

Diploma in Implant Dentistry Examination of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (D. Imp. Dent. RCSEd)

GUIDANCE FOR CANDIDATES

October 2019

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document contains the Guidance for Candidates for the Diploma in Implant Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Further information can be obtained from the Examination Section:

Examinations Section

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- 1.2 All parts of the examination are conducted in English.

2 THE STRUCTURE OF THE EXAMINATION

The Examination consists of four components. Each component must be passed independently with no compensation permitted between components. Each component of the examination is standard set by a panel of examiners prior to the examination which is revalidated once every 3 years or sooner should the need arise. Candidates will need to pass each component of the examination to gain an overall pass.

2.1 **Component 1: Written Examination**

- 2.1.1 The aim of this component of the examination is to test knowledge and its application in relation to the provision of implant treatment that underpins direct patient care. The examination will cover the range of topics included in the Learning Outcomes itemised in **Appendix A**.
- 2.1.2 This component consists of 2 written papers, of 90 minutes' duration each (total 180 minutes). The papers will be machine marked and compensation between papers is allowed.
- 2.1.3 Each paper will consist of single best answer (SBA) questions aimed at testing the application of knowledge. After reading a statement, you should select the single best answer from a list of options. The answer paper should be filled in according to instructions given at the start of the papers. There will be a maximum number of 90 questions per paper. Both papers will be standard set by a panel of examiners.
- 2.1.4 Candidates are awarded a pass or a fail as determined by the standard setting exercise carried out by the Panel of Examiners.

2.1.5 Sample SBA questions:
These are given in **Appendix C**.

2.2 Component 2: Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) - Communication

2.2.1 This component is aimed at enabling the candidate to demonstrate communication skills in the context of implant treatment as specified in the Learning Outcomes. The examination will cover the range of topics included in the Learning Outcomes itemised in **Appendix A**.

2.2.2 The examination consists of a series of 10 short stations. Each station will last 7 minutes which includes 2 minutes reading time for the candidate instructions prior to the start of the station, and 5 minutes for the station.

2.2.3 The focus of the stations will be on communication skills and will cover 5 domains: **Humanism** (patient centred, engages on an emotional level); **Professionalism** (remains professional at all times); **Communication** (explaining / imparting); **Communication** (listening), all of which are marked by the examiner/s. The fifth domain **Inspires Confidence** is marked by the actor or standardised patients. You will be given clear instructions on each scenario to be executed. You may be asked to clearly communicate and explain the process and / or procedure or defend using evidence-based approach the treatment proposed or carried out. In this component candidates will be assessed on the communication of relevant information as well as their empathy.

2.2.4 You will have 2 minutes to read the candidate instructions before you enter the station. You will have 5 minutes inside the station to proceed as per the candidate instructions. The candidate instructions and documents will also be available inside the station. A bell will ring at the end of the reading time when you enter the station and at the end of the 5 minutes when you should exit the station. You will rotate around each of the stations in the circuit for the given time. If you have finished early you should remain in the station and wait until the bell rings for the next round.

2.2.5 All stations are undertaken in a 'simulated' environment and "standardised patients" will be actors. Each station will have an examiner who will mark your performance against a standardised mark sheet. The examiners and the 'patient' (actor) will have been given a detailed brief about the station and what they are expected to do. Examiners will not communicate with you unless the expected task asks them to. Depending on the nature of the scenario the 'patient' may be asked to award a mark. Occasionally you may have an examiner who is observing the station. This examiner will not mark you.

2.2.6 The 10 stations will each carry equal weight. A 5-point marking scheme based on the 5 skill domains will be used with a maximum of 5 marks available for each of the skill domains. An average score of 3 is required across all domains and stations to pass this component. A global mark is used for ongoing quality assurance.

2.2.7 At some diets, there may be an extra 'pilot' station at which a new clinical scenario will be tested for possible use at a future diet. The mark awarded at a pilot station will not contribute to your final overall mark.

2.2.8 After your examination you may be required to remain in the examination centre for a short time while other candidates are examined. **You should be aware that candidates may be sequestered during and after finishing a component. This is a necessary policy for the integrity of the examination, however candidates will be released each time as early as the examination timetable allows. Refreshments will be provided during any period of sequestration.**

2.2.9 Sample Communication OSCE scenario:

This is given in **Appendix D**.

2.3 Component 3: Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) – Practical & Procedural Knowledge & Skills

2.3.1 The aim of this part of the examination is to assess your practical skills in the context of implant treatment as specified in the Learning Outcomes. **Appendix A.**

2.3.2 The examination consists of a series of 10 short stations. Each station will last 7 minutes which includes 2 minutes reading time for the candidate instructions prior to the start of the station, and 5 minutes for the station.

2.3.3 The focus of the stations will be on either undertaking a practical task or an explanation of the steps required for a procedure. You will be given clear instructions on the task you have to undertake on a simulated model. Candidates will be assessed on their ability to undertake the task or describe the steps for a procedure.

2.3.4 You will have 2 minutes to read the candidate instructions before you enter the station. You will have 5 minutes inside the station to undertake the task as per the candidate instructions which will also be available inside the station. A bell will ring at the end of the reading time when you enter the station and at the end of the 5 minutes when you should exit the station. You will rotate around each of the stations in the circuit for the given time. If you have finished early you should remain in the station until the bell rings.

2.3.5 All practical skills will be undertaken using 'simulated' models and equipment. Each station will have an examiner who will mark your performance against a standardised mark sheet. The examiners will have been given a detailed brief about the station and what you are expected to do. Examiners will not communicate with you unless the expected task asks them to. Occasionally you may have an examiner who is observing the station. This examiner will not mark you.

2.3.6 The 10 stations will each carry equal weight. Some stations may have a greater degree of difficulty than others, but this will be reflected in the passing standard which is determined by the Panel of Examiners prior to the examination.

- 2.3.7** Each station carries a total of 10 marks and each is marked using a check list marking scheme with a yes/no outcome for a number of objectives against the task expected of the candidate. A global mark is used for ongoing quality assurance.
- 2.3.8** At some diets, there may be an extra 'pilot' station at which a new practical skill will be tested for possible use at a future diet. The mark awarded at a pilot station will not contribute to your final overall mark.
- 2.3.9** After your examination you may be required to remain in the examination centre for a short time while other candidates are examined. **You should be aware that candidates may be sequestered during and after finishing a component. This is a necessary policy for the integrity of the examination, however candidates will be released each time as early as the examination timetable allows. Refreshments will be provided during any period of sequestration.**
- 2.3.10 Sample Practical & Procedural Knowledge & Skills OSCE scenario:**
This is given in **Appendix E**.

2.4 Component 4: Structured Oral Examination on Clinical Scenarios

- 2.4.1** The purpose of this part of the examination is to test reasoning, clinical judgement and decision-making skills across the breadth and depth of managing a case simulating a 'live situation' requiring implant treatment at the level of a general dental practitioner. It will also test the candidate's understanding of the impact of their clinical and management decisions on the long-term treatment outcome. The examination will cover the range of topics included in the Learning Outcomes itemised in **Appendix A**.
- 2.4.2** This component will consist of a series of 15-minute structured oral examinations each of a single simulated case. There will be a 10-minute preparation time preceding each structured oral examination where you will examine the patient history, results of the clinical examination and investigations and / or supporting material (eg radiographs, scans, laboratory investigations, photographs, study casts, wax ups). This will be followed by a structured oral examination lasting 15 minutes during which you will be tested across the breadth and depth of five skill domains.
- 2.4.3** You will be allowed to make your own notes for each of the cases during the preparation time and will be able to take these into the oral examination. At the end of the examination, the notes will need to be left in the examination room.
- 2.4.4** There will be 8 simulated cases each lasting 25 minutes inclusive of 10 minutes preparation time. There will be a 5-minute break in between cases. The cases will be marked in the 4 skill domains of **Clinical Interpretation and Reasoning, Clinical Decision Making and Treatment Planning** (including consent), **Decision Making in Relation to Treatment Procedures** (surgical placement & prosthetic reconstruction), **Interpretation & Problem Solving of Clinical Outcomes** as outlined in the Learning Outcomes in **Appendix A**.

- 2.4.5** A 5-point marking scheme based on the 4 skill domains will be used with a maximum of 5 marks available for each of the skill domains (20 marks per examiner per case). You must achieve an average score of 3 across all the domains and cases to pass this component of the examination.
- 2.4.6** For each case there will be 2 examiners who will conduct the structured oral examination. You should expect to answer detailed questions, and your marks will be awarded using a standardised marking sheet.
- 2.4.7 Sample Clinical Scenario for Structured Oral Examination**
This is given in **Appendix F**

3 Candidate Self Declaration of Experience and Training

- 3.1** Candidates will be expected to submit a **signed self-declaration (Appendix B)** confirming that they have undertaken the following:
- Completion of a minimum of 15 cases with surgery either personally performed or under supervision (mentor observing). 2 of the cases should have a minimum of 1 year follow up. The case mix should include:
 - four cases with single unit replacements
 - a combination of multiple implants in different quadrants of the mouth or 2 implants supporting a 3-unit bridge
 - at least 1 edentulous case
 - at least 5 cases demonstrating some evidence of minor augmentation
 - A minimum of 30 hours of Implant Dentistry related CPD with reflections within the past 18 months
 - Completion of a quality improvement project related to Implant Dentistry within the past 18 months
- 3.2** The signed statement should be submitted to the College at the address below, or electronically by email:

Examinations Section
The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh
Nicolson Street
Edinburgh, EH8 9DW
Scotland
Phone +44 0131 527 1600
implantdentistry@rcsed.ac.uk
www.rcsed.ac.uk

Failure to submit this statement means you would not be eligible to sit the examination.

4 GENERAL INFORMATION

- 4.1** The whole examination is normally conducted in the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9DW or other nominated centres internationally.
- 4.2** Candidates should note that no practical work on patients will be required during the examinations.
- 4.3** Any candidate failing the examination may request confidential advice concerning any additional training which may be beneficial before attempting the examination again.
- 4.4** To facilitate the assessment of non-verbal communication skills and interaction with the examiner and patient (or actor in the role of the patient as the case may be), the College reserves the right to require candidates for the OSCE and structured oral examination components to remove any clothing and/or other item which covers all, or part of, the candidates face.

5 LIST OF APPENDICES

- A. Learning Outcomes and Blueprint**
- B. Candidate Self Declaration of Experience and Training**
- C. Sample SBA Questions**
- D. Sample Standardised OSCE – Communication Station**
- E. Sample Standardised OSCE – Practical & Procedural Knowledge & Skills Station**
- F. Sample Simulated Case**