

**THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS  
OF  
HONG KONG**



**Regulations  
relating to  
FCDSHK Intermediate Examination  
In  
the Specialty of Family Dentistry**

October 2013

## **Content**

	Page
A. General Regulations	3
B. List of Overseas Qualifications regarded as equivalent to having passed the Intermediate Examination in Family Dentistry	7
C. Guide to Candidates	
1. Scope of the Examination	8
2. Content of the Examination	9

## **A. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

1. Fellow of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong (FCDSHK) Intermediate Examination (the Examination) in the Specialty of Family Dentistry may be granted to those who possess dental qualifications which are acceptable to the Council of the CDSHK and who comply with the regulations of the College.
2. The Examination is normally held annually. The dates of the Examination and the fees payable are set out in the Examination calendar which is obtainable from the CDSHK.
3. Application for admission to Part I of the Examination must be received no later than the closing date as indicated in the Examination calendar with the full payment.
4. Application for admission to Part II of the Examination must be received no later than the closing date as indicated in the Examination calendar with the full payment.
5. Candidates who do not fulfill normal entry requirements may apply to the College for special consideration with very strong supporting reasons and necessary evidence.
6. Candidates withdrawing from either Part of the Examination must do so in writing to the College prior to the closing date of Examination application. The examination fee will be returned, less 20% for administrative charges, or transferred to the next diet of the Examination. Half of the examination fee will be returned or transferred to the next diet of the Examination where written notice is received not less than 21 days before the commencement of the Examination. After which no refund or transfer of examination fee will be made for any reason. No allowance will be given to postal or other delays.
7. Admission to Part I  
Candidates will be admitted to Part I of the Examination on production of evidence that they have been engaged in the clinical practice of general dentistry for not less than three years after obtaining a basic dental qualification.
8. Admission to Part II

Candidates will be admitted to Part II of the Examination provided that they have :

- 8.1 successfully completed Part I of the Examination or have obtained an equivalent qualification (see Exemptions on P.6);
- 8.2 completed the 4-year Basic Training in Family Dentistry;
- 8.3 produced evidence that they have attended at least 200 hours of approved and verified CPD activities in the four years immediately prior to the date of the Part II of the Examination; and

Note :

Candidates may present for both Parts of the Examination in the same diet, provided they have fulfilled the requirements of entry to each Part.

9. Candidates who desire to make representations with regard to the conduct of their examination must address them to the College and not in any circumstances to an examiner.
10. The College Council may either refuse to admit to the Examination or refuse to examine any candidate who infringes any of the Regulations or any candidate who is considered by the examiners to be guilty of behaviour prejudicial to the proper management and conduct of the Examination.
11. The Examination consists of :
  - PART I
    - i. Section A will consist of a written Paper I of three hours' duration, consisting of essay type questions;
    - ii. Section B will consist of a written Paper II of two hours' duration, consisting of 20 compulsory questions requiring short answers.

PART II

- i. Section A will consist of an assessment of four case histories each describing a patient personally treated by the candidate;
- ii. Section B will consist of a visit by two examiners to assess the candidate's practice, to examine the records of the four case histories, and conduct an oral examination based on the four case histories and the conduct of the practice;

- iii. Section C will consist of a clinical examination on diagnosis and treatment planning of approximately one hour's duration;
- iv. Section D will consist of an oral examination of not more than 40 minutes' duration on any aspect of clinical dental practice.

Note :

- (a) Candidates who fail the Examination after acceptance of their case histories by the College may not be required to submit further case histories if applying for either of the following two diets;
  - (b) Candidates whose case histories are rejected at the initial stage of the Examination will be debarred from proceeding further with the Examination and a refund of 80% of the examination fee will be returned;
  - (c) Candidates failing to pass the visitation and case histories examination will be informed and debarred from proceeding further with the Examination. There will be no refund of any part of the examination fee for such candidates;
  - (d) Candidates who are affected by an unforeseen change of practice location may apply to the College for special arrangements for the inspection of practice premises and patients;
12. Successful candidates will be granted Membership in the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong on payment of such election fee and annual subscription as may be determined from time to time by the Council of the College. Members in the College may participate in College educational and social activities.

## EXEMPTIONS :

### Part I

- i. Exemption from Part I may be granted if in addition to the production of evidence that the candidate has been engaged in the clinical practice of general dental surgery for not less than three years after obtaining a basic dental qualification, the candidate has passed the Part I MGDS of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh;
- ii. Exemption from Part I may be granted if in addition to the production of evidence that the candidate has been engaged in the clinical practice of general dental surgery for not less than three years after obtaining a basic dental qualification the candidate has
  - (a) passed the MFGDP(UK) post 1998; or DGDP(UK) by examination; or
  - (b) passed the MGD(CDSHK) by examination; or
  - (c) passed the FRACDS(general stream) by examination; or
  - (d) passed an examination equivalent to Part I of the Intermediate Examination which is approved by the Specialty Board in Family Dentistry of the CDSHK.
- iii. Candidates who do not fulfill the normal entry requirements may apply by writing for special consideration.

### Part II

No exemption from Part II of the Examination will be granted.

**B. List of Overseas Qualifications Regarded as Equivalent to Having Passed the Intermediate Examination in Family Dentistry**

As there are many higher dental qualifications in various countries, it is not possible to draw up an exhaustive list of overseas qualifications that can be regarded as equivalent to having passed the Intermediate Examination in the Specialty of Family Dentistry training. Applications for the exemption from the Intermediate Examination will be assessed on individual basis by the Council of the College. The following is an example considered to be equivalent to the Intermediate Examination :

The United Kingdom - MGDS RCSEd

## **C. GUIDE TO CANDIDATES**

### **1. SCOPE OF THE EXAMINATION**

The candidates would be assessed by examination for their knowledge of and applications in all aspects of their clinical dental practices that include :

- ✧ health and safety in clinical dentistry: the knowledge and its application in occupational hazards; hazard and risk management; uses and storage of hazardous material; chemical and clinical waste handling and disposal; radiation protection;
- ✧ current concepts and practical application in infection control for clinical dentistry;
- ✧ practice management including staff training, record keeping, and time management, internal and external marketing, ethical and medico-legal considerations, risk management, stress management, public relations, logistics and stock control;
- ✧ updated knowledge in dental clinical and non-clinical materials and a working knowledge of laboratory materials;
- ✧ update in paediatric dentistry including behavioural management, preventive programmes, caries management and dental traumatology;
- ✧ pain management in dentistry including analgesia, anaesthesia, relative analgesia, sedation, pharmacology and psychology;
- ✧ applied anatomy relating to the spread of infection, various dental procedures e.g. construction of dentures or the administration of anaesthetics and surgical diagnosis and treatment;
- ✧ medicine and emergency medicine in relation to dentistry;
- ✧ current concepts and applications in endodontics;
- ✧ oral medicine and pathology in primary dental practice and minor oral surgery;
- ✧ periodontics;
- ✧ restorative and operative dentistry;

- ✧ diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the stomatognathic system including temporomandibular dysfunction syndrome and other orofacial pain syndromes;
- ✧ prosthodontics;
- ✧ aesthetic and adhesive dentistry;
- ✧ special needs dentistry;
- ✧ geriatric dentistry;
- ✧ dental radiology and radiography;
- ✧ orthodontic principles and practice related to primary dental practice;
- ✧ pharmacology and therapeutics;
- ✧ implantology.

## **2. CONTENT OF THE EXAMINATION**

### PART I

1. Section A - Paper I will consist of two questions on the clinical application of basic dental sciences and four questions on the clinical practice of dental surgery. Candidates will be required to give essay type answers for one basic science question and three of the questions on general dental surgery during a period of three hours;
2. Section B - Paper II will consist of 20 questions requiring short answers, all of which must be answered and for which candidates will be allowed two hours.

### PART II

1. Fully Documented Case History Presentation (Case History)

The fully documented case histories should contain appropriate illustrative material and each case history should describe the treatment of a patient within the candidate's practice. The case histories should relate to a wide range of clinical conditions. Each case history should demonstrate the candidate's ability to manage problems properly dealt within the clinical

practice of Family Dentistry, and the cases may display the areas of dentistry in which the candidate has special interests and skills.

Cases in which the advice of hospital consultants or other colleagues has been obtained may be included if most of the treatment has been carried out by the candidate and those items of treatment provided by other clinicians are clearly indicated.

No special emphasis should be placed on the selection of patients with rare or obscure conditions.

## 2. Practice Visitation

Candidates will be informed of the acceptance or rejection of their case histories within approximately three weeks following the closing date for the receipt of submissions. Arrangements will then be made with candidates whose case histories are accepted by the College for two examiners to visit the candidate's practice and examine the records of the case histories.

Prior to the Practice Visitation the candidate will be sent a Practice Portfolio to complete, return to the Practice Visitors, and to retain a copy. The Practice Visitors may discuss the Practice Portfolio during the visitation but its primary intention is educational and should alert the candidate to the expectations of the Practice Visitors.

Following the tour of the practice premises and the examination of the records of the case histories, the examiners will conduct an oral examination of the four case histories and the conduct of the practice, which will relate to organisation, facilities and standards adopted for radiography, sterilisation and prevention of cross-infection; equipment available and other features and impressions gained. The Practice Visitation and related oral examinations will not normally exceed two hours, exclusive of breaks.

The examiners will submit a report to the College who will inform the candidate of the result of the Practice Visitation, and the associated oral examination.

## 3. Clinical Examination

The clinical examination is based on diagnosis and treatment planning for a simulated clinical case with problems which may be encountered in general dental practice. Candidates will be allowed 30 minutes for their examination of the patient' records and a similar period will be spent with the examiners. All appropriate materials and records will be available.

#### 4. Oral Examination

This Section will consist of an oral examination which will be conducted by not more than three examiners over a period not exceeding 40 minutes and it will relate to any aspect of clinical dental practice.

Candidates should note that these syllabi are indicative of the areas of knowledge expected of candidates. They are not intended to be exhaustive or to exclude other items of knowledge which are of similar relevance.

#### NOTES

1. Approved CPD activities :  
All candidates must present certified evidence of attendance at not less than 200 hours of approved and verified CPD activities during the four years immediately preceding eligibility for the Part II Examination;
2. Each of the four cases presented should have a separate case history. Each case history should not normally exceed 5000 words (excluding appropriate appendices). All presentations should be typed and adequately bound in a robust, flat type A4 format book with clear PVC pockets. A duplicate copy must be submitted in PDF format for each case history. Failure to do so will lead to a refusal of application for entry to the examination;
3. Radiographs, photographs, transparencies, study/working models and any other presentation aids should be provided where appropriate and these should be clearly described in the text. The originals should be retained in the candidate's own case histories and copies used in the duplicate case histories, submitted to the College, must be of an equivalent standard;

4. Each case history and associated illustrative material (e.g. radiographs, study models etc) should be identifiable, using coloured adhesive labels viz:

Case History 1: Red

Case History 2: Blue

Case History 3: Green

Case History 4: Black

5. The candidate's name or initials must not be shown on the material;
6. Only the patient's initials, sex, date of birth and relevant social status should be shown;
7. The addresses of the candidates and the patients should not be indicated;
8. Each case history should give a brief description of the relevant history and the results following clinical examination and investigations adopted. The candidate should also give his/her assessment of the diagnostic features and discuss the treatment plan advised. Emphasis should be placed on the careful and complete assessment of the patient's needs in the light of all relevant circumstances. The candidate should refer to any further investigations and/or treatment which may be required and comment on any special difficulties which necessitated a modification of the initial treatment plan.
9. Each case history should end with an appraisal of the result of the course or courses of treatment, together with a discussion of whether the objectives were fully achieved. Candidates should also indicate if the results provided useful lessons which might influence the management of similar problems in the future.
10. Each case history should be accompanied by the following declaration signed and dated by the candidate and sealed in a separate envelope :

*"I declare that the treatment of the case presented in this Case History is my own work except where otherwise indicated."*