

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. List the responsibilities of the dental assistant.
2. Examine the landmarks of the head and neck.
3. Support strategies for the prevention of oral disease.
4. Adopt methods for infection control in the dental office.
5. Devise clinical treatment plans based on the patient's needs and dental record.
6. Determine appropriate steps for clinical procedures.
7. Develop diagnostic radiograph images for patient care.
8. Debate dental material selection most appropriate for varied dental procedures.
9. Describe the common dental services.
10. Indicate a commitment to the quality of the dental assisting profession.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES BY CHAPTER & TOPIC:

Upon completion of each instructional unit, the student should be able to:

1. Chapter 1; "The Dental Assisting Profession":
 - A. Describe the importance of patient confidentiality in a dental office.
 - B. Formulate strategies for risk management in dentistry.
 - C. Name the educational requirements for dental assistants.
 - D. State the various job opportunities available to dental assistants.
 - E. Propose resolutions for ethical dilemmas in the dental setting.
2. Chapter 2; "Sciences in Dentistry":
 - A. Diagram the stages of development of a tooth.
 - B. Discuss the structure, function and location of the lymph nodes of the head and neck.
 - C. Develop a patient odontogram based on radiographs and clinical presentation of the dentition.
 - D. Compare and contrast the features of the primary and permanent dentitions.
 - E. Reflect on the anatomy of the head and neck when providing dental services affecting these regions.
3. Chapter 3; "Oral Health and Prevention of Dental Disease":
 - A. Defend the CAMBRA strategy for caries management.
 - B. Debate the safety and effectiveness of fluoride for caries prevention.
 - C. Identify the role of diet and nutrition in oral health.
 - D. Correlate the connection between oral and overall health.
 - E. Recommend home care strategies for the prevention of oral inflammation.
4. Chapter 4; "Infection Prevention in Dentistry":
 - A. Devise a method of dental operatory decontamination to reduce risk of disease transmission.
 - B. Distinguish between the methods and results of disinfection and sterilization.
 - C. Correlate sterilization techniques with resultant exposure risk considerations for employees.
 - D. Interpret water line bacterial loads for decontamination considerations.
 - E. Exemplify cross-contamination prevention in the dental office.

5. Chapter 5; "Patient Information and Assessment":
 - A. Modify the dental chart using charting symbols.
 - B. Propose dental management techniques for the medically compromised patient.
 - C. Name the drugs commonly prescribed in dentistry.
 - D. Determine the actions required by the dental assistant during a patient medical emergency.
 - E. Avoid patient treatment errors through careful review of patient records.
6. Chapter 6; "Foundation of Clinical Dentistry":
 - A. Explain instrument transfer between operators.
 - B. Label common restorative instruments.
 - C. Categorize burs by use.
 - D. Select the isolation equipment needed for proper moisture control.
 - E. Demonstrate a commitment to thoroughly documenting anesthesia use.
7. Chapter 7; "Radiographic Imaging":
 - A. State the concept of ALARA.
 - B. Distinguish the type and placement of radiographs needed based on patient history.
 - C. Critique Panoramic images for technique flaws.
 - D. Judge sensor size needs based on patient size.
 - E. Adopt ALARA methods in reducing patient x-ray exposure.
8. Chapter 8; "Dental Materials":
 - A. Recite the properties of dental materials.
 - B. Propose dental impression types based on planned laboratory procedure.
 - C. Describe the application of composite resin materials for dental restorations.
 - D. Separate the steps of differing dental cement applications.
 - E. Dispute the use of restorative dentistry for incipient caries lesions.
9. Chapter 9; "Assisting in Comprehensive Dental Care":
 - A. Recite the steps of cavity preparation.
 - B. Modify tray preparation according to procedure.
 - C. Differentiate the services of dental specialists.
 - D. Order the steps of a crown procedure.
 - E. Advocate for the referral of patients when treatment needs exceed the scope of practice of the clinic.
10. Chapter 10; "Dental Administration and Communication Skills":
 - A. Modify patient and operator positioning for optimal ergonomics.
 - B. Propose methods for de-escalating a confrontation with an upset patient.
 - C. Create a resume to market your dental assisting skills.
 - D. Defend your value as a valuable member of the dental team.
 - E. Promote a positive clinical atmosphere.