



Dental Specialty Fellowship Examinations

Dental Public Health Exam syllabus

9 November 2025

1. Creating and Interpreting Population Health Data		Curriculum REF D5.1			
ES code	Trainees should be able to:	SAQ	pSO	uSO	mSO
1.1	Identify appropriate sources of data which inform on the health and wellbeing of populations.		X	X	
1.2	Show a critical approach to health services data, use and interpretation.	X	X	X	X
1.3	Develop, quality assure, analyse, and interpret data in line with best practice.		X	X	
1.4	Critically appraise, select, and then undertake an appropriate method of oral health needs assessment.	X	X	X	
1.5	Monitor and evaluate oral health inequalities.		X	X	

2. Assessing and Interpreting Risk and Effectiveness Evidence		Curriculum REF 5.2			
ES code	Trainees should be able to:	SAQ	pSO	uSO	mSO
2.1	Apply insights from multiple sources of information and data, including research, health surveillance, needs analysis, health economics, service monitoring, and evaluation.	X	X	X	X
2.2	Communicate evidence in a meaningful way for commissioners, policy makers, the public, and other stakeholders.	X	X	X	
2.3	Assimilate and interpret evidence to influence strategy and policy development.	X	X	X	
2.4	Provide strategic dental public advice to inform decision making for oral health improvement and service planning/innovation.	X	X	X	X
2.5	Give a clinical dental and public health perspective on population oral health measures and dental service planning, providing constructive challenge when required.	X	X	X	X



3. Promoting and Improving Health through Policy		Curriculum REF D5.4			
ES code	Trainees should be able to:	SAQ	pSO	uSO	mSO
3.1	Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate local, regional, national and global policies and relevant legislation.		X	X	X
3.2	Demonstrate understanding of the factors considered in decision-making processes within relevant organisations and their financial and planning cycles, including priorities and opportunities to influence.		X	X	X
3.3	Demonstrate understanding of the key networks across the health and social care system, and the specialty's role and relationship to them.		X	X	X

4. Addressing Health Inequalities		Curriculum REF D5.5			
ES code	Trainees should be able to:	SAQ	pSO	uSO	mSO
4.1	Advise on and implement effective and equitable approaches to addressing oral health inequalities.		X	X	X
4.2	Design, monitor, and evaluate programmes and services to improve oral health and reduce inequalities.		X	X	
4.3	Understand the wider determinants and factors influencing behaviours and apply this knowledge to oral health improvement programmes.		X	X	
4.4	Identify opportunities and advocating for action to bring about oral health improvement.		X	X	X
4.5	Demonstrate a pragmatic approach in the adoption of the evidence base.		X	X	

5. Managing Risk in the Dental Setting		Curriculum REF D5.7			
ES code	Trainees should be able to:	SAQ	pSO	uSO	mSO
5.1	Apply current regulation, guidance, and best practice in managing common risks across dental services.		X	X	X
5.2	Identify and work with appropriate partners in the management of risk		X	X	X
5.3	Demonstrate collaborative working with other key stakeholders to manage health protection or patient safety issues in dental settings.		X	X	X



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5.4	Provide appropriate clinical and dental public health advice to facilitate decision-making relating to patient and public safety in dental settings		X	X	X
5.5	Support the response to national and global threats to public health as part of the public health workforce		X	X	X

6. Developing and Monitoring Quality and Outcomes		Curriculum REF D5.7			
ES code	Trainees should be able to:	SAQ	pSO	uSO	mSO
6.1	Advise on workforce planning, including workforce development and health and wellbeing of the workforce.		X	X	X
6.2	Advise on patient, professional, and public engagement and involvement in service development and improvement.		X	X	X
6.3	Advise on all stages of the commissioning/planning cycle, including providing advice relating to levels of need and appropriate service requirements.		X	X	X
6.4	Advise on all stages of the commissioning/planning cycle, including advising on quality assurance processes and quality and outcome measures for dental services and oral health improvement services.		X	X	X
6.5	Advise on all stages of the commissioning/planning cycle, including supporting the procurement of dental and oral health improvement services.		X	X	X
6.6	Develop or advise on service specifications.		X	X	X
6.7	Provide advice on the prevention and management of poor quality or safety of clinical services.		X	X	X
6.8	Design and undertake review, monitoring, and evaluation of programmes and services to ensure acceptability, accessibility, affordability, effectiveness, efficiency, and equity.		X	X	
6.9	Advise on the management and improvement of dental contract/services performance.		X	X	X
6.1	Influence commissioning/planning processes to ensure evidence-based commissioning, transparency, and value.				X
6.11	Manage/challenge conflicts of interests appropriately.		X	X	X
6.12	Advise on reducing inequalities in access to services and programmes and the outcomes of these.		X	X	X

Version control

Date	Changes made
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Royal College
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