

A
Candidate's
Guide
to
MGD
Training
2021 ~ 2023

Membership in General Dentistry (MGD)



THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS OF HONG KONG

Information for MGD Candidates (2021 - 2023 Diet)

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1. Qualification Framework on General Dentistry

1.1 Introduction

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

A QF GD also allows diversity on the modes 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.

1.2 Qualification Framework (QF)

The QF is a hierarchy that orders and supports qualifications of academic, vocational and continuing education. The focus is on the levels of competencies that are relevant to general dentists who have 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).

1.3 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 relevant statutory bodies such as CDSHK.

These competence standards represent the profession benchmarks for the skills, knowledge and attributes required for a dentist 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 in 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. As a result, minor amendments to the competence standards may be required.

1.4 Credit Point System (CPS)

CS-based programs are developed with units of competence in the 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 the beginning. See Tables 1 and 2 for reference.

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

Table 1: Part I - Clinical Competences

Examination	Credit Points Carried
Taught Clinical Practice Modules	20
Papers	10
Logs of Clinical Experience	10
Clinical Examination – OSCA	10

Table 2: Part II - Practice Related Competences

Examination	Credits Points Carried
Taught Essential of Dental Practice Modules	30
Practice Portfolio	10
Clinic Visitation + Unseen Viva Voce	10

1.5 Training and Examination

With the established CS, training providers are then able to design education programs that would help trainees achieve the specified competence standards.

Since the competence standards are 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 the form of taught modules and the requisite examinations, trainees will possess skills that can be objectively measured.

1.6 Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT)

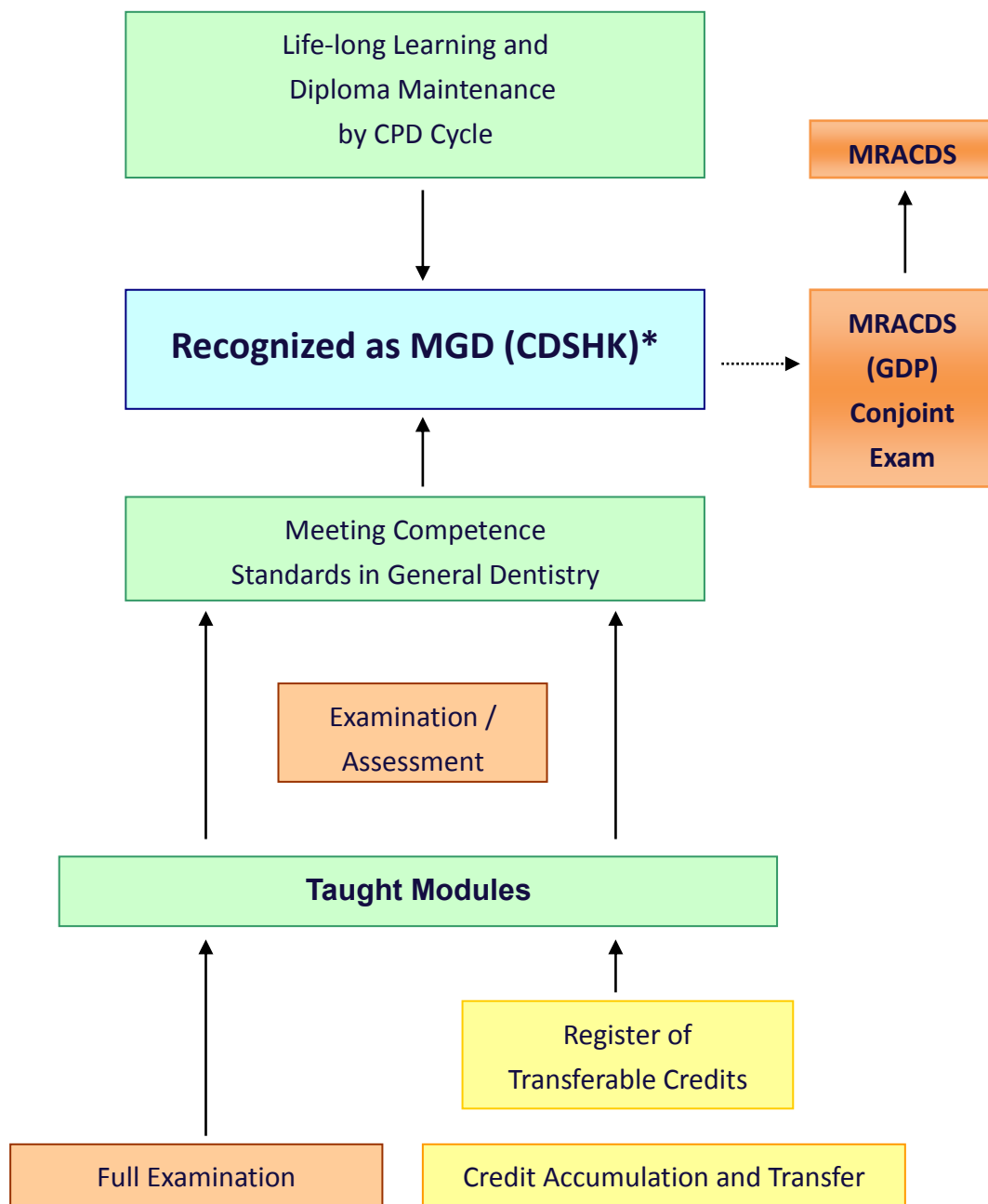
Under the QF, qualifications are not confined to local academic and training attainment. A Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) mechanism developed by CGD is in place to recognize existing dentists' skills, knowledge and work experience.

To facilitate life-long learning, dentists require flexibility in the modes and patterns 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 examinations 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.

1.7 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 the CDSHK CPD cycle for Diploma maintenance. The Qualification Framework on General Dentistry (QF GD) is depicted in Figure 1.



*Candidates are required to submit a “Letter of Good Standing” before they are eligible to apply for MGD. (issued within 6 months of the submission date of the MGD application to the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong)

Figure 1: Qualification Framework on General Dentistry (QF GD)

Under the present QF GD, the aim for the candidates is to obtain the Diploma of Membership in General Dentistry, which can be achieved by:

1. Passing the full MGD Examination, or
2. Credit Accumulation and Transfer and passing the relevant parts of the MGD Examination.

2. Examination and Assessment

2.1 Part I Examination – Clinical Competences

Section A – Taught Clinical Practice Modules

To qualify, the candidate must complete the taught Clinical Practice Modules based on clinical competences, prescribed by the Committee of General Dentistry (CGD), provided by accredited education program providers.

Evidence of completion of these modules must be provided in the “Training Log”.

Section B – Papers

The examination will consist of Paper I – Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) paper comprising 60 questions of 90 minute duration, and Paper II – Short Answer Question (SAQ) paper comprising 15 questions of 120 minute duration. The papers are based on the MGD competence document and are aimed to assess knowledge and applied knowledge. The two papers may carry different credit points.

Paper I – MCQ

This will include different formats in Single Best Answer (SBA) form, and/or multiple short answer questions in Extending Matching Question (EMQ) form.

Paper II – SAQ

It consists of questions requiring short answers. Candidates are advised to provide answers either in full sentences or point form of appropriate length.

Section C – Clinical Examination (OSCA)

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

The examination will be of approximately 90 minute duration. The OSCA component is aimed at assessing the candidate’s skills, competencies, and application of knowledge. There will be around eight OSCA stations of eight minutes each. A candidate will be asked to complete a practical task or a paper-based exercise that is linked to a discipline related to the clinical competences. There may be rest stations resulting in a circuit time of approximately 90 minutes.

Section D – Log of Clinical Experience (LCE)

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

- Management of Caries and Non-Caries Tooth Substance Loss
- Treatment of Pulpal Diseases
- Management of Periodontal Diseases
- Dental-Alveolar Surgery and Therapeutics
- Fixed Prosthodontic Therapy
- Removable Prosthodontic Therapy
- Implant Therapy
- Aesthetic Dentistry
- Musculoskeletal and Occlusal Therapy
- Management of Toothwear
- Management of Traumatic Injuries
- Management of Pediatric Patients
- Special Needs 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.

A sufficient and appropriate pre-operative and post-operative documentation for the examiners to assess the clinical treatment outcome is required. It is expected that the candidate provides a holistic course of treatment. Do not write on the nominated competence only. The whole course of treatment should be described, but fewer details are required on items outside the nominated competence.

Candidates are suggested not to select a case which is far too simple for the MGD Examination. Insufficient documentation or choosing overly simple cases for examination purposes may lead to poor results. Written consent from the four patients for releasing his/her information to be used in the logged cases must be obtained.

The candidate should submit soft Microsoft Word version and two printed copies in A4 size paper. Each log should be less than 1500 words and contain no more than 15 non-word images such as clinical photos, X-rays, chartings and tables.

2.2 Part II Examination – Practice Related Competences

Section A - Taught Modules

The taught Essentials of Dental Practice Modules, delivered by accredited education program providers, must be based on the practice related competences as prescribed by CGD. Evidence of completion of these modules must be provided in the Training Log.

Section B - Practice Portfolio

Each candidate is required to submit a Practice Portfolio which consists of information describing the candidate's own practice in the following areas:

- Infection Control
- Staff Management
- Risk Management including Statutory Compliance
- Patient Education
- Radiography
- Clinical Record
- Management of Medical Emergencies
- Any other relevant areas

Candidates should limit the Portfolio to 2500 words and not more than a total number of 20 photos, diagrams, tables, etc.

Notes:

Format: Candidates are required to follow the standard format as required by CGD.

Photos: Candidates using the same photos taken from the same clinic are required to indicate with whom the photos are shared.

Charts: Candidates must give credit to the source of the charts adopted, such as from which dental books or with whom the charts are shared.

Content: Candidates plagiarising will lead to failure of examinations. COPY and PASTE is not allowed.

The candidates are required to spend the majority of his/her clinical hours in the six months prior to the date of Clinic Visitation.

Plagiarism will be taken seriously. Turning in work from other dental colleague is a flagrant violation of the examination policy. Suspected plagiarism will be investigated and may incur serious consequences. Any cases of suspected plagiarism will be dealt with in the CGD.

Section C – Clinic Visitation and Unseen Viva Voce

(1) 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 last approximately 90 minutes.

(2) Unseen Viva Voce

Unseen viva voce for Conjoint MGD/MRACDS:

A viva voce examination on an unseen clinical case will be conducted. Each candidate will be examined by two examiners, one from RACDS and the other from CDSHK. The duration of the viva exam will be at least 20 minutes for each candidate.

Unseen viva voce for MGD only:

A viva voce examination on an unseen clinical case will be conducted. Each candidate will be examined by two examiners from CDSHK. The duration of the viva exam will be at least 20 minutes for each candidate.

3. MGD Training Program and Examination

According to the Guideline of MGD, this is a compulsory training program and is based on the competency standards approved by CDSHK.

The Training Program Schedule will be announced to all dentists in Hong Kong. The number of lectures and workshops may vary from quarter to quarter. Trainees will be notified of the scheduled lectures and workshops before the start of each quarter. The training program is to be delivered by CDSHK accredited program providers and is open to the profession.

Trainees are required to attend a minimum of 80% (including 60% physical attendance) of lectures and workshops of CP and EDP modules. Lectures and workshops will be video recorded whenever possible. For trainees who cannot attend the lectures and workshops, the videos may be made available for review in the Council Chamber on demand. Note that:

1. Each lecture (session) is 3 hours, candidates are required to view the video for at least 2.5 hours per session, otherwise, the attendance of the lecture will not be counted.
2. Candidates can view the video recording for a maximum of 2 lectures (sessions) per day, i.e., 6 hours for 2 sessions.

It should be noted that no additional workshops and lectures will be arranged for absentees. Trainees who fail to comply with this training can write to the chief examiners for special considerations.

Trainees who withdraw from the Training Program will not be entitled to any refund of composite fee.

Non-MGD Trainees are not eligible for sitting the MGD Examinations even though they have attended the MGD Training Programme.

3.1 Retake MGD Training Programme Policy

Trainees who fail “twice” in MGD Part I or II Examination in the two consecutive diets, he / she is required to participate in the taught modules next diet. In addition, candidates who never sit for the examination in two consecutive diets, candidates

are required to retake the taught modules requested by the CGD.

4. Schedule and Examiners

For full details, please refer to “A Candidate Guide to MGD Examination”.

4.1 Submission and Examination Schedule

Table 3 shows the submission and examination schedule for the 2021-2023 diet.

Table 3: Submission and Examination Schedule for the 2021-2023 Diet

Time	Activities
2022	
November	Deadline for Part I Submission - Clinical Logs
2023	
January	Part I Examination
July	Deadline for Part II Submission - Practice Portfolio
August	Part II Examination

4.2 Examiners

The list of appointed members of the CGD Working Group on Examination – 2021-2023 diet is in Appendix A. Trainees are not allowed to contact any MGD examiners on any matters relating to the MGD examination. Failure to do so may be considered as misconduct. The concerned examiner will report to CGD and the incident will be dealt with by the CGD Working Group on Examination. However, this does not prohibit any normal professional contacts with colleagues who happen to be an MGD examiner.

In case of enquiries on the examinations, please contact the CDSHK secretariat or CGD for assistance and information.

5. MGD Mentor Program

5.1 Mentor-Trainee

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

It is understood that the mentors by no means represent the official stances of CGD or the College, their experience in similar examination processes will be valuable to trainees. Each MGD trainee will be assigned a mentor by random and the mentor's main duties are:

Mentor - Part I

1. To log the training from taught modules for Part I
2. To guide the preparation of the Log of Clinical Experience
3. To fill in a Training Progress Assessment Form (submit in August 2022)

Mentor - Part II

1. To log the training from taught modules for Part II
2. To guide the preparation of the Practice Portfolio
3. To conduct mock clinic inspection and provide feedback
4. To fill in a Training Progress Assessment Form (submit in June/August 2023)

Candidates are required to contact their assigned mentors REGULARLY so that the mentors could monitor the candidates' training progress, otherwise, candidates may not be eligible to sit for the MGD Examinations.

It is normally not acceptable to change the assigned mentor except when he/she fails to fulfill his/her duties. Candidates can write to the Convenor of the Working Group on Training in case there are any issues or concerns on mentors.

5.2 Training Log

Candidates are required to keep all attendance certificates of the lectures and workshops. At the end of the CP/ EDP training modules and before signing up for Part I or II, trainees are required to present the records to their mentors for inspection and signatures.

Trainees who do not keep complete records and fail to complete the required training will not be allowed to enter into the examination. See Appendix B for the list of training logs, mentor information and cover page for certificates of attendance.

6. MGD Study Group

CDSHK encourages trainees to form study groups for:

- sharing information and intellectual exchange
- fostering fraternity and professional relationships
- reflecting collectively to CGD regarding the MGD training and examination

Forming the study group is voluntary and financially self sustained.

Candidates who are interested in forming study groups may contact CGD or the Convenor of the Working Group on Training for further information.

**Appendix A – Appointed Members of the CGD Working Group on
Examination – 2021-2023 Diet.**

Chief Examiner

Dr NG Chi Hong Philip

Panel of Examiners

To be confirmed

***NEW MGD Examiners should be acted an observer before he/she can perform his/her duty as a
MGD Examiner.**

Appendix B – Training Logs, Mentors and Certificate of Attendance

1. Training Log: MGD Part I Examination – Clinical Practice Training Modules
2. Training Log: MGD Part I Examination – Logs of Clinical Experience
3. Training Log: MGD Part II Examination – Essentials of Dental Practice Modules and Supervised Dental Practice Program Training Modules
4. Training Log: MGD Part II Examination – Mock Clinic Visitation
5. List of Mentors and Contact Information
6. Cover Page for the MGD Training Program 2021-2023 Original Copies of Certificates of Attendance



Training Log

MGD Part I Examination – Clinical Practice (CP) Training Modules

Name of Mentor:

Name of Trainee:

Trainee No.:

This is to certify that the Trainee has presented his / her attendance certificates in the Membership in General Dentistry training program and fulfils the requirements of lectures and workshops on Clinical Practice Training Modules.

Signature of Mentor

Date: / / 2022



Training Log

MGD Part I Examination – Logs of Clinical Experience (LCE)

Name of Mentor:

Name of Trainee:

Trainee No.:

This is to certify that the Trainee has presented his / her Logs of Clinical Experience on

..... / / 2022 Case History 1 - Red

..... / / 2022 Case History 2 - Blue

..... / / 2022 Case History 3 - Green

..... / / 2022 Case History 4 - Black

and advice was given according to 'A Candidate Guide to MGD Examination'.

Signature of Mentor

Date: / / 2022



Training Log

MGD Part II Examination - Essentials of Dental Practice Modules (EDP) and Supervised Dental Practice Program Training Modules (SDP)

Name of Mentor:

Name of Trainee:

Trainee No.:

This is to certify that the Trainee has presented his / her attendance certificates in the Membership in General Dentistry training program and fulfils the requirements of lectures and workshops on Essentials of Dental Practice Modules / Supervised Dental Practice Program Training Modules.

Signature of Mentor

Date: / / 2023



Training Log

MGD Part II Examination – Mock Clinic Visitation

Name of Mentor:

Name of Trainee:

Trainee No.:

This is to certify that the Trainee has presented his / her clinic setting on
..... / / 2023 and advice was given according to the 'MGD
Examination – Clinic Checklist'.

Signature of Mentor

Date: / / 2023

List of Mentors

Trainees are encouraged to contact their assigned mentors or CGD for any enquires. The following is the list of appointed members of the CGD Working Group on Training – 2021-2023 diet.

Mentors

To be confirmed

MGD Training Program 2021-2023

Original Copies of Certificates of Attendance