

RUCHA THAKKAR, DDS, BDS

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<http://www.tinytoothdoc.com/> • Languages: English, Hindi, Gujarati

EDUCATION

Pediatric Dentistry Residency — *One Brooklyn Health, Brookdale Hospital, Brooklyn, NY* Jul 2024 – Jun 2026

- Treated 8+ pediatric patients daily across preventive, restorative, surgical, and sedation-based care, totaling 3,500+ patient encounters during residency.
- 120+ nitrous oxide procedures, 40+ oral sedation cases (including ages 7 and under), and 50+ cases under general anesthesia.

Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) — *NYU College of Dentistry, New York, NY* Jan 2022 – May 2024

- Graduated with honors in Pediatric Dentistry. President, NYU Peds Club.

Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) — *Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, India* Aug 2015 – Sep 2020

- Performed 150+ extractions and treated 1,000+ patients across all dental disciplines during clinical rotations.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Moonlighting Pediatric Dentist — *Abra Dental Health, New Jersey* Feb 2026 – Present

- Independently managing all facets of pediatric dental care with N2O analgesia in a private practice setting. Treating 30+ patients/day, with effective practice workflow.

Pediatric Dentistry Honors Program — *NYU College of Dentistry, New York, NY* Apr 2023 – May 2024

- Completed rotations across pediatric dentistry clinics, hospitals, and community outreach settings, delivering comprehensive care and oral health education from infants to adolescents.

Pediatric Dental Assistant — *Smile New York Outreach, New York, NY* Feb 2023 – May 2024

- Assisted in restorative, operative, extraction, and preventive care to pediatric patients in underserved school-based settings, delivering oral health education to children and guardians.

Dental Assistant — *Eastman Institute of Oral Health, Rochester, NY* Mar – Nov 2021

- Assisted across pediatric dentistry, prosthodontics, periodontics, and urgent care; managed lab work including dentures, partials, crown models, and night guards.

CLINICAL SKILLS

Preventive: Sealants, SDF, Fluoride Varnish, Chlorhexidine

Restorative: Composite Restorations, GIC (Fuji II), SSC/Hall Crowns, Zirconia Crowns (NuSmile), Strip Crowns, Adult/Permanent Teeth SSCs

Endodontics: Pulpotomy (MTA, Biodentine), Pulpectomy (Endoflas/Vitapex, LSTR), Permanent Anterior RCTs

Oral Surgery: Primary and Permanent Teeth Extractions (adolescents to young adults), Molar Partially Impacted Surgical Extractions (250+ total)

Space Maintainers: Band & Loop, Reverse Band & Loop, LLHA, Nance Appliance, Acrylic, Groper Appliance

Behavior Management: Well versed with all behavior management techniques. Nitrous Oxide (120+), Oral Sedation (40+), General Anesthesia (50+)

Sedation: Eligible for Oral Conscious Sedation License. Experienced in treatment planning and performing procedures under oral conscious sedation.

Technology: Open Dental, Wisdom, Dentrax, Digital Radiography, CBCT / 3D Imaging, Intraoral Scanners

CONTINUING EDUCATION

NuSmile Restorative & Space Maintainer Workshop — *NuSmile*

Jan 2026

- Hands-on certification in NuSmile pediatric zirconia crown restorations for esthetic pediatric dentistry and space maintainer fabrication techniques.

Pediatric Airway Screening

Jul 2024 – Present

- Trained in screening for airway-related concerns including mouth breathing, sleep-disordered breathing, and orofacial myofunctional disorders for early interdisciplinary referral.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Rajan M, Malge R, Shah S, Surana P, **Thakkar R**, Kashav N. “Comparative evaluation of obturation quality between Hand K-files and Rotary Pedoflex files in primary mandibular molars.” *European Journal of Molecular & Clinical Medicine*, 7(11), 2021, 6850–6853.

- Case Report Poster Presentation: Complex Odontoma — presented at GNYDM 2025, LIDM 2025, and AAPD Conference.

LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY

AAPD Resident Committee Member — *American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry*

Sep 2024 – Present

- Contributing to national initiatives supporting pediatric dentistry residents. Represented residents at the AAPD Advocacy Conference (Mar 2025), advocating for children’s oral health funding.

President, NYU Peds Club — *NYU College of Dentistry*

Jun 2023 – May 2024

- Organized outreach events, literature reviews, and residency preparation panels for students pursuing pediatric dentistry.

Global Healthcare Leadership Workshop — *Washington D.C. / Capitol Hill*

Jun 2022

- Advocated for federal funding of NIH, NIDCR, CDC, and HRSA through meetings with legislative members on Capitol Hill.

Peer Mentor & Admissions Ambassador — *NYU College of Dentistry*

2022 – 2024

- Mentored incoming international advanced-standing students and oriented new dental students to campus life.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Oral Health Outreach Mission — *Verón, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic*

Feb 2024

- Week-long international outreach through NYU providing dental care and oral health education to underserved communities.

Oral Health Screener — *Races for Faces, Special Olympics* — *New York County Dental Society*

Feb 2023

- Conducted dental screenings and oral hygiene education at a primary school for children with special needs.

AWARDS, CERTIFICATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Awards: Presidential Volunteer Service Award (100+ hours) • Mock Congressional Hearing Winner, NYU (2022, 2023)

Certifications: CPR, CDA, PALS, ACLS, Radiology, NJ Dental License

Affiliations: ADA, AAPD, ASDA, New York County Dental Society, Indian Dental Association