



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

Unit code: F1ME 34

Unit purpose: On completion of this Unit the candidate will be able to demonstrate their awareness, understanding and knowledge of the dental team's professional responsibilities to the patient. This Unit promotes a safe environment for patient care and a positive attitude to preventative dentistry. The candidate will be introduced to regulatory body (The General Dental Council) and will develop their knowledge of patient care whilst taking account of relevant legal and ethical requirements.

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

- 1 Demonstrate and explain the maintenance of appropriate health and safety standards and infection control procedures.
- 2 Explain factors concerned with dental public health and compare the dental team's responsibilities.
- 3 Explain the law relating to laboratory records and the role of the General Dental Council in patient care and as a regulatory body for Dental Technicians.
- 4 Demonstrate competence in resuscitation and basic first aid.

Credit points and level: 1.5 HN credits at SCQF level 7: (12 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: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. It would be beneficial that candidates complete a locally devised programme of National Qualification Units in Dental Technology at SCQF level 5. Candidates could have completed an induction to dental technology course.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill(s) of Communication at SCQF level 6, Using Information Technology at SCQF level 6 and Problem Solving at SCQF level 6 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.

General information for centres (cont)

Assessment: The assessment of this Unit could be carried out holistically using a single instrument of assessment or it could be broken down into 4 separate assessment events that assess each Outcome (1–4) separately. Outcome 4 requires a practical assessment of competence.

If a holistic assessment approach is adopted the assessment event could consist of a number of restricted response questions, which may last no more than 2 hours and it may be carried out under supervised, controlled conditions. The holistic assessment excludes the competence assessment required for Outcome 4. The holistic and the competence assessment should be carried out at the end of the delivery of the Unit.

Where separate instruments of assessments are used these should take 45 minutes each.

Practical component requires the candidate to display competence in infection control, resuscitation and basic first aid.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

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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

Demonstrate and explain the maintenance of appropriate health and safety standards and infection control procedures

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Health and Safety Legislation
- ◆ Infection Control
- ◆ Safe working procedures

Evidence Requirements

Evidence must be provided for all parts of the Knowledge and/or Skills section. Each time the Outcome is assessed candidates will be required to:

- ◆ explain the responsibility of the dental technician to adhere to the relevant Health and Safety legislation

Candidates in a dental laboratory setting will be required to:

- ◆ demonstrate competent infection control within the laboratory including safe handling of and disposal of clinical waste
- ◆ demonstrate safe working procedures within the laboratory setting including requirement for eye, respiratory and hand protection

Assessment Guidelines

See Outcome 4.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

Outcome 2

Explain the factors concerned with dental public health and compare the dental team's responsibilities

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Oral health
- ◆ Disease prevention
- ◆ Health promotion
- ◆ The roles of the dental team

Evidence Requirements

Evidence must be provided for all parts of the Knowledge and/or Skills section. Each time the Outcome is assessed candidates will be required to:

- ◆ explain the role of the healthcare professional in influencing the sociological, behavioural, environmental, and economic factors that contribute to oral health
- ◆ explain the methods available for disease prevention and health promotion and their limitations
- ◆ compare the roles of the professional members of the dental team — Dentist, Dental Therapist, Dental Nurse, and Dental Technician

Assessment Guidelines

See Outcome 4.

Outcome 3

Explain the law relating to laboratory records and the role of the General Dental Council in patient care and as a regulatory body for Dental Technicians

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ European Medical Devices Directive (MDD)
- ◆ Dental laboratory records
- ◆ Consent
- ◆ Duty of care
- ◆ Confidentiality
- ◆ Role of the General Dental Council
- ◆ Continued Professional Development
- ◆ Lifelong Learning

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

Evidence Requirements

Evidence must be provided for all parts of the Knowledge and/or Skills section. Each time the Outcome is assessed candidates will be required to:

- ◆ explain the impact of the European MDD on the Dental Technician.
- ◆ explain the impact of the European MDD on the retention of laboratory records and the need for accurate laboratory records
- ◆ explain the dental technicians responsibilities in respect to patient consent, duty of care and confidentiality
- ◆ explain the key role that the General Dental Council plays with regard to patient care including its regulatory powers in respect to dental technicians
- ◆ explain the importance of Continued Professional Development and Lifelong Learning in the dental technology profession

Assessment Guidelines

See Outcome 4.

Outcome 4

Demonstrate competence in resuscitation and basic first aid

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Basic principles of Life Support
- ◆ Risks to the rescuer
- ◆ Precautions
- ◆ Resuscitation techniques

Evidence Requirements

Evidence must be provided for all parts of the Knowledge and/or Skills section. Each time the Outcome is assessed candidates will be required to:

- ◆ explain the 'Basic Principle' of basic life support including A, B, and C
- ◆ clarify the risks to the rescuer including environmental, infection, toxic substances
- ◆ identify the precautions used to eliminate risk
- ◆ demonstrate the resuscitation technique for a person requiring assistance

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

Assessment Guidelines for this Unit

The assessment could be carried out holistically as a single assessment that may last three hours. The assessment could be completed under restricted open-book conditions. Restricted open-book conditions means that the candidate is permitted access to a limited amount of materials, for example, one A4 sheet of notes. Candidate's notes could be submitted with the candidate's answer. The holistic assessment excludes the competence assessment required for Outcome 4. The holistic and the competence assessment should be carried out at the end of the delivery of the Unit.

It would be possible, if desired, to break this assessment down into four separate assessment events which assess each Outcome 1–4. Where separate instruments of assessments are used they should take 45 minutes each.

The practical component requires the candidate to display competence in infection control, resuscitation and basic first aid.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1ME 34

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

Superclass category: PF

Original date of publication: January 2008

Version: 01

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

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 60 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

The purpose of this Unit is to allow candidates to develop awareness, knowledge and understanding of the professional responsibilities of the members of the dental team to the patient.

It is envisaged that the teaching of this Unit could be delivered through lecturer mediated discussion, practical demonstrations and the reading of recommended texts. A list of topics for each Outcome is given below.

Outcome 1

Demonstrate competence in maintaining appropriate health & safety standards and infection control procedures in the dental environment.

This Outcome looks at the impact of various regulatory bodies and the professional responsibility of the dental technician ie Health and Safety Legislation, Infection Control, Safe working procedures.

Outcome 2

In this Outcome the candidate may be able to describe factors concerned with the dental public health and the dental team's responsibilities to the whole community.

This Outcome explores the impact factors on public health and the role of the dental team.

Outcome 3

In this Outcome candidates may demonstrate competence, within legal and ethical constraints, in maintaining accurate and confidential laboratory records that comply with the Medical Devices Directive.

This looks at the importance of maintaining accurate and confidential laboratory records to ensure compliance with the medical devices directive.

Outcome 4

In this Outcome the candidate should explain the role of the General Dental Council in patient care and its role as the regulatory body for the profession of Dental Technology.

The candidate will also demonstrate awareness of continuing professional development and the professions need to embrace the concept of Lifelong Learning.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

Outcome 5

This Outcome may require the candidate to demonstrate competence in basic first aid and resuscitation.

This is a practical Outcome where the candidate is expected to demonstrate competence in resuscitation and basic first aid.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

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

Assessment of this Unit could be carried out as a single assessment lasting two hours. The assessment could be completed under restricted open-book conditions. Restricted open-book conditions mean that the candidate is permitted access to a limited amount of materials, for example, one A4 sheet of notes. The holistic assessment excludes the competence assessment required for Outcome 4. The holistic and the competence assessment should be carried out at the end of the delivery of the Unit.

Alternatively it is possible to break this assessment down into four separate assessment events which assess each Outcome. Where separate instruments of assessments are used they should each last 45 minutes. Candidates could be permitted to bring with them one side of an A4 page of notes.

The practical component, Outcome 4, requires the candidate to display competence in infection control, resuscitation and basic first aid.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

In completing the class work of all Outcomes candidates may have the opportunity to develop the component 'Written Communication (reading)' of the Core Skill Communication at level 6. Candidates will have the opportunity to analyse and evaluate complex information from a variety of dental literature sources. The general Core Skill that the candidate may have to complete is 'Read and understand complex written communication'.

There are opportunities for the candidate to develop Using Information Technology at SCQF level 6 in this Unit. When candidates are involved in their own independent research practical work they will have an opportunity to develop the general skill 'Using an IT system independently to process a range of information'. Candidates may have to complete a number of internet searches to find information and keep their data secure and manage its storage.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dental Technology: Professional Responsibilities

There is also the opportunity for the candidate to develop the component ‘Critical Thinking’ of the Core Skill Problem Solving at SCQF level 6 while completing the class work of Outcomes 1, 2, and 3. In Outcome 1 the candidate could analyse the responsibilities of the dental technician within the laboratory setting for conforming to current health and safety, and biological hazard legislation. In Outcome 2 the candidate could analyse the responsibilities of the dental technician as part of the dental team in dental public health. In Outcome 3 the candidate is required to obtain a working knowledge of the current European legislation relating to Medical Devices, patient consent, confidentiality, and duty of care. The general Core Skill that the candidate may have to complete is ‘Analyse a complex situation or issue’.

Outcomes 1 and 5 may offer the candidate the opportunity to develop the component ‘Planning and Organising’ of the Core Skill Problem Solving at SCQF level 5. In Outcome 1 the candidate should demonstrate competent infection control within the laboratory in doing so the candidate will identify and obtain the necessary resources to allow them to complete the task. In Outcome 5 that candidate is required to demonstrate the assessment of a person requiring assistance, including basic life support. This task will involve the identification of the necessary resources, planning and implementation of the assessment. The general Core Skill that the candidate may have to complete is ‘Plan, organise and complete a task’.

The assessment of this Unit may also contribute towards the component ‘Written Communication (writing)’ of the Core Skill Communication at SCQF level 6. Candidates may have to structure their responses, which could include complex vocabulary, accurately and using a logical structure. The general Core Skill that candidates may have to complete is ‘Produce well-structured written communication on complex topics’.

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 of the centre concerned to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of the candidate evidence. Arrangements would need to put in place to ensure that the practical assessment for part of Outcome 1 and Outcome 4 takes place in a centre.

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 Technology: Professional Responsibilities

This Unit has been designed to develop your awareness, knowledge and understanding of the professional responsibilities of the members of the dental team to the patient.

The Unit has 4 main areas, each the subject of a separate Outcome. Firstly you will be looking at the impact of Health and Safety legislation. Next the factors that influence public health and the role of the dental team will be explored. Then the legal and ethical constraints of maintaining accurate and confidential laboratory records will be highlighted. Next you will discover the regulatory role of the general dental council and its role in patient care along with the importance of continued professional development. Lastly you will be required to demonstrate that you are competent at administering basic first aid and resuscitation.

On completion of this Unit you will be able to:

- ◆ demonstrate and explain the maintenance of appropriate health and safety standards and infection control procedures
- ◆ explain factors concerned with dental public health and the dental team's responsibilities to the whole community
- ◆ explain the law relating to laboratory records and the role of the General Dental Council in patient care and as a regulatory body for Dental Technicians
- ◆ demonstrate competence in resuscitation and first aid

The assessment of this Unit could be carried out as a single assessment lasting 2 hours. The assessment may be completed under restricted open-book conditions. Restricted open-book conditions mean that you are permitted access to a limited amount of materials, for example, one A4 sheet of notes. The holistic assessment excludes the competence assessment required for Outcome 5. The holistic and the competence assessment could be carried out at the end of the delivery of the Unit.

Alternatively this Unit may be assessed by four separate assessment events which assess each Outcome. Where separate instruments of assessments are used they may each last 45 minutes. You may be permitted to bring with them one side of an A4 page of notes.

The practical components requires you to display competence in infection control, resuscitation and basic first aid.