



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Unit code: H9R9 34

Superclass: PF

Publication date: September 2015

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit is designed to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of various methods of recording oral health assessment and treatment plans. They will recognise the importance of maintaining accurate patient records and the professional guidance, regulation and legislation surrounding protecting the patients' interests and information. The Unit also covers oral and dental anatomy and changes that can occur in oral tissue. Learners will be able to recognise and appropriately deal with medical emergencies that may occur in the dental environment.

Outcomes

- 1 Explain the requirements surrounding the recording of oral health assessment and treatment planning including obtaining valid patient consent.
- 2 Define the clinical assessments associated with orthodontics.
- 3 Explain the changes that may occur in the oral tissues.
- 4 Recognise and appropriately deal with 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 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

Recommended entry to the Unit

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Higher National Unit specification: General information (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

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 in Dental Nursing at SCQF level 7. It may also be delivered as a stand-alone Unit for Continuing Professional Development.

The Assessment Support Pack (ASP) for this Unit provides assessment and marking guidelines that exemplify the national standard for achievement. It is a valid, reliable and practicable assessment. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the ASP to ensure a comparable standard. A list of existing ASPs is available to download from SQA's website (<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/46233.2769.html>).

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

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. Learners 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

Explain the requirements surrounding the recording of oral health assessment and treatment planning including obtaining valid patient consent.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ The different types of dental records required including medical history
- ◆ Methods of recording the oral condition and treatment needs using dental charting
- ◆ Methods of recording soft tissue conditions
- ◆ Methods of recording periodontal conditions using periodontal charts
- ◆ The principles of providing a treatment plan and obtaining valid patient consent for any treatment including photographs, radiographs, models and medical histories.
- ◆ Professional guidance and legislation relating to protecting patients' interests and personal data

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

Outcome 3

Explain the changes that may occur in the oral tissues.

Knowledge and/or Skills

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

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Outcome 4

Recognise and appropriately deal with 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 and when to seek assistance
- ◆ Organisational requirements for reporting and recording medical emergencies

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

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can identify and describe:

Outcome 1

- ◆ Different charting systems.
- ◆ Accepted tooth notations.
- ◆ Different methods of clinical assessment.
- ◆ Full periodontal charting and definitions including Basic Periodontal Examination (BPE).
- ◆ The purpose and relevance of medical histories.
- ◆ Methods and principles of obtaining patient consent.
- ◆ Professional guidelines and legislation relating to the protection of patient's records and interests.
- ◆ Implications of Direct Access on oral health assessment, records and confidentiality.

Outcome 2

- ◆ The function and uses of removable appliances.
- ◆ The function and uses of fixed appliances.
- ◆ The care and maintenance of both removable and fixed appliances.
- ◆ The classification of malocclusion.
- ◆ The images, models and records associated with orthodontics.

Outcome 3

- ◆ The process of investigation of hard and soft tissue lesions.
- ◆ The management of different forms of facial pain.
- ◆ The importance of maintaining a healthy periodontium.
- ◆ How medical and social factors can affect the oral tissues.
- ◆ The consequences of changes in salivary function.

Outcome 4

- ◆ Medical emergency drugs and resuscitation equipment.
- ◆ The contents of the First Aid box.
- ◆ The boundaries of own responsibility and competence and when to seek assistance.
- ◆ The importance of recording events in an accident book and reporting to appropriate personnel.
- ◆ How to recognise and deal with a range of common medical emergencies.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Outcome 5

- ◆ The basic structure of the maxilla and mandible.
- ◆ The difference between deciduous and permanent dentition.
- ◆ The detailed structure of a tooth and the functions of each tissue.
- ◆ The role and function of saliva.
- ◆ The movement of the jaw by the muscles of mastication.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and 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

This Unit forms part of the PDA in Dental Nursing.

The Unit may also be undertaken and assessed as a standalone Unit to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of the various methods of recording oral health assessment and treatment plans. The importance of maintaining accurate patient records and the professional guidance, regulation and legislation surrounding protecting the patients' interests and information will be covered. The Unit also covers oral and dental anatomy and changes that can occur in oral tissues. Learners will be able to recognise and appropriately deal with medical emergencies that may occur in the dental environment.

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.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

Delivery could include peer group discussion, use of recorded material (video or other audio-visual media), use of case studies, the internet for research, and practical exercises to identify materials, equipment and anatomical structures.

For Outcome 1, centres should cover a range of different charting systems, eg Zsigmondy-Palmer and International Dental Federation and the importance of maintaining accurate dental records including patient medical history. Methods of clinical assessment should be discussed, eg types of probes, disclosing agents, transillumination, vitality testing.

The importance of providing the patient with a treatment plan and enough information (in the appropriate format to meet their needs) so they can give informed consent to proposed treatment and the regulations and professional guidance that cover this process should form part of the learning for Outcome 1.

Professional guidelines and legislation relating to protecting patient's interests and records including the implications of Direct Access on oral health assessment, records and confidentiality must be covered with reference to relevant aspects of the Equality Act 2010, Data Protection and the GDC Standards of Care.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Outcome 2 focuses on the clinical assessments associated with orthodontics and teaching should include the pre and post care and maintenance instructions associated with both removable, eg retainers/functional and fixed appliances.

Outcome 3 covers changes that may occur in the oral tissues. Teaching should cover conditions and diseases of the hard and soft tissues, causes and symptoms of these along with treatment and management available.

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 learners 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 and when they must seek assistance. 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

Learners should also be made aware of the requirements of the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981. Reference could be made to the following:
First aid at work, The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981 Approved Code of Practice and Guidance L74 2013 HSE Books ISBN 9780717665600

Outcome 5 deals with the basic structure and function of oral and dental anatomy. Teaching should include 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 and the position and function of salivary glands and muscles of mastication.

Further information and references which may be helpful to delivery are listed below.

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.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Key regulatory bodies and relevant websites are listed below.

Key regulatory bodies are listed below:

The General Dental Council (GDC) — regulates all dental care professionals (DCPs).
General Dental Council — www.gdc-uk.org

The Scottish Government — NHS practice inspections, compulsory audit. Guidance issued by the Scottish Government at <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Health> and the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme www.sdcep.org.uk

NHS Education for Scotland: develops and delivers education and training for those who work in NHS Scotland 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

It should be noted that the references given are correct at the time of publication; however centres should ensure that learners have access to the most current and up to date publications and web sites.

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

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.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential 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, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Problem Solving* and *Working with Others*.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

This section will help you decide if this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and, where applicable, opportunities for further learning and employment.

This Unit has been designed to develop your knowledge and understanding of various methods of recording dental assessment and treatment planning, the importance of obtaining valid patient consent, maintaining accurate patient medical records and the professional regulations and legislation surrounding the handling of patient data and protection of patient interests. You will be able to recognise and appropriately deal with medical emergencies that may occur in the dental environment.

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

The Unit Outcomes cover the following areas:

- ◆ The various methods of recording oral health assessment and treatment planning.
- ◆ The principles of obtaining valid patient consent.
- ◆ The clinical assessments associated with orthodontics.
- ◆ The changes that may occur in the oral tissues.
- ◆ How to recognise and deal with 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 question paper containing multiple-choice, short answer, and scenario based questions to cover all Outcomes.

You will have the opportunity to develop your Core Skills in *Communication, Problem Solving, working with Others, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Numeracy*.

Post registration qualifications are available for progression. These qualifications have been produced to reflect the General Dental Council's Scope of Practice for Dental Nurses

Professional Development Awards in:

- ◆ Dental Nursing: Delivering Oral Health Interventions at SCQF level 8
- ◆ Dental Nursing: Supporting Special Care Provision at SCQF level 8
- ◆ Intravenous Sedation for Dental Care Professionals at SCQF level 8
- ◆ Orthodontic Dental Nursing at SCQF level 8
- ◆ Dental Care Professionals: Dental Laboratory Skills at SCQF level 8
- ◆ Recording Patient Assessment for Dental Care Professionals at SCQF level 8
- ◆ Oral Health Care: Dental Managers at SCQF level 8
- ◆ Dental Radiography (Operator) for Dental Care Professionals at SCQF level 9

General information for learners (cont)

Unit title: Dental Nursing: Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning (SCQF level 7)

Higher National Certificate (HNC) in:

- ◆ Oral Health Care at SCQF level 7

Higher National Diploma (HND) in:

- ◆ Dental Nursing at SCQF level 8