



WREB

A National Dental and Dental Hygiene Testing Agency

2021 Updates

Online Clinical Examination Review Presentations

In addition to the Candidate Guide, WREB provides an online clinical exam review for the Dental Hygiene patient-based, Local Anesthesia and Restorative clinical examinations. Viewing these presentations will further enable your students to be well prepared for their exam. These will be available in January for students to view at their convenience.

Student Pre-Exam Webinars

In 2020, WREB hosted countless local anesthesia, dental hygiene, and restorative pre-exam webinars for students. The feedback regarding these webinars has been extremely positive from both the faculty and students. If your school is interested in a 2021 student webinar, please contact me at ryeager@wreb.org to schedule.

Educator Webinars

The educator webinars are very similar to the student webinars. The faculty webinars also include a few statistics and are a safe place for instructors to ask questions they may not feel comfortable asking in front of students and assist those faculty who may need to answer questions from students regarding 2021 exam content as well as help with mock boards. If your faculty would be interested in an educator webinar, please contact me at ryeager@wreb.org to schedule.

Hands-on Workshops for Dental Hygiene Clinical Instructors

WREB has provided a hands-on workshop prior to each clinical exam. We anticipated that after (2-3) years, all clinical instructors who were interested would have had the opportunity to attend our workshops. That proved correct with many hosts no longer needing the educator workshop. Therefore, in 2021, WREB will provide the educator workshop at select, centrally located exam sites throughout each state. If your site would like to host the hands-on workshop for instructors prior to your exam, please contact me at ryeager@wreb.org.

Dental Hygiene Clinical Examinations

The Dental Hygiene Clinical Examination will be available in either a patient-based form or manikin-based form, if applicable.

Dental Hygiene Patient-Based Clinical Examination

Check-In Deadline

Candidates are so well prepared when they come into the clinic now that they rarely take the 45-minutes allowed to submit their patient to Check-In. Therefore, we eliminated the 45-minute deadline and eliminated the Check-In time penalty.

Periodontal Assessment

For the exam year 2021, WREB removed the Classification of Disease question. The current AAP Guidelines for accurate classification of the periodontal condition by Staging and Grading require more detail and patient information than the current clinical examination format can test (i.e. systemic conditions, historic tooth loss etc.). Additionally, students are now tested on this subject on the National Boards, adding support to the decision to retire this question.

Periodontal Assessment Questions Scoring. A maximum of eight (8.00) points are possible. The remaining three questions will be scored a maximum (2.667) points each. Partial credit of (1.33) point may be given for Question #1 (radiographic bone loss).

Patient Treatment Form

Historically, there were two forms; *Local Anesthesia Dosage & Continuing Care Form* that we have now combined into one. The *Patient Treatment* form is completed and signed prior to Chief Examiner approval.

- Record the dental hygiene treatment plan for the examination
- Record any medications taken by Patient
- Record contact information for Practitioner or dental hygiene school
- Patient signature

Extraoral and Intraoral Examination. Candidates may complete the Extraoral and Intraoral examination on their Patient and record their findings on the front of the *Candidate Assignment Form* either:

- Before they submit their Patient at Check-In, or
- During their assigned clinic treatment time

Dental Hygiene Manikin Clinical Examination

The Manikin examination is comprised of two exercises: 1) Assessment and Detection, and 2) Removable Calculus. Each exercise of the examination is completed on a separate WREB quadrant. The typodont is positioned on a rod post to simulate the natural position and clinical treatment of a patient.

- The Assessment and Detection exercise requires the candidate to assess periodontal conditions, accurately record periodontal measurements, and note the presence of subgingival calculus on a maxillary quadrant.
- The Removable Calculus exercise requires candidates to thoroughly remove subgingival calculus from all teeth in the assigned quadrant using ultrasonic and/or hand instrumentation.

The Assessment and Detection and Removable Calculus quadrants are unique in design. The color, type, and size of the subgingival removable calculus has been designed to provide the Candidate with a more realistic clinical experience. The WREB calculus is unique and different than the calculus currently being utilized in educational programs and by other testing agencies.

For those schools that are currently using models in their dental hygiene curriculum, the WREB quadrants are compatible with ModuPro DH with articulator and the ModuPro One with articulator. A Candidate also has the option to only purchase the Acadental articulator and two carrier trays. Refer to the Acadental website for more information.

WREB recommends that you check with your state licensing board to confirm acceptance of the Manikin examination.

Local Anesthesia Written Examination

WREB is aware of the discrepancies between referenced textbooks in the Local Anesthesia Candidate Guide regarding MRD and prilocaine.

However, the test items that are on the written examination are still reflective of the tables referenced in the WREB Local Anesthesia Candidate Guide. When preparing students for the written examination regarding MRD (drug information) please continue to use these tables.

Local Anesthesia Clinical Examination

Critical Aspects of the Injection

- Candidates may change their submission, without penalty, at any time prior to an Examiner checking the Patient's landmark teeth and penetration sites.

Category *1 was separated into the following categories:

- Medical History
- Anesthetic and Syringe Selection
- Oral Conditions

Anesthetic and Syringe Selection

- The error criteria, "Absolute contraindication to anesthetic or vasoconstrictor" was added to both the IA and PSA injections. This is also a Stop and Hold.

Oral Conditions

- The error criteria, "Intraoral sore at injection site" was added. Each site will be evaluated separately.
- If an intra oral sore is present, the Candidate has the option of using the opposite side for the injection without penalty.

Category 2 Syringe Preparation and Handling

- The error criteria, "Needle not securely attached to syringe" was added.

Clinic Entrance and Exam Procedures

WREB is discontinuing the practice of allowing Candidates to have additional syringes **loaded** on a separate tray. In many cases, this was an unnecessary waste of needles and anesthetic. They may have additional syringes, just not loaded.

- Candidates may have additional cartridges and syringe(s) **available to load**. Additional cartridges and needles should be set aside on a non-contaminated surface.

Restorative Clinical Examination

No changes to any Restorative examination criteria.

Candidate restorations may not be graded immediately after each clinical session. A cumulative grading session will be scheduled, either during the last scheduled clinical session of each exam or just prior to the last scheduled clinical session of each exam. WREB is still providing preliminary results, once graded, as well as providing onsite retakes for those eligible.

If the exam lasts longer than (1) clinical day and students are unable to collect their evaluated typodonts, WREB will arrange the return of each attending schools typodonts in bulk, to the program Director, via FedEx or UPS at the conclusion of the exam.

WREB Examination Forms

Copies of all 2021 forms that students/instructors need to become familiar with, will be available to download via the WREB website in January. Original exam forms will be included in the exam packet each student receives onsite during the Q & A session, held prior to each exam.

Become a WREB Host Site

Talk to your faculty and consider inviting WREB to administer a WREB exam at your school. I would be happy to discuss with you.

Questions or Concerns

Contact me at ryeager@wreb.org or call (623) 209-5408.