WORLD ORAL HEALTH DAY 2025

Report Template

Name of the Dental College: ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi, Karnataka. 585106

Duration of celebration: 20^{th} March – 20^{th} April 2025

Summary of Activities

S. No.	Name of Activity	Date of activity	No of activities *may be more than one	Place of Activity *may be more than one	Upto 2 Geotagged photos (photos with date of each event on the banner) enclosed.	One Supporting document for each event enclosed** (Yes/ No)	Remarks
I	Activities targeting oral health promote	tion					
1.	Display of IEC material and banners	20 th March – 20 th April 2025	2	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None
2.	Health talks	24 th March, 3 rd and 17 th April 2025	3	Moulali tanda, Kalaburagi, Nandoor	Yes	-	None
3.	Public events (walkathon, marathon, rallies, public tooth brushing, lectures, school teachers' training, street plays, etc.)	2 nd and 9 th April 2025	2	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None
4.	Pledge Ceremony for oral health professionals to promote oral health awareness	28 th March 2025	1	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None
5.	Pledge Ceremony for the public and patients for taking care of their oral health	7 th April 2025	1	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	_	None

6.	"A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind" Selfie Booth	20th March – 20th April 2025	1	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None
7.	Competitions on the theme	9 th April 2025	1	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	Yes, a sample certificate is attached	None
8.	Social media coverage, radio/TV campaigns, newspaper articles, talk shows, street dramas, flash mobs	5 th April 2025	1	Orcid Mall, Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None
9.	Community leader interactions	3 rd and 11 th April 2025	2	Village Development Committee at Shahabad and school authorities in Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None
II. Activ	ities to promote early diagnosis/ treatmen	nt		·		· · · ·	
1.	Oral health exams/awareness camps at public places	17 th April 2025	1	Sri Venkateshwara Food and Pvt. Ltd., Nandoor	Yes	Yes, permission letter attached	None
2.	Screening and treatment camps in schools, Anganwadi centers, and health centers, including mass brushing demonstrations	24 th March 2025	1	Prarthana Public School, Shahabad road, Moulali tanda	Yes	Yes, permission letter attached	None
3.	Special screening and treatment camps for vulnerable populations	3 rd April 2025	1	Prathanamandir Special School, Kalaburagi	Yes	Yes, permission letter attached	None
III. Acti	vities to promote capacity building					· · · · ·	
1.	Continuing Dental Education (CDE) programs, webinars, and training for healthcare professionals	20 th March 2025	1	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	Yes, a sample certificate and news paper clip are attached	None
IV. Act	ivities to improve access and utilization of	oral health care s	ervices			t	
1.	Denture fabrication drive for BPL patients and old age home residents, including caregiver training	20th March – 20th April 2025	1	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None
2.	Pit and fissure sealant and fluoride varnish application drive in healthcare facilities and the community	20th March – 20th April 2025	1	ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi	Yes	-	None

Details of activities:

1. Name of activity: Display of IEC material and banners

Brief Description:

As a part of the month-long observance of World Oral Health Day 2025, ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi, conducted a comprehensive awareness activity involving the display of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials along with active patient education sessions led by faculty, junior residents and interns. The objective of the activity was to improve oral health literacy among the visiting public and encourage the adoption of positive oral hygiene practices.

A variety of IEC materials, including posters, charts, banners, and standees, were displayed in prominent areas of the hospital such as the outpatient department (OPD) waiting areas, entrance lobby, registration counters, and corridors. These materials covered essential oral health topics like proper brushing and flossing techniques, early signs of oral diseases, harmful effects of tobacco and areca nut, and the link between oral and systemic health. Designed in both English and Kannada, the materials ensured accessibility and better understanding among a diverse patient population.

In addition to the visual materials, dental interns played a key role in educating patients throughout the month. Under the guidance of faculty from the Department of Public Health Dentistry, interns engaged with patients and their attendants in the OPD and waiting areas. They explained the content of the IEC materials in simple and relatable terms, demonstrated proper brushing techniques using dental models, addressed common oral health misconceptions, and provided personalized oral hygiene instructions. The interns also emphasized the importance of regular dental visits and the use of preventive dental services.







2. Name of activity: Health talks

Brief Description:

We organized a series of **oral health talks** aimed at educating the public on the importance of maintaining good oral hygiene on 24th March, 3rd and 17th April 2025. These sessions were conducted at three different community locations. The target audience included school children and members of the general public. The health talks were delivered by faculty and interns from the Department of **Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry** and **Public Health Dentistry**. The sessions were interactive, informative, and tailored to the specific audience at each venue. For schoolchildren, the focus was on educating them about the basics of oral hygiene, such as the correct brushing technique, frequency of brushing, importance of rinsing after meals, and the harmful effects of consuming sugary snacks and soft drinks. Simple language, engaging visuals, and practical demonstrations were used to keep the sessions child-friendly and easy to understand.

For the general public, the talks covered a broader range of topics, including the relationship between oral and systemic health, the importance of routine dental check-ups, early signs of oral diseases, and the impact of tobacco and areca nut use on oral health. These sessions also included practical tips on maintaining oral hygiene at home and the role of diet in preventing dental problems. The sessions not only helped spread oral health awareness but also built trust and rapport between the community and the dental college.







3. Name of activity: Public events (walkathon, marathon, rallies, public tooth brushing, lectures, school teachers' training, street plays, etc.)

Brief Description:

On 2nd and 9th April 2025, we organized a special lecture for students to emphasize the importance of oral health and to highlight the significance of this year's World Oral Health Day theme. The session aimed to inspire students to understand their role in promoting oral health within their communities and among their peers. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Jadhav Sachin Kumar, Assistant Professor, from the Department of Public Health Dentistry and focused on educating students about the broader understanding of World Oral Health Day and its 2025 theme. The importance of preventive oral care, the connection between oral health and general health, and its impact on mental health were emphasized. Students were also sensitized about the role they can play as young leaders in promoting oral health awareness among their peers, families, and neighbourhoods. The lecture encouraged active participation, and students were invited to share their thoughts on how oral health affects their day-to-day life and how they could spread the theme's message further. To make the session more impactful, a short, theme-based educational video was also shown to the students. The video reinforced the key messages of the lecture by using simple visuals and real-life scenarios to demonstrate how a healthy smile can influence mood, confidence, and mental health. This multimedia approach helped in better retention of the information and sparked discussion among the students.

The session concluded with a motivational note urging students to take small but consistent steps to maintain a clean and healthy mouth, reinforcing the message that "a happy mouth truly leads to a happy mind." The lecture was well-received, with enthusiastic feedback from participants who expressed interest in contributing to future oral health awareness efforts.





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4. Name of activity: Pledge Ceremony for oral health professionals to promote oral health awareness

Brief Description:

On 28th March 2025, a Pledge Ceremony was organized to reaffirm the commitment of oral health professionals in promoting oral health awareness and preventive care. This solemn and symbolic event highlighted the shared responsibility of dental professionals in advancing public oral health and upholding professional values. The pledge ceremony was led by the Dean, Dr. Prashant B Patil, who addressed all faculty members and emphasized the significance of their role in improving community oral health, especially in line with the year's theme, "Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind." In his brief yet powerful message, he spoke about how every faculty has the ability to inspire change by spreading awareness, providing preventive services, and acting as role models for good oral hygiene.

Following the address, all faculty members stood together and took a formal pledge to work towards promoting oral health in their professional practice, academic responsibilities, and community outreach activities. The pledge focused on key commitments such as educating patients, advocating for preventive care, supporting oral health equity, and integrating the importance of mental well-being linked to oral health into their daily practice. The ceremony was not only a reaffirmation of professional duty but also a unifying moment for the faculty, symbolizing collective action toward building a healthier and more informed society. The event concluded with a renewed sense of purpose and motivation among all participants to actively contribute to oral health promotion and awareness beyond the clinical setting.





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5. Name of activity: Pledge Ceremony for the public and patients for taking care of their oral health

Brief Description:

On 7th April 2025, we organized a Pledge Ceremony for the public and patients, aimed at instilling a sense of responsibility and awareness toward personal oral health care. This activity served as an important step in empowering individuals to take charge of their oral hygiene and adopt preventive practices in their daily lives.

The pledge was coordinated by **Dr. Jadhav Sachin Kumar** and **Dr. Abhishek**, who engaged with patients visiting the outpatient department. Before administering the pledge, they interacted with patients and their attendants, briefly educating them on the importance of maintaining oral hygiene and the positive impact it can have on overall health and mental well-being, in alignment with the 2025 theme "*Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind*."

Patients enthusiastically participated in the ceremony, repeating the pledge that focused on brushing twice daily, avoiding tobacco and sugary foods, visiting the dentist regularly, and encouraging family members to maintain good oral hygiene. This interactive and symbolic activity not only heightened awareness but also created a sense of ownership among patients regarding their oral health. Many expressed appreciation for being included in such an initiative and pledged to follow healthy oral habits and spread the message within their households and communities.







6. Name of activity: A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind" Selfie Booth

Brief Description:

To creatively promote the theme of World Oral Health Day 2025, "A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind," a **Selfie Booth** was set up in the hospital premises of ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi. The booth served as a fun and interactive element of the month-long celebration, attracting attention and participation from faculty, students, staff, and patients alike.

The booth was designed with vibrant visuals, oral health slogans, and theme-based messages to create an engaging backdrop for photographs. Throughout the month, the selfie stand became a popular spot within the hospital, encouraging visitors to stop by, click pictures, and reflect on the importance of the theme. It became an informal yet impactful tool to spread awareness and create a positive association with oral health.

Faculty members, interns, undergraduate students, and patients enthusiastically took selfies at the booth, many of which were shared on social media platforms with the campaign hash tag, further amplifying the reach of the oral health message. The activity not only made the observance more lively and participatory but also created a sense of unity among all stakeholders in celebrating oral health.

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7. Name of activity: Competitions on the theme

Brief Description:

On 9th April 2025, we organized a creative Reels Competition centered on the theme "Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind." The objective was to encourage students and interns to use social media creatively to spread oral health awareness through short, engaging video content. Participants were invited to create informative, innovative, and theme-based reels that highlighted the importance of oral hygiene, preventive care, and the connection between a healthy mouth and overall well-being. The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation, with entries showcasing educational messages, humor, and relatable scenarios to capture viewers' attention and promote the theme effectively.

The event was judged by **Dr. Cauvery**, Associate Professor, Department of Periodontics, and **Dr. Nagamani**, Associate Professor, Department of Pedodontics. The judges evaluated the entries based on originality, relevance to the theme, clarity of communication, and visual appeal. The best-performing entries were recognized and the winners were awarded **Certificates of Appreciation** for their outstanding contribution.

The competition not only provided a platform for students to express their ideas but also helped disseminate the key messages of World Oral Health Day to a wider audience through social media. It successfully combined youth engagement, creativity, and health promotion, making it a memorable part of the month-long celebration.





CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to

for securing I/II/III place in 'Reels/Shorts Competition' conducted on the occasion of 'World Oral Health Day' organized by the Dept. of Public Health Dentistry from 20th March - 20th April 2025

Dr. Gadde Praveen Associate Professor Dept. of Public Health Dentistry

Dr. Prashant B Patil Dean ESIC Dental College, Kalaburagi

Karnataka, I<u>ndia</u>

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8. Name of activity: Social media coverage, radio/TV campaigns, newspaper articles, talk shows, street dramas, flash mobs

Brief Description:

As part of the vibrant celebrations for World Oral Health Day 2025, students of ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi, organized a **flash mob performance** at **ORCID Mall**, one of the popular public spaces in the city on 5th April 2025. The aim was to reach out to the general public and promote the importance of oral health in a creative and engaging manner under the global theme, "*Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind*."

The flash mob caught the attention of mall visitors with its lively choreography, upbeat music, and energetic participation. Through synchronized dance moves and visually engaging props and placards, the performers conveyed essential oral health messages—highlighting the importance of daily brushing, routine dental check-ups, and the link between oral health and overall well-being. The public responded with enthusiasm, and the performance successfully turned a regular day at the mall into an interactive learning experience. Many onlookers paused to enjoy the performance and stayed afterward to ask questions and click pictures, making it a great platform for spreading awareness in an informal setting.

The activity was a great example of how creative expression and community engagement can come together to spread public health messages effectively. It added a dynamic touch to the World Oral Health Day observance and strengthened the outreach impact beyond the hospital premises.







9. Name of activity: Community leader interactions

Brief Description:

As part of the outreach initiatives for World Oral Health Day 2025, community leader interactions were conducted to strengthen oral health advocacy at the grassroots level 3rd and 11th April 2025. These interactions aimed to engage leaders within the community and educational institutions to promote sustainable oral health practices and support on-going awareness activities. Dr. Abhishek, Junior Resident, Dept. of Public Health Dentistry interacted with the Village Development Committee at Shahabad, where he emphasized the importance of integrating oral health education into community programs. He discussed common oral health issues faced by rural populations, the need for preventive care, and the role that local leaders can play in encouraging regular dental visits and healthy habits among residents. The session was well-received, with committee members showing interest in future collaborative health initiatives. Simultaneously, Dr. Praveena, Associate Professor, Department of Orthodontics, met with school authorities in Kalaburagi to advocate for the inclusion of oral health awareness in school health programs. She highlighted the importance of early intervention, preventive care in children, and the psychological impact of untreated dental conditions on students' self-esteem and academic performance. School administrators expressed willingness to support periodic oral health education sessions and dental screening camps.

These community interactions played a key role in building partnerships and enhancing the reach of oral health awareness beyond the hospital and college setting. By involving local decision-makers and educators, the initiative ensured that the message of "Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind" was reinforced across different layers of the community.





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10. Name of activity: Oral health exams/awareness camps at public places

Brief Description:

On 17th April 2025, we organized an oral health screening, awareness, and treatment camp at Sri Venkateshwara Food and Pvt. Ltd., Nandoor. The objective of the camp was to take oral health services to the workplace and educate employees about the importance of maintaining good oral hygiene. The camp witnessed a positive response, with a total of 80 individuals screened for various oral health conditions including dental caries, periodontal diseases, and other common oral issues. During the screening, participants were also given personalized oral hygiene instructions and dietary counselling based on their individual needs. Additionally, 35 individuals received on-the-spot dental treatment, which included scaling, restorations, and minor procedures. The camp team also distributed IEC materials and emphasized the theme *"Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind,"* reinforcing the connection between oral health and overall well-being.

The initiative not only provided much-needed dental services to the employees but also raised awareness about the importance of preventive oral care. It served as a reminder that oral health is essential for general health, productivity, and quality of life, especially for working populations.





DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY ESIC DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, KALABURAGI

DENTAL CAMP REQUEST LETTER

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	area, opp. Toc Deft, Gulbauga, Karmatka
	585102
Camp timings:	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Distance from	ESIC Dental College to the camp location: 11 km
Details of Orga	nizers/Community Partners/Sponsors of the camp:
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rurpose of the	camp: To treat and screen oral health of. Industrial workers.
Sponsoring De	tails (Refer below and tick appropriate):
1. Provision of c	camp venue with facilities
2. Hospitality fo	or the dental team
3. Provision of r	required medicines
4. Publicity can	
5. Facilitating p	atients' referrals to the hospital
6. Others if any	
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	per of camp attendees: 80 to 120
	per of IP attendees: 30 to 40
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camp organize	rs/sponsors:
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11. Name of activity: Screening and treatment camps in schools, Anganwadi centers, and health centers, including mass brushing demonstrations

Brief Description:

On 24th March 2025, we conducted an oral health screening, awareness, and treatment camp at Prarthana Public School, Shahabad road, Moulali tanda, Nandoor. The camp aimed to promote oral hygiene practices and early detection of dental issues among school children. A total of 117 children were screened for various oral health conditions including dental caries, malocclusion, and gum diseases. The screening was followed by oral health education sessions where children were taught proper brushing techniques, the significance of healthy dietary habits, and the need for regular dental check-ups.

Importantly, **57 children received treatment** for different dental issues in the **Mobile Dental Van** stationed at the school. Treatments included oral prophylaxis, fluoride application, and restorations, all provided on-site to ensure convenience and immediate care.

The camp was well-received by both students and staff. The school authorities appreciated the initiative and its positive impact on the students' health and well-being. The activity not only provided much-needed dental care but also helped instil the value of preventive oral health in young minds, supporting the larger message that a happy mouth truly contributes to a happy mind.





DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY ESIC DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, KALABURAGI

DENTAL CAMP REQUEST LETTER

Date of camp: 24 March 2025 Location of camp:	
PRARTHANA PUBLIC SCHOOL	
SHAHABAD ROAD	
NANDOOR (B)	
Camp timings: 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM	
Distance from ESIC Dental College to the camp location:	Careffelan.
Details of Organizers/Community Partners/Sponsors of the car MR. ANIL PATIL PRARTHANA PUBLIC SCHOOL SHAHABAD ROAD NANDOOR(B)	np:
Mobile Number: 9886614490	A
Alternate number:	Contraction of
Mail Id: anilg patil 06 @gmail. com · Purpose of the camp:	
Purpose of the camp: <u>Breening & Treatment on School Children</u> Sponsoring Details (Refer below and tick appropriate):	110
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1. Provision of camp venue with facilities	
2. Hospitality for the dental team	BI N - HANNE
3. Provision of required medicines	
 Publicity campaign Facilitating patients' referrals to the hospital 	121 建建学
6. Others if any	
Demographical information	
Expected number of camp attendees:	
Expected number of IP attendees:	
Specific requirements for dental services/manpower / material	s etc. from
camp organizers/sponsors:	

Signature of the Head of the Dept.

Signature & seal of the Sponsor

12. Name of activity: Special screening and treatment camps for vulnerable populations

Brief Description:

On 3rd April 2025, we organized a special oral health screening and awareness camp at **Prathanamandir Special School**, Kalaburagi. The camp was specially designed for children and adults with special health care needs, with a focus on providing accessible oral health services and promoting preventive care.

A total of **36 individuals were screened**, which included both children and adults with various physical and intellectual disabilities. The screening was carried out with utmost sensitivity and patience by trained dental professionals, ensuring a comfortable environment for all participants. Five individuals received immediate treatment during the camp for basic dental issues. However, considering the complexity of some cases and the need for advanced care, the majority were referred to the dental college for further management and specialized treatment.

The camp also featured oral health education tailored to caregivers and staff, highlighting the importance of daily oral hygiene and the challenges faced by individuals with special needs in maintaining oral health. Tips and techniques for assisted brushing and diet counselling were also shared.



Kalaburagi, Karnataka, India

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Kalaburagi, Karnataka, India

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY ESIC DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, KALABURAGI

DENTAL CAMP REQUEST LETTER

Date of camp: 03 04 2025	
.ocation of camp: Prosthana Mandhun Special school. Akkamahadew colony, kalaburagi, ka	anataka
585103	
Camptimings: 10:00 am to 1:00 Pm	
Distance from ESIC Dental College to the camp location:	area and
Details of Organizers/Community Partners/Sponsors of the c	amp:
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(Head of the institution)	The second secon
Mobile Number: 9980817060	1 PA
Alternate number:	ESA E
Mail Id: Vinayaka educational tous +131@gmail.com	
Purpose of the camp: Oral Screening and Treatment	1 mar
Sponsoring Details (Refer below and tick appropriate):	
1. Provision of camp venue with facilities	
2. Hospitality for the dental team	
3. Provision of required medicines	
4. Publicity campaign	THE REAL PROPERTY.
5. Facilitating patients' referrals to the hospital	
6. Others if any	
Demographical information	
Expected number of camp attendees: 40-45	
Expected number of IP attendees: O	ials etc. from
Specific requirements for dental services/manpower / mater	Iais etc. nom
camp organizers/sponsors:	
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Signature & seal of the Sponsor

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13. Name of activity: Continuing Dental Education (CDE) programs, webinars, and training for healthcare professionals

Brief Description:

As part of the inaugural events for the World Oral Health Day 2025 celebrations, the **Department of Periodontics** at ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi, organized a **Continuing Dental Education (CDE) program** on **20th March 2025**. The session was titled **"Practice Management and Infection Control: The Foundation for Successful Dental Practice."** The event focused on enhancing the knowledge and skills of budding dental professionals and faculty regarding crucial aspects of dental practice. The **guest speaker** for the program was **Dr. Krishnaraj G Narayan**, a renowned expert in dental practice management, patient communication, team coordination, and stringent infection control measures that form the backbone of safe and successful dental care delivery.

The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from all faculty members, interns, and junior residents (JRs) of the college. Attendees appreciated the relevance of the session, especially in light of post-pandemic clinical practices, where infection control and systematic management are more critical than ever. This academic initiative contributed significantly to the professional development of the participants and set the tone for the month-long observance.







KALABURAGI, DHNS: ESIC Dental College and Hospi-tal Dean Dr Prashant Patill said that a person can live a good life only if his mouth is healthy. Hence it is important for people to take precautions before it gets infected, he said. Speaking after inaugurat-ing a workshop on 'Practice Management and Infection Control' organised by the Department of Periodon-tology as part of World Oral Health Day here on Thursday, he said that more attention should be given to protect the health against problems like gum disease and bad breath. Stating that many people Stating that many people

in rural areas are suffering from oral diseases, he said that more awareness of cleanliness should be created among them. People should not neglect their oral health and must get treatment at the right time to protect their teeth. The college is organis-ing various awareness pro-grammes about oral health for a month, he added. ESIC Hospital Dean Dr S V Ksheera Sagar, Dr Krishnaraj Ganesh Narayan, the Depart-ment of Periodontology head Dr Girish Nagarale, Associate Professor Dr Marde Shrad-dha Kashinath and others were present.

were present.



14. Name of activity: Denture fabrication drive for BPL patients and old age home residents, including caregiver training

Brief Description:

As part of the World Oral Health Day 2025 initiatives, a special **Denture Fabrication Drive** was conducted by the **Department of Prosthodontics** at ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi from 20th March to 20th April 2025. This compassionate drive focused on **Below Poverty Line (BPL) patients and elderly residents** who often struggle with edentulism and are unable to afford prosthetic rehabilitation. Through this drive, a total of 28 patients were **successfully provided with complete dentures** after thorough clinical evaluation, impression making, and denture fabrication procedures carried out within the department.

The initiative significantly improved the oral health-related quality of life of the beneficiaries, many of whom expressed joy and gratitude upon regaining their ability to eat and speak comfortably. It also provided undergraduate and postgraduate students with hands-on exposure to prosthodontic care under the supervision of faculty members.







15. Name of activity: Pit and fissure sealant and fluoride varnish application drive in healthcare facilities and the community

Brief Description:

As a proactive step toward preventive oral healthcare during the World Oral Health Day 2025 celebrations, the **Department of Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry** at ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi, conducted a **Pit and Fissure Sealant and Fluoride Varnish Application Drive** during 20th March to 20th April 2025.

This initiative targeted children and young individuals, aiming to reduce the incidence of dental caries through preventive strategies. Over the course of the month, the department successfully carried out 198 pit and fissure sealant applications and 22 fluoride varnish applications on children identified as being at high risk for dental decay.

The procedures were performed in both institutional and outreach settings, making these essential preventive services accessible to a wider population. The drive also included oral health education sessions for parents and caregivers, emphasizing the long-term benefits of preventive care and the importance of regular follow-up.







Summary:

As a part of the World Oral Health Day 2025 celebrations, ESIC Dental College and Hospital, Kalaburagi, Karnataka organized a diverse range of educational, clinical, and community outreach activities under the theme "A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind" from 20th March to 20th April. These events aimed to spread awareness about the importance of oral health and its connection to overall well-being and mental health.

As a part of it, display of **Information, Education, and Communication (IEC)** materials was done in key areas of the hospital. Interns played an active role in educating patients using these materials, explaining oral hygiene practices, and demonstrating brushing techniques. **Health talks** were conducted at three different community locations, targeting both school children and the general public, covering a wide range of topics from basic hygiene to systemic links with oral diseases. **A lecture** was organized for students to highlight the relevance of the 2025 theme, accompanied by a video presentation to reinforce the message. Two **pledge ceremonies** were held—one for faculty, led by Dean Dr. Prashant B Patil, and another for the public, coordinated by Dr. Abhishek and Dr. Sachin—where participants committed to promoting and practicing good oral hygiene. To engage the community creatively, a themed **Selfie booth** was set up in the hospital, encouraging participation from faculty, students, and patients. A **Reels Competition** was conducted, allowing students to use digital platforms to spread awareness. Adding a dynamic touch to the celebrations, a **flash mob** was performed at ORCID Mall, captivating the public with messages on oral health through dance and visuals.

Community-level advocacy was carried out through **interactions** with the Village Development Committee in Shahabad and school authorities in Kalaburagi, fostering local support for oral health initiatives. **An Oral health screening and treatment camps** were organized at Sri Venkateshwara Food and Pvt. Ltd. (where 80 individuals were screened and 35 treated) and **Prarthana Public School** (where 117 children were screened and 57 treated in the mobile dental van). **A special camp** was held at Prathanamandir Special School for individuals with special health care needs, screening 36 and treating 5, with most being referred for specialized care. In addition to outreach, a **Continuing Dental Education (CDE)** program titled "*Practice Management and Infection Control: The Foundation for Successful Dental Practice*" was held on 20th March 2025, featuring Dr. Krishnaraj G Narayan as the guest speaker. The Department of Prosthodontics organized a **denture fabrication drive**, providing complete dentures to 28BPL and elderly patients. Furthermore, the Department of Pedodontics conducted a preventive care drive with 198 **pit and fissure sealant applications** and 22 **fluoride varnish applications**.

Together, these activities made a significant impact on various segments of the population and reinforced the message that maintaining a healthy mouth leads to a happy mind.