

# Development Cooperation at the UIC Barcelona Faculty of Dentistry

At the UIC Barcelona Faculty of Dentistry, learning goes far beyond the classroom. Through solidarity initiatives and cooperation programmes, students gain hands-on experience by providing dental care to those in need; children at risk of social exclusion, the elderly, refugees, and communities without access to dental services. From international projects in Madagascar to local outreach in Barcelona, Melilla and Sant Cugat, our mission is clear: to ensure everyone has the right to a healthy smile, regardless of their social or economic background.

## 1. Continuing education and core and elective bachelor's degree courses

### Social Dentistry

The elective course of [Social Dentistry](#), of 3 ECTS, of fifth year, focuses on improving oral health care for vulnerable patients with greater socioeconomic hardship, who present greater pathology and lack access to these services in public healthcare. The course covers different initiatives to serve this group.

#### Local Cooperation

- 2024-2025 academic year: [Solidarity dental care programme at the Temporary Stay Centre for Immigrants \(CETI\) in Melilla](#).
  - Collaboration of the Faculty of Dentistry with the [Invulnerables programme of Manresa](#), to treat oral problems in children and adults at risk of social exclusion. An initiative to combat child poverty and promote family integration, promoted by the "la Caixa" Foundation and Sister Lucía Caram.
  - Dental care of the Dentistry students for vulnerable individuals, homeless and immigrants at the Santa Anna Church in Barcelona.
  - In Terrassa the students, with the teacher, provide care at a solidarity clinic under faculty supervision.
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- **Global Cooperation, with a continuing education academic program linked to the degree.**
  - **Madagascar:**



- - 2024-2025 academic year: Edugascar Care and Training Programme in Oral Health
- - 2023-2024 academic year: A solidarity dental care programme

## Integrated Dentistry

- Fourth-year students of Dentistry perform social placements of 4 or 8 hours in a geriatric care home in Sant Cugat and in several geriatric care homes in the city of Barcelona too.
  - Through the foundations [Spanish Commission for Refugee Aid \(CEAR\)](#) and [SOS UKRAINE](#), students of Dentistry offer dental care voluntarily for refugees and displaced persons.
  - The [Faculty of Dentistry partnership with the Sant Cugat City Council](#) to offer a oral check-up service, treatment, and oral hygiene education for users of municipal social services. The objective is to guarantee that those with fewer resources have access to these basic health resources. Also with two social action project, one in care homes and another in the city's secondary institutions and schools.

## 2. Lifelong learning



## The [master's Degree in Gerodontology, Special Care Patients and Oral Medicine](#)

This postgraduate programme aims to ensure that students acquire the necessary knowledge to be able to carry out all types of dental treatments on patients with complex medical pathologies, systemic diseases with oral implications, polymedicated patients, elderly patients, disabled patients who may or may not be cooperative, as well as knowing how to assess and identify all types of oral lesions, whether in dental clinics, care institutions or hospital settings.

In the [Institutionalised Patient Care](#) module 180 vulnerable individuals are cared for at the [Cotolengo in Barcelona](#).