

OH6 Provide chairside support during the provision of fixed and removable prostheses

About this workforce competence

This workforce competence 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 their correct handling.

This workforce competence is applicable to any member of the oral health care team providing chairside assistance for the preparation and fitting of fixed or removable prostheses including orthodontic appliances.

Links

This workforce competence has indicative links with the following dimensions and levels within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: Health and wellbeing HWB7: Interventions and treatments
Level 2

Searchable key words

Chairside support, oral prostheses, dental, oral health, teeth

Origin

This workforce competence has been developed by Skills for Health.

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Glossary

This section provides explanations and definitions of the terms used in this workforce competence. In competences, it is quite common to find words or phrases used which you will be familiar with, but which, in the detail of the competence, may be used in a very particular way.

Additional protective equipment includes: types of personal protective equipment such as visors, protective eyewear and radiation protective equipment

Contaminated includes items contaminated with body fluids, chemicals.
Any pack/item opened and not used should be treated as contaminated

Personal protective clothing includes items such as plastic aprons, gloves - both clean and sterile, eyewear, footwear, dresses, trousers and gowns.
These may be single use disposable clothing or reusable clothing

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Scope

This section provides guidance on possible areas to be covered in this workforce competence.

Charts and records

may include:

- a) paper based
- b) electronic
- c) laboratory work tickets
- d) dental images

Patients

may include:

- a) adults
- b) children and young people
- c) older people
- d) those with special needs

Prostheses (fixed)

may include:

- a) crowns / Inlays
- b) veneers
- c) permanent/adhesive bridges
- d) temporary bridges and temporary crowns

Prostheses (removable)

may include:

- a) metal
- b) acrylic
- c) immediate
- d) orthodontic

Standard precautions and health and safety measures

a series of interventions which will minimise or prevent infection and cross infection, including:

- a) hand washing/cleansing before during and after the activity
- b) the use of **personal protective clothing** and **additional protective equipment** when appropriate

it also includes:

- c) handling **contaminated** items
- d) disposing of waste
- e) safe moving and handling techniques
- f) untoward incident procedures
- g) safe handling of medicaments

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Performance criteria

You need to:

1. apply **standard precautions for infection control** and take other appropriate **health and safety measures**
2. provide appropriate support during the administration of local or regional analgesia
3. thoroughly clean any **removable prosthesis** which is to be relined, added to or adjusted and prepare the relevant area of the **prostheses** for the work to be undertaken
4. 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
5. prepare any equipment and materials required for a tooth to be prepared before the impression is to be taken
6. correctly select the appropriate impression materials and prepare them:
 - a) to the correct quantity in relation to the size of the tray
 - b) to the correct consistency
 - c) within the handling and setting time relative to the material and ambient temperature
 - d) using the correct technique
6. load impression materials correctly on to the impression tray using a method which allows a complete and accurate impression to be taken
7. offer **patients** appropriate support while impressions are in their mouths
8. disinfect impressions appropriately on removal and record accurate, legible and complete all details of stages, shades and requirements on the laboratory ticket and attach it securely to the packaging
9. correctly mix and prepare the appropriate materials when temporary crowns are being prepared and fitted
10. prepare the correct equipment and materials for recording the occlusal registration
11. correctly assess the amount and type of adhesive material required for fixed prostheses and prepare it
 - a) to the correct consistency
 - b) using a technique appropriate to the material
 - c) at the time required by the operator
12. offer the correct instruments and materials for trimming, cleaning and checking the final adjustment of the fitting when they are required
13. continuously monitor the patient, identify any complications and take the necessary actions without delay
14. offer patients advice and instruction in a manner appropriate to them

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to apply:

Anatomy and physiology

- K1. factual knowledge of dental anatomy in relation to the mandible and maxilla
- K2. factual knowledge of jaw movements of the temporo-mandibular joint

Replacement of teeth

- K3. factual knowledge of the options available for replacing missing teeth and the relative benefits of each, including:
 - a) fixed prostheses
 - b) removable prostheses
 - c) implants

Fixed prostheses

- K4. factual knowledge of the purpose of crown, bridge, inlay and veneer techniques
- K5. factual knowledge of the purpose of temporary crowns and bridges and their construction
- K6. a working knowledge of the equipment and instruments used in preparing teeth for fixed prostheses
- K7. a working knowledge of the equipment, instruments and materials for retraction before impression taking
- K8. a working knowledge of selecting and preparing impression trays and mixing and loading the appropriate impression material
- K9. a working knowledge of preparing and planning temporary crowns and bridges, cements, and hand instruments (such as flat plastics)
- K10. a working knowledge of shade taking (such as shade guides)
- K11. a working knowledge of methods of taking occlusal registrations and why these are necessary
- K12. a working knowledge of the instruments and materials required for:
 - a) the removal of temporary prostheses
 - b) the checking and adjusting of fixed prostheses before final fitting
 - c) protecting and retracting the soft tissues (such as rubber dams)
- K13. a working knowledge of different types of cements and correct methods of mixing and the methods of isolation during cementation

Prosthodontics

- K14. factual knowledge of 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
- K15. a working knowledge of the different forms which impression materials take (alginates, reversible hydrocolloid, puttys), the relationship of these to the treatment being undertaken
- K16. a working knowledge of the preparation, application, storage and after-care of impressions to preserve the accuracy of the impression
- K17. factual knowledge of why impression materials should be disinfected prior to the attachment of a laboratory ticket

Removable prostheses - types, functions and stages of treatment

- K18. factual knowledge of the different stages in making complete and partial removable prostheses, relines, rebases and additions
- K19. factual knowledge of the purpose of:
 - a) pre-prosthetic surgery
 - b) tooth preparation prior to partial denture constructions
 - c) using obturators
 - d) tissue conditioners
 - e) using spoon dentures
- K20. factual knowledge of the options available for replacing missing teeth and their relative benefits
- K21. a working knowledge of the equipment, instruments, and materials which are used in taking initial and second impressions
- K22. a working knowledge of the equipment, instruments, and materials which are used taking occlusal registrations (such as wax occlusal rims, additional sheets of pink wax, heat source, markers, shade guides and mould guides)
- K23. a working knowledge of the equipment, instruments, and materials which are used in try-ins (such as the waxed-up removable prostheses, heat source, shade guides, wax knife, LeCron carver, sheet wax, mirrors)
- K24. a working knowledge of the equipment, instruments, and materials which are used at the fitting of removable prostheses (such as individual mirror, handpiece, polymeric stone, polymeric trimming burs, pressure relief paste, articulating papers)
- K25. a working knowledge of the differences between constructing dentures for adults, children and the elderly

Orthodontic treatment and appliances

- K26. factual knowledge of the range of orthodontic treatments available and the different type of appliances used
- K27. factual knowledge of the equipment, instruments, and materials which are used in the fitting, monitoring and adjusting of orthodontic appliances

Liaison with manufacturers of custom-made prostheses

- K28. factual knowledge of 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 timing, materials etc
- K29. factual knowledge of the relevance and importance of laboratory work tickets and record cards

Supporting individuals in the care of removable prostheses and in their oral health care

- K30. a working knowledge of the type of support which patients may need when obtaining new removable prostheses and the worries which they may have
- K31. a working knowledge of how to care for removable prostheses
- K32. a working knowledge of aftercare for immediate dentures

Retracting tissues and aspirating

- K33. a working knowledge of methods of protecting and retracting the soft tissues
- K34. a working knowledge of methods of aspirating during treatment

Communication

- K35. a working knowledge of the importance of communicating information clearly and effectively
- K36. a working knowledge of methods of modifying information and communication methods for different individuals including patients from different social and ethnic backgrounds, children (including those with special needs), and the elderly

Health and safety and infection control

- K37. a working knowledge of the purpose, method of use and function of protective wear and the reason for their use
- K38. a working knowledge of standard precautions and quality standards of cross infection control and your role in maintaining them
- K39. factual knowledge of the reasons for monitoring continuously the patient and the operator

Charts and Records

- K40. a working knowledge of 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
- K41. in-depth knowledge of confidentiality in relation to patient records

Team working

- K42. a working knowledge of methods of effective team working in oral health care