

An Introduction
to
Guidelines
for
Accreditation & Training
in
General Dentistry

Membership in General Dentistry (MGD)



THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS OF HONG KONG

1. Qualification Framework on General Dentistry

Introduction

Given the challenges in the assuring quality dental health care to patient, a Qualification Framework on General Dentistry (QF GD) may be able to solve this important issue i.e. the benchmarking of competences standards, its attainment and maintenance.

A QF GD also allows diversity on mode of training for dentists and cooperation between internationally reputable organizations and local statutory bodies in conducting examination without sacrificing autonomy in defining context and format of recognition.

Qualification Framework (QF)

The QF is a hierarchy that orders and supports qualifications of academic, vocational and continuing education.

In the meantime, we focus on the level of competencies that are relevant to general dentists of at least 36 months of practice experience. A Diploma of Membership in General Dentistry will be granted to successful candidates.

The competence standards (CS) also provide guidance for young dentists in formulating their early vocational training plan.

All specialists are general dentists at the beginning and the QF GD will lay the strongest foundation for those who aspire to proceed to specialist training.

The organization, within CDSHK, to maintain the QF GD is the Committee of General Dentistry (CGD).

Competence Standards (CS)

To strengthen the profession leading role in the development of post-graduate training, so as to enhance the effectiveness of the latter, Competence Standards (CS) should be formulated by the relevant statutory bodies such as CDSHK.

These competence standards represent the profession benchmarks for the skills, knowledge and attributes required to perform to a satisfactory level.

There are two domains in competence for General Dental Practitioners, namely clinical competency and practice related competences. General Practice differs from traditional technique dominant specialties that practice related competences occupy a significant portion of a quality GDP. Effort should be invested in this aspect and the practitioner should be assessed in depth.

To ensure continued relevance of the CS, CDSHK must review and update the CS regularly to keep abreast of the latest developments. Minor amendments to the competency standards may be required regularly

Credit Point System (CPS)

Since CS-based programs are developed with units of competence in form of credit points. Trainees may have their qualifications including qualifications obtained from formal studies accumulated and move along the ladder of progression without the need to start from scratch.

The CS also provides clear progression pathways whereby trainees may draw up their own career development plans.

Part I -Clinical Competences

Examination	Credit Points carried
Taught Clinical Practice modules	20
Papers	10
Logs of Clinical Experience	10
Clinical Examination - OSCA	10

Part II -Practice Related Competences

Examination	Credits Points carried
Taught Essential of Dental Practice Modules	30
Practice Portfolio	10
Clinic Visitation	10

Training and Examination

After the CS has been formulated, training providers will be able to design education programs that would help trainees achieve the specified competence standards. As the competence standards were developed by CDSHK locally, the relevance of the education programs to the requirements of the profession would be ensured.

Upon completion of CS-based programs in form of taught modules and the requisite examination, trainees will possess skills that can be objectively measured.

Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT)

Under the QF, qualifications are not confined to local academic and training attainment. A Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) mechanism developed by CGD is in place to recognize existing dentists' skills, knowledge and work experience.

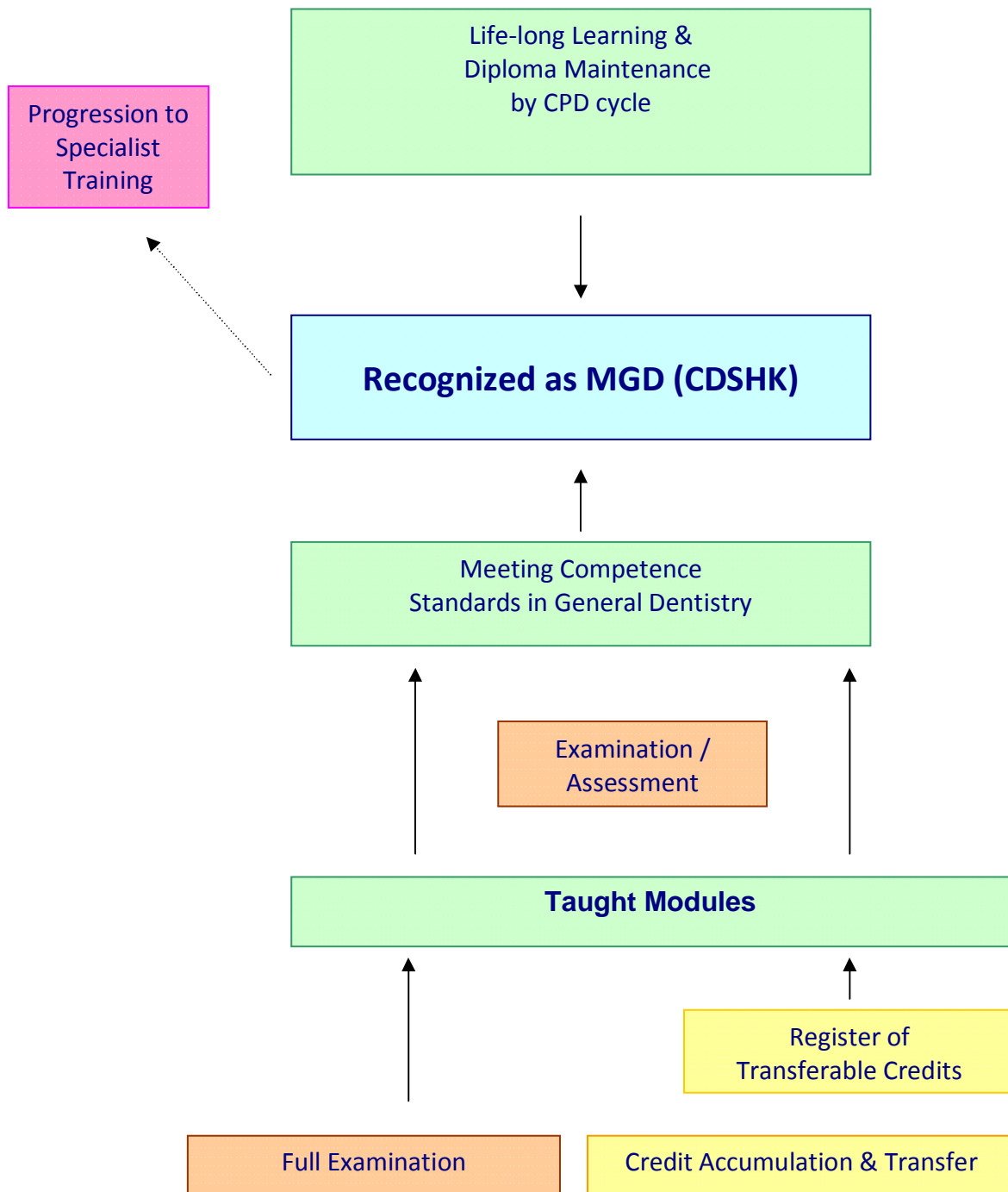
To facilitate lifelong learning, dentists require flexibility in the mode and pattern of learning to cater for their work and family responsibilities. A Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) system will provide the flexibility to suit individual circumstances and minimize duplication in training.

With a CAT system, trainees can systematically accumulate the credits of learning and training gained from various courses with a view to converting the accumulated credits to fulfill the requirements of the Membership in General Dentistry examination from CDSHK. The development of a Register of Transferable Credit (RTC) will facilitate CAT arrangement between bodies granting local and overseas qualifications by providing a unified platform and common benchmarks.

Life-long Learning by CPD cycle

To make the QF relevant to current general practice, holders of the Diploma of Membership in General Dentistry should commit to life long learning by entering into CDSHK CPD cycle for the Diploma maintenance.

The Qualification Framework on General Dentistry (QF GD) is depicted in the following diagram.



In conclusion, under the present QF GD, the destination is a Diploma of Membership in General Dentistry which can be obtained by

1. Taking the full MGD Examination or
2. Credit Accumulation and Transfer

2. Examination and Assessment

Part I – Clinical Competences

Section A

Taught modules

Completion of Taught **Clinical Practice Modules** based on **clinical competence** as prescribed by CGD and provided by accredited education program providers

Section B

- **Papers**

One Multiple Choice paper comprising 60 questions and one short answer paper comprising 20 questions, each of two hours duration

Section C

- **Log of Clinical Experience**

Candidates are required to submit 5 log cases of Clinical Experience selected from but not limited to the following clinical disciplines and demonstrate the competence standards as prescribed by CGD

- Dental imaging
- Oral disease prevention and oral health maintenance
- Pain and anxiety management
- Treatment of pulpal diseases
- Management of periodontal diseases
- Dental-alveolar surgery and therapeutics
- Management of emergencies
- Musculoskeletal and occlusal therapy
- Fundamental orthodontics
- Oral medicine, oral pathology and oral microbiology
- Caries management
- Management of pediatric patients
- Rehabilitative therapy
- Implant therapy
- Cosmetic dentistry

No repetition in clinical competence is allowed

The logs are expected to demonstrate the breadth and depth of the candidate's clinical experience in General Dentistry.

It is expected that each log will describe a short course of care or a single item of dental treatment. Each log should give a history and diagnosis, a description of the treatment provided, reasons for the choices made and comments on the treatment outcome.

- **Clinical Examination**

The clinical examination will be in the form of Objective Structured Clinical Assessment (OSCA) comprising multiple stations. The stations will relate to the clinical competences

The examination will be of one hour duration.

Part II – Practice Related Competences

Section A

Taught modules

Completion of Taught **Essentials of Dental Practice Modules** based on **practice related competences** as prescribed by CGD and provided by accredited education program providers

Section B

- **Practice Portfolio**

A practice portfolio consists of information describing the candidates' own practice in the following areas:

1. Infection Control
2. Staff Management
3. Risk Management including Statutory Compliance
4. Patient Education
5. Radiography
6. Clinical Record
7. Management of Medical Emergencies
8. Any other relevant areas

- **Clinic visitation**

A visit by two examiners to assess the candidate's practice, and conduct an oral examination based on the practice portfolio and logs of clinical experience.

The visitation will be of one hour duration.

3. MGD Training Program and Examination Timeline *

It is a **compulsory** training program according to the guideline of MGD and is based on the competency standards approved by CDSHK.

There are 23 lectures of 3 hours duration + 10 workshops on Clinical competences (CP), Essential of Dental Practice (EDP) and Supervised Dental Practice (SDP) for CAT candidates of Part II

The training program is to be delivered by CDSHK accredited program providers and is open to the profession.

Fee schedule*

MGD- Training	HKD
Training Program – composite fee	25,000
Training modules – individual Lecture	750
Training modules – individual Hands on/Workshop	1000-1500
MGD- Examination	HKD
Trainee annual fee	1,000
Exam Fee - Part I	7,500
Exam Fee – Part II	12,500
MGD- Membership Fee	HKD
Members Entrance Fee (New Admission)	3,500
Annual Subscription	1,000

* Provisional & subject to final approval of CDSHK council and depend on the number of enrollees

Training Program

Time	Activities	Lecture (hours)	Hands on / Workshop	Module No.
2009				
4	Confirmation of Education program providers			
6	Recruitment & Enrolment			
	Preparation of EDP / CP modules / Trainer recruitment			
	Preparation of EDP / CP modules / Train the Trainers			
8	Orientation Lecture	2		
	21 - information management and critical thinking	3	Literature appraisal	EDP4
	1 - examination of the patient	1	ODTP workshop	CP1
	2 - oral diagnosis	1		CP1
	3 - treatment planning	1		CP1
	4 - dental imaging	3	Radiography workshop	EDP1

Time	Activities	Lecture	Hands on / Workshop	Module No.
2010		(hours)		
	5 - oral disease prevention and oral health maintenance	3		CP2
	6 - pain and anxiety management	3		CP3
	7 - treatment of pulpal diseases	3		CP4
	8 - management of periodontal diseases	3		CP5
	9 - dental-alveolar surgery and therapeutics	3	Dental therapeutics update	CP6
	11 - musculoskeletal and occlusal therapy	3		CP7
	12 - fundamental orthodontics	3		CP8
	13 - oral medicine, oral pathology and oral microbiology	3		CP9
	14 - caries management	3		CP10
	15 - management of pediatric patients	3		CP11
	16 - dental material science	3		CP12
	17 - rehabilitative therapy	3		CP13
	18 - implant therapy	3	Implant planning and demonstration	CP14
	19 - cosmetic dentistry	3		CP15
10	Launch online learning Platform			
	20 – ethics	3		EDP3
	Deadline of Part II submission - Clinical logs			
	10 - management of emergencies	3	Advanced life support and use of emergency drugs	EDP2/SDP1
	23 - establishing and maintaining a practice	3	Infection control workshop	EDP6/SDP2
11	Exam-Part I			
	24 - office systems	3	Preparation -Practice Manual / Practice inspection	EDP7/SDP3
	25 - personnel management	3		EDP7/SDP3

Time	Activities	Lecture	Hands on / Workshop	Module No.
2011		(hours)		
	22 – communication	3	Risk management & Complaint handling	EDP5
	26 - community involvement	3		EDP8
4	Deadline of Part II submission - Practice report			
5	Exam-Part II			

4. MGD Trainer Program

One of the main features of MGD is its trainee support on learning. CGD will recruit a pool of trainers of good academic standing and general dentistry experience to mentor and assist the learning and examination of MGD trainees.

Each MGD trainee will be assigned a trainer by random and the trainer's main duties are

Trainer – Part I

1. to log the training from taught modules for Part I
2. to guide the preparation of log of clinical experience

Trainer - Part II

1. to log the training from taught modules for Part II
2. to guide the preparation of Practice Portfolio
3. to conduct mock clinic inspection and give feedback

It is understood that the trainers by no means represent the official stances of the CGD or the College, their experience in similar examination process will be valuable to candidates.