RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION
TOWN HALL MEETING FOR
EDUCATORS
MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2015
TODAY’S AGENDA

• Welcome and Introductions

• Town Hall Meeting Purpose

• Presentation by Representatives from the Board Regarding the RDA Practical Examination and What May Be Done to Better Prepare Students

• Open Discussion Regarding the Presentation

• Questions and Answers

• Adjournment
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

• Welcome
• Mission of the Dental Board of California
  • The Dental Board of California's mission is to protect and promote the health and safety of consumers of the State of California.
  • Business and Professions Code Section 1601.2
• Introductions
  • Sarah Wallace, Assistant Executive Officer
  • Jana Adams, Dental Assisting Examination Coordinator
  • Jennifer Casey, Dental Assisting Educational Coordinator
  • Dr. Eric Wong, Dental Assisting Examiner
**DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA AND DENTAL ASSISTING COUNCIL**

- **Board Composition – Fifteen (15) Members**
  - Eight (8) Licensed Dentists
  - One (1) Registered Dental Assistant
  - One (1) Registered Dental Hygienist
  - Five (5) Public Members

- **Dental Assisting Council – Seven (7) Members**
  - Registered Dental Assistant Member of the Board
  - Another Member of the Board
  - Five (5) Registered Dental Assistants
    - Two (2) Members Employed as Faculty at RDA Program
    - Three (3) Members Employed Clinically; One (1) of the Three Members Must be a RDAEF
The Dental Assisting Council (Council) is responsible for considering all matters relating to dental assistants in this state, and making appropriate recommendations to the Board including, but not limited to, the following areas:

- Requirements for dental assistant examination, licensure, permitting, and renewal;
- Standards and criteria for approval of dental assisting educational programs, courses, and continuing education;
- Allowable dental assistant duties, settings, and supervision levels;
- Appropriate standards of conduct and enforcement for dental assistants; and,
- Requirements regarding infection control.
TOWN HALL MEETING PURPOSE

• The Board and the Dental Assisting Council recognize the concerns in the educator community regarding the declining passing rate of the RDA practical examination.

• Purpose: Discuss the RDA practical examination and what may be done to better prepare candidates for success.
RDA PRACTICAL EXAM CONCERNS

• Declining Pass Rate of the RDA Practical Exam Since February 2014
• Application Requirements
• RDA Practical Examination Tested Procedures
• Required Material
• Candidate Check-In
• Typodont Check-In
• Grading
• Grading Criteria
• Calibration of Examiners
DECLINING PASS RATE OF RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

- Calibration of Examiners
- Examination Validation
  - Department of Consumer Affairs’ (DCA) Office of Professional Examination Service (OPES) is Working with the Board to Conduct a Validation of the Current RDA Examination to Address Pass/Fail Rates
- Occupational Analysis of RDAs and RDAEFs
  - Board working with OPES to Execute an Occupational Analysis
RDA APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

• Complete Application
  • Graduation from Board-Approved RDA Program
  • Work Experience
• Infection Control Course (8 Hour) Certificate
• Radiation Safety Course Certificate
• Coronal Polish Course Certificate
• Basic Life Support Card
  • American Red Cross or American Heart Association ONLY
  • Must be current

• Incomplete applications will be returned.
RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

- Examination consists of three (3) procedures
  - Fabrication of a Temporary Crown
  - Cementation of a Temporary Crown
  - Placement of a Temporary Restoration
- Candidate have 90 minutes to complete the examination
- Entire examination process (i.e. registration, examination, grading, and clean up) will take approximately 5 hours
REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

• Attire: Candidates are required to wear a uniform, lab coat, closed-toe shoes and are required to bring and use gloves, mask, and safety glasses with side shields. Candidates will not be admitted without proper clinic attire.

• Armamentarium: Candidates must provide all necessary armamentarium to perform the procedures tested.

• The Dental Board is independent from the provision of all armamentarium other than the #8 prep.
EXAMPLE OF EXPIRED EUGENOL?

THE DENTAL BOARD CONSIDERS THIS OUTSIDE OF OUR PURVIEW
REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

• Typodont: Candidates must present a typodont model series as listed below with soft flexible gingivae. All teeth must be present and in a condition that will not interfere with successfully completing the exam – including material left from previous use.
  • Columbia Dentoform M-PVR660
  • Columbia Dentoform M-PVR860
  • Kilgore Model D95 DP-200
REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

• Prepared Teeth: Prepared teeth used in the exam will become the property of the Board. Typodonts are required to be presented with approved prepared teeth for the temporary restoration and all other original unrestored typodont teeth.
  • A prepared tooth for the temporary crown procedure will be supplied by the Board at the exam.

• If a typodont or bench mount is deemed unacceptable by an Examiner at any time, it is the candidate’s responsibility to provide an acceptable replacement.
REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

• For Temporary Crown: Only temporary resin acrylic NON-monomer material may be used. No Snap, Trim, Jet or similar products allowed.

• Cement for Temporary Crown: No light curing materials allowed.

• For Temporary Restoration: Bring self/auto cure materials to prepare and place a temporary restoration. No light activating devices are allowed.
REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE RDA PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

- Electrical or cordless trimming devices are acceptable. The Board is not responsible for the malfunction of hand pieces and no additional time is given to candidates for equipment failure.

- The use of emery boards is prohibited.

- Impression Material and Trays Optional: Candidates may either bring an impression matrix for the typodont they will be using or take the impression during the exam. NO water for alginate matrix fabrication is available in the exam room and no additional time will be given.
CANDIDATE CHECK-IN AT EXAM

• Assigned exam date and time are final; no changes in scheduling will be made.

• Candidates must present a current, valid driver’s license or other official government photo identification, such as a passport, at check-in to be admitted to the exam.

• No books, notebooks, pictures, tape recorders, other written materials, or extra teeth may be brought into the exam area.
CANDIDATE CHECK-IN AT EXAM

• No persons are allowed in the testing areas except scheduled candidates and test administrators.

• Cellular phones are prohibited in the examination area.

• All materials in the exam room are subject to inspection at any time.

• The procedures may not be performed in any other manner than would be performed on a patient. For example, the typodont may not be worked on when it is upside down, opened flat or the jaws separated, or as though working from the throat.
CANDIDATE CHECK-IN AT EXAM

• Candidate will not be allowed to use the equipment, instruments, or materials belonging to other examinees or the testing facility.

• Candidates may not talk or in any way help each other.

• Candidates may not leave their work areas or the exam room without permission, and shall occupy the space assigned to them throughout the exam.
• At check-in, typodonts must be presented with all original teeth and approved prepared teeth for the procedures to be tested.

• If a typodont and/or bench mount is deemed unacceptable by an Examiner at any time, it is the sole responsibility of the examinee to provide an acceptable replacement. Failure to do so will result in failure of the exam.

• The maxillary and mandibular arches may not be separated from each other.
Typodont Occlusion for Testing

Examiners have to be able to evaluate occlusion criteria for both anterior and posterior examination preps.

This has to be checked by Coe’s before the exam begins.
Typodonts are not required to be equilibrated.

Notice the blue articulating paper marks. We actually require good contacts on all teeth for the other exams.

Not required for RDA exam. However, we require reasonable stability. COE and proctors should pick up the typodont and assess stability by hinging open and close.
DETERMINATION OF TYPODONT ELIGIBILITY

BILATERAL OPEN BITE, SHOULD BE DEEMED INELIGIBLE
SAMPLE OF TYPODONT OCCLUSION CONCERN

WE DO NOT WANT LOOSE SCREWS EITHER. MAY NEED TO IDENTIFY STRIPPED SCREWS ON THE ACTUAL EXAMINATION TEETH #8 AND #19/#30. MAY CONSIDER THE ADJACENT TEETH TOO.

COES SHOULD REJECT THIS TYPODONT BEFORE THE EXAMINATION. PICK IT UP HINGE IT OPEN AND CLOSE, CHECK TO SEE IF TEETH ARTICULATE REASONABLY WITH STABILITY
GRADING CRITERIA: FABRICATION OF TEMPORARY CROWN

• The general grading criteria used by Examiners to determine each candidate's minimal competence of fabrication of a temporary crown for licensure as an RDA is as follows:
  • An appropriate temporary crown on tooth #8 has been directly fabricated that recreates proximal contact and proper occlusion, but does not extend beyond the margin of the crown preparation.
  • Candidates may either bring an impression to the examination, or may take an impression(s) during their test time. No additional time will be given to make the impression during their 1 1/2 hour test time and no water will be available in the exam room.
  • The Dental Board will provide the prepared tooth at the exam; candidates must present a typodont with a normal ivories tooth #8.
GRADING CRITERIA: CEMENTATION OF TEMPORARY CROWN

• The general grading criteria used by Examiners to determine each candidate's minimal competence of cementation of a temporary crown for licensure as an RDA is as follows:
  • Cement temporary crown on tooth #8.
GRADING CRITERIA: PLACEMENT OF A TEMPORARY RESTORATION

• The general grading criteria used by Examiners to determine each candidate's minimal competence for placement of a temporary restoration licensure as an RDA is as follows:
  • Placement of a temporary restoration on tooth #19- DO or tooth #30- MOD. The appropriate material is smooth, has sealed margins, and reasonably recreates the occlusal anatomy and proximal contact areas of the natural tooth/teeth. Candidates must present a typodont with a Board-approved prepared tooth inserted for tooth #19- DO and/or tooth #30- MOD. If candidates perform restorations on both tooth #19 and #30 they will fail that procedure.
CALIBRATION OF EXAMINERS

• Calibration of the Examiners must be implemented before each RDA Examination.
• Calibration during each RDA Examination Session is ongoing, as specific cases may be discussed after grading.
• The actual calibration presentation consists of a PowerPoint and/or actual case presentations with interactive participation from the Examiners.
• GRADING CRITERIA IS BASED UPON MARGINS, CONTACTS, OCCLUSION, WITH REASONABLE CONTOURS.
CASE LIBRARY

UNDER FILLED

OVER FILLED?
CASE LIBRARY

LIGHT O.K.
CASE LIBRARY

VOID

CONTACT DEFINITION, IS IT THERE?

CONTOUR ISSUE
CASE LIBRARY

BEAUTIFULLY EXECUTED
CASE LIBRARY
OPEN DISCUSSION REGARDING PRESENTATION
HOW CAN WE MAKE THE PROGRAM BETTER?

• Instructional Video for Applicants
• Candidate Handbook
• Newsletter to Educators
ADJOURNMENT