

NATIONAL DENTAL HYGIENE CERTIFICATION BOARD

FULL BLUEPRINT DISSECTION

Dentalelle Tutoring

Group 1A - 35-45% of the exam

Study Topics Needed

- Ethics
- Culture
- Autonomy
- Instrumentation
- Infection Control
- Hard/Soft Tissues
- Deposits
- Radiographs
- Medical Emergencies
- ADPIE
- Periodontal Maintenance

Group 1B – 25-35% of the exam

Study Topics Needed

- Standards of Practice
- Oral Pathology
- Pharmacology
- Vital Signs
- Medical Emergencies
- Head/Neck Anatomy
- Interpreting Radiographs
- Risk Factors for Disease
- Contraindicated Treatment
- Prioritize Client Needs
- Specialties
- Oral Self-Assessment
- Managing Pain and Anxiety

- Anticariogenic Agents
- Referrals

Group 2A – 16-25% of the exam

Study Topics Needed

- Communication
- Psychology and Sociology
- Nutrition
- Anatomy
- Biology
- Physiology
- Immunology
- Seniors
- Restorative
- Equipment
- Water Lines
- Indices
- Clients Knowledge and Beliefs
- Education
- Diet Practices
- Chemotherapies

Group 2B – 5-15% of the exam

Study Topics Needed

- Populations
- Oral Health Programs
- Budgets and Data
- Embryology
- Histology
- Orthodontics

- Pedodontics
- Oral Surgery
- Prosthodontics
- Disposal and Wastes
- Large Scale Outbreaks
- Demographic Data
- Governments
- Periodontal Dressings
- Sutures
- Impressions
- Sportsguards
- Intra/Extra oral Photos
- Family Care

Higher Frequency

Group 1A - 30 competencies

Group 2A - 30 competencies

Lower Frequency

Group 1B - 28 competencies

Group 2B - 29 competencies

Different competencies are selected from ALL categories
245 items in total with 180 items selected at random

Length - 4 Hours

200 questions and 180 are scored.

20 questions are experimental and NOT scored for the exam

Case based (case studies) with five or six items per scenario.

70-80% are independent and **20-30% are case studies**

Cognitive Abilities - each item is classified into three levels

1. Knowledge and Comprehension - 20-30% of exam

- The ability to remember previously learned material, definitions, facts and principles

2. Application - 45-55% of exam

- Apply learning to practical situations, rules, methods, theories and providing client care

3. Critical Thinking - 20-30% of exam

- Higher levels of thinking - synthesize information and solve problems. Relevant and irrelevant data, formulate valid conclusions and make judgments concerning client needs

Ages

Different client types

0-18 years of age = 20-40%

19-64 years of age = 30-50%

65+ = 20-40%

TABLE 5: CONTENT CATEGORIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PERFORMANCE PROFILE

CATEGORIES	Total Number of Competencies	Relative % Versus Complete Profile
PROFESSIONALISM - 1. Responsibility - 2. Accountability - 3. Continuing Competence - 4. Professional Relationships - 5. Client Relationships - 6. Practice Management	28	24%
FOUNDATIONS - 7. Foundational Knowledge - 8. Health & Safety	24	20.5%
ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS	28	24%
IMPLEMENTATION	20	17%
PLANNING & EVALUATION	17	14.5%

NATIONAL DENTAL HYGIENE CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

COMPETENCIES			
Group 1-A: 35-45% of items	Group 1-B: 25-35% of items	Group 2-A: 15-25% of items	Group 2-B: 5-15% of items
STRUCTURAL VARIABLES			
Examination Length and Format	It is a computer-administered examination. The examinee will have 4 hours to complete the examination. The examination consists of a pool of 245 operational and scored items, from which 180 objective items (i.e., multiple choice question) will be selected and scored for each examinee. <i>In addition</i> , another 20 experimental items will be tested for statistics gathering only (these items will not count towards the final score). The examination consists of 200 items in total.		
Item Presentation	70-80% independent items 20-30% case-based items		
Cognitive Ability Levels	Knowledge/Comprehension: 20-30% of items Application: 45-55% of items Critical Thinking: 20-30% of items		
Competency Categories	Responsibility Accountability Continuing Competence Professional Relationships Client Relationships Practice Management	Foundation Knowledge Health and Safety Assessment and Diagnosis Implementation Planning Evaluation	
CONTEXTUAL VARIABLES			
Client Age and Gender		Male	Female
	0 to 18 years	10-20%	10-20%
	19 to 64 years	15-25%	15-25%
	65+ years	10-20%	10-20%
Client Culture	Items are included that measure awareness, sensitivity, and respect for different cultural values, beliefs, and practices, without introducing stereotypes or biases.		
Health Care Environment	Since dental hygiene can be practiced in a variety of settings and most of the competencies are not setting dependent, the health care environment is only specified when required.		