

# COMPETENCIES FOR THE NEW DENTIST

## THE NEW DENTIST MUST:

1. **MANAGE PROFESSIONAL, ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY.**
  - 1.1 Apply ethical and legal principles in the profession.
  - 1.2 Interact with other health professionals to promote dental health as an important part of general health.
  
2. **VALUE THE ROLE OF LIFE LONG LEARNING, SELF-ASSESSMENT, AND CRITICAL THINKING AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR.**
  - 2.1 Evaluate published clinical and basic science research and apply this information for the improvement of the patient's oral health.
  - 2.2 Recognize the importance of participating in professional organizations and continuous education.
  - 2.3 Recognize the role of self-assessment in maintaining competency and attaining proficiency and expertise.
  - 2.4 Communicate professional knowledge.
  
3. **DEVELOP AND MANAGE A GENERAL DENTISTRY PRACTICE.**
  - 3.1 Evaluate practice options and location.
  - 3.2 Evaluate and select equipment options and know requirements to establish a dental practice.
  - 3.3 Use information technology for patient care, practice management, and professional development.
  - 3.4 Use administrative skills in the management of debts and financial arrangements.
  - 3.5 Select, coordinate, supervise and educate staff in professional, governmental, legal and office policies and responsibilities.
  - 3.6 Maintain well-documented patient records.
  - 3.7 Establish and monitor infection control and office safety programs according to local and federal laws.
  - 3.8 Understand and manage dental health care delivery systems.
  
4. **ASSESS, INTERPRET, AND INTEGRATE FINDINGS GEARED TOWARDS THE DIAGNOSIS AND PREVENTION OF ORAL CONDITIONS IN PATIENTS OF ALL AGES.**
  - 4.1 Establish an effective communication and rapport with patients or legal representative.
  - 4.2 Obtain complete medical, dental, and psycho social histories.
  - 4.3 Perform and record the findings of an extraoral, intraoral, and radiographic examination including physical assessment of the patient.
  - 4.4 Recognize the need for diagnostic tests and aids.
  - 4.5 Request and perform professional consultations.
  - 4.6 Manage situations of abuse and neglect.
  - 4.7 Interpret and integrate findings of a comprehensive examination to make a diagnosis.

5. **DEVELOP, PRESENT AND DISCUSS A TREATMENT PLAN FOR ALL PATIENTS.**
  - 5.1 Prepare individualized treatment plan options.
  - 5.2 Discuss the findings, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment alternatives, estimated costs and possible complications with the patient or their legal representative.
6. **MANAGE APPREHENSION AND PAIN IN PATIENTS OF ALL AGES.**
  - 6.1 Manage apprehension.
  - 6.2 Use a pharmacological approach for pain control.
7. **PREVENT AND MANAGE DENTAL AND MEDICAL EMERGENCIES.**
  - 7.1 Prevent, recognize and manage medical emergencies.
  - 7.2 Control and manage oral emergencies.
8. **PERFORM ORAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES AND USE PHARMACOLOGICAL AGENTS.**
  - 8.1 Perform uncomplicated extractions of teeth.
  - 8.2 Perform surgical extractions of erupted teeth and removal of residual root tips.
  - 8.3 Perform other simple surgical procedures.
  - 8.4 Discuss procedures involved in the surgical phase of dental implants.
  - 8.5 Select, administer or prescribe pharmacological agents.
9. **PROVIDE PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY SERVICE TO PATIENTS OF ALL AGES ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS.**
  - 9.1 Educate the patient in oral health maintenance and the prevention of oral diseases.
  - 9.2 Perform preventive therapies.
10. **MANAGE PATIENTS WITH PERIODONTAL DISEASES.**
  - 10.1 Perform the initial phase in the treatment of periodontal diseases.
  - 10.2 Discuss the rationales of the different surgical approaches available in the periodontal therapy.
  - 10.3 Perform supportive periodontal therapy (SPT) after periodontal treatment.
11. **MANAGE OCCLUSAL ABNORMALITIES OF PRIMARY, MIXED AND PERMANENT DENTITIONS.**
  - 11.1 Design, insert and adjust simple orthodontics appliances and space maintainers.
  - 11.2 Manage of temporomandibular disorders.
12. **PREVENT AND TREAT PULPAL AND PERIAPICAL DISEASES IN PRIMARY AND PERMANENT TEETH.**
  - 12.1 Perform therapeutic procedures designed to preserve the vitality of the dental pulp.
  - 12.2 Perform endodontic therapy.
  - 12.3 Manage other pulpal disorders of traumatic origin.
  - 12.4 Assess the indications for endodontic surgical treatment.
  - 12.5 Assess success and failure of an endodontic treatment.
  - 12.6 Perform non-vital pulp therapy in primary teeth.

13. **PROVIDE RESTORATIONS TO REESTABLISH FORM, FUNCTION AND ESTHETICS TO PATIENTS OF ALL AGES.**
  - 13.1 **Restore teeth with intra or extracoronal restorations.**
  - 13.2 **Restore edentulous spaces with fixed prosthesis.**
  - 13.3 **Restore edentulous spaces with removable prosthesis.**
  - 13.4 **Perform esthetic dentistry procedures.**
  - 13.5 **Participate in the management of patients with dental implants needs.**
  - 13.6 **Provide protection to the pulp and periodontal tissues during restorative procedures.**
  - 13.7 **Perform, order and evaluate laboratory procedures.**