

Tips to prepare for the NDECC

Important Documents

The following documents should be reviewed prior to the examination:

- NDECC Protocol
- NDECC Practical Guide
- NDECC Situational Judgement Reference List

Clinical Skills Component

- Practice performing the 7 clinical requirements following infection control practices during the time allocated for the NDECC.
- Practice performing the requirements with equipment/materials comparable to the equipment/materials provided during the NDECC.
- Practice the requirements on various teeth.

Common mistakes

- Performing a requirement on the wrong tooth.
- Repeating restorations during the examination. This will lead to insufficient time to complete the exam.

Situational Judgement Component

At each station, you will be presented with a scenario with one or more directives. Some stations require a written answer while others are encounters with a simulated person.

- Read the scenario and directive(s) carefully.

You will need to discuss/explain various situations and communicate information effectively. You will not be graded on your English skills.

- Be ready to write and speak in English before taking the NDECC.
- Practice situations highlighted in the Protocol.

When giving a diagnosis to a simulated patient, you must provide a medical/dental diagnosis. It may be appropriate to also explain the diagnosis in layman terms.

- Practice explaining common diagnoses and procedures in layman terms (simple language).

When writing a progress note, you must carefully review the scenario presented, and make sure to include precise information regarding:

- The name of the diagnostic tests that you would perform in this specific scenario including the type and number of radiographs if any.
- The details pertaining to the local anesthetics that you would use (type, quantity, location).
- The type(s), brand(s), and shade(s) of the material(s) that you would use for any procedure if applicable.
- The details for any drugs you would give or prescribe if applicable (name, strength, quantity or duration, instructions).

When asked to establish a problem list, you must list all the problems that will require some type of management and problems that the patient should be informed of.

When presenting treatment options, you should order your recommendations from the most appropriate to least appropriate.

Several stations involve obtaining informed consent. You may want to familiarize yourself with the important components of informed consent, and practice obtaining informed consent for various procedures.

See the following documents:

https://cdn.agilitycms.com/rcdso/pdf/positions-and-initiatives/RCDSO_Informed_Consent.pdf

and

<https://www.rcdso.org/en-ca/Complaints-and-Investigations/resources-for-patients/fees>

When recommending an over-the-counter medication, you must write in your progress note that you recommended to the patient to take over the counter [drug name] and follow the instructions on the bottle/package.

When discussing treatment options, you must be precise in the type of restorations you suggest (composite, amalgam, porcelain fused to metal crown ...).

Common mistakes

- Providing a rehearsed response that does not answer the scenario presented.
- Not following the directives or omitting part of the directives.
- Presenting only one treatment option when asked to present treatment options.
- Not explaining the advantages and disadvantages of the treatment options to the patient.
- Not explaining the risks and benefits when obtaining informed consent.
- Using incorrect tooth numbers.
- Not providing the complete prescription in a progress note.
- Not stating the precise type of restoration you are suggesting.
- Using abbreviations in your written submissions.
- Not writing legibly.