



## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

**Unit code:** F69C 34

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to introduce candidates to methods for dental assessment and effective methods that can be used in oral health treatment planning. The Unit also covers oral and dental anatomy and changes that can occur in oral tissue.

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

- 1 Describe the various methods of dental assessment.
- 2 Define the clinical assessments associated with orthodontics.
- 3 Explain the changes that may occur in the oral tissues.
- 4 Recognise medical emergencies that may occur in the dental environment.
- 5 Outline the basic structure and function of oral and dental anatomy.

**Credit points and level:** 1 HN credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7\*)

*\*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:** There are no prescribed entry requirements for this Unit.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill(s) of *Problem Solving* in this Unit, 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.

This Unit is specifically designed for delivery as part of the PDA Dental Nursing at SCQF level 7. It may also be delivered as a stand-alone Unit for Continuing Professional Development.

**Assessment:** There is one instrument of assessment for this Unit. It could be assessed holistically using assessment paper containing multiple-choice, one word answer, and scenario questions.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

**Unit code:** F69C 34

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**

Describe the various methods of dental assessment

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ The different types of dental records and charts
- ◆ Methods of recording soft and hard tissue conditions
- ◆ Methods of recording periodontal conditions using periodontal charts

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ different charting systems, eg Zsigmondy-Palmer and International Dental Federation
- ◆ accepted tooth notations
- ◆ different methods of clinical assessment, eg types of probes, disclosing agents, transillumination, vitality testing
- ◆ full periodontal charting and definitions including BPE
- ◆ data protection
- ◆ guidelines and legislation relating to patient's records and confidentiality

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Unit may be assessed holistically using a question paper containing a series of questions which could include multiple-choice, one word answer, and scenario questions.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

### **Outcome 2**

Define the clinical assessments associated with orthodontics

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ The classifications of malocclusion
- ◆ The types of orthodontic appliances in relation to treatment required
- ◆ Pre and post operative instructions for orthodontic procedures

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ function and uses of removable appliances, eg retainers/functional
- ◆ function and uses of fixed appliances
- ◆ care and maintenance of both removable and fixed appliances
- ◆ classification of malocclusion
- ◆ images/models/records

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Unit may be assessed holistically using a question paper containing a series of questions which could include multiple-choice, one word answer, and scenario questions.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

### **Outcome 3**

Explain the changes that may occur in the oral tissues

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Diseases of the oral mucosa
- ◆ The effects of ageing on the soft tissue
- ◆ The medical conditions that may affect the oral tissues

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ the process of investigation of hard and soft tissue lesions
- ◆ management of different forms of facial pain
- ◆ importance of maintaining a healthy periodontium
- ◆ factors that can aggravate the periodontal condition, eg drugs and drug interactions, hormonal, smoking, medical
- ◆ consequences of changes in salivary function

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Unit may be assessed holistically using a question paper containing a series of questions which could include multiple-choice, one word answer, and scenario questions.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

### **Outcome 4**

Recognise medical emergencies that may occur in the dental environment

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Medical emergencies that may occur in the dental environment and how to deal with them
- ◆ The principles of First Aid
- ◆ Boundaries of own responsibility and competence
- ◆ Organisational requirements for reporting and recording medical emergencies
- ◆ Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 (and amended)

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ medical emergency drugs and resuscitation equipment
- ◆ contents of First Aid box
- ◆ importance of recording events in an accident book and reporting to appropriate personnel
- ◆ how to deal with a range of common medical emergencies and when to seek assistance, eg faint, diabetic coma, asthma attack, angina/myocardial infarction, epileptic seizure respiratory arrest, cardiac arrest

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Unit may be assessed holistically using a question paper containing a series of questions which could include multiple-choice, one word answer, and scenario questions.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

### **Outcome 5**

Outline the basic structure and function of oral and dental anatomy

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ The structure, morphology and eruption dates of the primary and secondary dentition
- ◆ The structure and function of teeth, gingivae and supporting tissue
- ◆ The structure of the maxilla and mandible
- ◆ The position and function of salivary glands and muscles of mastication.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ basic structure of the maxilla and mandible including the nerve and blood supply to the teeth and supporting structures
- ◆ difference between deciduous and permanent dentition
- ◆ the detailed structure of a tooth and the functions of each tissue
- ◆ importance of the salivary glands and their function in aiding speech, mastication, and digestion
- ◆ movement of the jaw by the muscles of mastication

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Unit may be assessed holistically using a question paper containing a series of questions which could include multiple-choice, one word answer, and scenario questions.

## Administrative Information

<b>Unit code:</b>	F69C 34
<b>Unit title:</b>	Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning
<b>Superclass category:</b>	PF
<b>Original date of publication:</b>	August 2009
<b>Version:</b>	02 (April 2010)

### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Amendment to code to reflect SCQF level change.	12/04/10

**Source:** SQA

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## Higher National Unit specification: support notes

### Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

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 40 hours.

### Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

The Unit may be undertaken and assessed as a stand alone Unit to provide knowledge and understanding of the risks associated with infectious diseases within the specific context of a dental environment.

This Unit has been developed primarily as part of the PDA in Dental Nursing and is a contextualised version of the corresponding Unit in the VRQ developed by City and Guilds and the National Examining Board (NEBDN). As part of the PDA Award, it is designed to provide underpinning knowledge for the SVQ in Dental Nursing at level 3 which can be independently assessed and certificated. As such, the PDA and its four component units are designed to meet in part the requirements for registration for dental nurses with the General Dental Council (GDC) where all four units are assessed holistically by a single question paper under exam conditions.

For Outcome 4, a range of common emergencies likely to occur in a dental environment and organisational procedures in place to deal with them should be covered. Whilst candidates are not expected to be First Aiders, they should be familiar with the organisational procedures in place to deal with emergencies and incidents and understand their role and boundaries of responsibilities. When medical emergencies occur in the dental setting they require a sound understanding of what action to take, to ensure that the emergency is dealt with quickly. Medical problems/incidents which may present during dental treatment might include:

- ◆ Asthma
- ◆ Anaphylaxis
- ◆ Hypoglycaemia
- ◆ Epilepsy
- ◆ Bleeding
- ◆ Faints
- ◆ Angina/heart attack
- ◆ Choking and aspiration
- ◆ Panic Attack/Hyperventilation

**Candidates should also be aware of the requirements of the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981. Reference could be made to the following source**

- 1 First aid at work. The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981 Approved Code of Practice and Guidance L74 1997 HSE Books ISBN 0 7176 1050 0



## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

### Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

It is recommended that the Outcomes for this Unit be assessed holistically in a short assessment paper (30 minutes) containing multiple choice, one word answer, and scenario questions to cover all Outcomes.

Articulation with other qualifications includes:

SVQ level 3 Dental Nursing.

ENTO Unit A: Ensure your own actions reduce the risk to health and safety.

It may be possible to integrate knowledge and skills and assessment.

#### Further information

There are a number of statutory and regulatory bodies which monitor aspects of NHS and/or private dentistry in Scotland. This includes monitoring quality of dental treatment, educational provision for newly-qualified dentists and quality of dental practices. Key regulatory bodies are listed below.

**The General Dental Council (GDC)** — regulates all dental care professionals (DCPs). **General Dental Council** — [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org)

**Scottish Executive** — NHS practice inspections, compulsory audit. [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)

**Practitioner Services (PSD), on behalf of the Scottish Dental Practice Board** — authorises payments for NHS dentistry, patient examinations to check treatments and monitors quality [www.show.scot.nhs.uk/psd](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/psd)

**Scottish Dental Practice Board (SDPB)** — sets operational policy on authorising payments to dentists and monitoring NHS dentistry [www.show.scot.nhs.uk/psd/sdpb](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/psd/sdpb)

**NHS Education for Scotland** — inspects NHS dental practices for vocational training or general professional training. [www.nes.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk)

**Health and Safety Executive Health and Safety Executive** — the HSE's key role is to prevent death, injury and ill health in Great Britain's workplaces through research, information and advice, promoting training, new or revised regulations and codes of practice, inspection, investigation and enforcement. [www.hse.org.uk](http://www.hse.org.uk)

#### *Opportunities for developing Core Skills*

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit. However, there are opportunities to develop aspects of *Communication* (Written), *Problem Solving* and *Working with Others*.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

### **Open learning**

This content of this Unit may be suitable for delivery in a variety of modes including open and distance learning.

### **Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs**

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements)

## **General information for candidates**

### **Unit title:** Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning

This Unit has been designed to introduce you to the principles underpinning oral health assessment. It covers a range of topics related to identifying and treating oral health issues such as methods of assessment, changes in oral tissue, how to deal with medical emergencies in a dental setting and basic oral anatomy.

It is one of four Units which make up the Professional Development Award in Dental Nursing at SCQF level 7. Completion of the PDA and the SVQ in Dental Nursing at level 3 will allow successful candidates to apply for registration as a Dental Nurse with the General Dental Council.

The Unit covers the following areas:

- ◆ The various methods of dental assessment
- ◆ The clinical assessments associated with orthodontics
- ◆ The changes that may occur in the oral tissues
- ◆ Medical emergencies that may occur in the dental environment
- ◆ The basic structure and function of oral and dental anatomy

Assessment of this Unit may take the form of a short question paper containing multiple-choice, one word answer, and scenario questions to cover all Outcomes.