#### NATIONAL EXAMINING BOARD FOR DENTAL NURSES



# CERTIFICATE IN ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION

### **PROSPECTUS**

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#### NATIONAL EXAMINING BOARD FOR DENTAL NURSES

#### **OBJECTIVE**

## TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF DENTAL NURSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC.

#### **NEBDN** undertakes this duty by:

- setting examinations for Dental Nurses which reflect the needs of patients and the profession;
- publishing syllabuses of study for the examinations set by the Organisation for the benefit of candidates and trainers;
- encouraging eligible candidates to sit for the examinations set by the Organisation;
- issuing Certificates and qualification badges to successful candidates;
- managing quality assurance systems to ensure that the standards of the qualifications are maintained;
- liaising with other bodies to promote the education and qualification of Dental Nurses.

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#### **AWARDING BODY PROFILE**

#### **NEBDN**

Since its inception in 1943 the National Examining Board for Dental Nurses (NEBDN), which is a registered charity managed by a board of trustees, has become the most widely recognised awarding body for dental nurses in the United Kingdom. The Head Office and administrative staff are based in Fleetwood, Lancashire.

#### Panel of Examiners

The Panel of Examiners is made up of registered dental nurses and dentists who have been qualified for more than four years and demonstrate an active involvement in and commitment to the training and qualification of dental nurses. On appointment examiners are required to undergo a residential induction and training programme before examining.

There are currently almost 400 members of the Panel of Examiners with the largest proportion coming from general dental practices. The policy and procedures of the Board, in relation to examinations, are determined by a Qualifications Council of elected members, with representation from the British Association of Dental Nurses, British Dental Association and the Association of Dental Hospitals. The Board also has an educational adviser to ensure the qualifications develop in line with current education and training principles.

Individual examinations are the responsibility of Qualifications Committees comprised of Panel members with appropriate knowledge and expertise to set examination papers and moderate and verify results.

The National Examining Board for Dental Nurses aims to provide equality of opportunity for all without hindrance because of race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age or socioeconomic background.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

## Scope of the qualification

The Certificate in Oral Health Education is a qualification suitable for qualified dental nurses who are required to provide oral health advice to patients under the direction of a dentist.

### Entry requirements

In order to undertake the qualification, a dental nurse must:

- a) be registered with the General Dental Council
- b) have the support of their employing dentist to act as supervisor and validate the workplace activities for the Record of Experience.

#### Syllabus

The syllabus for the Certificate in Oral Health Education reflects the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary for the provision of health education by a dental nurse in a relevant dental environment. NEBDN continually monitors and reviews the structure of the qualification to ensure that it meets current educational requirements and the needs of the profession.

The syllabus includes words such as describe, explain, identify or demonstrate which indicate the depth of understanding required and will determine how the assessments for the qualification are carried out.

The application of knowledge in practical situations and the skills required are assessed through a Record of Experience.

#### **Training**

**Practical training** should be undertaken in the dental environment under the supervision of a dentist and recorded on log sheets in a Record of Experience.

**Theoretical training** should be undertaken by attendance on an NEBDN accredited course. The syllabus may be covered using lectures, seminars and practical simulation. Other teaching methods may also be used such as Computer Assisted Learning and Problem Based Learning. The main objective of the course is that, upon completion, dental nurses should be competent to offer dental health information to individuals and small groups.

It is suggested that a total of 45 hours (including practical experience and theoretical teaching) is normally sufficient to cover the course but this is not prescriptive as the delivery may vary from centre to centre.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Candidates are required to record their clinical experience, although some of this may be limited by the nature of the environment in which they work. Theoretical instruction in **all** methods of oral health is essential. It is also desirable that as broad a range of practical experience as possible is obtained, as an understanding of a variety of dental health messages will be required for the written examination. Dental practices and course organisers are therefore required to make local arrangements to facilitate obtaining practical experience.

#### Record of Experience

The Record of Experience is designed to demonstrate your competence of undertaking oral health education with a number of specified patient groups, covering a range of topics as outlined in the syllabus.

The Record of Experience consists of:

#### Part A: Log sheets

The care of **ten** individuals, seen on at least two occasions is required and you **must** target at least **six** of the specified patient groups. The setting should normally be within your own place of work but may be elsewhere if appropriate to the particular patient group.

#### Part B: Expanded Case Studies

Candidates must complete two case studies from the log sheets

- one involving a child
- one involving an adult

Each case study must be approximately 2000 words, covering a topic from the range a - h.

#### Part C: Display/Exhibition

Candidates must use the set proforma to plan, produce and evaluate a display/exhibition which ideally, but not necessarily, should be in their place of work.

The assessment and internal moderation of the Record of Experience is undertaken by the Training Centre. The final moderation and verification is undertaken by the NEBDN Oral Health Education Committee.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

## Examination dates and format

The examination, which assesses underpinning knowledge and understanding, takes place on the third Saturday of March and September each year and is held in selected major towns and cities throughout the UK.

The examination consists of a written paper and oral examination.

#### Written Paper

The 90 minute written paper consists of:

Part A - 30 multiple choice questions

and

- short answer questions

Part B - 3 questions, all of which are compulsory.

#### Oral

The oral questioning lasts a total of 15 minutes and is conducted by two examiners. The oral includes a 5 minute discussion on one of the case studies, chosen by NEBDN, from the Record of Experience.

#### Assessment

To ensure that candidates are given every opportunity to pass, individual candidates are assessed on each part of the examination by two members of the Panel of Oral Health Examiners and the results of each individual examination centre are moderated by a Presiding Examiner. The results from all the centres are then verified by the NEBDN Oral Health Education Committee.

### Closing dates

Application forms for entry to the examination are issued with the Record of Experience and all documentation and examination fees must be submitted to NEBDN by the relevant closing dates:

March examination Record of Experience 15 January

Application form and fee 1 February

September examination Record of Experience 15 July

Application form and fee 1 August

Any late submissions will be returned.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

#### Results

All candidates receive the results of their examination by post, indicating pass or failure, in early May for the March examination and early November for the September examination.

Pass - candidates must be successful in each part of the examination.

Merit - awarded for a very good standard throughout the examination.

Distinction - awarded for an exceptional performance throughout the examination.

Candidates attaining distinction or merit standard will be notified of this at the time of receiving their result.

If a candidate passes one part of the examination they will be allowed to carry this over for an 18 month period in order to complete.

#### Certification

In order to be awarded the Certificate in Oral Health Education, a candidate must:

- complete the Record of Experience to meet the national standard and
- achieve a pass standard in the written and oral examinations.

Certificates are issued to successful candidates, who are also eligible to apply for an Oral Health Education qualification badge that complements the National Certificate qualification badge.

## Registration for the qualification

Candidates wishing to sit the examination must apply to NEBDN for the documentation relating to the Record of Experience and to reserve a provisional examination place. There is a charge for this documentation and the registration forms are available from NEBDN on request.

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#### **SYLLABUS**

#### SECTION 1 DELIVERING ORAL HEALTH MESSAGES

- **1.1** Describe the effect of oral health messages on:
  - 1.1.1 patients/clients
  - 1.1.2 dental professionals
  - 1.1.3 health care professionals
  - 1.1.4 the media
- **1.2** Explain how social theories and models can affect oral health
- **1.3** Explain how differences in lifestyles, backgrounds and cultures may influence oral health behaviour:
  - 1.3.1 socio-economic
  - 1.3.2 environmental
  - 1.3.3 dietary requirements

#### SECTION 2 COMMUNICATION

- **2.1** Explain the different methods of communicating with individuals
- 2.2 Discuss how the choice of methods reflects the needs of the individual
- 2.3 Discuss the constraints associated with different forms of communication
- **2.4** Discuss the influences of commercial pressures and market forces

#### SECTION 3 IMPLEMENTATION OF ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION

- **3.1** Explain the following educational principles and their relationship to the provision of oral health care:
  - 3.1.1 identifying needs and priorities
  - 3.1.2 assessing different teaching methods
  - 3.1.3 evaluating how visual aids meet patient/client needs
  - 3.1.4 assessing the appropriateness of session plans
  - 3.1.5 planning, assessing, implementing and evaluating effectively

#### **SYLLABUS**

- **3.2** Explain the organisational requirements and limitations which may affect the success of a Preventive Dental Unit:
  - 3.2.1 assessment of ideologies/beliefs
  - 3.2.2 access to services
  - 3.2.3 adequacy of the environment and resources in relation to meeting the needs
  - 3.2.4 understand the process of evaluating outcomes
  - 3.2.5 reflective practice
- 3.3 Discuss the different resources that may be used to develop appropriate oral health data:
  - 3.3.1 Information Technology
  - 3.3.2 clinical research
  - 3.3.3 literature reviews

#### SECTION 4 DENTAL STRUCTURES, PHYSIOLOGY AND ANATOMY

#### Describe:

- **4.1** the structure and function of relevant aspects of dental anatomy which will help the dental nurse/the team communicate and deliver oral health messages:
  - 4.1.1 growth, development and function of dentition
  - 4.1.2 eruption dates
- **4.2** the periodontium
- 4.3 saliva

#### SECTION 5 ORAL DISEASES AND PREVENTION

- **5.1** Explain how to communicate effectively and confidently with patients regarding dental diseases:
  - 5.1.1 describe and define caries and periodontal disease
  - 5.1.2 promote the prevention of caries, periodontal disease and other related tooth surface loss
  - 5.1.3 describe diseases and conditions of the oral mucosa
- **5.2** Explain the definition, structure and effects of plaque and caries

#### **SYLLABUS**

- 5.3 Describe ways to educate groups to change their behaviour and effect a change in life style:
  - 5.3.1 awareness of reports/research
  - 5.3.2 relevance of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention
  - 5.3.3 effects of systemic and topical fluoride
  - 5.3.4 significance of intrinsic and extrinsic sugars
  - 5.3.5 role of fissure sealants
  - 5.3.6 cleaning aids and discussing their effectiveness
  - 5.3.7 methods of disclosing and related indices
  - 5.3.8 care of prostheses and orthodontic appliances

#### SECTION 6 SOCIETY AND ORAL HEALTH

- **6.1** Discuss the different sources of health information and how they can be collated and evaluated
- **6.2** Discuss the concept of socialisation and its effects on oral health:
  - 6.2.1 measures of oral health
  - 6.2.2 primary and secondary socialisation
  - 6.2.3 roles of other health professionals in relation to oral health education

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#### **READING LIST**

TITLE	AUTHOR	PUBLISHER	ISBN No
The Scientific Basis of Oral Health Education	RS Levine and CR Stillman-Lowe	BDJ Books	0-904588-84-X
Notes on Oral Health – 5 <sup>th</sup> Edition – 2001 *	Anthony S Blinkhorn and Elizabeth J Kay		1-898274207
Advanced Dental Nursing	R S Ireland	Blackwell	1-40519238
Nutrition, Diet and Oral Health	Gunn, Rugg and Nunn	Oxford Press	0192629379
Basic Guide to Oral Health Education and Promotion	Ann Felton, Alison Chapman and Simon Felton	Blackwell	9781405161626
Fluoride and Oral Health report of a WHO expert committee	WHO		9241208465

\* Available from: Helen Draper, School of Dentistry, University of Manchester,

Higher Cambridge Street, Manchester M15 6FH.

Cheque payable to: University of Manchester (price includes p&p)

#### Useful evidence based dentistry websites for research purposes

Delivering better oral health: An evidence-based toolkit for prevention www.dh.gov.uk/publications

Centre for Evidence based Dentistry www.ihs.ox.ac.uk/cebd

Cochrane Oral Health Group www.cochrane.org

National Co-ordinating Centre for Health Technology Assessment, Health Technology Assessment Programme <u>www.ncchta.org</u>

NHS Health Scotland, Woodburn House, Cannon Lane - 1 April 2003 – www.healthscotland.com

National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) www.nice.org.uk

National Library for Health www.library.nhs.uk

One in a Million leaflet – British Fluoridation Society - www.bfsweb.org

#### OTHER NEBDN QUALIFICATIONS

#### Post-Registration Qualifications

As well as the Certificate in Oral Health Education, NEBDN offers the following postregistration qualifications for dental nurses who have registered with the General Dental Council and who undertake specific roles requiring further skills and knowledge.

#### **Certificate in Dental Sedation Nursing**

This qualification tests the practical skills and theoretical knowledge necessary for the dental nurse assisting in the surgery during routine conscious sedation. The examination is only suitable for candidates engaged in this type of work on a regular basis.

#### **Certificate in Special Care Dental Nursing**

This qualification is suitable for dental nurses who assist during the treatment of people whose health and social care needs may require special oral health care provision.

#### **Certificate in Orthodontic Nursing**

This qualification is suitable for dental nurses who assist in orthodontic procedures.

#### **Certificate in Dental Radiography**

This qualification is suitable for dental nurses who are required to x-ray patients under the direction of a dentist and in accordance with the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2000 (IR(ME)R) 2000.

Prospectuses and further details on the above qualifications are available from the Qualifications Administrators, NEBDN, 108-110 London Street, Fleetwood, Lancashire FY7 6EU.

#### **USEFUL CONTACTS**

British Association of Dental Nurses (BADN) PO Box 4 Room 200 Hillhouse International Business Centre Thornton-Cleveleys Lancashire FY5 4QD

Tel: 0870 211 0114

Website: www.badn.org.uk

BADN National Education Group (BADN NEG) As above

General Dental Council 37 Wimpole Street London W1M 8DQ

Tel: 0207 887 3800 Website: <a href="www.gdc-uk.org">www.gdc-uk.org</a> Email: <a href="dcp@gdc-uk.org">dcp@gdc-uk.org</a>

National Oral Health Promotion Group (NOHPG)

Website: www.nohpg.org