Overview

This standard concerns the provision of chairside support during the preparation and fitting of fixed and removable prostheses. Fixed prostheses include crowns and supported/adhesive bridges, inlays, veneers, temporary bridges, and temporary crowns. Removable prostheses include metal, acrylic and immediate prostheses. The procedures include first impression, second impression, occlusal registration, try-in, and fitting. You will need to prepare and mix a wide range of materials which, if not carried out correctly, can affect the success of treatment. Therefore you will need to know about the purposes of the different materials, their use, their relationship to other materials, methods and amounts for mixing, the effects of temperature, and the correct handling.

This standard is applicable to members of the oral health care team providing chairside assistance for the preparation and fitting of fixed or removable prostheses including orthodontic appliances. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.
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Provide chairside support during the provision of fixed and removable prostheses

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

P1 apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control and take other appropriate health and safety measures

P2 make available a selection of potentially suitable trays for the operator and once they have selected one, prepare it ready for use compatible with the material and tray being used

P3 correctly select the appropriate impression materials and prepare them:
  P3.1 to the correct quantity in relation to the size of the tray
  P3.2 to the correct consistency
  P3.3 within the handling and setting time relative to the material and ambient temperature
  P3.4 using the correct technique

P4 load impression materials correctly on to the impression tray using a method which allows a complete and accurate impression to be taken

P5 offer patients appropriate support while impressions are in their mouths

P6 disinfect impressions, bite blocks and try-ins appropriately on removal and record accurate, legible and complete details of stages, shades and requirements on the laboratory prescription and attach it securely to the packaging

P7 prepare the correct equipment and materials for recording the:
  P7.1 occlusal registration
  P7.2 try-in
  P7.3 denture fit
  P7.4 denture adjustment

P8 provide appropriate support during the administration of local or regional analgesia

P9 prepare any equipment and materials required for a tooth to be prepared before the impression is to be taken

P10 work in a way which will complement the work of the operator including aspirating and protecting and retracting the soft tissues

P11 correctly mix and prepare the appropriate materials when temporary crowns are being prepared and fitted

P12 correctly assess the amount and type of adhesive material required for fixed prostheses and prepare it:
  P12.1 to the correct consistency
  P12.2 using a technique appropriate to the material
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P12.3 at the time required by the operator
P13 offer the correct instruments and materials for trimming, cleaning and checking the final adjustment of the fitting when they are required
P14 dispose of waste, spillage promptly and in a safe manner and place
P15 continuously monitor and reassure the patient, identify any complications and take the necessary actions without delay
P16 offer patients advice and instruction in a manner appropriate to them
P17 ensure that all records and other appropriate documents are complete, accurate and legible following the procedure
Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 the structure and function of teeth and periodontium including the number of roots
K2 regional anatomy of the head and neck and dental anatomy
K3 the options available for replacing missing teeth and the relative benefits of each, including:
   K3.1 fixed prostheses
   K3.2 removable prostheses
   K3.3 implants
K4 the purpose of crown, bridge, inlay and veneer preparation techniques
K5 the purpose of temporary crowns and bridges and their construction
K6 recognised forms of valid consent and their application before any treatment is undertaken
K7 the equipment and instruments used in preparing teeth for fixed prostheses
K8 the equipment, instruments and materials for gingival retraction before impression taking
K9 selecting and preparing impression trays and mixing and loading the appropriate impression material
K10 preparing and planning temporary crowns and bridges, including cements
K11 shade taking and the use of shade guides
K12 methods of taking occlusal registrations and why these are necessary
K13 the instruments and materials required for:
   K13.1 the removal of temporary prostheses
   K13.2 the checking and adjusting of fixed prostheses before final fitting
K14 different types of cements and correct methods of mixing and the methods of isolation during cementation
K15 the use of impression materials in making study models or working casts for the construction of the appliance and of the opposing arch or tooth
K16 the different forms which impression materials take and the relationship of these to the treatment being undertaken
K17 the preparation, application, storage and after-care of impressions to preserve the accuracy of the impression
K18 why impression materials should be disinfected prior to the attachment of a laboratory prescription
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K19 the different stages in making complete and partial removable prostheses, relines, rebases and additions

K20 the purpose of:
   K20.1 pre-prosthetic surgery
   K20.2 tooth preparation prior to partial denture constructions
   K20.3 using obturators
   K20.4 tissue conditioners
   K20.5 using spoon dentures

K21 the equipment, instruments, and materials which are used in taking primary and secondary impressions

K22 the equipment, instruments, and materials which are used:
   K22.1 in taking occlusal registrations
   K22.2 in try-ins
   K22.3 at the fitting of removable prostheses
   K22.4 in the fitting, monitoring and adjusting of orthodontic appliances

K23 the range of orthodontic treatments available and the different type of appliances used

K24 the role of the dental technician in the oral health care team and purpose of close liaison with technical staff and the dental laboratory in relation to materials and timing of dental appointments

K25 the relevance and importance of the dental laboratory prescription in relation to the regulation of custom made medical devices

K26 the type of support which patients may need when obtaining new removable prostheses and the worries which they may have

K27 how to care for removable prostheses

K28 aftercare for immediate dentures

K29 the ergonomics of dental practice including seating, positioning of the patient and team, instrument passing, suction tip placement

K30 methods of protecting and retracting the soft tissues

K31 methods of aspirating during treatment

K32 methods of working which will complement the work of the operator and the reasons for this

K33 the reasons for continually observing the operator during the procedure

K34 the equipment used in the administration of local and regional anaesthesia

K35 how to monitor, support and reassure the patient throughout treatment including identifying anxiety

K36 health and safety regulations and national policies and procedures

K37 standard precautions and quality standards of infection prevention and
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control, including personal protective equipment and your role in maintaining them

K38 the legal and organisational policies relating to the disposal of waste and spillage from clinical treatments and investigations

K39 the importance of communicating information clearly and effectively

K40 how to modify information and communication methods for individuals, including patients with special needs, patients from diverse social and ethnic backgrounds, children and the elderly and where necessary, provide representation for them

K41 the different types of charts and records used in the organisation including medical history, personal details, dental charts, radiographs/photographs and study models for assessment and treatment planning and their purpose

K42 the importance of keeping full contemporaneous records and the legislation and guidelines relating to patients’ records and confidentiality

K43 methods of effective team working in oral health care
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Additional Information

External Links
This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):
Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments
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