

NATIONAL EXAMINING BOARD FOR DENTAL NURSES



NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN DENTAL NURSING

Objective Structured Clinical Examinations Guidance Notes

National Examining Board for Dental Nurses
110 London Street
Fleetwood
Lancashire
FY7 6EU
Tel: 01253 778417

NEBDN is a limited company registered in England and Wales No. 5580200
Registered with the Charity Commissioners No. 1112331

Introduction

This document contains important guidance on the second part of the NEBDN National Diploma in Dental Nursing examination. **Any candidate preparing for the Diploma OSCE assessment should therefore read this document in full.**

The NEBDN National Diploma in Dental Nursing examination is split into two parts. The first part consists of a written paper, which candidates need to complete successfully to move on to the practical assessments.

The second part of the examination consists of a number of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) and is designed to assess the candidate's clinical skills and competencies. **Professional appearance and behavior will be assessed during the OSCEs, so it is important that candidates understand how they will be assessed on the day.**

OSCE Practical Assessment

The OSCE assessment is designed to assess the candidate's skills, competencies, and practical application of knowledge of various clinical situations.

The OSCE assessment will consist of a circuit of around 16 OSCE stations and each station will last approximately five minutes. Two of the stations will be rest stations where the candidate will be provided with refreshments. A candidate may begin or end their OSCE circuit at a rest station.

At each station the candidate will be required to undertake either a practical or a paper-based task. These tasks are linked to a competency within one or more of the four domains of the NEBDN Diploma Curriculum. A typical OSCE station consists of a clinical vignette and instructions for the candidate to complete the task. Candidates will have two minutes to read instructions describing the required task before entering the OSCE station.

Each OSCE station will include one Examiner whose role is to assess the candidate carrying out the task. Examiners will be observing and completing a set Mark Sheet as the candidate performs the OSCE. Examiners will not enter into dialogue with candidates but will ask for the candidate's name and number. Candidates are allowed to describe their actions if they so desire.

OSCE stations may include an Actor if required for the task and one or more observers for Quality Assurance purposes. Any observers will be merely looking at the process of the OSCE and will therefore have no impact on the marking of a candidate.

If a candidate completes the task within the five minutes allowed they will be asked to sit outside the station until it is time to move to the next station.

Candidates will be given a handbook containing copies of the OSCE instructions during the candidate briefing prior to the examination. You will be given time to read through each of the instructions but will not be able to discuss the content with other students. The handbook must be returned to an Examiner prior to starting your OSCEs.

Specimen OSCE Station - Oral health advice (partial denture)

Candidate instructions

This patient has just been fitted with his/her first partial denture. Please give them appropriate oral health advice, particularly with regard to oral hygiene, wearing and cleaning the denture.

An Examiner will observe you and award marks on your competency. The Examiner will not interact with you while you are undertaking your task.

Patient notes

You have recently had a number of teeth removed and a partial denture has been made to replace them. The dentist has just fitted your new partial denture and has asked the dental nurse to advise you about wearing and cleaning it. You do not have any particular concerns and will follow the advice given as long as you can clearly understand what you are being told (e.g. no technical jargon etc). The candidate should check that you understand the advice and ask if you have any questions. Unless there is something that you do not understand, you will not have any questions. However, if something is unclear then you should ask for clarification and an explanation. At the end of the encounter, please give your assessment of the candidate on form below. The examiner will also assess the candidate, but using different (technical) criteria. The candidate will probably complete this task without needing any prompting, if they are hesitant or nervous you may use any of the following prompts if necessary (but please do not lead the candidate – use prompts only if they stuck):

- “Do I have to take it out at night?”
- “Do I need to take it out of my mouth to clean it?”
- “What about soaking the denture overnight in Steradent or something similar?”
- “Can you show me how to clean the denture?”

Examiner notes

Please assess the candidates as they give oral health advice to a patient who has just been fitted for the first time with partial dentures.

Different weightings will be applied to different parts of the task, but this should not influence your ratings. ‘Above standard’ ratings are not available for some of the actions on the mark sheet. If a candidate needs a prompt from the patient, then they cannot score higher than ‘just below standard’ for that particular action.

Please also give a global mark to indicate whether you consider each candidate’s overall performance to have been above standard, meeting the standard, just below standard, or well below the standard.

You should greet the candidate on arrival and say ‘goodbye’ or ‘thank you’ at the end. You should not say anything else to the candidates. If prompts are needed they should come from the patient, who has been briefed about what to say. In particular, you should not ask candidates any questions.

Candidates have been given the following instructions:

This patient has just been fitted with his/her first partial denture. Please give them appropriate oral health advice, particularly with regard to oral hygiene, wearing and cleaning the denture.

The patient has been given the following instructions:

You have recently had a number of teeth removed and a partial denture has been made to replace them. The dentist has just fitted your new partial denture and has asked the dental nurse to advise you about wearing and cleaning it. You do not have any particular concerns and will follow the advice given as long as you can clearly understand what you are being told (e.g. no technical jargon etc). The candidate should check that you understand the advice and ask if you have any questions. Unless there is something that you do not understand, you will not have any questions, just say “no, I understand thank you”. However, if something is unclear then you should ask for clarification and an explanation.

At the end of the encounter, please give your assessment of the candidate on the form below. The examiner will also assess the candidate, but using different (technical) criteria. The candidate will probably complete this task without needing any prompting, but if they are hesitant or nervous you may use any of the following prompts if necessary (but please do not lead the candidate – use prompts only if they are stuck):

- “Do I have to take it out at night?”
- “Do I need to take it out of my mouth to clean it?”
- “What about soaking the denture overnight in Steradent or something similar?”
- “Can you show me how to clean the denture?”

Examiners’ Mark Sheet

Candidate reference **Examiner reference**

ACTION	Above standard	Meets standard	Just below standard	Not done
1. Introduces self to patient				
2. Explains the purpose of the encounter				
3. Gives appropriate advice on care of the denture:				
a) Remove from mouth to clean				
b) Leave out at night				
c) Separate brush and cleaner from natural teeth				
d) Clean over bowl of cold water				
e) Avoid hot water and bleach				

4. Care of remaining natural dental structures:				
a) warn of increased risk of dental disease with partial denture				
b) emphasise importance of oral hygiene, diet and regular dental attendance				
5. Use of demonstration aids				
6. Global rating				

Exam conduct

Candidates will be assessed on their professional appearance and behaviour. **Therefore all candidates need to wear their clinical uniform and comply with the NEBDN dress code for examinations (see page 7)**

1. Candidates shall not commence the OSCE until authorised to do so by the Presiding Examiner. Candidates must stop the OSCE when instructed.
2. No candidate shall be allowed to enter an examination room late or to leave an examination room early.
3. No candidate will be allowed to take into the examination room or have in their possession during an examination any notes, books or other reference material. The Presiding Examiner has the authority to confiscate such documents.
4. Candidates must not take into the examination room, or have in their possession during an examination, any radio or audio equipment or mobile telephone. The Presiding Examiner has the authority to confiscate such equipment until the examination has ended.
5. Candidates must not take into the examination any electronic calculator or other means of data storage or retrieval. The Presiding Examiner has the authority to confiscate such equipment until the examination has ended. If any of the above items are discovered part way through the examination the candidate will be disqualified and a report of their conduct forwarded to the General Dental Council.
6. Candidates must not take any foods or drinks into the examination. There will be two rest stations as part of the OSCE circuit, providing refreshments.
7. Candidates must not take any equipment, materials, or papers from the examination.
8. Candidates will be issued with a set of labels containing their Candidate name and number. One label must be given to the Examiner at each OSCE station
9. Candidates must not communicate with any other candidates during the examination.
10. The Examiner will not be able to read or explain any of the OSCEs. The OSCE assessing charting skills uses an MP3 player. If this piece of equipment is faulty then the examiner will read out the charting assessment for the candidate.
11. A candidate who disturbs or inconveniences other candidates shall be warned and may be removed from the examination by the Presiding Examiner.
12. Candidates must comply with the safety requirements of the room in which the examination is being held.

Entry to the Examination Centre

To gain entrance to the examination candidates MUST produce their Candidate Notice for the OSCE and an acceptable form of photographic identification.

The only forms of photographic ID accepted by NEBDN for entrance to the examination are:

- A valid passport
- An expired passport (can be used for up to 2 years after expiry)
- Photographic driving license
- Armed forces identity card
- CitizenCard *www.citizencard.com
- Government issued identity card (including NHS identity cards)
- SMART card
- Electoral identity card
- National Union of Students (NUS) photographic card
- University or College ID cards

Candidates who do not produce both the Candidate Notice and photographic ID may be refused access to the examination.

Fees

1. The fee for the OSCE is included in the initial application for the examination.
2. There will be an additional fee required for re-sits.

Conditions for transferring Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

1. Candidates do not have the option to defer the OSCE examination.
2. Candidates may only transfer an OSCE examination due to medical reasons, which must be supported by a relevant medical certificate or doctor's note.
3. All transfers will be subject to an administration charge.

Examination Cancellations

All examinations are subject to cancellation/ alteration/ postponement should circumstances make it necessary.

NEBDN is unable to reimburse costs for travel (flight/rail tickets etc) or accommodation in the event that an examination is cancelled at short notice.

Results

1. Candidates will be awarded a pass or fail.
2. Results will be issued directly to the candidate within three weeks of the examination date. Successful candidates will also receive an order form to purchase a qualification badge.

3. Training providers will receive a notification of Part 2 OSCE Notification of Results report.
4. Certificates are issued four weeks after the OSCE examination to candidates who have successfully passed both parts of the examination.
5. Successful candidates will receive information on statutory registration with the General Dental Council.

Re-sits

1. Unsuccessful candidates must contact their training provider to re-enter the next available OSCE examination.
2. An additional fee will be required in order to re-sit the OSCE.
3. Candidates can re-sit the OSCE within the three year validity period of the Record of Experience.
4. Candidates who fail to pass the OSCE within the three years will have to retake the whole examination including the Record of Experience. This will have to be undertaken with an accredited training centre.

NEBDN Examination Dress Code

Professional appearance and behavior will be assessed during the OSCEs:

1. Candidates should wear clinical clothing throughout OSCE assessments and should look clean and tidy with a good standard of personal hygiene. Clothes / clinical uniform should be free from obvious dirt and stains
2. Hair should be clean and tidy. Hair that falls below the collar should be secured away from the face in a style that does not need constant re-adjusting. Facial hair must be kept short, neatly trimmed or tidily secured
3. Only discreet tattoos should be visible. If offence could occur due to the design or style of any tattoo, it should be completely covered
4. Nails should be clean and well manicured. Candidates must have nails which are clean and unvarnished. False nails are not permitted
5. No jewellery should be worn except plain wedding bands. Candidates should wear no more than one pair of discreet plain ear studs and no more than one discreet nose stud
6. Footwear should be clean and in good repair; enclose the whole foot and be plain. Open toe shoes or sandals are not permitted