Instructional Framework

Dental Assisting

51.0600.00

This Instructional Framework identifies, explains, and expands the content of the standards/measurement criteria, and, as well, guides the development of multiple-choice items for the Technical Skills Assessment. This document corresponds with the Technical Standards endorsed on May 19, 2021.

Domain 1: Clinical Foundations Instructional Time: 30 - 40%	
STANDARD 5.0 MAINTAIN AND UTILIZE DENTAL INSTRUMENTS AND E	QUIPMENT
5.1 Operate and maintain operatory, lab, and sterilization equipment (i.e., autoclave, ultrasonic, lathe, model trimmer, etc.)	 Operatory, lab, and sterilization equipment Autoclave Ultrasonic Lathe Model trimmer Vacuum former X-ray machine Pano Digital sensors Handheld (Nomad) Intra-oral camera Curing light Vacuum Compressors Dental chair Handpieces High-speed Low-speed Lab Handpiece lubricating system
5.2 Identify types and functions of dental instruments used in a general dental practice (i.e., restorative, surgical, prosthodontic, hygiene, periodontal, endodontic, etc.)	 Types and functions of dental instruments Restorative Surgical Prosthodontic Hygiene



5.3 Maintain dental instruments and handpieces emphasizing their value to the practice/treatment	 Periodontal Endodontic Orthodontic Composite Cosmetic Instrument and handpiece processing Sterilization techniques Cost
5.4 Operate and maintain waterlines and evacuation systems	 Maintenance Dental unit water lines CDC guidelines
STANDARD 7.0 MANIPULATE DENTAL MATERIALS	
7.1 Mix and pour gypsum and trim models and casts (i.e., study models, bleaching tray casts, denture models, etc.)	 Study models Custom trays Bleaching tray casts Nightguards Mouthguards Retainers Denture models
7.2 Manipulate restorative materials and identify their uses and properties (i.e., amalgam, composite, etc.)	 Restorative materials Direct/in-direct Uses Properties Amalgam Composite
7.3 Manipulate dental cements and identify their uses and properties (i.e., permanent, temporary, interim restoratives, etc.)	 Dental cements Base Luting Liners Uses Properties Permanent Temporary Interim restoratives Sedative filling

7.4 Differentiate the properties and uses of impression materials, manipulate impression materials, and obtain an impression	 Impression materials Properties Uses Putty Vinyl Heavy body Light body PVS Polyvinyl Siloxane Hydrocolloid
7.5 Identify properties and uses of acrylics and/or thermoplastics (i.e., used in the fabrication of bleach trays, retainers, night guards, custom impression trays, etc.)	 Acrylics and/or thermoplastics Properties Uses Fabrication of bleach trays Retainers Night guards Custom impression trays
7.6 Identify properties and uses for provisional materials and describe methods for fabrication of provisionals and preformed crowns	 Provisional materials Properties Uses Methods for fabrication Direct/in-direct Example Acrylic
7.7 Identify properties and uses and manipulate commonly used waxes (i.e., utility, baseplate, etc.)	 Waxes Properties Uses Utility Baseplate Bite registration
7.8 Clean and polish removable dental appliances	 Dental lathe Pumice

7.9 Identify properties and uses of abrasive agents used to polish coronal surfaces of natural and restored teeth and appliances	 Ultrasonic cleaner Tartar and stain remover Dental appliance solution Abrasive agents Properties Uses Coronal polishing Polishing agent Pumice (grits) Polishing paste Aluminum oxide Silicone carbide Aluminum silicate
STANDARD 9.0 DEMONSTRATE CHAIRSIDE PROCEDURES FOR DENTIST	RY
9.1 Prepare and maintain aseptic working area for intraoral/extraoral procedures	 Infection control Intraoral/extraoral procedures Sterilization and disinfection Room setup and breakdown CDC guidelines
9.2 Apply principles of four-handed dentistry (e.g., instrument transfer, dental team and patient position, evacuation and maintenance of operating field, and ergonomics)	 Four-handed dentistry Instrument transfer Classifications of Motion Dental team and patient position
9.3 Assist with general procedures (i.e., direct and indirect restorations, simple extractions, fabrication of temporary crowns, etc.)	 General procedures Direct and indirect restorations Simple extractions Fabrication of temporary crowns Four-handed dentistry

9.4 Recognize the role of the dental assistant in specialty procedures (e.g., periodontics, endodontics, oral surgery, orthodontics, public health, prosthodontics, and pediatric dentistry)	 Specialty procedures Periodontics Endodontics Oral surgery Orthodontics Public health Prosthodontics Pediatric dentistry Six-handed dentistry
9.5 Prepare armamentarium (tray setup and operatory equipment) to assist in general dental procedures	 Tray setup and operatory equipment Basic Chairside Instruments Tray Systems Dental handpiece Composite
9.6 Select and manipulate dental materials for general procedures	 Dental materials Composite Alginate IRM Dental cement
9.7 Perform visual assessment of existing oral conditions	Landmarks of the face and oral cavity
9.8 Perform patient management practices (i.e., communication, comfort, assurance, etc.) to meet individual patient needs (i.e., anxiety, fear, pediatric, gag reflex, etc.)	 Patient management practices Communication Comfort, assurance Individual patient needs Anxiety Fear Pediatric Gag reflex Special needs
STANDARD 10.0 RECORD PATIENT ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT DATA	
10.1 Record medical and dental histories	 Medical and dental histories Electronic Tablet/signature pad Patient portal

10.2 Record existing intraoral and extraoral conditions	 Intraoral and extraoral conditions Clinical charting Electronic Manual
10.3 Record conditions diagnosed by the dentist	 Conditions Clinical charting Electronic Manual
10.4 Record treatment plan in patient's clinical chart	 Treatment plan Electronic Manual
10.5 Record treatment-related data in the patient's clinical record (e.g., treatment provided, anesthetic administered, post-operative instruction, reactions to treatment, medications administered and/or prescribed, and referrals)	 Clinical record Electronic Treatment provided Anesthetic administered Anaphylactic reaction Pre-operative instruction Post-operative instruction Reactions to treatment Potential Side effects Medications administered and/or prescribed Referrals
STANDARD 11.0 DEMONSTRATE TECHNIQUES OF PREVENTIVE DENTIS	STRY
11.1 Instruct patients on oral homecare and oral disease prevention	 Oral homecare and oral disease prevention Toothbrushing techniques Flossing techniques Oral Hygiene Instructions (OHI) Nutrition Tooth decay process
11.2 Differentiate the properties and explain the rationale for use of dental sealants	 Dental sealants Properties Uses

11.3 Differentiate the properties and explain the rationale for use of systemic and topical fluorides	 Fluoride Properties Uses
11.4 Apply anticariogenic treatment such as topical fluoride and dental sealants	 Anticariogenic treatment Topical fluoride Silver Diamine Dental sealants
11.5 Perform coronal polishing procedures	 Coronal polishing procedures Dental team roles Classifications of Periodontal Disease Periodontal Screening and Recording (PSR) Purposes Uses Types Infection control OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard Law and ethics Stain identification Intrinsic Extrinsic
11.6 Identify principles of nutrition essential for optimal oral health and lifestyle	 Principles of nutrition Vitamins Minerals Nutrition labels My Plate Nutrition Guide Eating disorder Bulimia Anorexia Nervosa
STANDARD 12.0 RECOGNIZE AND RESPOND TO EMERGENCY SITUATIONS	
12.1 Obtain, monitor, and record vital signs	 Vital signs Blood pressure Temperature Pulse rate Respiration

12.2 Recognize medical conditions that may impact dental treatment	 Medical conditions Cardiovascular Antibiotic prophylaxis Joint replacement Diabetes Asthma Pulmonary Allergies Psychological Seizures/epilepsy
12.3 Recognize common emergencies, emergency preventive measures, and emergency response strategies	 Common emergencies Vitals monitoring Preventive measures AED CPR certified personnel Emergency response strategies Emergency communication plan
12.4 Maintain certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) approved by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB)	 CPR approved by DANB American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) Heartsaver Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)

Domain 2: Infection Control

Instructional Time: 25 - 30%

STANDARD 3.0 DEMONSTRATE DISEASE PREVENTION, INFECTION CONTROL, AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

3.1 Differentiate between pathogenic and nonpathogenic microorganisms	Pathogenic microorganisms Non-pathogenic microorganisms Microbiology History Classification
3.2 Classify pathogens and their modes of disease transmission	 Pathogen classification Bacteria Viruses

	 Fungi Modes of disease transmission Aerosol Parenteral Direct/in-direct Chain of Infection Proper handwashing techniques
3.3 Describe infectious diseases and their relationship to patient safety and occupational risk	 Infectious disease Patient safety Occupational risk Standard precautions OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard CDC guidelines and recommendations OSAP (Organization for Safety, Asepsis, and Prevention)
3.4 Examine the need for immunizations for dental healthcare workers as a protection against infectious diseases	 Immunizations Hep B OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard CDC guidelines and recommendations
3.5 Perform hand hygiene protocols	 Hand hygiene protocols Department of Health CDC handwashing guidelines and recommendations BESC CDC modules
3.6 Select and use personal protective equipment as needed (i.e., gloves, mask levels, face shields, eyewear, etc.)	 American Dental Association (ADA) guidelines Department of Health CDC PPE guidelines and recommendations OSHA PPE recommendations Personal protective equipment Gloves Mask levels Face shields Eyewear
3.7 Demonstrate aseptic and nonaseptic techniques used in dentistry (i.e., sterile/nonsterile, clean/dirty, treatment and surgical rooms, reception area, dental lab, etc.)	 Aseptic and nonaseptic techniques Sterile/nonsterile Clean/dirty Treatment and surgical rooms Reception area

3.8 Select methods of aerosol management based on procedure (i.e., air/water combination, rubber dam, low volume and high-volume	 Dental lab Disinfection vs. Sterilization Surgical scrubbing, gowning, and gloving Sterile protocols Aerosol management Air/water combination
evacuation systems, etc.)	 Isolation techniques Rubber dam HVE (high-volume evacuation systems) LVE (low volume evacuation systems) CDC Guidance for Dental Setting OSHA Covid-19 Control and Prevention- Dental Settings
3.9 Perform instrument processing and sterilization	 Instrument processing and sterilization techniques Autoclave Ultrasonic cleaner Cold sterile Proper steps Equipment maintenance Instrument storage Sterilization monitoring techniques Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act
3.10 Apply methods of surface cleaning and disinfection	 CDC recommendations Clinical surfaces Critical Semi-critical Non-critical Examples: Environmental Housekeeping Clinical contact Initial contact Disinfection levels High Intermediate Low Methods of disinfection Spray - wipe - spray method

3.11 Comply with state and federal regulations for infection control and disease prevention	 Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Center for Disease Control (CDC) Arizona Dental Board American Dental Association (ADA) Department of Health Local/county regulations
3.12 Comply with the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard (29CFR- 1910.1030)	OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard
3.13 Adhere to the OSHA Hazard Communications Standard (29CFR- 1910.1200)	OSHA Hazard Communications Standard
3.14 Distinguish among agencies with guidelines for infection control (i.e., OSHA, CDC, OSAP, NIOSH, ADA, etc.)	 Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Center for Disease Control (CDC) Organization for Safety, Asepsis, and Prevention (OSAP) National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) American Dental Association (ADA) CPR recommendations American Heart Association (AHA) Red Cross Department of Health (DOH)

Domain 3: Dental Radiography Instructional Time: 20 - 25% STANDARD 8.0 DEMONSTRATE DENTAL RADIOGRAPHIC PROCEDURES	
8.2 Apply ALARA Principles for operator and patient safety (e.g., shielding, distance, proper techniques, and limited exposure by following prescription)	 ALARA Principles Operator and patient safety Shielding Lead apron Lead barrier Distance

	 Proper techniques Limited exposure by following prescription ADA Guidelines for prescribing dental radiographs
8.3 Identify components of radiographic equipment (i.e., tube, control panel, etc.)	 Tube Control panel Degrees Arm
8.4 Examine radiation exposure factors, identifying errors and corrections [e.g., exposure time, milliamperage, voltage, receptor placement, Position Indication Device (PID) angulation, etc.]	 Radiation exposure factors Exposure time Milliamperage Voltage Receptor placement Position Indication Device (PID) angulation Contrast Density Identifying errors and corrections
8.5 Perform various intraoral radiographic imaging techniques (i.e., bitewing, periapical, occlusal, etc.)	BitewingPeriapicalOcclusal
8.6 Explain extraoral imaging techniques (i.e., panoramic, CBCT, cephalometric, etc.)	 Panoramic CBCT Cephalometric
8.7 Identify radiographic anatomical landmarks and mount radiographic surveys (i.e., full mouth series, horizontal and vertical bitewings, pediatric exposures, etc.)	 Radiographic anatomical landmarks Full mouth series Horizontal and vertical bitewings Pediatric exposures Facial and oral landmarks Mounting radiographic surveys Labial Lingual
8.8 Interpret radiographic findings (i.e., pathologies, normal and abnormal anatomy, atypical landmarks, dental restorations, etc.)	 Radiographic findings Pathologies Normal and abnormal anatomy Atypical landmarks Dental restorations

	 Normal anatomy Identify normal anatomy
8.9 Describe storage and disposal of film, processing solutions, and hazardous/regulated waste	 State and local regulations EPA FDA OSHA

Instructional Time: 15 - 20%

4.1 Describe structures and functions of head and neck anatomy including bones, muscles, sinuses, salivary glands, nerve, lymphatic system, and blood vessels	 Structures and functions Head and neck anatomy Medical and dental terminology Introduction to body systems
4.2 Describe embryonic development of head, oral cavity, and teeth	 Embryonic development Tooth development Dentin Enamel Pulp
4.3 Identify dental anatomy, tooth morphology, tooth surfaces, and periodontium	 Dental anatomy Tooth morphology Bud stage Cap stage Bell stage Tooth surfaces Periodontium Medical and dental terminology
4.4 Select oral structures and landmarks	 Oral structures and landmarks Oral cavity Facial and oral landmarks Medical and dental terminology
4.5 Differentiate among dental numbering systems	Permanent and primary dentition

	 Universal Numbering System Palmer's Numbering System FDI System
4.6 Recognize and describe oral pathological conditions and their development (e.g., gingivitis, caries, periodontal disease, classifications of occlusion, and hard and soft tissue abnormalities)	 Oral pathological conditions Gingivitis Caries Black's Classification Periodontal disease Classification Classifications of occlusion Type 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Malocclusion Hard and soft tissue abnormalities Tori Cleft lip and palate Enamel hypoplasia Supernumerary Mesiodens Anodontia Dentinogenesis imperfecta
STANDARD 6.0 IDENTIFY FUNCTIONS OF PHARMACOLOGY AND ANEST	HESIA RELATED TO DENTISTRY
6.1 Identify drug agencies and regulations (e.g., EPA, FDA, and DEA)	 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Classification of drugs
6.2 Record dispensed or prescribed drugs in the patient's clinical record	 Prescription Parts Writing Regulations Terminology Documentation/recording Law and ethics Electronic records Prescription pads
6.3 Recognize drug references to identify drug actions, side effects, indications, and contraindications	 FDA- General Drug Categories DEA - Drug schedules

	Physician's Desk Reference (PDR)
6.4 Identify common drugs used in dentistry by their classifications (i.e., antibiotics, pain management, OTC, therapeutics, local anesthetics, etc.)	 Common drugs used in dentistry Antibiotics Pain management OTC Therapeutics Local anesthetics Common routes
6.5 Identify delivery methods of topical anesthesia	 Delivery methods of topical anesthesia Oral landmarks
6.6 Prepare syringes for the administration of local anesthetics [e.g., needle selection (block, infiltration, injection site) and use of vasoconstrictor]	 Needle selection Block Infiltration Injection site Use of vasoconstrictor Aspirating syringe technique Assembling/disassembling Disposal
6.7 Demonstrate safe handling of sharps [e.g., needles (contaminated and sterile) and anesthetic cartridges]	 Needles Contaminated Sterile Anesthetic cartridges Disposal Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act
6.8 Monitor patients and identify precautions and legal guidelines in the use of nitrous oxide-oxygen conscious sedation	 Nitrous oxide-oxygen Precautions Monitoring FDA NIOSH ADA Nitrous Oxide Guidelines Pregnancy Respiratory conditions Scavenging systems

Domain 5: Business and Legal

Instructional Time: 5 - 10%

Instructional Time: 5 - 10% STANDARD 1.0 DEMONSTRATE DENTAL OFFICE BUSINESS PROCEDURES	
1.2 Describe the function of a recall system	 Recall/recare system Function Frequency Tracking reports Automated systems Phone Text Email
1.3 Prepare and maintain patient clinical records	 Digital patient clinical records HIPAA Patient reports/summary Care/treatment plan Software systems
1.4 Prepare and maintain patient financial records	 Patient financial records Insurance information Financial arrangements Third-party care
1.5 Prepare and maintain inventory control and purchasing	 Inventory control Tagging system Stock rotation Purchasing Invoices Accounts payable

1.6 Recognize common terminology associated with third party payments	 Third party payments Care credit Patient portal
1.7 Describe public relations responsibilities of the dental team	 Professional communication and interaction Scripting/role playing Social media Etiquette Relations
1.8 Use front office business equipment (i.e., phone, computer, scanner, etc.)	 Phone Computer Scanner Copy machine Tablets Electronic signature pads
1.9 Maintain the dental office environment	 Open/close procedures Temperature Lighting Magazines Music Decor Ambiance Housekeeping Cell phone policy Voice volume
1.10 Receive and dismiss patients and visitors	 Professional skills Role plays Pre- and Post-Op Instructions Consent forms Continuation of care Scheduling/next visit (NV)
1.11 Identify psychological considerations influencing behaviors of dental patients	 Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Diversity Cultural influences Language barriers Personality profiles

1.12 Summarize dental practice business finances (i.e., accounts receivable, collections, overhead expenses, etc.)	 Accounts receivable Collections Legal process Third party collectors In-house Accounts payable Overhead expenses Labor Equipment Materials Utilities Business taxes
STANDARD 2.0 USE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TOOLS COMMONLY	FOUND IN DENTAL SETTINGS
2.1 Demonstrate basic computer hardware and software skills	 Hardware skills Computer Tablets Intra-oral camera X-ray machine CAD/CAM Software skills Digital imaging Electronic scheduling Electronic charting Electronic records
2.2 Identify technological tools to expedite workflow (i.e., word processing, databases, reports, spreadsheets, multimedia presentations, electronic calendar, contacts, email, internet applications, virtual platforms, etc.)	 Word processing Databases Reports Spreadsheets Multimedia presentations Virtual platforms Internet applications Electronic communication tools Electronic calendar Contacts Email Social media

2.3 Interpret information from electronic patient documents (e.g., referrals, lab tracking slips, prescriptions, and diagnostic data) and direct to appropriate entity for processing/treatment	 Referrals Clinical charts Diagnostic data Lab tracking slips Prescriptions Digital images
2.4 Employ dental management software to access, create, manage, integrate, and store dental practice information to increase workplace efficiency	 Dental management software
STANDARD 13.0 EXAMINE THE LEGAL AND ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES	S OF DENTAL PROFESSIONALS
13.1 Describe ethical considerations/obligations between the dental team-patient relationship	HIPAALaw and ethics
13.2 Explain risk management (i.e., OSHA, maintaining standard of care, avoiding professional negligence, recordkeeping, etc.)	 Risk Management OSHA ADA Standards Maintaining standard of care Avoiding professional negligence Recordkeeping
13.3 Discuss the Arizona State Dental Practice Act as it applies to the members of the dental team	Arizona State Dental Practice Act
13.4 Follow HIPAA laws related to the practice of dentistry	• HIPAA
13.5 Discuss local and state laws and rules related to the practice of dental assisting in Arizona (e.g., rules specific to supervision levels and Article 7)	 Rules specific to supervision levels Article 7 Direct Supervision General Supervision Indirect Supervision
STANDARD 14.0 KEEP CURRENT WITH SERVICES AND INDUSTRY TRENDS	
14.1 Identify sources for up-to-date information [i.e., journals, professional organizations (i.e., ADA, ADAA, etc.), professional websites, laws/statutes, rules, etc.]	 Journals Professional organizations ADA ADAA DANB

	 AZDA OSHA Professional websites Laws/statutes Rules
14.2 Identify the importance of continuing education for the profession	 Continuing Education Certification Renewals
14.3 Discuss the importance of participating and belonging to professional organizations (i.e., networking, mentoring, social communication, etc.)	 Professional organizations Networking Mentoring Social communication Community involvement Social media
14.4 Explore opportunities and career pathways in the profession of dentistry	 Career pathways Additional certifications EFDA Dental Technician Dental Hygienist Dentist Specialist Dental Sales Dental Lab Technician
14.5 Explore certifications and credentials that support careers in dentistry (i.e., certifications and credentials offered through Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners, Dental Assisting National Board, etc.) and how to maintain them	 Certifications and credentials offered through Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners Dental Assisting National Board Continuing education

