

A Review of Dental Education Curricula among ASEAN Countries

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Introduction



ASEAN: "One Vision, One Identity, One Community" through economic, social, and cultural development.



Quality education—including dental—is one of the strongest pillars supporting ASEAN's vision.



Standardizing dental education in ASEAN is crucial for competency, accreditation, and workforce mobility.

Objectives

- **Determine Program Nomenclature:** Identify the undergraduate dental program nomenclature used by dental schools across ASEAN countries.
- **Assess Program Duration:** Compare the durations of undergraduate dental programs among various ASEAN dental schools.
- **Analyze Courses Offered:** Examine the courses covered in the dental programs across ASEAN countries.
- **Compare Similarities and Differences:** Evaluate the differences and similarities in terms of nomenclature, courses covered, and duration of dental programs among ASEAN dental schools.
- **Develop Recommendations:** Propose improvements for Philippine dental curriculum standards based on findings from ASEAN countries.

Methodology



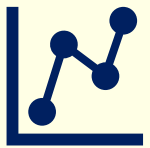
Research Design

Utilized a descriptive qualitative research design to compare and contrast dental school curricula across ASEAN countries.



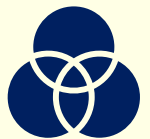
Data Collection

Data were gathered through email correspondence, online resources, school websites, and academic journals.



Data Categorization

Organized data into categories: Program nomenclature, Curricular structures, Duration of study, Core and elective course offerings.



Comparative Analysis

Evaluated similarities and differences between curricula based on categorized data.

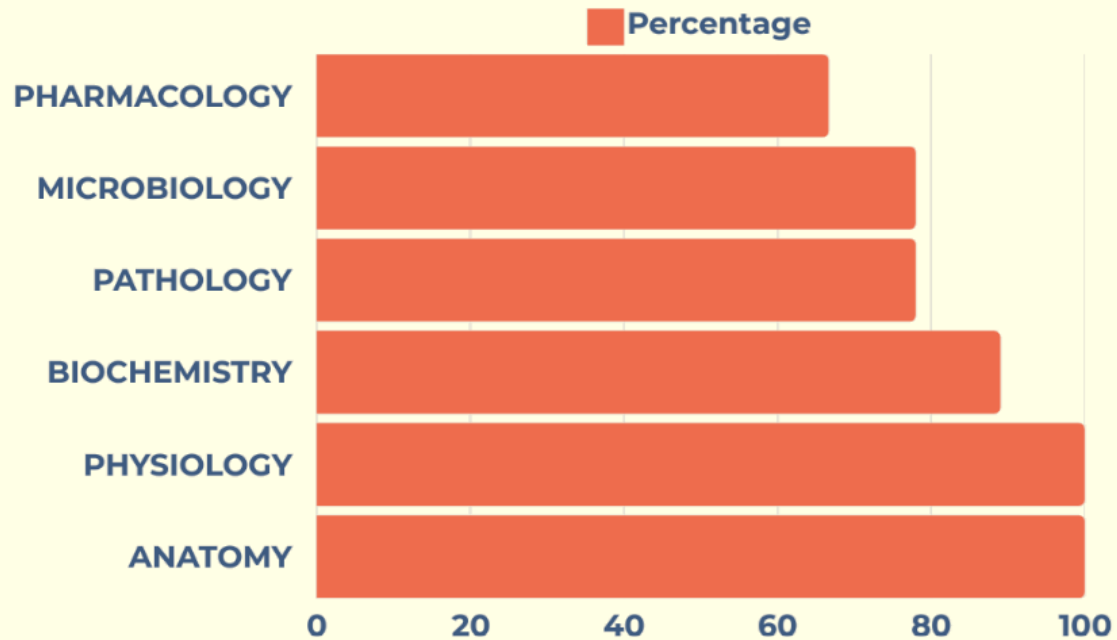
Results

COUNTRY	NOMENCLATURE	DURATION
Cambodia	Doctor of Dental Surgery	7 years
Philippines	Doctor of Dental Medicine	6 years
Vietnam	Doctor of Dental Surgery	6 years
Myanmar	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	6 years
Thailand	Doctor of Dental Surgery	6 years
Malaysia	Doctor of Dental Surgery	5 years
Singapore	Bachelor of Dental Surgery	4 years
Indonesia	Bachelor of Dental Medicine	3.5 years
Brunei	Bachelor of Health Sciences	3 years

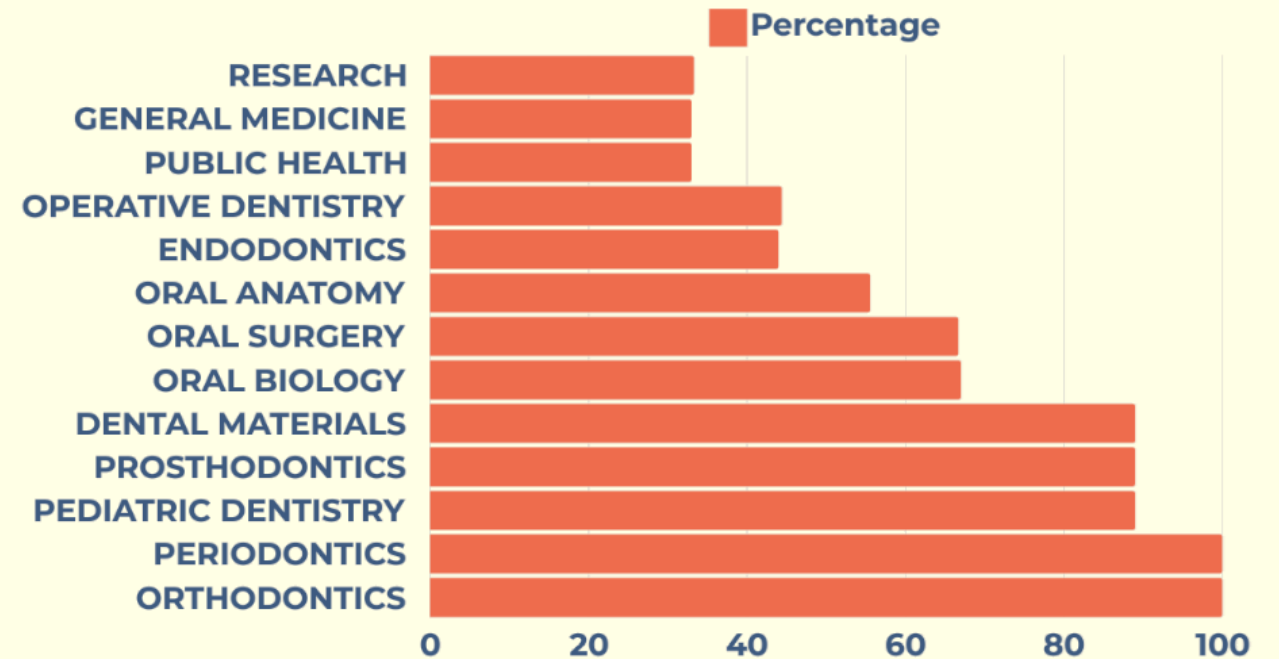


Results

Biomedical Course



Professional Dental Course



Conclusion

Differences in Nomenclature

The most common program nomenclature is "Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)", used by four ASEAN countries.

Program Duration

Undergraduate dental programs range from three to seven years, with six years being the most common duration among ASEAN countries.

Significant Diversity

The study highlights notable differences in nomenclature, program duration, and course offerings across ASEAN dental schools.

Course Variations

While courses vary across countries, core dental courses are a commonality in all curricula.

Recommendations

Diversity and Commonalities

The findings reflect unique educational philosophies and priorities in each ASEAN country while also showing shared foundational elements in dental education.

Need for Collaboration

Strengthening regional cooperation is essential for improving dental education standards across ASEAN countries.

Recommendations

Improving Education Standards

By examining the differences and similarities in dental curricula, the study aims to identify areas for improvement and standardization.

Enhancing Inclusivity & Equity

Promoting equitable access to quality education through regional collaboration.

Fostering Innovation in Education

Encouraging the adoption of best practices and advancements in dental education.

Promoting Regional Cooperation

Strengthening collaborative educational systems through partnerships among ASEAN countries.