



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Complex Partial Dentures

Unit code: F43T 35

Unit purpose: This Unit will develop the candidate's knowledge and skills in the construction of complex partial dentures. It will allow candidates to develop the necessary knowledge and skills to enable them to construct and finish complex partial dentures to specific prescriptions.

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

- 1 Evaluate the use and types of complex partial denture designs.
- 2 Construct two complex partial dentures to prescription.

Credit points and level: 2 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (16 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: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, it is recommended that candidates 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 underpinning knowledge and skills. 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.

Assessment: Outcome 1 could be assessed using a candidate submission covering all of the Evidence Requirements. Outcome 2 will be assessed by practical tasks with candidates displaying competent technical performance in the construction of removable complex partial dentures 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

Evaluate the use and types of complex partial denture designs

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Types of complex partial denture designs
- ◆ Indications and contra-indications of their appropriateness

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can evaluate the following complex partial denture designs for construction complexity, materials and indications and contra-indications of their appropriateness and ease of use:

- ◆ Two-part
- ◆ Swinglock
- ◆ Disjunct
- ◆ Stress-breaker
- ◆ Overlay

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed by a candidate submission. Whilst the format of the submission is at the discretion of the centre, it is recommended that the submission be equivalent to 1,500 words (excluding appendices and diagrams). Examples of suitable formats for the submission could be: oral questioning; candidate presentation; candidate report. Further details are contained in the Support Notes.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Complex Partial Dentures

Outcome 2

Construct two complex partial dentures to prescription

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Techniques of constructing complex partial dentures

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can construct and finish two complex partial dentures selected from the following complex partial denture designs:

- ◆ Two-part
- ◆ Swinglock
- ◆ Disjunct
- ◆ Stress-breaker
- ◆ Overlay

Working to a prescription and aesthetic considerations, candidates must fabricate two complex partial dentures finished in acrylic resin to a finish and accuracy ready for delivery to the clinical dental professional. These practical assessment tasks must be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome could be by practical demonstration of the production of two complex partial dentures finished with acrylic resin ready for delivery to the clinical dental professional.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	F43T 35
Unit title:	Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Complex Partial Dentures
Superclass category:	PF
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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Complex Partial Dentures

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 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

The purpose of this Unit is to allow candidates to develop the necessary knowledge and understanding to be competent in the description of treatment therapy, principles of removable appliance design and the techniques involved in the fabrication of complex removable appliances. In addition candidates will develop skills involved in the construction of a range of complex removable orthodontic appliances.

It is envisaged that the teaching of this Unit could be delivered through lecturer mediated discussion, practical demonstrations and the reading of recommended texts.

Outcome 1

In this Outcome candidates will become familiar with the design considerations for complex partial dentures.

When evaluating the two-part denture design candidates should become familiar with the standard designs available for anterior and posterior placed two-part dentures. Candidates could investigate the various locking mechanisms available for two-part dentures ie bolt and split post or pins.

When evaluating the swing-lock denture design candidates could become familiar with the component parts of the design ie labial or buccal bar; major connector; hinge; latch. Candidates could investigate the absolute preconditions to the provision of a swing-lock denture.

When evaluating the disjunct denture design candidates could become familiar with the rationale of the design, ie to permit the edentulous saddle areas to compress the underlying mucosa (by a clinically measured amount) independent of the tooth-borne component.

When evaluating the stress-breaker denture design candidates could compare this design with that of the disjunct denture as the purpose is the same, ie to permit the edentulous saddle areas to compress the underlying mucosa (by a clinically measured amount) independent of the tooth-borne component.

When evaluating the overlay denture design candidates could evaluate the functions that overlays offer, ie denture support; closed bite correction; improved occlusion; balance articulation; cuspal angle reduction; lateral stress reduction; splinting.

Candidates could evaluate the indications and contra-indications of the appropriateness of the common complex designs (two-part; swinglock; disjunct stress-breaker and overlay).

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dental Removable Prosthodontics: Complex Partial Dentures

Outcome 2

In this Outcome candidates may demonstrate competence in constructing two complex removable partial dentures from the list detailed under the Evidence Requirements of the Outcome. Centres have the flexibility to select any two complex removable partial denture designs or where possible could let candidates select which denture designs to construct. This will obviously depend on resources available.

Construction of any two complex partial dentures will demonstrate success in this Outcome. All appliances should be finished accurately for delivery.

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 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 complex removable partial dentures being constructed in Outcome 2 as a group work activity, evaluate their own performance and that of a peer against this agreed set of criteria.

Outcome 1 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 such a submission be the equivalent to 1,500 words (excluding appendices and diagrams). 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 the candidate 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: Complex Partial Dentures

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.

The assessment of Outcome 2 will be in the form of practical tasks involving the candidate in the production two complex removable partial dentures, from those listed in the Outcome's Evidence Requirements, to a given prescription. These practical tasks should be carried out within a dental laboratory setting.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

In completing the Evidence Requirements for Outcome 1 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'.

If the candidates produce a written report for Outcome 1, they will have 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'.

If the candidate produces a report for Outcome 1 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 class work of Outcome 2. In this Outcome the candidate will construct two 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 Outcome 1. The candidate may be required to analyse and evaluate complex information, explaining the use and types of complex partial denture design. 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 removable partial dentures in Outcome 2 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: Complex Partial Dentures

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 to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of the candidate evidence. Outcome 2 requires 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: Complex Partial Dentures

This Unit is designed to develop your knowledge and skills to be competent in the design and construction of complex partial dentures.

The Unit has two main areas, each the subject of a separate Outcome. Firstly you will evaluate the uses and types of complex partial denture designs. You will then construct two complex partial dentures to a given clinical prescription.

The formal assessment of this Unit may consist of a report for Outcome 1 and a practical assessment for Outcome 2. The assessment for Outcome 1 may be carried out at the end of delivery of the Unit. The practical assessment tasks 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.