LDS Learning Outcomes

Introduction

The following matrix has been devised with reference to competence, knowledge and familiarity in different aspects of dentistry as outlined in the *Preparing for Practice: Dental team learning outcomes for registration* [General Dental Council, revised 2015] as well as to the profile agreed by the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE).

A successful LDS candidate will:

- have had a broad academic and dental education and be able to function in all areas of clinical dentistry;

- be trained in biomedical science;

- be able to work together with other dental and health care professionals in the health care system;

- have good communication skills;

- be prepared to undertake continuing professional development supporting the concept of life-long learning; and

- be able to practice evidence-based dentistry based through a problem solving approach, using basic theoretical and practical skills.

Detailed in this document are the major competencies/learning outcomes as well as the supporting skills, knowledge and values, related to the above profile and the formats that may be used in assessing these.

The learning outcomes/competencies represent broad categories of professional activity and concerns that occur in the general practice of dentistry and are interdisciplinary in orientation and must embrace an element of critical thinking.

They may apply in differing ways to patients of all ages, including children, adolescents, adults and the elderly.

Candidates will not be assessed on their familiarity with the National Health Service (NHS) or British culture other than the ways in which this might affect how patients are treated.
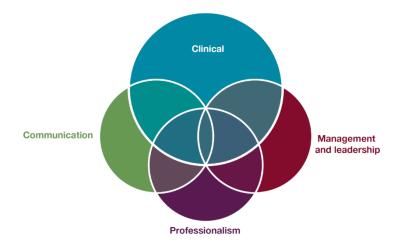
Learning outcomes

The following information is taken from *Preparing for Practice: Dental team learning outcomes for registration* [General Dental Council, revised 2015].

The learning outcomes are grouped into four domains. These categories fit with those that will be required by the GDC throughout registrants' practise through future revalidation:

- Clinical
- Communication
- Professionalism
- Management and leadership

The outcomes in each domain are integrated and support each other, with the clinical and technical skills, and underpinning scientific knowledge forming the central core. Some outcomes appear in more than one domain to reflect this. The clinical and technical domain will remain crucial to developing safe practitioners and is a significant part of training and education programmes.

Clinical domain

Delivering safe, effective and appropriate care to patients is the focus of developing a registrant's clinical knowledge, competence and decision-making skills. The learning outcomes have been separated into two sections – *Individual patient care and Population based health and care.* The individual patient care section begins with a section on the foundations of practice then follows the patient journey, including the stages through assessment, diagnosis and patient management.

Communication domain

Good communication skills are integral to successful patient care - enabling patient assessment, patient consent, treatment and effective team working. The learning outcomes have been separated into three sections – *Patients, their representatives and the public, Team and wider healthcare environment, and Generic communication skills.*

Professionalism domain

The professionalism of registrants is a key focus for the GDC. It is essential that students recognise the importance of professionalism and are able to demonstrate the attributes of professional attitudes and behaviour at all times from the beginning of their training. This domain draws widely from the GDC Standards for Dental Professionals and most outcomes will be applicable to the whole dental team.

The learning outcomes have been separated into four sections – *Patients and the public, Ethical and legal, Teamwork, and Development of self and others.*

Management and leadership domain

Good management and leadership skills are vital to effective delivery of high quality patient care. This includes management of time, resources, and effective team working. Upon registration a professional would not be expected to be fully competent in a management and leadership role – this will take time and experience. However, new registrants must be well prepared and understand the expectations and the responsibility of their role and the role of the rest of the dental team. Management and leadership should be embedded in training from the outset of their career.

Many of the learning outcomes in this domain are therefore knowledge or principle based. Where there is a requirement to demonstrate aspects of leadership and management in the team this may be at a limited level, related to the basic requirements of delivering care within the dental team. There will be opportunities during clinics and outreach placement to demonstrate and reflect on use of these skills. Evidence may be collected in a portfolio, including simulation where an opportunity or scenario does not arise.

A typical diet

Learning outcomes		Competence	Part 1	Part 2		Part 3
			A & B	OSCE	Unseen Cases	PCS
Clinical	1 Individual patient care	1.1 Foundations of practice	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.2 Comprehensive patient assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.4 Diagnosis	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.5 Treatment planning	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.7 Patient management	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.8 Patient and public safety	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.9 Treatment of acute oral conditions	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.10 Health promotion and disease prevention	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.11 Management and treatment of periodontal disease	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.12 Hard and soft tissue disease	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.13 Management of the developing and developed dentition	✓	✓	✓	✓
		1.14 Restoration and replacement of teeth	✓	✓	✓	✓
	2 Population-based health and care	2.1 Discuss the basic principles of a population health approach including demographic and social trends, UK and international oral health trends, determinants of health and inequalities in health, and the ways in which these are measured and current patterns	✓	✓	✓	
		2.2 Describe the dental and wider healthcare systems dental professionals work within including health policy and organisation, delivery of healthcare and equity	✓	✓	✓	
		2.3 Describe and evaluate the role of health promotion in terms of the changing environment, community and individual behaviours to deliver health gain	✓	✓	✓	
		2.4 Evaluate evidence-based prevention and apply appropriately	✓	✓	✓	
		2.5 Explain the principles of planning oral health care for communities to meet needs and demands	✓	✓	✓	

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Communication						
3 Patients, their representatives, and the public	3.1 Communicate appropriately, effectively and sensitively at all times with and about patients, their representatives and the public and in relation to: • patients with anxious or challenging behaviour • referring patients to colleagues, particularly where patients are from diverse backgrounds or there are barriers to patient communication • difficult circumstances, such as breaking bad news, or discussing issues such as alcohol consumption, smoking, or diet		✓	✓		
	3.2 Recognise the importance of non-verbal communication, including listening skills, and barriers to effective communication		✓	✓		
	3.3 Explain and check patients' understanding of treatments, options, costs and informed consent and enable patients to make their choice		✓	✓	✓	
	3.4 Obtain informed consent	✓	✓	✓		
4 Team and the wider healthcare environment	4.1 Communicate appropriately with colleagues from dental and other healthcare professions in relation to: • the direct care of individual patients • oral health promotion • the day to day working of the clinical department/practice in which the individual works • the wider contribution which the department/practice makes to dental and healthcare in the surrounding community • raising concerns when problems arise		✓	✓	✓	
	4.2 Explain the role of appraisal, training and review of colleagues, giving and receiving effective feedback	✓		✓		
	4.3 Give and receive feedback effectively to and from other members of the team		✓	✓		
	4.4 Communicate appropriately and effectively in professional discussions and transactions within the health and other sectors		✓	✓		
5 Generic communication skills	5.1 Communicate appropriately, effectively and sensitively by spoken, written and electronic methods and maintain and develop these skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	5.2 Use appropriate methods to provide accurate, clear and comprehensive information when referring patients to other dental and healthcare professionals		✓	✓	✓	
	5.3 Explain the importance of and maintain accurate, contemporaneous and comprehensive patient records in accordance with legal and statutory requirements and best practice		✓	✓	✓	
	5.4 Recognise the use of a range of communication methods and technologies and their appropriate application in support of clinical practice	✓	✓	✓		
	5.5 Recognise and act within the principles of information governance	✓	✓	✓		

Professionalism	6 Patients and the public	6.1 Put patients' interests first and act to protect them	✓	✓	✓	✓
		6.2 Act with integrity and be trustworthy		✓	✓	✓
		6.3 Respect patients' dignity and choices		✓	✓	✓
		6.4 Protect the confidentiality of all personal information	✓	✓	✓	
		6.5 Recognise and respect the patient's perspective and expectations of dental care and the role of the dental team, taking into account issues relating to equality and diversity		✓	✓	
	7 Ethical and legal	7.1 Recognise and act within the GDC's standards and within other professionally relevant laws, ethical guidance and systems	✓	✓	✓	✓
		7.2 Recognise and act upon the legal and ethical responsibilities involved in protecting and promoting the health of individual patients	✓	✓	✓	✓
		7.3 Act without discrimination and show respect for patients, colleagues and peers and the general public		✓	✓	✓
		7.4 Recognise the importance of candour and effective communication with patients when things go wrong, knowing how and where to report any patient safety issues which arise	✓	✓	✓	
		7.5 Take responsibility for and act to raise concerns about your own or others' health, behaviour or professional performance as described in *Standards for the Dental Team, Principle 8 Raise concerns if patients are at risk*	✓	✓	✓	
	8 Teamwork	8.1 Describe and respect the roles of dental and other healthcare professionals in the context of learning and working in a dental and wider healthcare team	✓		✓	
		8.2 Co-operate effectively with other members of the dental and wider healthcare team in the interests of patients	✓	✓	✓	
		8.3 Explain the contribution that team members and effective team working makes to the delivery of safe and effective high quality care	✓		✓	
	9 Development of self and others	9.1 Recognise and demonstrate own professional responsibility in the development of self and the rest of the team	✓			
		9.2 Utilise the provision and receipt of effective feedback in the professional development of self and others		✓	✓	
		9.3 Explain the range of methods of learning and teaching available and the importance of assessment, feedback, critical reflection, identification of learning needs and appraisal in personal development planning				
		9.4 Develop and maintain professional knowledge and competence and demonstrate commitment to lifelong learning	✓	✓	✓	✓
		9.5 Recognise and evaluate the impact of new techniques and technologies in clinical practice		✓		✓
		9.6 Accurately assess their own capabilities and limitations in the interest of high quality patient care and seek advice from supervisors or colleagues where appropriate	✓	✓	✓	✓
		9.7 Explain and demonstrate the attributes of professional attitudes and behaviour in all environments and media			✓	✓

Management and Leadership	10 Managing self		Col1	Col2	Col3	Col4
		10.1 Put patients' interests first and act to protect them	✓	✓	✓	
		10.2 Effectively manage their own time and resources	✓	✓	✓	✓
		10.3 Recognise the impact of personal behaviour on the health care environment and on wider society and manage this professionally	✓	✓	✓	
		10.4 Recognise the significance of their own management and leadership role and the range of skills and knowledge required to do this effectively	✓		✓	
		10.5 When appropriate act as an advocate for patient needs	✓	✓	✓	
		10.6 Take responsibility for personal development planning, recording of evidence, and reflective practice				
		10.7 Ensure that all aspects of practice comply with legal and regulatory requirements	✓	✓	✓	✓
		10.8 Demonstrate appropriate continuous improvement activities				
	11 Managing and working with others	11.1 Take a patient-centred approach to working with the dental and wider healthcare team		✓	✓	
		11.2 Recognise and respect own and others' contribution to the dental and wider healthcare team and demonstrate effective team working, including leading and being led.	✓	✓	✓	
		11.3 Recognise the importance of and demonstrate personal accountability to patients, the regulator, the team and wider community	✓	✓	✓	
		11.4 Where appropriate lead, manage and take professional responsibility for the actions of colleagues and other members of the team involved in patient care	✓	✓	✓	
		11.5 Recognise and comply with the team working requirements in the *Scope of Practice and Standards documents*	✓		✓	
		11.6 Describe the impact of Direct Access on each registrant group's scope of practice and its effect on dental team working	✓			
		11.7 Describe the scope of practice of the dental team and manage and delegate work accordingly, in line with competence and professional practice	✓	✓	✓	
		11.8 Recognise, take responsibility for and act to raise concerns about their own or others' health, behaviour or professional performance as described in *Standards for the Dental Team Principle 8*	✓	✓	✓	
		11.9 Recognise the need to ensure that those who raise concerns are protected from discrimination or other detrimental effects	✓		✓	

12 Managing the clinical and working environment					
12.1 Recognise and comply with systems and processes to support safe patient care	✓	✓	✓	✓
12.2 Recognise the need for effective recorded maintenance and testing of equipment and requirements for appropriate storage, handling and use of materials	✓	✓	✓	✓
12.3 Recognise and demonstrate the procedures for handling of complaints as described in *Standards for the Dental Team, Principle 5 Have a clear and effective complaints procedure*	✓	✓	✓	
12.4 Describe the legal, financial and ethical issues associated with managing a dental practice	✓		✓	
12.5 Recognise and comply with national and local clinical governance and health and safety requirements	✓	✓	✓	✓
12.6 Describe the implications of the wider health economy and external influences				