



An official newsletter of Maratha Mandal's N. G. Halgekar Institute of Dental Sciences & Research Centre, Belagavi.

### NATIONAL DOCTORS' DAY

The Department of Public Health Dentistry celebrated National Doctors' Day on July 1st, 2022. Dental camps were conducted at Shantai Vrudhashram and the Seventh Day Adventist English Medium High School. Breakfast was provided by our institute at Shantai Vrudhashram. In the high school, "Ek Selfie Doctor Ke Saath" was encouraged, and selfies were taken with students on the school premises. A total of 110 people were screened, and health education was given on healthy living and COVID-appropriate behaviours.



### COMMUNICATION SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

On July 18, 2022, the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics organized a CDE programme on communication skills development at our institution. The program's focus was on learning not just why to speak, but also how to speak. The event's keynote speaker was Ms. Smitha Dalvi, a trainer for communication skills at ICAI (the Institute of Chartered Accountancy of India). The programme had two sessions, followed by a Q&A session. In the first session, the speaker covered topics like the usage of formal and informal communication and body language. Assignments on communication skills were given to the participants in the second session, which was followed by a tea break. A total of 220 students and staff participated in the programme.



## DANTA BHAGYA YOJANE

The Govt. of Karnataka has launched the Danta Bhagya Yojane, for the benefit of poor and needy patients. Patients with a below poverty line (BPL) card who are over 45 years old will be provided with a free complete denture under this scheme. The scheme was inaugurated in the Department of Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge on July 11th, 2022, by Dr. Ramakanat Nayak, Principal; Dr. Preethi Kusugal, Vice Principal; Dr. R B Hallikerimath, Professor and Head, Department of Prosthodontics; Dr. Ajaykumar Nayak; and Dr. Rekha. On July 11th, 2022, 15 patients enrolled in the same scheme. The valedictory function was held on July 16th, 2022, in the Department of Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge. Dr. Mahesh V. Kivadasannavar, District Family Welfare Officer, and Dr. Pradeep D. Somannavar, Dental Health Officer, Community Health Center, Nandgad, graced the occasion. Dr. Mahesh V. Kivadasannavar explained the scheme in detail and asked the patients to inform their relatives and friends about it. Dr. Mahesh V. Kivadasannavar also praised the postgraduate students and staff members of the Department of Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge for their contributions to the event's success. Complete dentures were distributed to the 15 enrolled patients.



## ANTI-RAGGING SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME

The Anti-Ragging Committee and the Squad members conducted a sensitization programme on July 21, 2022, in our institute's auditorium for all the undergraduate students, interns, and postgraduate students. Dr. Suresh B.S., DCI member and Principal of Subbaiah Institute of Dental Sciences, Shimoga, addressed the gathering. Dr. Suresh spoke about the menace of ragging and advised all students to avoid ragging and to maintain healthy interpersonal relationships on campus. All the Anti-Ragging Committee members, the Principal, Vice Principal, the Heads of all departments and students were present for the program.



## TRIBUTE

On July 22nd, 2022, Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak and staff paid tribute to the late Shri Nathajirao G. Halgekar at our institute on his 17th death anniversary. He was the founder-chairman and President (1977-2005) of the Maratha Mandal Group of Institutions and a towering figure in the field of education who, despite his accomplishments, maintained a humble demeanour.



## VANAMAHOSTAV 2022- TARU NIRMITI ABHIYAAN

The NSS and Youth Red Cross units of our institute celebrated Vanamahotsav on July 23rd, 2022, in a unique way. Mrs. Bharti Hardi, an environmentalist and convener of JITO's ladies Wing, Belagavi, visited our institute and delivered a guest lecture on "Indian Oxygen Plants" to create awareness on native oxygen-producing plants among the students and staff. The lecture focused on various indigenous native plants like kadamba, amla, sita ashoka, bakula, parijata jamun, ramphal, tamarind, etc. and their scientific uses. An excellent live demonstration of the creation of "seed balls" was given after the lecture. Each seed ball is made up of 40 to 50 different seeds that have been mixed with soil, ash, water, cow dung, and neem powder. These balls are thrown into valleys and forests where they will break down and the seeds will gradually grow into trees. Our institute will undertake this initiative by establishing a seed bank to gather different varieties of seeds and then making more than 300 seed balls with the intention of reforestation in valleys. The programme was graced by Mrs. Rajshree Nagaraju, President of Maratha Mandal Group of Institutes; Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak; Vice Principal Dr. Preethi Kusugal; NSS unit incharge Dr. Ramya Pai; and Youth Red Cross incharge Dr. Umesh Bhosle.



## COUNSELLING SESSION



On July 29, 2022, a counselling session was held in our institute's auditorium for our BDS students. The session was led by Ms. Apurva Gudi, a counselling psychologist at our institute. She spoke elaborately on the importance of making decisions and sticking to them. The interactive session, which included a number of group games and activities, was well liked by the students. A total of 120 students participated in the session. This particular programme at our institute is an ongoing one as our management and patrons believe in the psychological wellbeing of students as much as their physical health. These programmes provide a forum for students to discuss their anxieties and problems, which are then addressed by the professionals. Students are extremely happy about such initiatives taken by the management and institute authorities. Smt. Rajshree Nagaraju, the President of the Maratha Mandal Group of Institutions; Dr. Ramakant Nayak, the Principal; and Dr. Renuka Ammanagi, the Head of Oral Medicine and Radiology, also attended the programme.

## ORAL HYGIENE DAY

Dr. G.B. Shankwalkar, the doyen of the Indian Society of Periodontology, was born on the 1st of August. To commemorate his birth anniversary, Oral Hygiene Day is celebrated on this day every year throughout the country to raise awareness about the prevention of dental and oral diseases.

Our institute's Department of Periodontology and NSS Unit, along with the Indian Dental Association Belagavi Branch, organized a street play at Belagavi railway station and the central bus stand. The motive of the street play was to create awareness and remove myths among the public. Dr. Sachin Shivanaikar, IDA President, Dr. Aarati Nayak, HOD Dept. of Periodontology, staff, Dr. Pushpa, Dr. Sandeep Katti, Dr. Sanjeevini Hattarki, Dr. Sachita Naik, Dr. Akanksha Bhatt, Dr. Satya Kurada, and students of our institute were present on the occasion. The street play was scripted and directed by Dr. Rajesh Patnaik. The President of Maratha Mandal, Smt. Rajshree Nagaraju, and Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak congratulated the team for organising the programme.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Cultural Committee organized the 75th Indian Independence Day-Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Celebration on August 15, 2022, at 7.30 a.m. at our institute premises. The National Flag was hoisted by the chief guest, Dr. D. A. Jagdale, Professor and Head of the Department of General Surgery at our institute. Other dignitaries present on the dais were Vice Principal Dr. Preethi Kusugal, Administrative Incharge Dr. Puspha, Academic Incharge Dr. Uppin, and Cultural Incharge Dr. Pallavi Gopeshetti. Teaching and non-teaching staff members and students participated in the celebration. The entire college was decorated with tricolour decorations for the special day of Amrit Mahotsav. Refreshments were served after the programme.



## NATIONAL-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM ON RECENT ADVANCEMENTS IN DIGITAL DENTISTRY

The Department of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry hosted a national-level symposium on recent advancements in digital dentistry on August 2nd and 3rd, 2022. The two-day workshop, PIXELATE 2022, attracted a lot of attention and participation from many states around the country. For the programme, cutting-edge devices like intraoral scanners, 3D printers, and milling equipment were flown in from different regions of India.

Digital Dentistry is the most recent branch of dentistry that strives to digitize the whole treatment process for the sake of patients' convenience, precision, and quality assurance. There is no need for conventional measurements of dental arches (impressions), which can cause the patient extreme discomfort and gagging. Now, everything is done digitally with just a click of the scanner. The collected data of the patient is uploaded to the digital cloud, where it can be instantly accessed by any dental lab worldwide, whether it be in Dubai, London, or the US. A patient's tooth or teeth can be digitally measured in Belagavi and transmitted anywhere in the world for fabrication of a 100% accurate prosthesis, aligner, or other dental device. This proves to be a boon to patients, especially young children who cannot sit still during a conventional impression-making procedure.



The youngest patient who was scanned live during this workshop was just 3 years old! The participants were amazed and thrilled to see how a digital crown (tooth cap) could be simply 3D printed within 30 minutes! Our institute has thus made its entry into the echelons of the most coveted digital dentistry world by hosting this advanced program. The Inauguration was a grand affair attended by the Principal, Dr. Ramakant Nayak, the HOD of Pediatrics and Preventive Dentistry, Dr. Chandrashekar Yavagal, and a galaxy of digital dentistry proponents from all across India—Dr. Shiva Shankar (Bangalore), Dr. Smriti Dattani (Mumbai), and Dr. Krishna Chaitanya (Hyderabad).



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT SAAPD



Prof. Chandrashekar Yavagal, Head of the Department of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry, delivered the inaugural key note address at the International Conference of the South Asian Association of Pediatric Dentistry (SAAPD). The event took place from August 26-28, 2022, in Panaji, Goa. Prof. Yavagal spoke on "Lasers in Pediatric Dentistry: The Story of Fire and Ice!" The conference was attended by more than 500 delegates from all across Asia.

## HEPATITIS B VACCINATION

Our institute held an HBV vaccination drive (doses 0 and 1, as well as a booster) for staff and students on August 27th and September 24th, 2022, at the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The Pune-based Serum Institute of India provided the genetically engineered Hepatitis B vaccine (rDNA), GeneVac-B®. The opportunity was availed of by a total of 140 staff and students on August 27th and 99 staff and students on September 24th.



## ONLINE WEBINAR

On August 29, 2022, our Institute held a free online webinar on the recent advances in teeth whitening in collaboration with Group Pharmaceuticals. More than 200 delegates from India, Myanmar, and Egypt attended the lecture delivered by Prof. Chandrashekar Yavagal, the resource person. The webinar was coordinated by Mr. Sunil Chiplunkar, VP, Business Development, Group Pharmaceuticals.



## GANESH CHATURTHI

In our institute, the Ganesh Chaturthi Festival was enthusiastically observed for five days. On August 31, 2022, Lord Ganesh's idol was brought to the institute and installed in the richly decorated pandal. Every morning, an aarti was held. Sri Sathyanarayana Pooja was performed on September 2 in the afternoon and was followed by prasad. Ganesh Visarjan took place in the evening on September 4.



## NATIONAL IAO CONFERENCE

Dr. Sujata Byahatti, Professor, Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, presented an e-paper titled "Gender identification through the mandibular ramus: A digital orthopantomographic study" at the 19th National Conference of the Indian Academy of Forensic Odontology, "Dentistry in Delivery of Truth and Justice," held on September 10th and 11th, 2022, at G. Pulla Reddy Dental College and Hospital in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.



## ROTARY ENDODONTICS SIMPLIFIED



The CDE cell of our institute, in association with IDA, Karnataka state, and Belgaum branch, conducted a CDE programme on September 19, 2022, on "Rotary Endodontics Simplified." After the inauguration, Principal Dr. Ramakant Nayak welcomed the gathering. The guest lecture was delivered by Dr. Suresh Shenvi, Reader, Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, KLE VK Institute of Dental Sciences, Belagavi. A token of appreciation was presented to the guest speaker by Vice Principal Dr. Preethi Kusugal. A total of 135 participants, comprised of general dental practitioners, staff, postgraduates, and students, attended and benefited from the programme. The programme was sponsored by Colgate.



## FINANCIAL AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The Department of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry organized a financial awareness programme on September 20, 2022, in our institute's auditorium. The resource person for the programme was Dr. Nandan Aradhya, a pediatric dentist with vast knowledge in financial management. The programme began with the introduction of the guest speaker by Dr. Sadanand Kulkarni. It was then followed by an awareness talk by Dr. Nandan Aradhya. He spoke about short-term and long-term investment planning and how to manage finances based on priorities like age and financial goals. The programme concluded with an interactive session with the audience.



## NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Final year postgraduates of the Department of Prosthodontics and Crown and Bridge attended a National Level Symposium on Temporomandibular Joint Disorders and Full Mouth Occlusal Rehabilitation at Yenepoya Dental College, Mangalore, on September 26th and 27th, 2022. A total of 120 delegates attended the symposium. Dr. Ajith G. Shetty and Dr. Chethan Hegde were the guest speakers for the event.



## SPECIAL SCHEME FOR AUTO RICKSHAW DRIVERS

In September 2022, the Department of Public Health Dentistry offered a special treatment scheme for auto rickshaw drivers and their family members. They were provided a 20% concessional rate on composite restorations. The beneficiaries of this scheme were also given health education.

## ICMR STUDY - MANAGEMENT FUNDING

Three final-year undergraduate students from our institute, Mr. Viraj Nesargi, Ms. Rani Paragannavar, and Ms. Priyanka Benake, have been selected to conduct individual research projects under the Short-Term Studentship (STS)-2022 programme by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The management provided financial assistance for the study, wherein Ms. Rani Paragannavar and Ms. Priyanka Benake received Rs. 20,000 each, and Mr. Viraj Nesargi received Rs. 30,000. In addition, all facilities were made available at our Central Research Lab (CRL) for their study.



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### Correspondence

Dr. Praveena Tantradi, Editor : MMDC Stride, Maratha Mandal's N.G. Halgekar Institute of Dental Sciences & Research Centre, Belagavi.  
E-mail : mmnghids@gmail.com