

Chapter 01: Introduction to Dental Assisting

Robinson & Bird: Essentials of Dental Assisting, 6th Edition

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Which is a member of the dental healthcare team?
 - a. The dental assistant
 - b. The dentist
 - c. The dental supply person
 - d. Both the dental assistant and the dentist

ANS: D

Both the dental assistant and dentist are members of the dental healthcare team. The dental supply person provides an important support service but is not a member of the dental healthcare team.

DIF: Recall REF: p. 4 OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.VII.D.2.d.legal responsibilities of the dental assistant in relation to the state dental practice act

2. The American Dental Association (ADA) recognizes how many dental specialties?
 - a. Five
 - b. Seven
 - c. Nine
 - d. Eleven

ANS: C

The ADA currently recognizes nine dental specialties, as opposed to five, seven, or eleven.

DIF: Recall REF: p. 5 OBJ: 3 MSC: CDA Exam: NA

3. Which dental team member is legally responsible for the care of the patient?
 - a. Dentist
 - b. Dental hygienist
 - c. Dental assistant
 - d. Dental laboratory technician

ANS: A

The dentist is licensed to assess the oral health needs of the patient and is legally responsible for the patient's care. A registered dental hygienist or assistant may only perform duties as delegated by the dentist under the state practice act. The dental laboratory technician does not work directly with patients and is not legally responsible for their care.

DIF: Recall REF: p. 4 OBJ: 1

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.VII.D.2.g.responsibilities and/or obligations of the dentist and patients in the dentist-patient relationship

4. Which is required before a dental laboratory technician can make an appliance?
 - a. A prescription from the dentist
 - b. A model of the case
 - c. Radiographs

d. A phone call or fax from the dental office

ANS: A

A dental laboratory technician must have a written prescription from the dentist before making any type of dental appliance. While radiographs are not usually part of a dental laboratory case, a model may be required, but it cannot be used until the prescription is received. A dentist may place a phone call or send a fax to discuss a case, but neither can substitute for a written prescription.

DIF: Comprehension

REF: p. 8

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.IV.B.demonstrate an understanding of laboratory procedures

5. The minimal amount of advanced training required beyond dental school to specialize is:
- 1 year
 - 2 years
 - 4 years
 - 6 years

ANS: B

An additional 2 years of advanced training is the minimal requirement to specialize in dentistry. Specialty training ranges from 2 to 6 years beyond dental school; 1 year is insufficient for any dental specialty, and although some specialties require 4 to 6 years, a dentist may specialize in some areas of dentistry with only 2 years of advanced training and education.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 4

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: NA

6. Which is used to trim models?
- Vacuum former
 - Laboratory work pan
 - Dental lathe
 - None of the above

ANS: D

A model trimmer is used to trim study models and diagnostic casts, whereas a vacuum former is used to create custom trays, a laboratory work pan stores parts of individual cases, and a lathe is used to grind or polish precious metals and acrylic dentures.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 9

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.IV.B.3.fabricate diagnostic casts (e.g., trimming and finishing)

7. Which specialist diagnoses and treats the oral tissues that support and surround the teeth?
- Orthodontist
 - Endodontist
 - Periodontist
 - Oral pathologist

ANS: C

A periodontist specializes in the treatment of oral tissues that support and surround the teeth, whereas an orthodontist prevents and corrects dental malocclusion and misalignment, an endodontist treats injuries of the pulp, and an oral pathologist performs biopsies to determine the nature of an oral disease.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 5

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: NA

8. The physicist who discovered x-rays in 1895 was:
- Ida Gray-Rollins
 - Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen
 - C. Edmund Kells
 - Jessica A. Rickert

ANS: B

Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen, a Bavarian physicist, discovered x-ray beams in 1895. Ida Gray-Rollins was the first African American woman to earn a dental degree in the United States. C. Edmund Kells is recognized as the first dentist to hire an assistant. Jessica A. Rickert was the first female Native American dentist.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 2

OBJ: 2

MSC: CDA Exam: NA

9. The first Native American dentist in the United States was:
- Ida Gray-Rollins
 - Robert Tanner Freeman
 - George Blue Spruce, Jr.
 - Jessica A. Rickert

ANS: C

George Blue Spruce, Jr., was the first Native American dentist in the United States. Ida Gray-Rollins was the first female African American to earn a dental degree, although Robert Tanner Freeman was the first African American accepted to any dental school. Jessica A. Rickert was the first female Native American dentist in the United States.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 3

OBJ: 2

MSC: CDA Exam: NA

10. Which person is recognized as the first African American to receive a degree from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine?
- Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen
 - Robert Tanner Freeman
 - George Blue Spruce, Jr.
 - C. Edmund Kells

ANS: B

Robert Tanner Freeman was the first African American to receive a degree from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen was Bavarian, not African American, and is credited with discovering x-ray beams. George Blue Spruce, Jr., was the first Native American, not African American, to receive a dental degree; he graduated from Creighton, not Harvard, University. C. Edmund Kells is credited with employing the first dental assistant in 1900.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 2

OBJ: 2

MSC: CDA Exam: NA

11. Which modern dental restoration resembles early Mayan and Inca dentistry?
- Implant
 - Inlay
 - Veneer

d. Bridge

ANS: B

Early Mayan and Inca civilizations used jade, turquoise, and gold as dental inlays, similar to the gold inlay restorations fabricated in dentistry today. Implants, veneers, and bridges are evolutions of modern dentistry.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 2

OBJ: 2

MSC: CDA Exam: NA

12. Which best describes the purpose of CODA (Commission on Dental Accreditation)?
- Reviews and approves dental-related curriculums and educational programs.
 - Provides professional support and opportunities for dental hygienists.
 - Promotes the dental assisting profession to enhance quality dental health care.
 - Grants professional membership to dental technicians.

ANS: A

CODA, the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, reviews and approves dental university curriculum and dental-related educational programs; dentists, dental hygienists, and certified dental technicians in the United States must graduate from a CODA-approved program. The American Dental Hygienists Association (ADHA) provides professional support and opportunities for dental hygienists, while the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) promotes the dental assisting profession to enhance quality dental health care. ADLTA (American Dental Laboratory Technician Association) grants professional membership to dental technicians.

DIF: Comprehension

REF: p. 4

OBJ: 1

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.VII.D.2.d.legal responsibilities of the dental assistant in relation to the state dental practice act

13. The tasks and responsibilities delegated to a dental assistant are determined by the:
- supervising dentist
 - state dental practice act
 - American Dental Association
 - Occupational Safety and Health Administration

ANS: B

The dental practice act in each state sets forth specific statutes, regulations, and administrative rules to govern which tasks and responsibilities can be delegated to the dental assistant. The supervising dentist must be aware of, and comply with, all state dental practice act regulations before assigning any task to members of the dental healthcare team. The tasks and responsibilities delegated to a dental assistant are determined by the state dental practice act, not the American Dental Association or Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 6

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.VII.D.2.d.legal responsibilities of the dental assistant in relation to the state dental practice act

14. Which statement is true?
- All states require formal education for dental assistants.
 - Accredited dental assisting programs do not usually provide laboratory training.
 - Assistants with additional training may perform expanded duties nationwide.
 - CODA (Commission on Dental Accreditation)-approved dental assisting programs

are 1 academic year in length.

ANS: D

Dental assisting programs approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) are approximately 1 academic year in length. Not all states require formal education for dental assistants, but accredited dental assisting programs are required to include didactic, laboratory, and clinical coursework. Assistants with additional training may perform expanded duties, but only within the specific state where the training was completed.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 7

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.VII.D.2.d.legal responsibilities of the dental assistant in relation to the state dental practice act

15. Which dental assistant works primarily in the instrument-processing area?
- Business
 - Chairside
 - Circulating
 - Sterilization

ANS: D

The sterilization assistant works primarily in the instrument-processing area. The business assistant focuses on tasks in the business office, while the chairside assistant works mainly in the dental operatory. The circulating assistant works anywhere assistance is required, but primarily in the clinical areas of the practice.

DIF: Comprehension

REF: p. 7

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: NA

16. The business office of a dental practice serves each purpose EXCEPT one. Which is the EXCEPTION?
- Record storage
 - Financial arrangements
 - Receive and greet patients
 - Appointment scheduling

ANS: C

The reception area, not the business office, is a dedicated space to receive and greet patients; the business office is used to schedule appointments, make financial arrangements, and store records.

DIF: Recall

REF: p. 9

OBJ: 3

MSC: CDA Exam: GC.VII.C.7.receive and dismiss patients and visitors

17. Which area of the dental office is used for staff meetings?
- Lounge
 - Laboratory
 - Business office
 - Consultation room

ANS: A

The staff lounge is an ideal location for office meetings; the business office, dental laboratory, and consultation areas are not used for this purpose.