



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

Unit code: F3G7 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to extend the candidate's understanding of over-dentures, obturators and precision attachments used in removable prosthodontics. The Unit allows candidates to develop the necessary knowledge and skills to enable them to construct and finish an over-denture and dentures incorporating obturators and precision attachments to prescription.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Research types of over-denture and construct a partial over-denture.
- 2 Research types of obturators and construct a complete denture incorporating an obturator.
- 3 Research types of precision attachments and construct a partial denture incorporating a precision attachment.

Credit points and level: 3 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Although access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, it is recommended that the candidate should have completed the HNC in Dental Technology or equivalent so that dental laboratory practice, working to a prescription, treatment planning skills and preparing products to a standard suitable for presentation to a clinical dental professional are established. The ability to prepare submissions to a standard format, which includes Harvard referencing, would also be preferable.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the component 'Written Communication' of the Core Skill *Communication* at SCQF level 6, and the components 'Planning and Organising', 'Reviewing and Evaluating' and 'Critical Thinking' of the Core Skill *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit. There are also opportunities to develop the Core Skill *Information Technology* at SCQF level 6, and the component 'Using Graphical Information' of the Core Skill *Numeracy* at SCQF level 6, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

General information for centres (cont)

Assessment: The research elements of Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 could be assessed using a candidate submission(s). The submission(s) could be the equivalent to 2,500 words in length. The practical elements of Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 are assessed by the construction of three pieces of practical work involving the manipulation of dental materials to given prescriptions. These practical assessments should be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Research types of over-denture and construct a partial over-denture

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Types of over-denture
- ◆ Indications and contra-indications of over-denture use
- ◆ Technique of constructing a partial over-denture

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ research: the materials used, design, ease of use, and highlight the main indications and contra-indication of different types of over-dentures including:
 - crown reduction with coverage
 - crown reduction without coverage
 - crown reduction with endodontic treatment
 - incorporating precision attachments.
- ◆ utilise the research information collected, construct one partial over-denture. Working to a prescription, candidates must produce a partial over-denture that should be polished and finished accurately ready for delivery to the clinical dental professional. This practical assessment task must be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome could be by a submission and practical demonstration on the part of the candidate.

The research element of this Outcome could be assessed in the form of a candidate submission. Whilst the format the submission takes is left to the discretion of the centre it is recommended that such a submission be the equivalent to 1,000 words (excluding appendices and diagrams). If combined with the Evidence Requirements of Outcomes 2 and 3 the candidate submission should be the equivalent to 2,500 words in length (excluding appendices and diagrams). The submission may be presented in any suitable way to ensure Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliance. Examples of suitable submission formats are: oral questioning; candidate presentation; candidate report. Further details are contained in the Support Notes.

Outcome 2

Research types of obturators and construct a complete denture incorporating an obturator

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Types of obturator
- ◆ Indications and contra-indications of obturator use
- ◆ Technique of incorporating an obturator into a complete denture

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ research the materials used; design; ease of use of three types of obturator available (hollow-box, hinge, two-part) highlighting the indications and contra-indication to their use
- ◆ utilise the research information collected, construct one complete denture incorporating one of the following types of obturator:
 - hollow-box
 - hinge
 - two-part

Working to a prescription, candidates must produce one complete denture incorporating one obturator which should be polished and finished accurately ready for delivery to the clinical dental professional. This practical assessment task must be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome could be by a report and practical demonstration on the part of the candidate.

The research element of this Outcome could be assessed in the form of a candidate submission. Whilst the format the submission takes is left to the discretion of the centre it is recommended that such a submission be the equivalent to 1,000 words (excluding appendices and diagrams). If combined with the Evidence Requirements for Outcomes 1 and 3 the candidate submission should be the equivalent to 2,500 words in length (excluding appendices and diagrams). The submission may be presented in any suitable way to ensure DDA compliance. Examples of suitable formats are: oral questioning; candidate presentation; candidate report.

Outcome 3

Research types of precision attachments and construct a partial denture incorporating a precision attachment

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Types of precision attachments
- ◆ Advantages and disadvantages of precision attachments
- ◆ Partial denture construction incorporating a precision attachment

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ research types of precision attachments including:
 - category (intra-coronal; extra-coronal; stud; bar)
 - retentive design (mechanical or magnetic)
 - advantages and disadvantages of precision attachments
- ◆ utilise the research information collected, construct a partial denture incorporating one of the following:
 - intra-coronal attachment
 - extra-coronal attachment
 - stud or bar

Working to a prescription, candidates must produce one partial denture incorporating one type of precision attachment which should be polished and finished accurately ready for delivery to the clinical dental professional. This practical assessment task must be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome could be by a report and practical demonstration on the part of the candidate.

The research element of this Outcome could be assessed in the form of a candidate submission. Whilst the format the submission takes is left to the discretion of the centre it is recommended that such a submission be the equivalent to 500 words (excluding appendices and diagrams). If combined with the Evidence Requirements in Outcomes 1 and 3 the candidate submission should be the equivalent to 2,500 words in length (excluding appendices and diagrams). The submission may be presented in any suitable way to ensure DDA compliance. Examples of suitable formats are: oral questioning; candidate presentation; candidate report.

The candidate could produce one partial denture that incorporates an extra-coronal precision attachment following aesthetic and clinical prescription requirements.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	F3G7 35
Unit title:	Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments
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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 120 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

The purpose of this Unit is to allow candidates to develop the necessary understanding of over-dentures, obturators and precision attachments used in removable prosthodontics. The Unit enables candidates to develop the necessary knowledge and skills to allow them to construct and finish an over-denture and dentures incorporating obturators and precision attachments to prescription.

Outcome 1

In this Outcome candidates will become familiar with the design considerations for over-dentures. Candidates could be expected to evaluate over-denture types and explain the indications and contra-indications of their use. Over-denture types should include:

- ◆ crown reduction with coverage
- ◆ crown reduction without coverage
- ◆ crown reduction with endodontic treatment
- ◆ incorporating precision attachments

In this Outcome candidates will also demonstrate the technique of constructing a partial over-denture.

Outcome 2

In this Outcome candidates evaluate the types of obturator and the indications and contra-indications of their use.

The Outcome also gives candidates the opportunity to construct one complete denture incorporating one of the following obturators: hollow-box; hinge; two-part.

Outcome 3

In this Outcome candidates evaluate types of precision attachments (intra-coronal; extra-coronal; stud; bar) and explain the advantages and disadvantages of precision attachments.

Candidates will construct a partial denture that incorporates a precision attachment.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is likely to form part of a Group Award designed to provide candidates with technical and professional knowledge and skills for employment within a dental technology environment. It is envisaged that the teaching of this Unit could be delivered through lecturer-mediated discussion, practical demonstrations, reading of recommended texts and professional peer-review journals.

This Unit offers the opportunity to introduce the candidates to self and peer assessment as a formative assessment method. Such an initiative as well as providing both the candidate and the centre with an indication of candidate progress will also help in the development of the candidate's critical skills. A possible example would be to ask the candidates to develop quality criteria for the practical exercises in all three Outcomes as group work activities, evaluate their own performance and that of a peer against this agreed set of criteria.

The research element of each Outcome could be assessed by a candidate submission. Whilst the format the submission takes is left to the discretion of the centre the author would recommend that if the submission for all three Outcomes was combined it should be the equivalent to 2,500 words (excluding appendices and diagrams). If the centre decides on separate submissions for each Outcome then the author would recommend that for Outcome 1 it should be the equivalent of 1,000 words, for Outcome 2 equivalent to 1,000 words and for Outcome 3 equivalent to 500 words. Examples of possible submissions types are:

Oral Questioning

The underpinning knowledge and skills could be assessed using the form of oral questioning. The centre would need to develop a bank of suitable questions of equal reliability and validity to ensure that each candidate is assessed appropriately ensuring coverage of all underpinning knowledge. If this format is selected careful consideration is required in relation to venue, etc. The author would suggest that such a format would require to be carried out in time-controlled conditions.

Candidate Presentation

A candidate presentation could take the form of an oral presentation by the candidate to their peers and teaching staff. Such a submission would need time to be prepared and therefore careful consideration will need to be given as to when the assessment is given to candidates to allow time for research and preparation. The candidate may use presentation software such as PowerPoint to aid the presentation delivery but this is not essential. The candidate may opt to produce and talk to a handout supplied to the group. Using such software could give the candidate the opportunity to develop their Core Skills in *Information Technology*.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

Candidate Report

A candidate report may be presented in a variety of suitable ways: oral, written or signed. The author would suggest that if a candidate report is selected as the chosen assessment format that this should have a conventional structure ie title page; table of contents; introduction; report body; conclusion(s); reference list. Such a submission would need time to be prepared and therefore careful consideration will need to be given as to when the assessment is given to candidates to allow time for research and preparation.

Each Outcome also requires the candidate to carry out a practical assessment task. In Outcome 1 the candidate could construct a partial over-denture, in Outcome 2 the candidate could produce a complete denture incorporating an obturator, and in Outcome 3 the candidate could construct a partial denture incorporating precision attachments. These practical tasks should be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

During delivery of all three Outcomes candidates may have the opportunity to develop the component 'Written Communication' of the Core Skill *Communication* at SCQF level 6. Candidates may have the opportunity to analyse and evaluate complex information from a variety of dental literature sources. The general skill that the candidate may have to complete is 'Read and understand complex written communication'.

In the candidate submission there is the opportunity to develop the component 'Written Communication' of the Core Skill *Communication* at SCQF level 6. Candidates may have to structure their report, which could include complex vocabulary, accurately and using a logical structure. The general skill that candidates may have to complete is 'Produce well-structured written communication on complex topics'. There is the opportunity for the candidate to develop the Core Skill *Information Technology* at SCQF level 6. Candidates could carry out searches of information databases while carrying out research for the report.

There is also the opportunity for the candidate to develop the components 'Planning and Organising' and 'Reviewing and Evaluating' of the Core Skill *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 while completing the practical work in each Outcome. The candidate will construct three complex pieces of practical work that will require the candidate to organise, plan and review the procedures involved in the task.

There is the opportunity for the candidate to develop the component 'Critical Thinking' of the Core Skill *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 while completing the Evidence Requirements for all three Outcomes. The candidate may be required to analyse and evaluate complex information. The general skill that candidates may have to complete is 'Analyse a complex situation or issue'.

There is the opportunity to develop the component 'Using Graphical Information' of the Core Skill *Numeracy* at SCQF level 6. When constructing the complex pieces of practical work candidates will have to interpret complex data presented in graphical form from numerous dental material manufacturers. The general skill that candidates may have to complete is 'Apply a wide range of graphical skills to interpret and present complex information in generalised contexts'.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by distance learning, which may incorporate some degree of online support. With regard to assessment, planning would be required by the centre concerned to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of the candidate evidence. The practical components of each Outcome require to be assessed within a dental laboratory setting.

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Over-dentures, Obturators, and Precision Attachments

This Unit will develop your knowledge and skills in the design and the construction of over-dentures, obturators and dentures incorporating a precision attachment.

This Unit has three main areas, each the subject of a separate Outcome. Firstly, you will evaluate the uses and types of over-denture designs and construct a partial over-denture. Secondly, you will research the types of obturators and construct a complete denture incorporating an obturator. Finally, you will research the types of precision attachments used within removable prosthodontics and construct a partial denture incorporating a precision attachment.

The formal assessment of this Unit may consist of practical assessments and submissions for all three Outcomes. The practical exercises should be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

In completing the class work and assessments of this Unit you may have the opportunity to develop the component 'Written Communication' of the Core Skill *Communication* at SCQF level 6, and the components 'Planning and Organising', 'Reviewing and Evaluating' and 'Critical Thinking' of the Core Skill *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit. There are also opportunities to develop the Core Skill *Information Technology* at SCQF level 6, and the component 'Using Graphical Information' of the Core Skill *Numeracy* at SCQF level 6, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.