

# A NEW DENTAL CURRICULUM IN TROMSØ, NORWAY



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Tromsø is one of the most northerly cities world-wide with midnight sun during Summer time and Northern light in Mid-Winter darkness



The location.



The city during Summer.



The Northern light.



Tromsø university.

## THE VISION

Motivated students in an international, scientifically based environment in order to produce caring, knowledgeable and competent dentists.

More than one hundred different nationalities are represented among its 60 000 residents. A modern university, founded in 1958, has contributed to a multicultural profile. The Institute of Dentistry was established as part of the Faculty of Medicine by the Norwegian Parliament in 2002 in order to contribute to a more even distribution of dentists in Norway and particularly solving the acute dental manpower problems in Northern Norway.

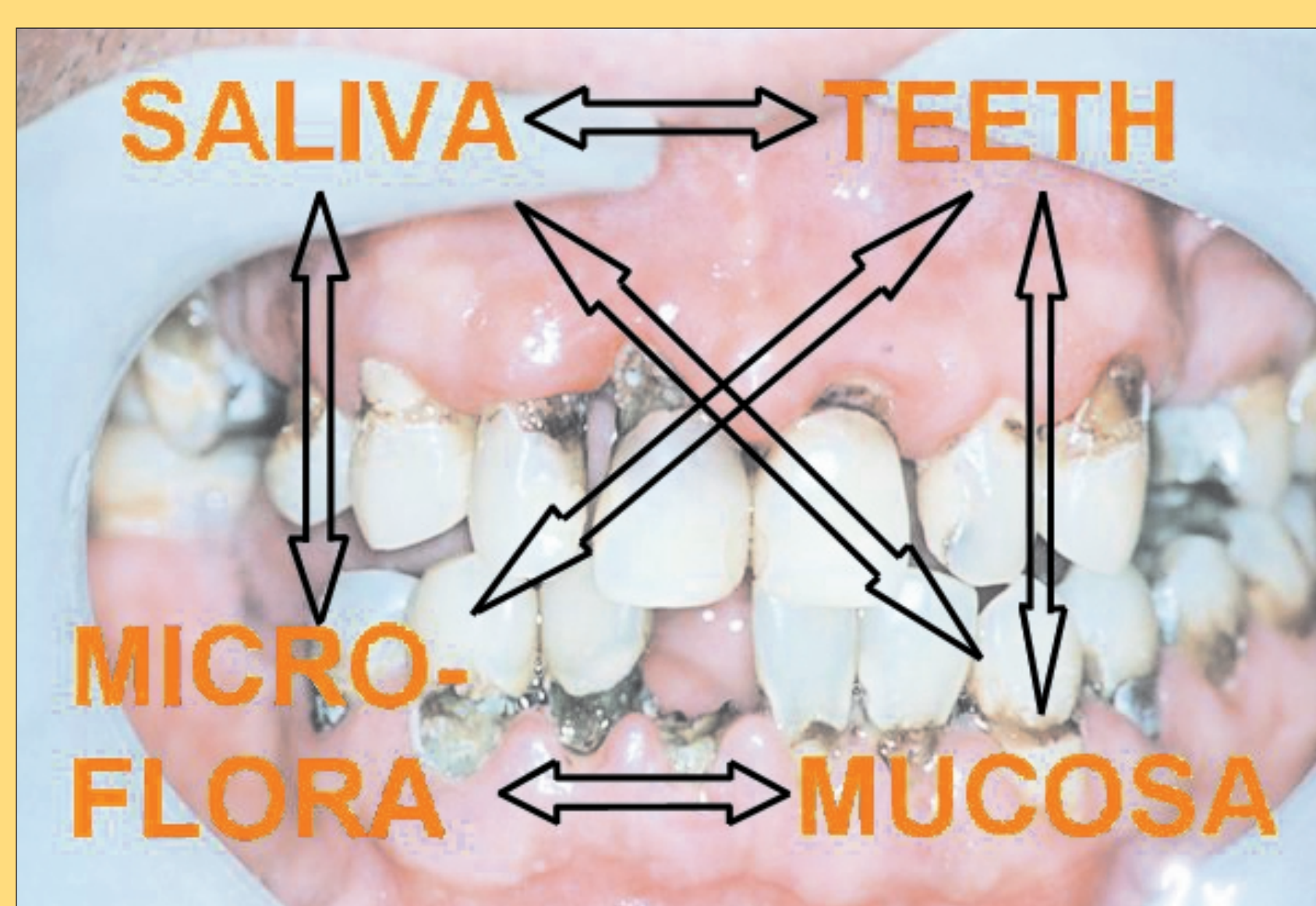
## STRATEGIES

- The Institute of Dentistry will be part of the Medical Faculty.
- Oral health will be considered as an integral part of general health.
- An 'Ecology of Oral Health'-model will be used as the conceptual basis for the whole curriculum (1, 2).
- A substantial part of the clinical training will take part in public dental clinics guided by tutors part-time employed at The University of Tromsø.
- The education will be evidence-based and inter-disciplinary with emphasis on student autonomy.
- Staff members will be recruited from an international arena and English will be the teaching language, if necessary.
- The guidelines presented in 'The First Five Years' by 'The British Dental Council' will be followed in order to secure compliance with EU standards (3).

- 1 - Rohlin M, Petersson K, Svensäter G. The Malmö model: a problem-based learning curriculum in undergraduate dental education. *Eur J Dent Educ* 1998; 2: 103-114.
- 2 - Eriksen HM, Dimitrov V. Ecology of oral health: a complexity perspective. *Eur J Oral Sci* 2003; 111:285-290.
- 3 - The First Five Years. A Framework for Undergraduate Dental Education. General Dental Council, UK, Aug. 2002

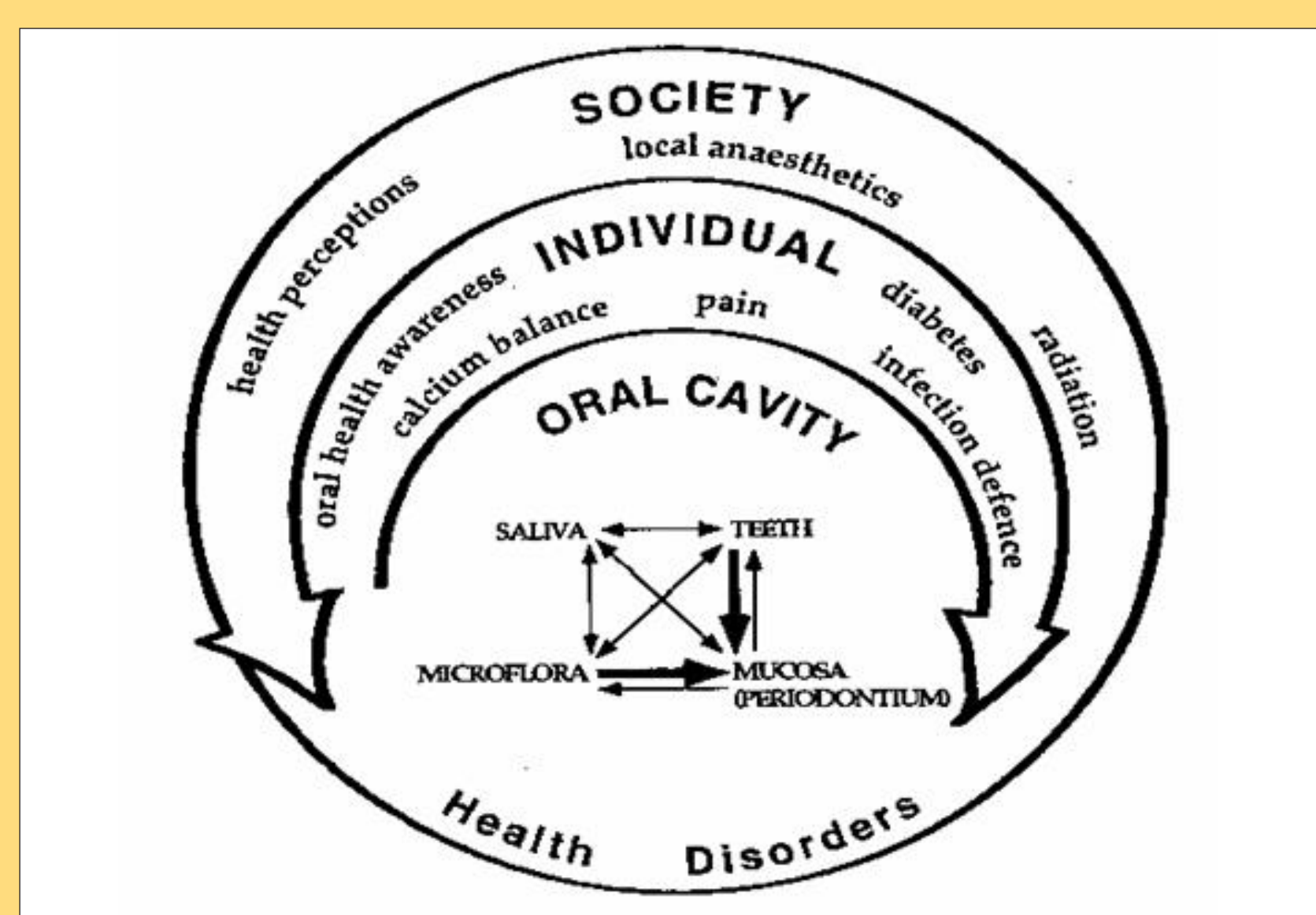
## THREE CONCEPTUAL ASPECTS OF ORAL ECOLOGY USED IN THE DENTAL CURRICULUM

In order to fulfil the strategies regarding integration and a 'holistic' approach to oral health, an ecological concept will be applied throughout the whole curriculum.



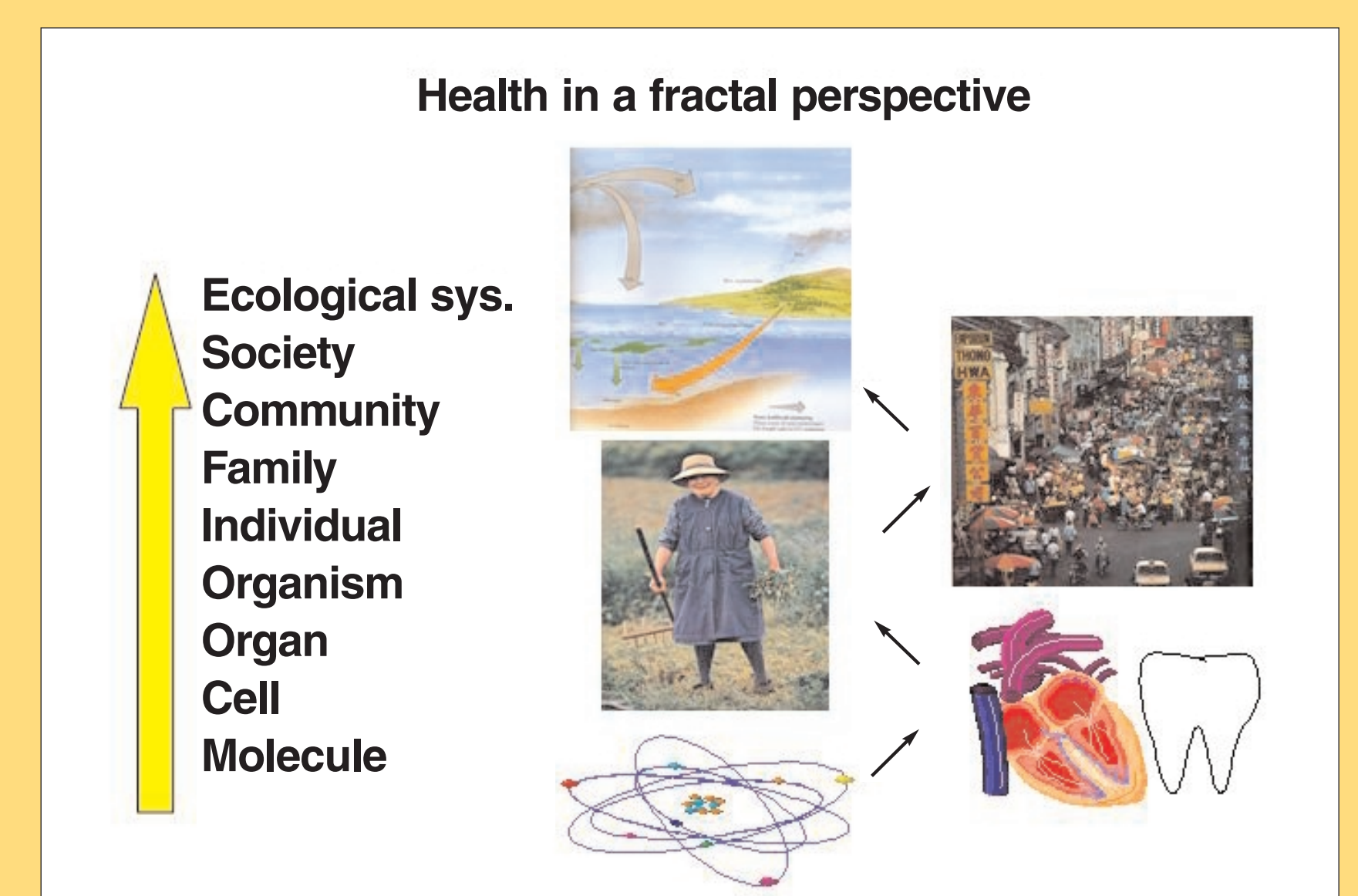
### ORAL HEALTH ECOLOGY

The Malmö-model. (1)



### ECOLOGY OF ORAL HEALTH

The Malmö-model. (1)



### FRACTALITY OF ORAL HEALTH

The Complexity model. (2)

