CWRU School of Dental Medicine
Competencies for Graduates

Background

Competence refers to an accumulation of knowledge, skills, experiences, and values in dental education that together help to define the necessary foundation for the development of individuals who wish to join the profession of dentistry.

The competencies in this document have been defined by the faculty of the School of Dental Medicine to include the knowledge base, clinical skills and values that are requisite for the beginning practitioner to start their professional career. The notion of personal continuous improvement and life-long learning are philosophies that must be integrated into professional life. These qualities will provide a template for the new practitioner as he/she joins the community of professionals committed to improving oral health.

Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine
Definition of Competency:

That level of foundation knowledge, clinical skills, experiences, and values that are necessary for students of dentistry to have acquired as they make the transition from a supervised educational program to the independent practice of general dentistry.

American Dental Education Association (ADEA)
Definition of Competency:

A complex behavior or ability essential for the general dentist to begin independent, unsupervised dental practice; it assumes that all behaviors and skills are performed with a degree of quality consistent with patient well-being and that the general dentist can self-evaluate treatment effectiveness.

Domains

1. Human Body in Health and Disease

2. Patient Care: Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

3. Patient Care: Restoration and Maintenance of Health

4. Leadership: Ethics, Professionalism, and Practice Management

5. Inquiry

6. Communication and Collaboration

Graduates must be competent to:

Human Body in Health and Disease

1.1   Demonstrate knowledge of normal morphologic, developmental, physiologic, and biochemical processes in systemic and oral health. *(CODA 2-11)*

1.2   Demonstrate knowledge of etiologic and pathologic processes that define systemic and oral diseases. *(CODA 2-13)*

Patient Care: Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

2.1   Obtain and interpret patient/medical data, including intra/extra oral examination, and use these findings to accurately assess patients. (CODA 2-23a)

2.2   Apply biomedical sciences knowledge in the *evaluation of health and* delivery of patient care. (CODA 2-14)

2.3   Perform screening and *assess risk factors* for head and neck cancer. (CODA 2-23b)

2.4   Diagnose oral disease and develop comprehensive treatment plans based upon assessment of collected data. (CODA 2-23a)

2.5   Demonstrate appropriate informed consent in the delivery of patient care. (CODA 2-23 a)

2.6   Assess the treatment needs of patients with special needs. (CODA 2-24)

2.7   Recognize the complexity of patient treatment and identify when referral is indicated.

(CODA 2-23c)

Patient Care: Restoration and Maintenance of Health

3.1   Manage the oral health care of patients across the stages of life. (CODA 2-22)

3.2   Demonstrate skills in patient education, health promotion, and disease prevention.

(CODA 2-23d)

3.3   Diagnose and manage and/or treat periodontal disease. (CODA 2-23i)

3.4   Diagnose and manage and/or treat caries.

3.5   Restore/replace teeth based on requirements for form, function, and esthetics. (CODA

2-23f, 2-23g, 2-23h)

3.6   Prescribe and evaluate laboratory fabrications. (CODA 2-23g)

3.7   Diagnose and manage and/or treat malocclusions and space management issues.

(CODA 2-23n)

3.8   Diagnose and manage and/or treat oral mucosal and osseous disorders. (CODA 2-23k)

3.9   Diagnose and manage and/or treat pulpal and periradicular disease. (CODA 2-23j)

3.10   Perform oral hard and soft tissue surgery and/or refer as appropriate. (CODA 2-23l)

3.11   Demonstrate skills in the management of pain/anxiety and the delivery of local

anesthesia. (CODA 2-23e)

3.12   Diagnose and manage and/or treat dental emergencies. (CODA 2-23m)

3.13   Evaluate the outcomes of treatment, recall strategies and prognosis.

(CODA 2-23o)

3.14   Recognize, and manage on a short-term basis, medical emergencies in the dental office.

(CODA 5-6)

Leadership: Ethics, Professionalism, and Practice Management

4.1   Apply principles of ethical decision-making and professional responsibility. (CODA 2-20)

4.2   Apply legal and regulatory standards in the provision of oral health care. (CODA 2-17)

4.3   Apply the basic principles of practice management, evaluate different models of oral

health care delivery, and function successfully as the leader of the health care team.

(CODA 2-18)

Inquiry

5.1   Use critical thinking and problem-solving skills. (CODA 2-9)

5.2   Access, critically appraise, apply, and communicate scientific and lay literature as it

relates to providing evidence-based patient care. (CODA 2-21)

5.3   Demonstrate the ability to self-assess. (CODA 2-10)

Communication and Collaboration

6.1   Apply the fundamental principles of behavioral sciences in the delivery of patient-

centered health care. (CODA 2-15)

6.2   Manage a diverse patient population and display the interpersonal skills to

communicate and function in a multi-cultural work environment. (CODA 2-16)

6.3   Demonstrate skills to communicate and collaborate with other health care professionals

to facilitate the provision of health care. (CODA 2-19)