

Licence in Dental Surgery

Part 3 Syllabus

Introduction

This syllabus sets out the skills and behaviours that may be assessed by the **Part 3** 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 3 and the overall LDS Syllabus to show candidates what they can be expected to be assessed on in the Part 3 examination.

The LDS Part 3 exam assesses the Learning Outcomes and Behaviours in the *Safe Practitioner Framework*, which represent the knowledge skills and behaviours required of a day one BDS-qualified dentist. Each Part 3 exam does not assess everything in the syllabus however, everything in the syllabus could be assessed in the LDS exam.

Where a learning outcome appears in the *Safe Practitioner Framework* but does not appear in this syllabus, it can be assumed that it is not assessed in the LDS Part 3.

LDS Part 3 Syllabus Overview

The LDS Part 3 tests a combination of clinical skills and behaviours that would be needed to manage one treatment session for three dental patients. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Practical dental procedures including management of complications that may be of a medical or dental nature. The practical dental procedures may include, but are not limited to:
 - tooth preparation for indirect restorations
 - provisional restorations
 - direct restorations
 - endodontic procedures
 - minimally invasive techniques
 - clinical procedures during removable partial denture provision
 - non-surgical periodontal treatment
 - minor oral surgery procedures
- Interpretation of data
- Clinical judgement and decision making
- Communication with laboratories
- Professionalism
- Health and safety, including occupational health
- Manual dexterity

The Part 3 PCS examination is a simulated clinical examination, not a mechanistic test of practical ability. The test requires candidates to make clinical decisions based on the information provided, then carry out appropriate clinical procedures.

In addition, all rules and regulations applicable to a live patient being treated in a dental surgery apply, such as health and safety, infection control and working posture. These areas are assessed in addition to the practical exercises that must be completed and candidates who do not demonstrate appropriate health and safety, infection control or working posture may fail the exam.

The LDS Part 3 assesses **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 3: 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 1.2	Describe and identify the clinical presentations of oral and dental diseases and explain the principles underpinning their diagnosis, prevention and treatment
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 1.8	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 1.14	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 1.26	Discuss the importance of achieving a healthy oral environment prior to restoration and/or replacement of teeth
C 1.36	Explain how to manage urgent limited orthodontic appliance procedures in a non-specialist setting

Patient Management

Learning outcomes	
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

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 2.5.2	Manage and review the application of preventive treatments, intervention, advice and instruction

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 2.6.2	Undertake non-surgical treatments to remove hard and soft deposits and stains using a range of methods
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 2.7.2	Extract erupted teeth and roots in the permanent and primary dentition

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

Part 3 LDS: 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: Effective Communication

Learning outcomes	
I 1.5	Communicate effectively by spoken, written and electronic means with colleagues from dental and other healthcare professions in relation to: • The direct care of individual patients • Oral health promotion
I 1.7	Communicate appropriately and effectively in professional discussions and transactions

LDS Part 3: 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)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

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

Learning outcomes	
P 2.3	Describe how to take responsibility for the quality of services and devices provided to the patient as relevant to your scope of practice

Part 3 LDS: 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 2.9	Describe opportunities for improvement of a clinical service or to manage / mitigate risks

Sub domain: Organisation and Time Management

Behaviours	
S (B)9	Effectively manage your own time and resources