



Fones School of Dental Hygiene: Pioneering Teledentistry for Improved Access to Care



Challenge

For over a century, the Fones School of Dental Hygiene at the University of Bridgeport has upheld a mission of innovative dental education and community outreach. When the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted access to oral healthcare services, Fones searched for a solution that would help increase access to care and improve the oral health of underserved communities

Solution

In 2021, Fones launched a pioneering teledentistry program leveraging grant funding. This initiative included MouthWatch cameras and Teledentistry software to empower Fones' students and faculty to deliver comprehensive virtual consultations and preventive treatment directly to patients in homeless shelters, Head Start programs, community centers, and other local sites throughout Bridgeport, Connecticut.

"Our mobile teledentistry program removes the financial and geographic barriers that too often block access to essential oral healthcare," said Dr. Jennifer Boyce, Associate Director of Clinical Affairs. "Students can now provide care using TeleDent, MouthWatch Intraoral Cameras, and portable equipment - meeting patients exactly where they are."

Fones School of Dental Hygiene's embrace of teledentistry not only extended their services to underserved communities but also revolutionized the learning journey for dental hygiene students. By incorporating intraoral cameras and teledentistry software into their curriculum, students gained crucial skills in data collection, patient assessment, and collaborative practice—fundamental proficiencies for their future careers.

For patients, the integration of MouthWatch cameras and teledentistry software enhanced their healthcare experience significantly. The provision of high-quality intraoral images enabled patients to visualize their oral health conditions, empowering them to comprehend their dental needs and make informed treatment decisions.

Through these advancements, Fones School of Dental Hygiene continues to elevate patient care standards and break down barriers to oral healthcare, aligning with its mission of promoting equitable access to quality dental services.

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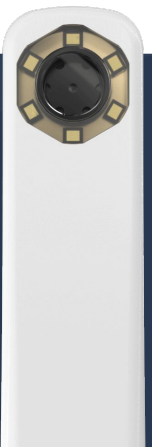
TeleDent

A cloud teledentistry platform focused on connecting to patients and your care team. Securely message patients, meet patients face-to-face using live, recordable video conferencing, and share diagnostic info with your team, your specialists, and your patients.



Patients love that they can truly visualize what's happening in their mouths. It motivates them to improve their oral health."

Dr. Jennifer Boyce
Associate Director of Clinical Affairs
at the Fones School of Dental Hygiene



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