

DENTAL COUNCIL OF INDIA

DENTAL HYGIENISTS
(Revised Course)

Effective from the academic Session – 1974 –75

- 1972 -

- (1) Basic principles for the maintenance of minimum educational Standard for Dental Hygienists;
- (2) Syllabus and Regulations for the Examinations for the grant of Certificate of Dental Hygienists.

**I. REGULATIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF MINIMUM
EDUCATIONAL STANDARD FOR DENTAL HYGIENISTS:**

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) and (2) and sub-clause (g) and (h) of section 20 of the Dentists act, 1948 (XVI of 1948) the Dental Council of India hereby make, after consultations with the State Governments, the following Regulations for the maintenance of minimum educational standard for Dental Hygienists, the same having been approved by the Central Government.

Dental Hygienist is person, not being a Dentist or a Medical Practitioner; who does Oral Prophylaxis, gives instructions in Oral Hygiene & Preventive Dentistry, assists the Dental Surgeon in chair-side work and manages the office. He/She shall work under the supervision of the Dental Surgeon.

In order the regularize and standardize the conferment of the qualification for Dental Hygienists, it is prescribed that:-

1. The Institutions wishing to start courses for Dental Hygienists should seek prior approval of the Dental Council of India.
2. The course of studies should extend over a period to two academic years and lead to the qualification of Dental Hygienist Certificate.

3. A separate course shall be arranged for the training of Dental Hygienists by the Institutions.

4. For the purpose of establishment of uniformity in Dental Education in this course throughout India, it is necessary that the course of instructions to be pursued in all the institutions should be standardized. To achieve this:-

- (i) a candidate should be at least 15 years of age at the time of admission or within 3 months of it and should be medically fit;
- (ii) a candidate must have passed at least Matriculation examination of a recognized University taking Science subjects or an equivalent recognized qualification.

5. The course of study and Regulations for the Certificate Examination and the Syllabus to be followed in each subject has been drawn up and appended.

6. Minimum requirements for Institutions imparting Training for Dental Hygienists:

1. The minimum hours devoted to the under-mentioned subjects shall be as follows:

Subject	Lectures	Practicals/Demonstrations/Clinical	Total
Primary			
(1) Anatomy, General and Dental.	50	100	150
(2) Physiology & Histology, General and Dental	20	40	60
(3) Materia Medicine General & Dental	15	10	25
(4) Pathology & Bacteriology General and Dental	30	70	100
(5) Dental Radiology.	10	40	50
(6) Food and Nutrition	30	40	50
(7) Dental Hygiene and Oral Prophylaxis	25	225	250
(8) English	--	--	65
(9) Office assistance, Practice management, Book-Keeping and Typing	30	100	130
(10)			
	Total		900

Subject	Lectures	Practicals/Demonstrations/Clinical	Total
Final			
(1) Dental Hygiene and Oral Prophylaxis	25	350	375
(2) (i) Dental Health Education; (ii) Social & Public Health Dentistry, (iii) Preventive Dentistry	50	200	250
(3) Operative Room Technique and Chair side Assistance	10	200	210
(4) Dental Ethics and Jurisprudence; Orientartion in Dentistry	15	--	15
(5) Dental Materials	10	10	20
		Total	870

- (2) The classes in different subjects of the curriculum should be taught exclusively for this course.
- (3) There should be atleast one Instructor for every 10 students working in the clinic at any given time.
- (4) There should be atleast one Instructor for every 20 students working in the technical Laboratories at any given time.

(5) For the teaching of dental subjects no persons except those holding recognized dental qualifications shall be employed as Instructors. For Clinical and Practical/Demonstrations persons holding recognized dental Hygiene Qualification shall be eligible.

(6) The institutions imparting training in this course must be possessed of the following minimum requirements:--

(i) One Histopathological laboratory equipped with sufficient number of microscopes for demonstration purposes.

(ii) Sufficient class rooms at least one of which must be equipped with a lantern for projection.

(iii) Sufficient Technical laboratories so that each student is provide with suitable facilities required for the course.

(iv) A dental hygienist clinic fitted with one dental chair, one dental unit/dental engine, a set of hand instruments separately for each student and adequate equipment for sterilisation.

(v) A suitable professional Library should be available to the students.

(7) Staff:

Assistant Professor (Full time)

Demonstrator. (Full time)

Other Staff As required.

Note: Appropriate Department to teach the Dental Hygienist Course: That in view of the difficulties experienced by the dental departments and dental teachers of dental colleges, the teaching of Dental Hygienist Course be entrusted to the Department of Periodontia.

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II. THE DENTAL HYGIENISTS (GRANT OF CERTIFICATE) REGULATIONS

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) read with clause (g) and (h) of Sub-Section (2) of Section 20 of the Dentists Act, 1948 (XVI of 1948) the Dental Council of India hereby make, after consultation with the State Governments, the following REGULATIONS the same having been approved by the Central Government namely.

These Regulations may be called the
DENTAL HYGIENISTS (GRANT OF CERTIFICATE) REGULATIONS

1. An Examination for the grant of Certificate of Dental Hygienists shall be conducted by a Board of Examiners appointed by the Institutions imparting training for qualification of Dental Hygienists and approved by the Dental Council of India and that atleast one of the Examiners must be external from outside that institution.

Note: Qualifications/eligibility to appointment as Examiners for Dental Hygienist Examinations.

1 a) He should be registered in Part 'A' of the Dentists Register maintained under the Dentists Act, 1948; and
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b) That medical persons teaching medical subjects may be appointed as Examiners for medical subjects even though they are not registered under the Dentists Act 1948.
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2. He should be an active teacher of the concerned course of in the concerned subject/s at a recognized dental/medical Institution.
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dt. 14.2.83) DCI -DE-54-82.

2. The examination shall be held twice a year, on such dates as may be fixed. The Examination shall consist of two parts; (1) Primary and (2) Final Certificate Examination.

THE PRIMARY EXAMINATION

3. The Examination shall be open to any student who

(a) has been enrolled during one academic year preceding the examination in an institution recognized by the Dental Council of India for this purpose.

(b) has passed not less than one academic the year preceding the examination the Matriculation Examination of a recognised University taking Science subjects or an equivalent recognized qualification.

(c) has his/her name, submitted to the Board of examiners, by the Head of the institution in which he/she is enrolled;

(d) Produces the following Certificates signed by the Head of the institution:-

i) of good character;

ii) of having attended not less than seventy-five percent of the full course of lectures delivered and practicals/demonstration/clinical conducted in each of the subjects of examination.

Provided that the head of the Institution shall have power to exclude any candidate from the examination if he is satisfied that such a candidate is not as fit person to be admitted thereto.

4. Every candidate shall forward his/her application to the Examining Body by a date fixed by that Body, accompanied by the prescribed fee. A candidate who fails to pass or present himself/herself for examination shall not be entitled to claim a refund of the fee.

5. Every candidate shall be examined in the following subjects comprising of three papers as follows:-

Paper I Anatomy, Physiology & Histology

Paper II Materia Medica, Pathology, & Bacteriology.

Paper III Food Nutrition & Radiology.

Marks for each of the papers shall be as under:-

Written 75

Oral 25

Practical 100

Total 200

Each written paper shall be of three hours.

6. Every candidate shall be required to take up all subjects of the examination. A candidate failing in any paper or papers of this examination before being permitted to reappear at the subsequent examination shall produce evidence of having pursued such a course of training as the Head of the institution may determine.

A candidate, who passes in any one or more papers under examination shall be exempted from appearing in which he/she has passed and shall be allowed to re-appear in the rest in which he/she has failed in any subsequent examination within a period of two years.

After two years the candidate will have to appear in all the papers of this examination.

7. The minimum number of marks required to pass the examination shall be fifty percent in each paper both in the (i) written and oral and (ii) practical parts of the examination.

Candidates who obtain minimum of seventy five percent of the marks in any paper shall be declared to have passed with distinction in a particular subject/s. Candidates who do not pass in all the papers of the PRIMARY EXAMINATION at one and the same time shall not be declared to have passed with 'distinction'.

8. As soon as possible after the examination the Board of Examiners shall publish a list of the candidates who have passed. Each successful candidate shall be granted a PRIMARY CERTIFICATE.

THE FINAL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

9. This examination shall be open to any student who-

- (a) has been enrolled during one academic year proceeding the examination in an institution approved by the Dental Council of India for the purpose;
- (b) has previously passed the Primary examination for the Certificate of Dental Hygienists:
- (c) has his/her name submitted to the Board of Examiners by Head of the institution in which he/she is enrolled;
- (d) Produces the following certificates signed by the Head of the Institution:
 - (i) of good character;
 - (ii) of having attended not less than seventy-five percent of the full course of lectures delivered and practical/demonstration/clinical conducted in each of the papers of the examination;
 - (iii) of having passed the PRIMARY EXAMINATION in all papers.

Provided that the Head of the Institution shall have power to exclude any candidate from the examination if he is satisfied that such a candidate is not a fit person to be admitted thereto.

10. Every candidate shall forward his/her application to the Examining Body by a date fixed by that Body, accompanied by the prescribed fee. A candidate who fails to pass or present himself/herself for examination shall not be entitled to claim a refund of the fee.

11. Every candidate shall be examined in the following subjects comprising of three papers as follows:-

Paper I : Dental Hygiene & Oral Prophylaxis.

Paper II : Dental Health Education, Social and Public Health Dentistry,
Preventive Dentistry.

Paper III : Operating Room Technique
Chair-side assistance and Dental Materials
Dental Ethics & Jurisprudence
Orientation in Dentistry

Marks for each of the papers shall be as under:-

Written 75

Oral 25

Practical 100

Total 200

Each written paper shall be of three hours.

12. Every candidate shall be required to take up all papers of the examination. A candidate failing in any paper or papers of this examination before being permitted to reappear at the subsequent examination shall produce evidence of having pursued such a course of training as the Head of the institution may determine.

A candidate, who passes in any one or more papers under examination shall be exempted from appearing in which he/she has passed and shall be allowed to re-appear in the rest in which he/she has failed in any subsequent examination within a period of two years. After two years the candidate will have to appear in all the papers of this examination.

13. The minimum number of marks required to pass the examination shall be fifty percent in each paper both in (i) written and Oral and (ii) practical parts of the examination. Candidates who obtain minimum of Seventy five percent of the marks in any paper shall be declared to/have passed with distinction in a particular subject. Candidates who do not pass in all the papers of the FINAL EXAMINATION at one and the same time shall not be declared to have passed with distinction.

14. As soon as possible after the examination the Board of examiners shall publish list of the candidates who have passed. Each successful candidate shall be granted a certificate of FINAL EXAMINATION.

III. SYLLABUS FOR THE DENTAL HYGIENISTS COURSE PRIMARY

(1) ANATOMY, GENERAL AND DENTAL

General structure of mucous membrane, bones, muscles, blood vessels, lymphatics, glands & nerves. Blood and nerve supply in relation to face in general and teeth and associated structures in particular.

Elementary knowledge of development of the jaws and teeth.
Structure, nomenclature and morphology of human teeth.
Eruption, re-sorption & occlusion of teeth.
Relationship of teeth with investing tissues.
Muscles of mastication and facial expression.
Temporo-mandibular Articulation.
Course and distribution of Vth and VIIth Cranial nerves.
Practical

Demonstrations on dissected body excluding extremities. Osteology of head and neck in general and face in particular.

Morphology of teeth.
Alveolar process of jaw bones.
Section of tooth in situ.

(2) PHYSIOLOGY & HISTOLOGY, GENERAL & DENTAL:
Cell structure of the human body.

Brief description of the histology and function of various dental and oral tissues e.g.
Gingiva, Periodontal membrane, Alveolar process, cementum, enamel, Dentine,
Nasymths membrane, Pule etc.

Salivary glands, ducts and their functions.
Composition and function of Saliva.

Mastication, deglutition & Phonation.

General outlines of the physiological processes of the human body-particularly
circulatory.

Practical

Study of prepared histological slides of oral and dental tissues. Sections of a tooth.

Routine blood and urine examination.

(3) MATERIA, MEDICA, GENERAL & DENTAL:

Brief descrintion, nomenclature, derivation, dosage, pharmacological action and
therapeutic uses of drugs commonly used in dentistry.

Practical:

Preparation of gum paints, mouth washes and dentifices.

(4) PATHOLOGY & BACTERIOLOGY, GENERAL AND DENTAL:

General principles of Pathology –
Inflammation, degeneration and repair.

Application of general principles of pathology to tooth and surrounding tissues.

Dental Anomalies.

Attrition, Abrasion and Erosion.

Oral manifestation of systemic diseases, like diabetes, syphilis, anaemia, vitamin deficiencies and infectious diseases.

Neoplasm with reference to oral cavity.

Elementary knowledge of Bacteriology, Asensis, Infection, Immunity, Brief description of pathology and Bacteriology of dental caries and gingival affections.

Practical

Study of prepared pathological and bacteriological slides relating to oral and dental conditions.

Clinical demonstration of oral and dental manifestation of systemic disorders.

(5) DENTAL RADIOLOGY:

Fundamental and elementary principle of dental Radiology.
Technical aspects of Dental Radiographs i.e. the taking, processing and mounting of Dental Radiographs

Practical:

-Taking, processing and mounting of Dental Radiographs.

- Radiation Hazards.

(6) FOOD AND NUTRITION: Lectures and Practicals:

Basic 'food chemistry' in relation to general and Oral Health.

Carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins, minerals and water in relation to dental and oral Health.

General food requirements for growth, maintenance and repair of the body.

Assessment & charting of individual diet & counseling.

Effect of mal-nutrition on oral health.

Special diet and its administration in maxillofacial injury cases.

(7) DENTAL HYGIENE AND ORAL PROPHYLAXIS (Primary of Final)

Definition of Hygiene

Objectives of Dental Hygiene

Oral Prophylaxis – Various methods.

Strains on teeth – extrinsic, intrinsic and their management.

Dental plaque.

Dental Calculous.

Brief description and the role of Oral Prophylaxis in Gingivitis, periodontitis, periodontal and alveolar abscess, stomatitis, gingivosis and Parodontosis.

Clinical:

Instruments, technique of Oral Prophylaxis Destaining and polishing of teeth. Topical application of flourdes. Care of oral cavity and appliances during treatment of maxillofacial cases.

(8) ENGLISH:- Theory and Practical

Elementary grammer, essay, précis, composition, and conservation.

(9) OFFICE ASSISTANCE, PRACTICE MANAGEMENT, BOOK KEEPING AND TYPING:

General office routine, economics, book-keeping typing establishment in private practice, record keeping-services rendered and its financial aspects. Professional referrals

FINAL

(1) DENTAL HYGIENE AND ORAL PROPHYLAXIS:

- Combined courses at para 7 above.

(2) DENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION, SOCIAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY & PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY:

Definition of Health and Dental Health

Aims and objects of Dental Health Education.

Dental Health and Children.

Dental Health Education-Parents, mothers (anti and post-natal), infants pre-school
Children and grownups Handicapped children.

Dental caries- Prevalence and Prevention.

Periodontal Diseases.
Saliva in relation to dental health and disease.
Dietio habits and dental Health.
Habits and malocclusion.
Oral Cancer.

Brief outline of historical background of public Health, History of dentistry and Public
Health Services. Dental Health Team in relation to community health.

Practical:

Preparation of models of jaws and teeth-normal and pathological dental conditions.

Designing, drawing and painting of posters on dental health education.

Procedure for arranging short talks, drams and features on dental and oral health. Visual
aids.

(3) OPERATING ROOM TECHNIQUE AND CHAIR-SIDE ASSITANCE AND (LECTURES AND PRACTICALS)

Reception of patients
Lay-Out of Reception Room.
Conversant with lay out of Dental Surgery and Hygienists Clinic.

Chair-side assistance and technique.
Clinical/Operating Room Technique
Local anaesthetic and equipment
Methods of sterilization and cars of dental instruments
Basic principles in Surgery
The use of instruments in dental practice
Examination and charting of teeth, gingivi, Oral Cavity
Instruction to patients and recalls

(4) DENTAL ETHICS, JURISPRUDENCE AND ORIENTATION IN DENTISTRY (Theory & Practical)

Dentists Act, 1948 as it relates to registration or Dental Hygienists and Dentists.

Legal impositions in relation to dental practice, code of ethics.

Place and function of dental profession in the society and discussion of economic problems involved therein.

Social factors in Dental Progress, income and living standard of people.

Objective and scope of dentistry.

Dental specialities

(5) DENTAL MATERIALS: (Theory & Practical)

General knowledge of various materials used in Dentistry as impression materials, gypsum products waxes, investing materials and various filling materials-Temporary and Permanent.