

Odontology - 2019

G2 Forensic Odontology Education in Indonesia

Nurtami Soedarsono, PhD*, Faculty of Dentistry Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, DKI Jakarta 10430, INDONESIA; Masniari Novita, PhD, Faculty of Dentistry Jember University, Jember 68121, INDONESIA; Elza I. Auerkari, PhD, Faculty of Dentistry Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta 10430, INDONESIA

Learning Overview: The goal of this presentation is to describe the development of forensic odontology postgraduate education in Indonesia. After attending this presentation, attendees will understand the importance of further education in the field of forensic odontology closely linked to the enforcement of human rights and law enforcement in Indonesia.

Impact on the Forensic Science Community: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by highlighting the need for the development of appropriate training modules to provide forensic odontology practitioners who are credible, experienced in the field of forensic odontology, skilled in handling cases, and able to provide expertise in a court of law. By understanding a comprehensive forensic odontology training module, it is expected that forensic odontology experts will have the ability to implement such training in the development of forensic odontology education in their respective countries.

Indonesia is an archipelago country located in the Ring of Fire at a meeting of several tectonic plates. This position makes Indonesia prone to both natural and man-made disasters. Under these conditions, Indonesia needs a large number of forensic experts, including forensic odontology experts. The role of a dentist becomes important as a first-responder resource as well as forensic expert.

The first postgraduate forensic odontology program in Indonesia was established in 2012. This master's program is designed to: (1) provide students with a general view of forensic pathology and a broad knowledge of forensic odontology; (2) develop students' analytical ability by conducting research in forensic odontology; (3) create professionalism in the field of forensic odontology; and (4) prepare students to pursue careers related to forensic science and have a good networking forensic organization. Lectures, laboratory exercises, and research are delivered to complete this program. In 2015, the Indonesian Dental Association established a forensic odontology college, mandated to formulate a specialist curriculum in the field of forensic odontology. This specialist program differs from a master's program, with an emphasis on students' skill development in forensic odontology. This program aims to: (1) provide students with a broad knowledge of forensic odontology; (2) train and develop students' skill in technical procedures of forensic odontology; (3) involve students and develop their skills in collaborative forensic investigations; (4) create professionalism in the field of forensic odontology; and (5) encourage students' involvement in national/international forensic organization networking. This specialized course is implemented through lectures, laboratory and clinical trainings, and casework. Collaboration with experts in the field of forensic pathology is indispensable in the forensic odontology postgraduate programs. Additionally, a collaboration with the police, disaster management agencies, and other relevant parties can support this quality education and provide students the best training.

Forensic Odontology, Postgraduate Program, Training Modules