

Interim Dental Hygiene Comprehensive OSCE for COVID-19

Hello Dental Hygiene Directors and Educators,

Many of you have reached out to WREB requesting information about the WREB Dental Hygiene Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), and specific content of the examination. WREB is working on finalizing a Candidate Guide that will be available for educators and students.

The WREB OSCE has been developed to address the need for an alternative to the patient-based clinical examination, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A Candidate should confirm that the OSCE is a pathway for licensure in the state where they are seeking employment.

This multiple-choice written examination will be administered onsite by WREB personnel at designated dental hygiene schools. Proctoring the examination at a school will allow Candidates to take the examination earlier and also eliminate the burden of having to register and travel to a testing center. Social distancing and infection prevention protocols will be followed in the exam's administration.

The WREB base fee for the examination is \$450.00. In addition to the base fee, each school may also assess a school use fee, which may be different site to site. Candidates already registered for the patient-based exam will receive a refund of the difference in fees. If not registered, Candidates will need to email the WREB office (hygieneinfo@wreb.org) to assist them with registration. WREB staff will send notifications via email with details regarding their schools schedule and testing session information.

The exam will be administered in sessions, with the actual examination time scheduled for two hours. Initially, results will not be available onsite. Candidates will generally have access to their results within a few days after completing the examination. **However, the timing for receiving results may be 4-8 weeks longer in the earliest part of the examination season, until a sufficient quantity of data has been collected to confirm the adequacy of equating, which ensures fairness across multiple test forms.** Candidates will receive an email notification that results have been posted to their confidential profile.

CONTENT

The OSCE is comprised of multiple-choice items that include dental hygiene components that are essential for safe practice. The topics tested are based on the protocols and concepts required as educational and performance standards by the American Dental Association, the American Dental Hygiene Association and the Council on Dental Accreditation. A Candidate should be familiar with these principles and be able to demonstrate entry-level competency in identifying common intraoral conditions, as well as the extent and severity of bone loss.

Treating a patient's oral health not only requires good instrumentation skills, but also possessing an aptitude for making correct treatment decisions. Critical thinking skills are important in the assessment of the patient's needs and to accurately develop a care plan that reflects a patient's individualized care. The following categories (including an overview of topics within the categories) reflect the components of dental hygiene care that are important and tested on the examination.

Category
Medical History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of medical history and systemic conditions • Systemic conditions (i.e., diabetes, heart)
Risk Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASA Classifications • Caries • Risk factors
Extraoral and Intraoral Assessment (Images) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of oral conditions
Periodontal Assessment <p>Periodontal Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAP (staging and grading) • Classification of furcation • Clinical attachment loss • Types of gingival diseases <p>Dentition Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abscesses • Occlusal trauma <p>Radiographic Interpretation (Images)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of types of bone loss • Extent of bone loss
Dental Hygiene Care Plan <p>Dental Hygiene Diagnosis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation • Patient recare • Dental hygiene aids • Non-surgical periodontal treatment • Outcomes • Fluoride, fluoride varnish • Local anesthesia • Teeth whitening
Instrumentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumentation technique • Ultrasonic instrumentation • Implants • Air and rubber cup polishing
Tissue Management