



Higher National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

Unit code: FN3P 35

Superclass: PF

Publication date: March 2019

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

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Unit purpose

This specialist unit is designed to enable the candidate to develop the knowledge, skills and practical application required to take alginate dental impressions for working or study models, working under the prescription of a Dentist. The unit is suitable for registered Dental Nurses who are supported in a workplace setting to take alginate dental impressions under the General Dental Council (GDC) Scope of Practice.

On completion of this unit the candidate will be able to:

- 1 Define and demonstrate the taking of alginate dental impressions for the purpose of working or study models
- 2 Explain the relevant legislation, health and safety requirements and professional guidance relating to the taking of alginate dental impressions
- 3 Demonstrate the emergency support procedures for common medical emergencies which could occur in the dental surgery whilst taking alginate dental impressions

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre; however, candidates should be registered with the GDC as a Dental Care Professional, eg Dental Nurse. The candidate must have clinical access to patients to enable them to gain experience in the procedure of taking alginate dental impressions.

Credit points and level

- 1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 8: (8 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.*

General information (cont)

Core Skills

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

Context for delivery

The nature of this Unit requires that it be delivered over a period of time — sufficient for candidates to complete the necessary requirements of the assessment and gain sufficient experience to operate competently.

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

Evidence for this Unit should be generated through assessment detailed as follows.

Outcome 1 — This Outcome could be assessed by completion of a minimum of 20 patient cases, working to the prescription of a dentist, and should cover a minimum of 5 adult and 5 child cases. The candidate will need to work in a clinical area that supports them to frequently take alginate dental impressions. The required performance evidence could be gathered by observation, witness testimony, reflective log and product evidence. The cases should be observed by the dentist.

An exemplar Record of Dental Impressions sheet is available to download from the HND Dental Nursing webpage on the SQA website.

A minimum of one case study should detail the dental nurse's role in the taking of alginate dental impressions for working/study models which includes patient management and consent.

Outcome 2 — This Outcome could be assessed holistically with outcome 1.

Outcome 3 — This Outcome could be assessed by simulated practical exercises to allow the candidate to demonstrate competence in managing medical emergencies. The candidate will be required to explain the limitations of their professional expertise and when they would seek help. This may be assessed by observation and/ or questioning.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

Unit code: FN3P 35

Outcome 1

Knowledge and/or Skills

Define and demonstrate the taking of alginate dental impressions for working or study models.

- ◆ Role of the dental nurse in the interpretation of content of an appropriate prescription from a Dentist
- ◆ Infection Control processes for the procedure
- ◆ Properties/constituents of Dental Biomaterials
- ◆ Techniques for taking alginate dental impressions including the selection and preparation of appropriate trays
- ◆ Anatomical landmarks and boundaries for quality working/study models
- ◆ Appropriate communication skills for dealing with a range of patients
- ◆ Decontamination processes/procedures and health and safety requirements
- ◆ Referral/transferral procedures
- ◆ Recording/record-keeping procedures
- ◆ Information required by the dental laboratory

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence of a minimum of 20 prescribed patient cases (which will be observed by the dentist) to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ describe the content of a dental prescription and how the dental nurse works within their area of competence including communicating with other dental team members
- ◆ demonstrate the relevant standard infection control precautions when taking alginate dental impressions
- ◆ evaluate the content, uses and associated hazards and limitations of alginate as a dental biomaterial
- ◆ describe the anatomical landmarks required for quality working/study models
- ◆ apply advanced communication skills required to explain the dental procedure to a range of patients
- ◆ demonstrate patient management during the taking of alginate dental impression
- ◆ demonstrate the decontamination procedure for alginate dental impressions and related health and safety requirements
- ◆ demonstrate the process for the transportation of alginate impressions to the dental laboratory
- ◆ demonstrate recording/record keeping procedures
- ◆ explain the information required by the dental laboratory

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

Assessment Guidelines

The candidate will be required to complete a minimum of 20 patient cases, working to a prescription from a dentist which should include a minimum of 5 adults and 5 child cases

Assessment Criteria - Range:

- 15 alginate impressions for study models
- Dentate – 5 primary alginate impressions for working models

Each patient case will describe the prescription given, the techniques adopted, the decontamination process for chair side assistance, patient communication, landmarks recorded, decontamination of impression and communication required with the dental laboratory. These cases will be witnessed by a dentist. See support notes for further guidance on content of log.

A minimum of one case study (adult or child) must detail the dental nurse's role in the taking of alginate dental impressions for working/study models which includes patient management and consent. Evidence from this case study could contribute to the holistic assessment of outcome 1 and 2

Outcome 2

Explain the relevant legislation, health and safety requirements and professional guidance relating to the taking of alginate dental impressions.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ GDC Standards for the Dental Team
- ◆ GDC Enhanced Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- ◆ Role and responsibilities of the dental nurse in relation to the GDC Scope of Practice
- ◆ Legal and ethical considerations
- ◆ Issues around lone working

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ apply the relevant GDC standards for the Dental Team
- ◆ define the role and responsibilities of the dental nurse within the GDC scope of practice
- ◆ describe how to deal with situations outside own area of competence
- ◆ Explain the GDC requirements for Continuous Professional Development towards maintaining knowledge and skills within the clinical setting
- ◆ identify the factors required for obtaining and recording patient consent
- ◆ outline the risks associated with lone working
- ◆ describe the legislation and guidance governing the recording, storing, processing and accessing of patient information

Assessment Guidelines

This case study could be based on one patient case from outcome 1 to describe the contribution the candidate makes to supporting professional and legal standards.

The case study should include the outcome 2 evidence requirements to describe how the legislative requirements and guidance are followed within the candidate's own working area when taking dental alginate impressions.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

Outcome 3

Demonstrate the emergency support procedures for common medical emergencies which could occur in the dental surgery whilst taking alginate dental impressions.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Roles and responsibilities of the dental nurse in responding to medical emergencies
- ◆ Basic life support
- ◆ Paediatric life support
- ◆ Methods of dealing with a choking adult/child
- ◆ Management of common dental emergencies
- ◆ Organisational procedures for dealing with medical emergencies
- ◆ Limitations of experience and when/how to seek assistance
- ◆ Procedures for recording incidents

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills of

- ◆ basic life support procedures for an adult
- ◆ basic life support procedures for a child
- ◆ the management of a choking adult
- ◆ the management of a choking child
- ◆ the management of common dental emergencies that could occur whilst taking alginate dental impressions
- ◆ the limitations of the dental nurse's capabilities in the management of medical emergencies and identify when and how to get further assistance

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed by simulated practical exercises to allow the candidate to demonstrate competence in managing medical emergencies. The candidate will be required to explain the limitations of their professional expertise and when they would seek help. This may be assessed by observation and/ or questioning.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

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

Outcome 1

The role of the dental nurse during the taking of alginate dental impressions should include the following:

- ◆ Standard Infection Control Precautions, decontamination of the dental environment and Health and Safety requirements
- ◆ Instruments and equipment required during the taking of impressions
- ◆ Dental anatomy — including the structures of the oral cavity including the landmarks associated with a high-quality impression
- ◆ Patient management of adults and children including anxious patients and the likelihood of unpredictable behaviour
- ◆ Communication with other members of the Dental team
- ◆ Dental laboratory' role — including the information required by the laboratory, the time required for casting impressions etc.
- ◆ Content of the prescription
- ◆ Importance of Record keeping

Outcome 2

Relevant legislation, health and safety requirements and professional guidance should include:

- ◆ GDC Standards for the Dental Team
- ◆ Consent
- ◆ Data Protection and GDPR
- ◆ Freedom of Information
- ◆ Caldicott Principles
- ◆ GDC Scope of Practice
- ◆ GDC Continuing Professional Development
- ◆ Health and Safety at Work Act
- ◆ Control of Substances Hazardous to Health
- ◆ Protection of Vulnerable Groups
- ◆ Risks of lone working
- ◆ The transportation of bio-hazard material

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

Outcome 3

Role, responsibilities and boundaries of the dental nurse in responding to medical emergencies which include:

- ◆ Basic Life Support
- ◆ Paediatric Life Support
- ◆ Management of choking in adult and child
- ◆ Management of common medical emergencies in the dental environment such as fainting, asthma attack, angina attack etc
- ◆ Organisational protocols and procedures; record keeping

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Delivery should be student centred and take account of actual workplace experience. Centres should provide significant opportunities for candidates to demonstrate their achievement of the Outcomes. The required performance evidence could be gathered by observation, witness testimony, reflective log and product evidence.

Evidence for this Unit should be generated through assessment detailed as follows:

Outcome 1

This Outcome could be assessed by completion of a minimum of 20 patient cases which should cover a range of both adult and child cases, with a minimum of 5 adult cases and 5 child cases. The candidate will need to work in a clinical area that supports them to frequently take alginate dental impressions. The required performance evidence could be gathered by observation, witness testimony, reflective log and product evidence. The cases should be observed by the dentist.

Assessment Criteria Range:

- 15 alginate impressions for study models
- Dentate – 5 primary alginate impressions for working models

One case study of approximately 2000 words (or equivalent) for an adult or child patient detailing the candidate's role in the taking of alginate dental impressions for working/study models including patient management and consent. Outcome 1 can be assessed holistically with Outcome 2

Outcome 2

This Outcome could be assessed holistically with outcome 1.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

Outcome 3

This Outcome could be assessed by simulated practical exercises to allow the candidate to demonstrate competence in managing the medical emergencies listed. The candidate will be required to explain the limitations of their professional expertise and when they would seek help. This may be assessed by observation and/ or questioning.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

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

Opportunities for the use of 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 e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003), SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005).

Open learning

This Unit is not suitable for open learning due to the practical nature of the content.

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.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
04	Changes to evidence requirements outcome 1 & 2 to promote holistic assessment. This minimises over-assessment whilst maintaining the required standard.	06.02.23
03	Removed reference to unit being within Optional units in the Context for delivery section.	05/03/2019
02	Assessment criteria updated to remove requirement for 50 patient cases to be completed	12/03/2015

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General information for candidates

Unit title: Dental Impressions for Working or Study Models (Dentate)

This specialist Unit is designed to enable you to develop the knowledge, skills and practical application required to take alginate dental impressions for working or study models, working under the prescription of a Dentist. The unit is suitable for you if you are a registered Dental Nurse who is supported in a workplace setting to take alginate dental impressions under the GDC Scope of Practice.

This has **three** Outcomes and upon completion you will be able to:

- ◆ Define and demonstrate the taking of alginate dental impressions for working or study models
- ◆ Explain the relevant legislation, health and safety requirements and professional guidance relating to the taking of alginate dental impressions
- ◆ Demonstrate the emergency support procedures for common medical emergencies which could occur in the dental surgery whilst taking alginate dental impressions

There will be opportunities throughout this Unit to develop your core skills in *Communication*, *Working with Others* and *Problem Solving*.