



Chettinad
Dental College & Research Institute

Institutional Distinctiveness (7.3.1)

The institution spearheads various educational and extra-curricular activities to take the oral health closer to the needy population. Such activities are part of the academic agenda, with the mission to provide healthcare and services to the global community, thereby contributing to improvement of general and oral health standards of individuals. One such aspect in accomplishing this mission is provision of oral care to the needy in the National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (Divyangjan) NIEPMD, on East Coast Road, Muttukadu, located 8.3 kilometres from the college premises. NIEPMD was established in the year 2005 to serve as a national resource centre for empowerment of persons with Multiple Disabilities. The objective of the organization is to undertake development of human resources for management, training rehabilitation, education, employment and social development of persons with Multiple Disabilities.

Chettinad Dental College and Research Institute regularly conducts various oral health programmes and oral hygiene education programmes in lieu of its mission to provide oral health to the physically and mentally deprived. Screening camps are conducted on regular basis and then the children/patients are referred to our College for treatment and other benefits related to systemic health. When the patients are being screened by well - trained dental surgeons from the institution, various other clinical findings are diagnosed and then immediately reported to the NIEPMD institution for further management. This is because various systemic conditions show their first and most common manifestations in the oral cavity of such patients. The role of a dentist in such scenario is to appropriately handle patients with such special needs with adequate behavioural management and psychological counselling. The dental clinicians of the institution cater to this very need by planning, management and then make the parents/guardians understand the need to maintain oral hygiene along with general hygiene. This is most important since any delay in provision of treatment to severe oral conditions will make the patients unable to consume adequate nutrition apart from loss of speech. The institute take care that every such patient from NIEPMD is amply referred to higher systemic care to the Chettinad General and Super specialty Hospital if they need one. The dental treatments like Restorations, Teeth extractions, Root canal treatment, space maintainers, habit-breaking appliances and prosthetic rehabilitation are born by us for all the children/patients from NIEPMD. This way the institution is distinct from its peer institutions in satisfactorily catering to the need of a special and most-neglected section of the community.