

Licence in Dental Surgery

Part 1 Syllabus

Introduction

This syllabus sets out the knowledge, skills and behaviours that may be assessed by the **Part 1** of the Licence in Dental Surgery (LDS) exam.

It accompanies the General Dental Council's *Safe Practitioner Framework* as well as the LDS Candidate Guidance for Part 1, and the overall LDS Syllabus, to show candidates what they can be expected to be assessed on in the Part 1 examination,

The LDS Part 1 exam assesses the Learning Outcomes and Behaviours listed in this syllabus, and taken from the *Safe Practitioner Framework*, which represent the **knowledge** required of a day one BDS-qualified dentist. Each Part 1 exam does not assess everything in the syllabus however, everything in the syllabus could be assessed in the exam.

Where learning outcomes describe a skill or behaviour, the Part 1 examination will test the underlying knowledge behind this skill as well as candidates' clinical judgement in applying their knowledge to a scenario.

For example, for learning outcome C2.7.1 'Undertake non-specialist oral surgery of hard and soft tissues', candidates would be expected to demonstrate their knowledge of the basic sciences, technical knowledge, clinical knowledge to a scenario and apply their clinical decision-making skills.

Where a learning outcome appears in the *Safe Practitioner Framework* but does not appear in this syllabus, it should be assumed that it is not assessed in the LDS Part 1.

LDS Part 1 Syllabus Overview

The LDS Part 1 will assess **all four** domains in the *Safe Practitioner Framework*.

These are:

Clinical knowledge and skills

- Clinical knowledge and its application to patient management
- Clinical/Technical Skills Interpersonal Skills
- Effective communication
- Teamwork and wellbeing of others

Interpersonal Skills

- Effective communication
- Teamwork and wellbeing of others

Professionalism

- Ethics and integrity
- Leadership
- Social accountability

Self-management

- Insight
- Reflection, continued and self-directed learning
- Adaptability, well-being, and personal growth
- Organisation and time management

LDS Part 1: Clinical Knowledge and Skills Domain

Candidates must demonstrate the skills and underpinning knowledge to undertake routine* clinical and technical procedures and tasks. This includes the ability to apply that knowledge and those skills to specific contexts and situations, patients, and stages of treatment including, where relevant, assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning and onward referral.

(*For dentists, this means non-specialist procedures and tasks)

Sub domain: Clinical knowledge and its application patient management

Learning outcomes	
C 1.1	Explain the aetiology, pathogenesis and epidemiological trends of oral and dental disease and their application to patient management
C 1.2	Describe and identify the clinical presentations of oral and dental diseases and explain the principles underpinning their diagnosis, prevention and treatment
C 1.4	Describe and identify general and systemic diseases and psychological conditions, and their relevance to oral health and impact on clinical treatment, patient compliance, self-care, and outcomes
C 1.5	Identify relevant and appropriate dental, oral, craniofacial and general anatomy (recognising the diversity of anatomy across the patient population) and explain their relevance to patient management
C 1.6	Describe relevant physiology and discuss its application to patient management
C 1.8	Explain the potential routes of transmission of infectious agents in dental practice, mechanisms for the prevention of infection, the scientific principles of decontamination and disinfection and their relevance to health and safety
C 1.9	Explain the need for effective recorded maintenance and testing of equipment and requirements for appropriate storage, handling and use of materials
C 1.10	Describe the properties of relevant medicines and therapeutic agents and discuss their application to patient management
C 1.13	Evaluate the health risks of prescribed, non-prescribed and recreational drug use and misuse on oral and general health and how to provide appropriate advice and support including signposting or referral
C 1.14	Describe the scientific principles underpinning the use of materials and biomaterials and evaluate their limitations and selection with emphasis on those used in dentistry
C 1.15	Explain the scientific principles of medical ionizing radiation and statutory regulations, and how these are applied to clinical practice
C 1.16	Explain the principles of obtaining valid patient consent
C 1.17	Discuss the importance of each component of the patient assessment process
C 1.18	Explain what is meant by a prognostic indicator and apply prognostic indicators to a range of clinical situations
C 1.19	Evaluate the risks and benefits of treatment under general anaesthesia including patient selection criteria and make appropriate referrals

C 1.20	Evaluate the risks and benefits of treatment under conscious sedation including patient selection criteria and make appropriate referrals
C 1.22	Explain the risks, benefits, complications of and contra-indications to all interventions (non-surgical and surgical)
C 1.27	Explain how diet and nutritional status can influence oral and general health and how to provide appropriate advice and support
C 1.30	Describe the aetiology and pathogenesis of diseases of the oral and maxillofacial complex
C 1.31	Identify all stages of malignancy, the aetiology and development of tumours and the importance of early referral for investigation and biopsy
C 1.32	Identify the signs of normal and abnormal facial growth, physical, mental and dental development milestones and explain their significance
C 1.37	Identify and explain the principles of when and how to refer patients for specialist treatment and apply to practice
C 1.38	Explain the roles and organisation of various referral networks, clinical guidelines and policies and local variation
C 1.40	Explain the responsibilities of the dental team as an access point to and from wider healthcare
C 1.41	Explain the role of surgical management of periradicular disease
C 1.43	Explain the use of implants as a treatment option, including their outcomes, limitations and risks

Sub domain: Clinical knowledge and its application patient management

Learning outcomes	
C(B)1	Adopt an evidence-based approach to clinical practice

Patient Management

Learning outcomes	
C 2.2.1	Identify, explain and manage the impact of medical and psychological conditions in a range of patients and determine how this can influence patient compliance, self-care, and outcomes, taking into account the patient's cultural identity and values
C 2.2.2	Prevent, diagnose and manage patient anxiety appropriately, effectively and safely
C 2.2.3	Prevent, diagnose and manage patient pain appropriately, effectively and safely
C 2.2.4	Safely and appropriately prescribe and administer medicines and therapeutic agents
C 2.2.5	Monitor and review treatment outcomes and patient response to advice, providing aftercare, follow-up and ongoing preventive advice and intervention

Safe Clinical Environment

Learning outcomes	
C 2.3.1	Identify and explain the risks within and around the clinical environment and manage these in a safe and effective manner
C 2.3.2	Implement, perform and manage effective decontamination and infection control procedures according to current guidelines

Acute Conditions

Learning outcomes	
C 2.4.1	Identify, assess and manage medical emergencies
C 2.4.2	Diagnose and manage patients' acute oro-facial and dental pain
C 2.4.3	Diagnose and manage acute dento-alveolar and mucosal infection
C 2.4.4	Diagnose and manage dento-alveolar and mucosal trauma

Oral Health / Prevention

Learning outcomes	
C 2.5.1	Provide patients/carers with comprehensive, personalised preventive advice, instruction and intervention in a manner which is accessible, promotes self-care and motivates patients/carers to comply with advice and take responsibility to maintain and improve oral health

Periodontal Disease

Learning outcomes	
C 2.6.1	Assess and manage the health of periodontal and soft tissues taking into account risk, lifestyle factors, plaque control/self-care and compliance/response to advice
C 2.6.3	Monitor and record changes in periodontal health using appropriate methods

Hard and Soft Tissue Disease

Learning outcomes	
C 2.7.1	Undertake non-specialist oral surgery of hard and soft tissues
C 2.7.3	Diagnose and manage unerupted teeth and retained roots

Restoration and / or Replacement of Teeth

Learning outcomes	
C 2.8.1	Assess and manage caries
C 2.8.2	Assess and manage occlusion
C 2.8.3	Assess and manage tooth wear
C 2.8.4	Assess and manage temporomandibular joint disorders
C 2.8.5	Create an oral environment where restoration or replacement of the tooth is viable
C 2.8.6	Where appropriate, restore the dentition using the principle of minimal intervention, to a standard that promotes longevity of the restoration or prosthesis
C 2.8.7	Manage restorative procedures that preserve tooth structure, replace missing or defective tooth structure, maintain function, are aesthetic, are durable and promote soft and hard tissue health
C 2.8.8	Assess and manage the health of the dental pulp and periradicular tissues, including undertaking treatment to prevent pulpal and periradicular disease
C 2.8.9	Undertake appropriate non-surgical treatments to manage pulpal and periradicular disease for primary and permanent teeth as appropriate to a non-specialist environment
C 2.8.10	Design, prescribe and complete the clinical stages required to provide biomechanically sound partial and complete dentures

LDS Part 1: Interpersonal Skills Domain

Candidates must demonstrate they can use interpersonal skills and emotional awareness to enable effective communication with all patients and colleagues which is underpinned by behaving in a caring, compassionate, empathic, and respectful way. Demonstrates effective team working and helps foster wellbeing of others

Sub domain: Teamwork and Wellbeing of Others

Behaviours	
I (B)5	Take a patient-centred approach to working with the dental and wider healthcare team
I (B)6	Where appropriate manage and refer/delegate work according to the scope of practice of members of the dental team, in line with competence and professional practice

Learning outcomes	
I 2.3	Describe the roles of dental and other healthcare professionals in the context of learning and working in a dental and wider healthcare team

LDS Part 1: Professionalism Domain

Candidates must demonstrate professionalism and integrity by behaving ethically, showing leadership and social accountability. They must demonstrate they are committed to advocating for oral health, promoting good oral health and understand the importance of sustainable service provision in the population and across communities, and addressing priority health needs for the communities.

Sub domain: Ethics and Integrity

Behaviours	
P (B)6	Raise concerns where appropriate about your own or others' health, behaviour or professional performance
P (B)7	Comply with systems and processes to support safe patient care
P (B)8	Act in accordance with current best practice guidelines
P (B)9	Act in accordance with national and local clinical governance and health and safety requirements
P (B)15	Work in partnership with colleagues to develop and maintain an effective and supportive environment which promotes the safety and wellbeing of the patient and dental team

Learning outcomes	
P 1.2	Describe the legal responsibilities of maintaining and protecting patients' information
P 1.5	Describe the GDC's expectations and requirements as set out in regulations and guidance and other relevant laws, ethical guidance and systems (In addition to the above legal frameworks)
P 1.6	Explain the importance of having appropriate indemnity arrangements in place for both the professional and patient
P 1.7	Explain the importance of candour and effective communication with patients when things go wrong or when dealing with a complaint
P 1.8	Explain how and where to report any patient safety issues which arise
P 1.9	Explain the personal responsibility and the mechanisms for raising concerns about your own or others' health, behaviour or professional performance as described in GDC guidance
P 1.10	Explain the attributes of professional attitudes and behaviour in all environments and media, including interaction with social media
P 1.11	Explain the principles and procedures for good complaints handling
P 1.12	Describe the responsibility that dental practices and individual practitioners have in compliance with legal and regulatory frameworks

Sub domain: Leadership

Behaviours	
P (B)16	Where appropriate lead, manage and take professional responsibility for the actions of colleagues and other members of the team involved in patient care

Sub domain: Social Accountability

Behaviours	
P (B)17	Contribute positively to the healthcare communities of which you are a part

LDS Part 1: Self-management Domain

Candidates must demonstrate they can self-manage, adapt, and respond to different situations using insight and reflection. Candidates must demonstrate they can plan and manage their time and keep up to date with continued learning and development.

Sub domain: Reflection, Continued, and Self-Directed Learning

Learning outcomes	
S 2.1	Explain the principles of an evidence-based approach and evaluate an evidence base
S 2.8	Evaluate the impact of new techniques and technologies in clinical practice