

THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS

OF

HONG KONG

Guidelines

For

Accreditation and Training

In

Periodontology

September 2023

Revised Training Guidelines in Specialty of Periodontology in 2023

1. Purpose

The Specialty Board in Periodontology of The College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong has recently updated the training guidelines.

2. Revised Training Guidelines

- a. The change in scope of basic training
- b. The change in higher training in terms of competency-based training and log book documentation
- c. The change in the exit examination of the part in written section and the categories presented in documented case reviews

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The specialty of Periodontology is a discipline of Dentistry that covers knowledge to upkeep gum health and tackle periodontal diseases and conditions.
- 1.2 It also deals with dental implant planning, placement, and supportive care.
- 1.3 A Periodontist is a specialist registered with the Hong Kong Dental Council and should have undergone specialist training and assessment in Periodontology.
- 1.4 A trainee should have satisfied all the postgraduate training and assessment criteria laid down by the Specialty Board in Periodontology before becoming a specialist.
- 1.5 Basic and higher specialist training in Periodontology in Hong Kong is a joint endeavor between the Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong (HKU), operated under the accredited training centers currently including Prince Philip Dental Hospital and the Institute for Advanced Dentistry Multi-Specialty Clinic (IAD MSC; Basic and Higher training), and the Government Dental Services (Higher training).

2. Structure of Training

- 2.1 The training in Periodontology should encompass a minimum of 6 years of full-time (F/T) equivalent training, comprising of 4 years of basic training, followed by 2 years of higher specialist training.
- 2.2 The training can be composed of:
 - a) One year of general dentistry and five years of clinical periodontology,

- b) A structured 3-year full time clinical periodontology Master programme equivalent to the current MDS (Periodontology) Programme offered by the Faculty of Dentistry, the University of Hong Kong. At the end of the training, the trainee shall sit for and pass an intermediate examination deemed appropriate by the Specialty Board,
- c) A structured 2-year F/T equivalent clinical periodontology programme at an accredited training centre, including a pre-determined quantity of supervised practice. At the end of the training, the trainee shall sit for and pass an exit examination organized by the Specialty Board on behalf of CDSHK.

2.3 First year of the training, the trainee is required to gain clinical experience in general dentistry at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, the Government Dental Services or other practices approved by Specialty Board in Periodontology.

2.4 Second to the fourth year of the training, the trainee should engage in a full-time, structured training programme in Periodontology in an approved training institution. In Hong Kong, the Master of Dental Surgery in Periodontology (MDS (Perio) provided by the Faculty of Dentistry, HKU is the approved programme and it is also currently accredited by the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP). (Appendix I)

2.5 During the fifth and sixth years, the trainee will undergo structured higher specialist training at an accredited training centre, including approved practice.

3. Criteria for Entry into the Training Programme

3.1 A basic dental degree, which is registerable at the Dental Council of Hong Kong.

3.2 The trainee must be a registered dentist at the Dental Council of Hong Kong.

4. Supervisors of Training Centres

- 4.1 Supervisors of training centres must be nominated by the Specialty Board in Periodontology, approved by E&EC and appointed by the council of CDSHK.
- 4.2 Supervisors should be specialists in Periodontology and Fellows of CDSHK and Fellows of Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM).
- 4.3 Supervisors should be associated with one of the accredited training centres.
- 4.4 Supervisors must have agreed the educational goals of the programme.
- 4.5 Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that trainees are adequately exposed to advanced periodontally involved patients and acquire the competencies to manage daily common periodontal problems.
- 4.6 Supervisors have the following responsibilities:
 - a. Selection from the panel of CDSHK appointed Periodontology trainers and assign the trainer to mentor individual higher trainee. Concerning basic training, the Supervisor will work hand in hand with the Periodontology Postgraduate Program Director to ensure appropriate content and quality of training is delivered
 - b. Development, implementation, and evaluation of the programme
 - c. Evaluate trainers and trainees' performance
 - d. In consultation with trainers involved, to determine if a particular trainee is deemed suitable/ready to sit for Intermediate/Exit examination
 - e. Planning and operation of the facility used in the programme

- f. Maintenance of records related to the educational programme
- g. Overall continuity and quality of trainees' patient care and communication skills
- h. Inspect and evaluate the approved clinical practice is appropriate

5. Trainers

- 5.1 Trainers are nominated by Specialty board in Periodontology, approved by E&EC and appointed by the council of CDSHK.
- 5.2 Trainers should be specialists and Fellows of CDSHK and Fellows of HKAM. In case of Basic training, trainers could be non-Fellow but registered periodontal specialists in Hong Kong or whoever acquired Periodontology specialist status from a recognized statutory body overseas.
- 5.3 Higher trainees' trainers should be Fellows of CDSHK and Fellows of HKAM for at least 2 years.
- 5.4 Trainers are encouraged to participate in teaching activities, including conferences and seminars.
- 5.5 Trainers should be teaching staff, affiliated or honorary staff of related training centres.
- 5.6 Two trainers should normally supervise one trainee in the years of Higher Specialist Training.
- 5.7 Trainers have the following responsibilities to the trainee: to
 - a. Provide general guidance in training and self-learning

- b. Ensure trainees recognize their own competencies and deficiencies
- c. Monitor the progress of trainees to ensure that they meet the major competencies
- d. Ensure the trainees acquire adequate communication skills
- e. Inspect, ensure the accuracy of, and sign the trainee's logbook at least every six months
- f. Give formative assessment and feedback and sign trainee evaluation form and forward to Supervisor
- g. Ensure the trainees follow professional ethics, attitudes, and behaviours

5.8 Trainers and trainees need not work in the same accredited training centre but trainers-trainees should keep regular contact and ensure appropriate and adequate clinical experience the trainees are exposed.

6. Physical Facilities and Resources of an Accredited Training Unit

6.1 Training units responsible for basic and higher specialist training in Periodontology must be accredited by the E&EC, approved by the council of CDSHK, and reviewed every five years. A training unit may comprise more than one site.

6.2 A training unit must have at least one college appointed supervisor and one trainer.

6.3 The training unit must have:

- a. Adequate resources to provide educational experiences and learning opportunities

- b. Sufficient facilities and human resources for trainees to carry out patient care
- c. Sufficient space for instruction
- d. Sufficient periodontal patients

6.4 In higher specialist training years, Specialty Board in Periodontology with the approval of E&EC could recommend an “Approved practice” for training.

6.5 In approved practice, clinical facilities must be properly equipped for the performance of all patient care procedures relevant to Periodontology.

6.6 Equipment and supplies for managing medical emergencies must be readily accessible and functional.

6.7 There must be sufficient of patients in need of periodontal therapy to ensure adequate exposure of trainees to a range of diagnostic and treatment modalities as specified by the Specialty Board in Periodontology.

7. Basic Training

7.1 Eligibility

- a. Graduation with an undergraduate dental degree
- b. Registered at the Dental Council of Hong Kong
- c. One-year post-graduation general dentistry experience
- d. 30 points of CME obtained during the first-year clinical practice

- e. Currently at the first year of the 3-year full time MDS(Perio) programme in the Faculty of Dentistry, HKU. (Appendix I)
- f. For overseas periodontology programme, the SB in Periodontology will consider the application in a case-by-case basis

7.2 Training Requirements

- a. Basic training is a postgraduate course of the 3-year full time in Periodontology.
- b. The course should include basic and clinical periodontal science components as well as research and supervised clinical practice.
- c. The current Master of Dental Surgery (Perio) programme provided by the Faculty of Dentistry, HKU which is EFP accredited.
- d. A postgraduate dental degree in Periodontology with relevant training components comparable to those required by MDS (Perio) programme, HKU, will be consider in a case-by-case basis.

7.3 Completion of Training

- a. Trainee must possess a postgraduate degree in Periodontology.
- b. Trainee must have passed the Intermediate Examinations in Periodontology of the CDSHK organized by the Specialty Board in Periodontology.

8. Intermediate Examination (Appendix II)

8.1 Eligibility

- a. In the list of registered dentists under the General Register from the Dental Council of Hong Kong
 - b. Registered as basic trainee in the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, otherwise may be subjected to vetting of previous training and associated fees
 - c. Have gone through at least 4 years of basic training, that is with one-year general dentistry working experience and graduation from the 3-year full time MDS(Perio) HKU. OR
 - d. Have completed a 3-year full time (or equivalent) postgraduate training programme in Periodontology with requirements comparable to MDS (Perio) HKU (to be vetted by the Specialty Board in a case-by-case basis)
 - e. Apply to the CDSHK when the examination is open for application and subjected to approval by E&EC and CDSHK Council
- 8.2 The maximum interval allowable between attainment of eligibility and the first attempt of Intermediate Exam is three years.
- 8.3 A maximum number of 4 attempts can be made to sit for the intermediate exam.
- 8.4 Intervals between repeated attempts should be no more than 1 year.
- 8.5 Examiners should be Fellows of CDSHK and Fellows of HKAM for five years and have observed the intermediate examination once and an external examiner from overseas will be invited.
- 8.6 The format of Intermediate examination
- I. One written paper in general dentistry

- II. One written paper in periodontology
- III. One viva examination in general dentistry
- IV. One viva examination in clinical periodontology with an unseen case
- V. One viva examination in general dentistry with an unseen case
- VI. One viva examination in clinical log diary (4 cases prepared by candidate)

8.7 If the candidate has successfully passed an overseas exam which is recognizable by the Specialty Board before application, the candidate may be granted to exempt from the written part of the intermediate exam (stipulated by the Specialty Board from time to time). At present the Examination of Specialty Membership in Periodontics, Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh has been granted the above exemption.

8.8 If the candidate fails any part of the intermediate exam, the candidate will be required to re-sit that part of the examination.

9. Higher Specialist Training

9.1 Eligibility

- a. Have successfully completed the intermediate examination held by the CDSHK
- b. Apply to the CDSHK to enroll into higher specialist training
- c. Commencement of higher training date will be the official confirmation letter of passing the intermediate examination

9.2 Training Requirements

- a. Higher specialist training must be at least 2 years of clinical periodontology.
- b. Number of training sessions should be at least 3 sessions per week in the designated training centre, and in total, it should be at least 198 sessions during the 2 years of higher specialist training. The trainee should liaise with the trainers and training centre supervisor regarding the arrangement of content and experiences in one's approved practice.
- c. 30 CME points per year is required.
- d. Specialty board will assign two trainers to a higher trainee to supervise and assist with their training during this period.
- e. Part of the higher training should be carried out in the following approved training centres:
 - Prince Philip Dental Hospital
 - HKU IAD-MSC
 - Sai Yin Pun Government Dental Clinic under the Department of Health

9.3 Trainees are required to participate in undergraduate or postgraduate teaching activities, including clinical sessions and seminars.

9.4 Another part of higher training can be done in an approved practice, after being vetted by the Specialty Board, approval by E&EC and endorsed by the council of CDSHK.

9.5 Trainer and trainee do not need to work in the same practice. Still, regular communication between the clinical trainer and the trainee is needed and documentation of these meetings is recommended.

9.6 The supervisor will make regular visits to the trainee's practice to assess and give feedback on the practice profile, record keeping and management. The trainee is responsible to make improvements according to the feedback.

9.7 Trainees should maintain an up-to-date log book and present it for review when required.

9.8 Overseas training or any elective training in other relevant disciplines must be vetted by Specialty board, approved by E&EC, and endorsed by the Council of CDSHK in advance.

10. Competency-based training in Clinical Periodontology and Implant Dentistry

10.1 As an extension of basic training, higher specialist training also implements the eight domains stated in the learning outcomes of the MDS (Perio) HKU. Competency-based assessment is used as a tool to evaluate knowledge, skills or technical competencies, attitudes, or other behavioural competencies.

10.2 The following eight domains with expected competencies are the aims a trainee should be trained to manage complex clinical conditions and acquire the ability of a periodontist to perform or provide complex services or task. (Appendix III)

1) Professionalism

2) Interpersonal, Communication, and Social Skills

3) Knowledge Base, Information, and Information literacy

- 4) Clinical Information Gathering
- 5) Diagnosis and Treatment Planning
- 6) Therapy: Establishing and Maintaining Oral Health
- 7) Health Promotion
- 8) Practice Management

11. Continuing assessment of trainees during Higher specialist training

- 11.1 A training logbook is a continuous documentation evaluation assessment of the higher trainee.
- 11.2 A training logbook is a record of competence achieved, and its main purpose is to document the trainees' attainment of the required competence for a specialist in Periodontology.
- 11.3 Trainers should periodically, at least every 6 months, certify specified areas of competence of the trainees as they are attained.
- 11.4 This logbook is a record of experience, and its primary purpose is to document the trainee's involvement in clinical and other activities required for training.
- 11.5 Trainees are required to record the various activities and experiences as stipulated and to make detailed reports available for periodic review by the Specialty Board in Periodontology.
- 11.6 More frequent evaluation and documentation of such evaluation should be made if a trainee is found to be not adequately motivated or not eligible for advancement or retention in the training.

12. Exit Examination

12.1 Eligibility

- a. Currently enrolled as a higher trainee in the CDSHK
- b. Have at least 30 CME points per year during higher specialist training, counted pro-rata until the date of exit examination
- c. Minimum of 198 clinical sessions spent in the training centre(s) for at least 2 years of higher specialist training
- d. Must apply through the CDSHK when it is opened for application and subjected to approval

12.2 A higher trainee must apply for an exit examination within 3 years after completion of higher specialist training.

12.3 A maximum of 4 attempts can be made to sit for the exit examination.

12.4 Intervals between repeated attempts should be no more than 1 year.

12.5 Format of the examination (Appendix IV)

12.6 Examiners could be Faculty teaching staff or Fellows of CDSHK and Fellows of HKAM for at least five years and have observed the examination once. Overseas external examiner will be invited to audit exam quality and standards.

13. Completion of Training

13.1 A trainee must pass the exit examination.

13.2 After successfully completing all the higher specialist training requirements, a trainee is eligible to be nominated by the council of CDSHK for admission of Fellowship of CDSHK and Fellowship of HKAM.

14. Review

14.1 Each programme must regularly re-evaluate the degree to which its goals are achieved through internal assessment.

14.2 It is also essential that each training centre regularly submits adequate documentation of its training commitment and trainee status and experience to the Specialty Board in Periodontology.

Appendix I

Master of Dental Surgery in Periodontology [MDS (Perio)], The University of Hong Kong

Educational Aims

In line with the educational aims of the University's taught postgraduate (TPg) curricula, the Master of Dental Surgery in Periodontology [MDS (Perio)] enables its students to develop their capabilities in:

- (i) Critical intellectual enquiry and acquiring up-to-date knowledge and research skills in periodontology and implant dentistry for the periodontally susceptible
- (ii) Application of knowledge and research skills to the practice of periodontology
- (iii) Tackling novel situations and ill-defined problems in oral health care delivery
- (iv) Collaboration and communication of knowledge in periodontology to fellow
- (v) Specialists, general dental practitioners, dental ancillaries, and the general public
- (vi) Awareness of and adherence to personal and dental professional ethics
- (vii) Enhancement of leadership and advocacy skills in dentistry and oral health care delivery

Course Aims

This MDS in Periodontology extends over not less than 3 years of full-time study, and is designed to enable candidates to achieve an advanced level of knowledge and clinical competence in Periodontology including the use of dental implants in the rehabilitation of

partially dentate periodontally susceptible patients by means of a prescribed course of study and a supervised research project.

It is a programme of advanced study and research into the epidemiology and histopathogenesis of periodontal diseases, their aetiology, prevention, and management, including the role of advanced forms of periodontal therapy in comprehensive oral health care, as well as the planning, routine placement and supportive care of dental implants in partially edentulous periodontally susceptible patients. The programme has an emphasis on self-initiated and self-directed learning, while fostering active collaborative learning, but the programme also includes lectures, tutorials, seminars, case conferences and presentations, classic and current literature discussions, basic science presentations and discussions, joint consultations with other clinics, and closely supervised clinical work, together with project assignments, training in research methods, and the conduct and reporting of a research project.

Course Objectives

1. To equip candidates with comprehensive understanding of periodontal diseases, their aetiology, epidemiology and histopathogenesis;
2. To enable candidates to appreciate the interrelationships of periodontal health and disease with systemic health and disease;
3. To equip candidates with understanding of and high level skills in the diagnosis and management of periodontal disease and in the delivery of supportive periodontal care;
4. To enable candidates to plan for, safely place and rehabilitate dental implants in partially edentulous periodontally susceptible patients;
5. To enable candidates to participate in the comprehensive treatment planning for periodontitis patients with multiple disease conditions and oral health care needs;

6. To equip candidates for the Intermediate Examination and subsequent entry into Higher Training on the Specialist Training Pathway in Periodontology of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong.

Dissertation or Project Report or Research Paper

The title of the dissertation or project report or research paper in publication format shall be submitted for approval not later than April 30 in the final academic year of study, and the dissertation or project report or research paper in publication format shall be submitted not later than September 1 in the same year; the candidate shall submit a statement that the dissertation or project report or research paper in publication format represents his own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree. This submission shall be assessed. In addition, the examiners may prescribe an oral examination on the subject of the dissertation or project report or research paper in publication format.

Examinations and Assessments

Examinations and/or formative and summative assessments are held in each year of study, and may take the form of written papers and written submissions; oral, practical, and clinical examinations; continuous assessments of coursework, of seminar presentations and of case presentations; continuous assessment of clinical performance and of professionalism, or any combination of these methods, ensuring that a candidate is assessed through a multitude of different assessment formats and on many occasions throughout the course of studies.

All identifiable discrete Core Courses, such as - 1) Cell Biology; 2) Oral epidemiology and clinical research methodology; 3) Introduction to statistical analysis in dental research; 4) Multivariate statistical analysis in dental research and the use of statistical software; 5) Biomaterials – have a formative assessment at their conclusion.

Assessment of the candidate's performance during the course of study shall be taken into account in determining the candidate's overall result.

A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in any assessment or any part of the examinations may be permitted to present himself again for assessment / examination at a time to be determined by the teachers concerned or by the Board of Examiners, following any remedial action recommended by the teachers concerned or the Board of Examiners having been undertaken; or the candidate may be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

At the end of the third year, the candidate is examined by means of a written component, the presentation of the documentation of a number of treated cases, an oral examination on a number of these treated cases covering all aspects of clinical Periodontology and dental implant treatment in periodontitis patients, the research draft report is assessed and an oral examination on the research project and the literature pertinent to the topic, which includes a brief presentation on the research project, is conducted.

A candidate who has presented a dissertation or project report or research paper in publication format which has failed to satisfy the examiners may be permitted to revise and re-present the dissertation or project report or research paper in publication format within a period to be determined by the Board of Examiners; or the candidate may be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provision of General Regulation G12.

Failure to take any examination as scheduled normally shall result in automatic failure of the examinations not taken, however a candidate who is unable, through illness, to be present at an examination may apply in writing within 2 weeks of the examination for permission to be examined at some other time to be determined by the Board of Examiners.

Learning Outcomes

In line with the eight Domains given in the Dental Council of Hong Kong document “Competences for the Hong Kong Dentist”, the Learning Outcomes of the Master of Dental Surgery in Periodontology are similarly grouped:

I. Professionalism

The MDS (Perio) graduate must be proficient in a wide range of analytical, investigative, planning, problem solving and team-work skills, and must be able to demonstrate an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of periodontally educated and trained practitioners in dental practice and within the profession, and the moral and ethical issues involved in the provision of periodontal care to individuals and to communities.

II. Interpersonal, Communication and Social Skills

The MDS (Perio) graduate must be competent in communicating about periodontal diseases and their management effectively, interactively and reflectively with patients, their families, relatives and carers, members of the dental team, dental colleagues in both general and specialist practice, and with other health professionals involved in the patients’ care.

The MDS (Perio) graduate must be competent in discussing the findings, diagnoses, aetiology, risks, benefits and prognoses of any proposed treatment options, with a view to facilitating patient participation in oral and periodontal care and holistic health management, and in obtaining informed consent including the patient’s written acceptance of treatment plans and any modifications thereto. The MDS (Perio) graduate must be proficient in team-work and should display the potential for developing leadership skills.

III. Knowledge Base, Information and Information Literacy

Knowledge Base

The MDS (Perio) graduate must have comprehensive knowledge* of the basic biomedical, clinical, medical and dental public health sciences relevant to Periodontology and be competent throughout the professional career to continuously acquire knowledge and develop understanding of the basic biological, medical, technical and clinical sciences in order to

- Recognise departures from normal in periodontal structures
- Recognise the relationships between general and oral health
- Prevent the transmission of infectious diseases
- Recognise and institute procedures to ensure health and safety and minimize occupational health related to the delivery of periodontal and dental implant care
- Select and where indicated prescribe appropriate medications and biomaterials for periodontal care and dental implant therapy, including treatment of peri-implant biological complications.

*This knowledge includes :

- Comprehensive knowledge of the biomedical sciences relevant to dentistry in general and to Periodontology in particular
- Comprehensive knowledge of those aspects of medicine relevant to Periodontology
- Comprehensive knowledge of possible interactions between oral and systemic diseases and of the management of periodontal problems in medically compromised patients
- Knowledge of the historical development of Periodontology
- Comprehensive knowledge of the anatomy, histology and physiology of the periodontal tissues and related structures

- Knowledge of oral microbiology with emphasis on the following: the nature, composition and physiology of plaque biofilm and its relationship to inflammatory periodontal diseases
- Knowledge of techniques to identify microorganisms, their application and utility in periodontal practice
- Knowledge of calculus formation
- Comprehensive knowledge of infectious, inflammatory and immunological processes in oral diseases with emphasis on the pathogenesis of periodontal diseases
- Comprehensive knowledge of the principles of oral wound healing and periodontal and alveolar bone repair and regeneration
- Comprehensive knowledge of the tissue integration of dental implants
- Comprehensive knowledge of the classification and epidemiology of periodontal diseases
- Comprehensive knowledge of imaging techniques and their interpretation as related to the diagnosis of periodontal diseases and monitoring of periodontal conditions and for implant therapy
- Comprehensive knowledge of behavioural/life-style risk factors for periodontal diseases and methods for their modification (including tobacco use, alcohol consumption, and diet)
- Comprehensive knowledge of the mechanisms, effects and interactions of medications used for the management of systemic diseases which may affect periodontal tissues and surrounding structures
- Comprehensive knowledge of the periodontal-systemic relationships
- Comprehensive knowledge of non-surgical periodontal therapy, including mechanical, chemical and other approaches to biofilm control
- Comprehensive knowledge of a range of surgical periodontal therapies, including open flap debridement, and reparative, resective and regenerative approaches
- Comprehensive knowledge of the influence of forces (traumatic, parafunctional, orthodontic) on the periodontium and related structures

- Comprehensive knowledge of the interrelationship of periodontitis and pulpal status, and the various approaches to treatment of combined periodontal-endodontic lesions
- Comprehensive knowledge of the interrelationships of orthodontic and restorative therapies and periodontal treatment
- Comprehensive knowledge of the development and use of dental implants in the rehabilitation of partially edentulous periodontitis patients
- Comprehensive knowledge of peri-implant biological complications and their management
- Comprehensive knowledge of conditions such as halitosis and cervical dentine hypersensitivity, which are common complaints in periodontitis patients
- Comprehensive knowledge of supportive periodontal and peri-implant care

Information and Information Literacy

The MDS (Perio) graduate must have an understanding of the historical development of periodontology, and be competent in accessing and critically evaluating the scientific literature, in continuously updating his/her knowledge base throughout his/her professional life and in evaluating scientific and technological advances, in posing research questions and preparing hypotheses for testing, in participating in the design and conduct of research, in the management and analysis of data, and in the presentation of the research outcomes.

IV. Clinical Information Gathering

The MDS (Perio) graduate must be competent in collecting all relevant information gained from the patient-centered interview, physical examination, imaging, investigations, reports etc. in such a way that accurate records can be made.

V. Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

The MDS (Perio) graduate must be competent in evaluating all relevant information so that appropriate diagnoses may be established and comprehensive treatment plans formulated for periodontally affected patients and communities.

VI. Therapy: Establishing and Maintaining Periodontal Health

The MDS (Perio) graduate must be

- Proficient in all accepted methodologies for plaque (biofilm) control
- Proficient in educating patients on the aetiology and prevention of periodontal diseases and in motivating them to assume responsibility for their periodontal health
- Proficient in the delivery of non-surgical periodontal therapy
- Proficient in the mechanisms, application, effects and interactions of medications used for the prevention and treatment of periodontal diseases
- Proficient in a range of surgical techniques used in periodontal therapy (including open flap debridement, and resective, reparative and regenerative approaches), being aware of their indications and contraindications, advantages and disadvantages
- Proficient in surgical implant therapy for partially edentulous periodontally susceptible patients, including site development, surgical placement, and supportive care for dental implants
- Capable of participating in the rehabilitation of partially edentulous periodontitis patients using implant-borne restorations
- Proficient in evaluating the results of periodontal and implant treatment
- Proficient in establishing and monitoring supportive periodontal and peri-implant care programmes, in co-operation with other members of the dental team, including the continuous evaluation of likely risk factors
- Proficient in treatment of peri-implant biological complications

VII. Health Promotion

The MDS (Perio) graduate must be competent at promoting and improving the periodontal health of individuals, families and groups in the community.

VIII. Practice Management

The MDS (Perio) graduate shall be able to apply basic principles of practice administration, financial and personnel management in the delivery of periodontal care within any dental or periodontal practice in which he/she offers periodontal care services.

Appendix II

Scope of the Intermediate Examination in Periodontology

Basically, literature pertinent to Periodontology and Implant Dentistry with reference to the following synopsis of MDS (perio) seminars

- Fundamentals of Periodontal Science
- Current Basic Periodontal Science
- Periodontal Diagnosis and Prognosis
- Periodontal Treatment Planning – Initial Therapy
- Supportive Periodontal Therapy
- Periodontal Treatment Planning – Adjunctive Surgical Therapy
- Periodontal Plastic Surgery
- Introduction to the Functional Rehabilitation of the Periodontal Patient
- Scientific Foundations of Oral Implantology
- Diagnosis and Design of Implant Retained Dentures
- Surgical Implant Placement
- Prevention and Management of Implant Complications

Additionally, the candidate will be examined on basic knowledge regarding general dentistry relevant to the practice of clinical periodontology and implant dentistry.

Appendix III

Competences Assessment

The competences –

- Statements in the specialty standards describing the knowledge, skills and values expected of a registered periodontist
- Represent the anticipated level of professional behaviour, knowledge and skills necessary for a Periodontist to respond to the full range of circumstances encountered in professional periodontal and general practice.
- Competences should support collaboration with other dental disciplines, which should benefit both the periodontist and patients who are receiving treatment.

Domains in Competencies

- I. Professionalism
- II. Interpersonal, Communication and Social Skills
- III. Knowledge Base, Information and Information Literacy
- IV. Clinical Information Gathering
- V. Diagnosis and Treatment Planning
- VI. Therapy: Establishing and Maintaining Oral Health
- VII. Health Promotion
- VIII. Practice Management

Major Competences - Within each domain, one or more 'major competence' is identified as relating to that domain's activity. A major competence is the ability of a dentist on graduation to perform or provide a particular, but complex, service or task. Its complexity suggests that multiple and more specific abilities are required to support the performance of any major competence.

Supporting Competences - The more specific abilities could be considered as subdivisions of a 'major competence' and are termed a 'supporting competence'. Achievement of a major competence requires the acquisition and demonstration of all supporting competences related to that particular service or task.

Domain I: Professionalism

- 1.1 Professional Attitude and Behaviour - A Periodontist must be competent in a wide range of skills, including research, investigative, analytical, problem solving, planning, communication, presentation, team building and leadership skills and has to demonstrate a contemporary knowledge and understanding of the broader issues of dental practice. A Periodontist should understand the relevance of these issues in clinical dental practice.
- 1.2 Ethics and Jurisprudence - be competent to display knowledge and understand thoroughly the moral and ethical responsibilities involved in the provision of care to individual patients, to populations and communities as described in the Declaration of Geneva. A dentist must display knowledge of contemporary laws applicable to the practice of dentistry in Hong Kong, such as the Dentists Registration Ordinance, Cap. 156 of the Laws of Hong Kong as well as the "Code of Professional Discipline for the Guidance of Dental Practitioners in Hong Kong" prepared by the Dental Council of Hong Kong.
- 1.3 Be competent in updating his/her knowledge base by critically evaluating the scientific literature and technological developments as they arise. The specialist should demonstrate commitment to the maintenance of high levels of professionalism and continuous training of the periodontal team. They should be ready to assume the role and responsibility of expert witness for the profession.

Domain II: Interpersonal, Communication and Social Skills

- 2.1 Be competent in communicating effectively, interactively and reflectively with patients, their families and carers, members of the dental team, dental colleagues, and with other health professionals involved in their care.
- 2.2 Be competent to discuss the findings, diagnoses, etiology, risks, benefits and prognoses of the treatment options, with a view to patient participation in oral health management, particularly relevant for the successful therapy outcome and obtain informed consent including the patient's written acceptance of the treatment plan and any modifications.
- 2.3 Be competent to change the behavioural risk factors of patient with periodontal diseases.
- 2.4 Be competent in communicating with referring dentist or other specialists when involving multidisciplinary treatment planning with proper documentation.

Domain III: Knowledge Base, Information and Information Literacy

- 3.1 Be competent to acquire the knowledge and understanding of the basic biological, medical, technical and clinical sciences relevant to dentistry in general and to periodontology in particular
- 3.2 Be competent to recognize the difference between normal and pathological conditions/ disorders relevant to clinical dental practice
- 3.3 Possess comprehensive knowledge of all possible interactions between oral and systemic diseases and be competent to manage the periodontal problems of the medically compromised patient
- 3.4 Have comprehensive knowledge of behavioural risk factors for periodontal diseases and methods for tobacco, alcohol and dietary modification.
- 3.5 Be competent to recognize the relationship between general health and oral health.
- 3.6 Be proficient to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases by following contemporary infection control practices.
- 3.7 Be competent to select and, where indicated, prescribe and apply the appropriate biomaterials for patient treatment on evidence basis. Also keep updates on latest

development of biomaterials or potential use of new materials not limited to current regenerative materials, dental implants or even stem cell therapy in the future.

- 3.8 Be competent at demonstrating appropriate information literacy to acquire and use information from libraries and other databases and display the ability to analyse and use this information in a critical, scientific and effective manner to justify management recommendations based on the level of evidence available.
- 3.9 Be competent to demonstrate an ability to maintain his/her professional knowledge and understanding throughout his/her professional life.

Domain IV: Clinical Information Gathering - Obtaining and Recording a Complete History of the Patient's Medical, Oral, Dental and Periodontal Status

- 4.1 Be proficient at obtaining and recording a complete history of the patient's medical, oral and dental state. This will include biological, medical, psychological and social information in order to evaluate the oral and dental condition in patients.
- 4.2 Be proficient at performing an appropriate physical examination; interpreting the findings and organizing the required diagnostic tests including radiographic examination, considering the risks and benefits when necessary in order to arrive at an appropriate diagnosis.
- 4.3 Be proficient to maintain accurate and complete patient records in a confidential manner.

Domain V: Diagnosis and Treatment Planning - Decision-making, Clinical Reasoning and Judgment

- 5.1 Be competent in decision-making, clinical reasoning and judgement in order to develop a differential, provisional or definitive diagnosis by interpreting and correlating findings from the history, clinical and radiographic examination and other diagnostic tests, taking into account the social and cultural background of the patient.
- 5.2 Be competent at formulating and recording a diagnosis and developing an appropriate comprehensive, prioritized and sequenced treatment plan with appropriate options which meets the needs and demands of the patient.

- 5.3 Be competent to present and discuss the risks and benefits, sequence of treatment, estimated fees, payment arrangements, time requirements and the patient's responsibilities for treatment.
- 5.4 Be competent to recognize those treatments that are beyond his/her skills and need to be referred on for other expertized care.
- 5.5 Be competent in engaging multidisciplinary treatment planning discussion and communication of relevant information with patient, referring dentist and relevant parties.

Domain VI: Therapy: Restoring and Maintaining and Periodontal Health

- 6.1 Be proficient in all methodologies for plaque biofilm control.
- 6.2 Be proficient in all aspects of modern non-surgical therapy with understanding its limitation.
- 6.3 Be proficient in contemporary surgical techniques used in periodontics, their indications and contraindications, advantages and disadvantages.
- 6.4 In managing conditions and diseases of the periodontium, be competent in providing periodontal treatment when indicated and be proficient in monitoring treatment outcomes.
- 6.5 Be competent in restorative treatment in periodontal compromised patient.
- 6.6 Be competent in surgical implant therapy, including site development, surgical placement and maintenance in periodontal compromised patient.
- 6.7 Be competent in up-to-dated management of diseases of the peri-implant tissues.
- 6.8 Have comprehensive knowledge of maintenance therapy.

Domain VII: Health Promotion - Improving Oral Health of Individuals, Families and Groups in the Community in particular raising public awareness on periodontal health.

Domain VIII- Practice Management - Apply basic principles of practice administration, financial and personnel management to a dental practice

- 8.1 Be competent in managing a sound business operation which facilitates the delivery of quality oral health care to patients.
- 8.2 Be able to establish a professional practice by developing practice goals and plans; implement effective office systems; evaluate outcomes; manage personnel; manage patient care; and understand the legal ramifications of patient care.

Appendix IV

Specialty Exit examination in Periodontology

1. The aim of the Exit Examination is to assess the ability and capability of the candidates to practice as a specialist in periodontology and implant dentistry.
2. The exam will review the knowledge and clinical skills that they have acquired in the entire Specialist Training in Periodontology. The candidate must demonstrate overall competence required at a specialist level.
3. The exit exam will be comprised in 4 sections:
 - i. Log book
 - ii. Written section
 - iii. Clinical examination
 - iv. Documented case review
4. A viva voce will be held on all of the above sections.
5. Candidate would not be examined by their respective designated supervisor/trainer.
6. All examination materials will be conducted in English.
7. Candidate will be graded pass or fail separately in the log book, written section, clinical examination and documented case reviews section.
8. A candidate fails in not more than two sections of the examination may repeat the failed section (at a subsequent examination scheduled by the Specialty Board). If the repeat examination is failed or the candidate fails in more than two sections, a new diet of examination has to be taken.
9. The maximum interval allowed between the first attempt and re-sitting the failed sections is one year or under discretion by Specialty Board in Periodontology.
10. Log Book

The purpose of this section is to enable the candidate to demonstrate a good variety of clinical cases that the candidate had personally treated under supervision. The format of the Log Book will be provided by the Supervisor/trainer. The candidate will be asked to describe, explain, and discuss contents such as initial examination and treatment planning, long term treatment outcomes for restorative management

during the oral examination, which will last for 60 minutes. The Log Book should include 25 cases with documented treatment progress over 2 years.

11. Written Section

This paper is to assess the candidate's knowledge on modern Periodontology and Implant Dentistry at an advanced level. The candidate is required to present a written essay, approximately 2500 words in length, on a topic chosen by the candidate and approved by the Specialty board in Periodontology no less than 6 months before the exit examination. An oral examination will be held to assess in greater depth the details of the submitted essay. The candidate will be asked to prepare a 5 minutes presentation about the opinion and knowledge associated with the topic before verbal questions are asked by the examiners. The duration of the oral examination will normally be no more than 30 minutes.

12. Clinical Examination

This section is to evaluate the ability of the candidate in assessing and discussing clinical problems in Periodontology and Implant Dentistry. There could be a number of ways to manage the 'unseen' clinical problems and the candidate is expected to illustrate them systemically and logically. There will be a 30-minute preparation time and 30-minute oral examination on clinical cases provided by the Examiners.

13. Documented case reviews

There will be a 60-minute oral examination based on documented case review of 15 patients who have been treated by the candidate in the Higher Specialist training programme. All 15 cases must differ from those included in Log Book. The review cases must cover contemporary periodontics and implant dentistry. This section is to allow the candidate to demonstrate holistic patient management including individual treatment objectives, periodontal diagnoses, treatment planning and in cases prosthodontic treatments are provided. Each case should incorporate a post-operative review of no less than 6 months.

The 15 cases should comprise among the following categories:

1. Stage III or Stage IV and Grade B or C Periodontitis,
 2. At least one non-surgical treatment patient with a follow up of at least a year
 3. Patients requiring interdisciplinary approach besides periodontal therapy such as management of endo-periodontal lesion, periodontal lesion in relation to orthodontic and prosthodontic problems and therapy.
 4. Patient for implant installation and maintenance care
 5. Peri-implant diseases and conditions
14. The documentation must follow the format provided by the College. For example, only the patients' initial, sex and date of birth are to be shown and all documents must be written in English, typed and separately bound. Two digital copies and one hard copy of all documentations for each section are required to be submitted to the college 4 weeks before the exit examination.
15. Candidate must provide the following for each case:
1. Case Summary
 2. Case History, medical and dental history, treatment objectives, diagnosis and treatment planning
 3. Radiographic investigation
 4. Clinical photographs of pre-treatment, mid-treatment and post-treatment phases
 5. Continuous periodontal evaluation and monitoring of the progress and after the completion of treatment
 6. Post-treatment clinical/radiographic records
 7. Critical appraisal of treatment results
16. A signed consent form from the patient must be included into the documentation. Patient is being notified that his/her clinical information will be used as examination purpose.

17. Candidate must submit cases handled by himself/herself directly and any treatment procedures that were performed by another clinician should be declared in the documentation.