1.Title of the Practice:

Providing dental health services to ex-servicemen and their dependants

Objectives of the Practice:

 ACDS is a dental college hospital featuring in the top 25 institutes of the country is an empanelled hospital for providing dental services to ex-servicemen their dependants. The college is a secondary center for providing specialist dental care from the joint states of Telangana Andhra Pradesh. Apart from dental services it also provides specialist oral maxillofacial services to the patients. For increased access, a dental center was opened in the city at GPSB this academic year.

The context: ACDS is one of the few empanelled hospitals providing dental services. The tariffs are very low and are fixed by the ECHS empanelment committee. The treatment is free for the eligible ex-servicemen their dependants.

The Practice:

The patients are referred to ACDS with a referral form from ECHS centers in Telangana state for specialty dental treatments. The patients are taken good care of and are treated on an appointment basis. The limitations and constraints are very minimal since the College is already serving the ex-servicemen and their dependents for the past 10years and has established proper protocol in treating these patients.

Evidence of success:

The students have been come across several complicated dental problems and resolved them under the guidance of teachers and professors. Annually approximately 5000 to 7000 Army veterans and their dependents are treated. This shows the success of the college and its dedication to serving these veterans. College provides the best treatment for complicated surgeries such as fracture cases, orthognathic procedures, and restorative procedures. Ex-servicemen are treated both with respect and pride.

Problems Encountered and Resources required

Additional faculty and resources were required for running the center. All the necessary infrastructure and equipment was procured and additional faculty was deputed. The additional expenditure and income generated were useful in covering some of the input cost and the deficit was met using the college resources.

2.Title of the practice:

Title of the practice: Low student intake (Ideal student-teacher ratio)

Objectives of Practice:

With the intake of 40 admissions, the quality of teaching and learning is ideal. An ideal learning environment is provided for students to interact with the teaching staff and get involved in various aspects of teaching and learning in both didactic and clinical practice. Ample scope is there for student’s personal development, incorporation of feedback, and adoption of corrective measures.

The context: -

ACDS maintains an ideal teacher-student ratio which enables each teacher to provide care to each student. The focus is on each strength, weakness and tailor teaching according to their needs, knowing how to mold each one uniquely towards success and excellence.

The Practice: -The institution Incorporates friendly learning to create a rich experience with a blending of asynchronous teaching methods and traditional teaching methods where professors and teachers interact is an added virtue of ACDS. This type of teaching method makes students understand, gain knowledge and learn from mistakes

The institution organizes and conducts national and international workshops to train the teachers and future dental educators (students) with modern techniques and usage of dental equipment.

Evidence of success:

1. Students excel in academics in the university exams with a high number of first classes and a decent number of distinctions.

2. Every year at least three to five students/alumni from the institute are commissioned into the Army dental corps and some are working in corporate hospitals.

3. A high number of students/alumni comebacks to pursue postgraduation at ACDS.

4. Students/alumni also pursue postgraduation in premier institutes in their respective domicile states.

5. Students/alumni absorption in various government jobs and services.

6. Select alumni/students diversify and pursue post-graduation in their chosen field of interest like management, public health, etc.

7. Select students/alumni who go abroad to pursue their future dental careers.

Problems encountered and resources required:

Financially it is not a good model to run a dental college with a low student intake. With support from management and grants from the Indian army, the institute is self-sustaining.