recorded that 83% of the world's population lack access to pain relief, 86% of the people who need palliative care are not receiving it, and 98% of children needing palliative care live in middle and low income countries. According to World Health Organization (WHO), the ideal dentist-population ratio is 1:7500 which has almost reached beyond the need though the spread is more on the urban when compared to the rural areas of the country. The reason for the unemployment of dentists prevailing in India clearly follows a mismatch between supply and demand in health sector. More so is the ignorance to scope of dentists as a part of the inter professional team. Often oral health is neglected in patients suffering from any other illness especially with those who are in the stage of receiving palliative care. The intervention of dentists in those patients is mandatory not only to alleviate the primary oral conditions but also to supplement the side effects of the systemic drugs manifested in the oral cavity. The overall health and quality of life depends more on the oral health of a patient. The additional training of dentists in palliative care services as part of the inter professional team member is the need of the hour to close the gap of services. This presentation would focus on the need and scope of the dentists in palliative care.

### Biography

Prof. M. Shivasakthy, Deputy Director, Institute of Health Professions Education is a Prosthodontist, qualified in the field of education with PGDHPE and PhD in Health Professions Education. She was endowed "Shri Gurucharan Das Endowment Medal" for Best PhD Scholar. Her contribution towards the identification and support of Students Needing Additional Curricular Support is recognized internationally. She is a Member of Faculty of Dentistry of Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (MFDS RCPSG), Association of Medical Education in Europe (AMEE) and American Dental Education Association (ADEA). She is the recipient of "Best teacher award 2020" by Institute of Scholars, "Eminent teacher award 2020" by Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth, "Best Researcher Award 2022" in International Research awards on STM. The success journey of her got featured in the, "Be the Light House. This is my journey", by Sociodent, IIHMR startup. She has one granted patent, 8 published patents, and 29 copyrights granted to her credit. She has 50 publications & contributed to five training manuals on palliative care for NHRSC, Ministry of Health, Govt. of India. She is the editor of Journal of Scientific Dentistry and board of studies member for several programs. She is coordinating the SBV SCULPT "Scholastic Updates Linked Professional Training" for School & College teachers and research guide for PhD. She is the founder member of Healthcare Intellectual Property Rights Association (HIPRA). Her key areas of expertise & consultancy include Health Professions Education, Choice Based Credit System, National Education Policy, Intellectual Property Rights, Prosthodontics and Palliative Care.



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