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FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,  
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THE NETWORK  
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



# TUFH2020 MEXICO

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"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH  
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SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED  
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

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## TUFH 2020 Abstracts

<b>Title</b>	<b>Social accountability and responsibility – Indian dental undergraduate student's perspective</b>
<b>Type</b>	Oral Presentation <i>Building the Capacity of Future Leaders in a Socially Accountable World</i>
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<b>Abstract N<sup>o</sup></b>	TUFH368

### Content

Background: In the Indian dental curriculum, social accountability and responsibility is mainly a part of the hidden curriculum. The student is never consciously taught or assessed. Gaps have been perceived in the way students respond to patients from underprivileged backgrounds. This research seeks to understand the Indian dental undergraduate's perspective on social accountability and responsibility as a first step in our endeavor to prioritize this essential competency. Methods: Mixed method survey was undertaken to explore what the undergraduate thinks about social responsibility and what is their perceived role of the institution in social accountability. It also explored the opportunities and reflection, on learning aspects, related to social responsibility. Results: Undergraduates in their third, fourth and final year participated in the survey. 70% of the students had a vague concept of social responsibility. More than 95% were not aware of the institutional vision and mission statements and how it aligned with social accountability. They identified out reach programs as the main method of fulfilling their social responsibility. Majority of them said that their learning of health care delivery system, understanding of oral health needs and social determinants of health was good. They felt that their learning quality could be enhanced by increasing the field exposure and interaction with the community and through real life problem solving activities. Conclusion: The student's awareness of social responsibility is less than satisfactory. Systematic curricular changes are required to nurture this competency in every dental health professional right from the beginning of their dental education program.