### NATIONAL EXAMINING BOARD FOR DENTAL NURSES



# CERTIFICATE IN DENTAL SEDATION NURSING

### **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 Dental Sedation Nursing is a qualification suitable for dental nurses who assist in the surgery during routine conscious sedation. This examination is only suitable for candidates engaged in this type of work on a regular basis as the completion of a Record of Experience, including log sheets, is a requirement for the examination.

## 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/seditionist to act as supervisor and validate the workplace activities for the Record of Experience.

#### Syllabus

The syllabus for the Certificate in Dental Sedation Nursing reflects the knowledge, skills and attitudes which a dental nurse assisting in sedation procedures needs to develop in order to practise competently. 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 a course. Although it is not obligatory, it is strongly recommended that all candidates attend a formal course of study where the practical skills acquired in the surgery will be supplemented by the theoretical underpinning knowledge. The course should aim to prepare the dental nurse to the standard required of a 'second appropriate person' as required by the Department of Health.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

It is suggested that a total of 30 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.

#### Record of Experience

The Record of Experience is designed to provide a record of activities completed to facilitate specific learning experience and includes modules on Preparation of the Environment and Patient, Case Studies, Recovery, Medico-Legal, Medical Emergencies and Log sheets of Practical Experience and Recovery.

The Record of Experience consists of:

#### Part A: Log sheets

Candidates must complete the log sheets to provide evidence of their involvement in the care of at least **twenty five** separate patients undergoing sedation and at least **twenty five** recovery patients.

#### Part B: Expanded Case Studies

Candidates must complete two case studies:

- one intravenous sedation procedure
- one inhalation procedure

**One** case study must be a paediatric patient.

#### Part C: Evidence of Competence

During their course of training, candidates will be expected to demonstrate competence in relation to the following:

- preparation of a patient for a sedation procedure
- how to prepare the clinical environment for a sedation procedure
- how to clean and clear the clinical environment after a sedation procedure
- assisting the dentist in a procedure involving cannulation of a patient
- how to carry out safety checks and prepare the inhalation sedation machine for use
- how to carry out measurements of arterial blood pressure safely and effectively.

#### 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 practical/oral examination.

#### Written Papers

The 90 minute written paper consists of:

Part A - 40 multiple choice questions

Part B - 4 questions, all of which are compulsory and carry equal marks.

#### Practical/Oral

The practical/oral lasts 20 minutes and is conducted by two examiners. The candidates will be expected to carry out 3 practical tasks from a selection of 6 and will be questioned during the performance of these tasks.

Appropriate uniform must be worn for the practical/oral session. Changing facilities will be available at the examination centre.

#### 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 Sedation 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 Dental Sedation Nursing 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 will 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.

The following awards are presented to the best overall candidate:

March examination - SAAD award September examination - Roche award

#### Certification

In order to be awarded the Certificate in Dental Sedation Nursing, a candidate must:

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

Certificates are issued to successful candidates, who are also eligible to apply for a Dental Sedation Nursing 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 KNOWLEDGE

#### 1.1 Conscious Sedation in Dental Practice

**Definition of Conscious Sedation** 

Dental anxiety: causes and recognition

Patient assessment and treatment planning:

ASA classification

Behavioural management:

- Communication skills
- Hypnotic suggestion (RA)

Sedation techniques for adults and children:

- oral
- intravenous
- inhalation
- other routes e.g. intranasal

#### 1.2 Anatomy and Physiology

Cardiovascular:

- major blood vessels
- heart
- blood pressure
- control of blood pressure

Respiratory system:

- upper respiratory tract, larynx, trachea, bronchi, lungs, thoracic cavity
- tidal volume, respiratory rate, dead space, minute volume
- control of breathing
- hyperventilation
- oxygen dissociation curve

Venepuncture sites:

- dorsum of the hand
- antecubital fossa
- other e.g. leg, wrist

#### **SYLLABUS**

#### 1.3 Pharmacology

Presentation of drugs:

- properties
- actions
- indications and contra-indications of commonly used drugs including doses and potential hazards

#### Inhalation sedation:

nitrous oxide/oxygen

#### Oral sedation:

- diazepam
- temazepam
- midazolam

#### Intravenous sedation:

- midazolam
- flumazenil
- propofol
- other drugs e.g. opioids

#### 1.4 Equipment

#### Inhalation:

- machines in common use e.g. Quantiflex/Matrx MDM, McKesson
- components of the machine
- breathing systems
- scavenging systems (active and passive)
- pre-operative checks
- maintenance

#### Intravenous:

- needles
- cannulae
- syringes

#### **SYLLABUS**

#### Monitoring:

- pulse oximeter
- automatic blood pressure machine

Aspiration/Suction

#### Emergency:

- oxygen supply
- positive pressure ventilation bag
- drugs: indications for use

dose

potential hazards

- oral airways
- suction

#### 1.5 Medico-Legal

Current Department of Health/GDC guidelines for adults and children

The role of the "Second Appropriate Person"

Significance of the medical history

Consent

Pre and post-operative instructions

**Escort** 

Role of chaperon

COSHH and Health and Safety regulations

#### SECTION 2 SKILLS

#### to be able to:

#### 2.1 Prepare the environment

Select the appropriate equipment and items for the procedure

Check all relevant equipment is in working order

Identify faulty equipment and follow established protocols

Position equipment appropriately for the procedure

#### **SYLLABUS**

#### 2.2 Receive and prepare patient for sedation

Check patient's:

- notes for accuracy
- consent form
- have followed written instructions relative to the type of sedation used

Record blood pressure

#### 2.3 Provide close support during administration of sedation

Intravenous:

- select appropriate equipment
- assist during cannulation
- attach electromechanical monitoring devices and observe

#### Inhalation:

- select suitable nasal mask
- make suitable connections to RA machine and scavenging system

Techniques for airway protection

Monitor patient and report any deviation from acceptable physiological parameters

#### 2.4 Care for patient during recovery

Provide appropriate clinical and electromechanical monitoring

Remove cannula and dress site of venepuncture

Safe disposal of sharps/contaminated items

#### 2.5 Assist with management of complications/emergencies

Recognise and assist with the management of:

- respiratory depression/arrest
- airway obstruction
- cardiac arrest
- vasovagal attack (fainting)
- diabetic coma
- epilepsy
- angina

#### **SYLLABUS**

#### 2.5 contd

- myocardial infarction
- asthma
- drug reactions/overdosage

Establish and maintain airway

Provide effective Basic Life Support (+/- airway adjuncts)

Select emergency drugs and make ready for use

#### SECTION 3 ATTITUDES

#### 3.1 to acquire:

Caring attitude to patients requiring sedation

Ability to remain calm, decisive and purposeful whilst handling difficulties or emergencies

Appreciation of the need for keeping knowledge and skills up to date

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#### **READING LIST**

TITLE	AUTHOR	PUBLISHER	ISBN No
Pain and Anxiety Control for the Conscious Dental Patient	John Meechan, Nigel Robb & Robin Seymour	Oxford University Press	0192628488
Practical Conscious Sedation	David Craig & Meg Skelly	Quintessence Publishing	18509707
Sedation in Dentistry	N M Girdler & C M Hill	Reed Publishing	0723610525
Advanced Dental Nursing	Robert Ireland	Blackwell Publishing	1405109238

#### **Reports**

#### **Mandatory**

- Conscious Sedation in the Provision of Dental Care Commissioned by the Department of Health 2003 www.dh.gov.uk
- Conscious Sedation in Dentistry Dental Clinical Guidance Commissioned by Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme 2006 www.scottishdental.org/cep

#### Additional

 Standards for Conscious Sedation in Dentistry: Alternative Techniques Commissioned by Faculty of Dental Surgery, The Royal College of Surgeons England, The Royal College of Anaesthetists 2007 www.rcs.ac.uk

#### OTHER NEBDN QUALIFICATIONS

#### Post-Registration Qualifications

As well as the Certificate in Dental Sedation Nursing, 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 Oral Health Education**

This qualification tests the practical skills and theoretical knowledge necessary for the provision of oral health education in dental practice in a one to one situation or in small groups.

#### **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

BADN Sedation/GA National Group 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>

Dental Sedation Teachers Group www.dstg.co.uk

Society for the Advancement of Anaesthesia in Dentistry (SAAD) <a href="https://www.saaduk.org">www.saaduk.org</a>