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Content and Format

The Assessment of Clinical Judgement (ACJ) consists of three books given on the same day.

Books 1A and 1B – Diagnosis, Treatment Planning and Clinical Decision Making

This extended match multiple choice assessment will evaluate the participant’s ability to formulate a diagnosis and to make clinical decisions. Case histories, dental charts, radiographic images, and photographs may be provided for patients of all ages, including those with special needs.

Book 2 – Radiographic Interpretation

This extended match multiple choice assessment will evaluate the participant’s knowledge in oral radiology and ability to make a radiographic interpretation and diagnosis using radiographic images.

The blueprint below gives the content areas and approximate number of questions in each area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACJ Blueprint</th>
<th>Approximate # of Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diagnosis, Treatment Planning and Clinical Decision Making</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General/Oral Health</td>
<td>0 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Medicine/Pathology</td>
<td>6 – 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology/Therapeutics</td>
<td>6 – 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anesthesia/oral Surgery</td>
<td>4 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Emergencies</td>
<td>4 – 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodontics</td>
<td>6 – 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endodontics</td>
<td>4 – 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodontics/Pediatric Dentistry</td>
<td>4 – 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiographic Interpretation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiology</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Validation of Registration</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>8:15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book 1A</td>
<td>8:30 am to 10:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book 1B</td>
<td>10:30 am to 12:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon check-in</td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book 2</td>
<td>1:30 pm to 3:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Validation of Registration

During validation of registration, participants will be issued an identification (ID) card. To receive the ID card, participants must show current government issued photo identification, (e.g. driver’s licence, passport, or military identification) in English or French for comparison to the ID card. The photo identification must show the participant’s name exactly as it appears in the participant’s online profile. It must be issued by a federal/provincial/territorial/state or municipal authority, and not be expired.

Participants who do not provide government photo identification will not be admitted.
Instructions

You will receive a book with your NAME, ID NUMBER, and SEAT NUMBER. The illustration below shows where the required information can be found on the book cover.

Assessment of Clinical Judgement

Diagnosis, Treatment Planning and Clinical Decision Making

Book 1A

2016

(90 minutes)

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You will also receive an answer score sheet. The illustration below is an example of how to correctly enter required identification information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nom de famille/Last Name:</th>
<th>Prénom/First Name:</th>
<th>No d'identification/Id Number:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAST NAME</td>
<td>FIRST NAME</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Noircir le cercle en entier:**  ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
**Blacken the entire circle:**  ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Enter your name and your ID number as they appear on your book cover in the indicated areas on the answer score sheet.

Each question is followed by a choice of answers. Record your answer(s) on the answer score sheet using a standard (wood) lead pencil (No. 2 or HB) only. When entering answers, make heavy black marks that completely fill the appropriate circle(s).

If you change your answer, make sure that the original mark is thoroughly erased.

Do not make stray marks on the answer score sheet.

You may write in the book; however, only the answers recorded on your answer score sheet will be graded.

You must transfer all answers to the answer score sheet within the session time.

You may use magnification aids, such as magnifying glasses or loupes.

Radiographic images are to be viewed as if you are facing the patient.

The book, answer score sheet, and ID card must be returned at the end of the session. If any of these are not returned, you will receive a score of zero.

The FDI two-digit tooth numbering system below is used in all assessments.

**FDI Numbering System**

**Permanent Dentition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.8</th>
<th>1.7</th>
<th>1.6</th>
<th>1.5</th>
<th>1.4</th>
<th>1.3</th>
<th>1.2</th>
<th>1.1</th>
<th>2.1</th>
<th>2.2</th>
<th>2.3</th>
<th>2.4</th>
<th>2.5</th>
<th>2.6</th>
<th>2.7</th>
<th>2.8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Primary Dentition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.5</th>
<th>5.4</th>
<th>5.3</th>
<th>5.2</th>
<th>5.1</th>
<th>6.1</th>
<th>6.2</th>
<th>6.3</th>
<th>6.4</th>
<th>6.5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RIGHT

LEFT
Sample Questions

The Question and Answer Frameworks for the ACJ sections are available in the Reference Materials & Resources section of the NDEB website.

Participants are strongly encouraged to visit the website in preparation for the ACJ. Sample questions below illustrate the formats generally used in the ACJ.

1. **Single Correct Answer**

   Some questions have one correct answer, indicated by the direction (Select **ONE** correct answer). Select the most likely answer or most appropriate answer.

   **Photograph _____**

   **Sample Question: 1**  (Select **ONE** correct answer.)
   Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis for the entity shown in the above photograph?

   - A. Pyogenic granuloma.
   - B. Hemangioma.
   - C. Edema.
   - D. Hematoma.
   - E. Gingival cyst.
   - F. Exostosis.
   - G. Periodontal abscess.
   - H. Acute apical abscess.
   - I. Chronic apical abscess.

   **Answer:** A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O
Many questions include patient case histories in the format illustrated below.

Using the information provided, answer questions 1 to 10 on the answer score sheet.

**Patient Information:**
- Age: 57
- Blood Pressure: 130/86 mmHg
- Gender: Female
- Pulse Rate: 80 bpm
- Height: 167cm (5’6”)
- Respiration Rate: 15/min
- Weight: 60kg (132lbs.)
- Temperature: 37°C (98.6°F)

**Chief Complaint:**
"My front tooth hurts."

**History of Chief Complaint:**
Noticed pain for the last 3 days.

**Dental History:**
Irregular visits.

**Medical History:**
- Significant Findings: None.
- Current Medication: None.
- Allergies: None.

**Social/Family History:**
- Significant Findings: None.

**Clinical Examination:**
- Significant Findings:
  - Extraoral: None.
  - Intraoral: None.
Sample Question: 2 (Select ONE correct answer.)

Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis for the entity shown in photograph _____?

A. Linea alba.
B. Fordyce’s granules.
C. Leukoedema.
D. Leukoplakia/hyperkeratosis with or without dysplasia.
E. Frictional/traumatic keratosis.
F. Mucosal burn.
G. Lichen planus.
H. Candidiasis.
I. Hairy leukoplakia.
J. Lupus erythematosus.
K. White sponge nevus.
L. Erythema migrans/geographic tongue.
M. Mucous patches of secondary syphilis.
N. Hairy tongue.
O. Verrucous carcinoma.

Answer: A B D J K L

Photograph _____

Answer: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O
2. **One or More Correct Answers**

Some questions have one or more correct answers, indicated by the direction "Select **ONE OR MORE** correct answers." Select all answers that are correct. The maximum score for any question is one ("1"). The minimum score for any question is zero ("0"). Part marks will be awarded if some, but not all correct answers are selected, provided no incorrect answer is selected. Marks will be deducted for incorrect responses, but no question will receive a score less than zero ("0"). Some answers are neither definitely correct nor incorrect and have been given a value of zero ("0"). Selecting one of these answers will not affect the score given to a participant. But, if a definitely incorrect answer is selected the participant will receive a zero ("0") score for the entire question.

**Sample Question: 3** (Select **ONE OR MORE** correct answers.)

Based on the cephalometric values provided, the patient presents with

A. a prognathic maxilla.
B. a normally positioned maxilla.
C. a retrognathic maxilla.
D. a prognathic mandible.
E. a normally positioned mandible.
F. a retrognathic mandible.
G. a flat (low) mandibular plane.
H. a normal mandibular plane.
I. a steep (high) mandibular plane.
J. labially inclined maxillary incisors.
K. normally inclined maxillary incisors.
L. lingually inclined maxillary incisors.
M. labially inclined mandibular incisors.
N. normally inclined mandibular incisors.
O. lingually inclined mandibular incisors.

Answer:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  H  I  J  K  L  M  N  O
The following is an illustration of the scoring system. The score for each answer is given to the left of each answer.

**Sample Question: 4** (Select ONE OR MORE correct answers.)
There is radiographic evidence of caries on the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>A. distal of tooth 3.3.</th>
<th>G. distal of tooth 3.6.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>B. mesial of tooth 3.4.</td>
<td>H. mesial of tooth 3.7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>C. distal of tooth 3.4.</td>
<td>I. distal of tooth 3.7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>D. mesial of tooth 3.5.</td>
<td>J. mesial of tooth 3.8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.3</td>
<td>E. distal of tooth 3.5.</td>
<td>K. distal of tooth 3.8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>F. mesial of tooth 3.6.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answer:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  H  I  J  K  L  M  N  O  for full mark.
Information for questions which include a periodontal chart

The following represents an example of a periodontal chart that may be used on some stations in the Assessment of Clinical Judgement. Each chart will utilize the following notation:

- The upper part of the chart denotes the findings on the vestibular (buccal and/or labial) surfaces of the teeth being discussed for the case
- Missing teeth are denoted by a large "X"
- Probing depths, in millimetres, are listed in the next row below the tooth number
- Recession is listed below the pocketing, in millimetres. If there is no number, there is no significant recession
- Bleeding on probing is denoted by "●", and is listed directly below the pocket where bleeding was found
- The middle part of the chart denotes the findings for the lingual surfaces, using the same categories as above
- Mobility and furcation involvement apply to the entire tooth and can be found on the bottom part of the chart
- Mobility for the tooth, if present, is listed as a “1, 2, or 3”, using the Miller classification.
- The Class (I, II, III) of furcation involvement (if present) is listed with the surface indicated (B, L, M, D)

This example is a chart of the maxillary second quadrant, with tooth 2.6 missing. The probing depths, in millimetres, are listed, going from mesial on the left, to distal on the right. In this example, there is 3mm of recession all along the buccal of teeth 2.4 and 2.5. No other recession is noted. There is bleeding on probing on the mesiobuccal and distobuccal of teeth 2.5 and 2.7, and all along the lingual of tooth 2.7. No other bleeding is noted. Tooth 2.7 has a buccal furcation Class III and a Class 2 mobility. There are no other mobilities or furcation involvements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vestibular</th>
<th>2.3</th>
<th>2.4</th>
<th>2.5</th>
<th>2.6</th>
<th>2.7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tooth</td>
<td>3 2 4</td>
<td>4 5 4</td>
<td>4 4 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 7 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probing depth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recession</td>
<td>3 3 3</td>
<td>3 3 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bleeding on probing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● ●</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lingual</th>
<th>2.3</th>
<th>2.4</th>
<th>2.5</th>
<th>2.6</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tooth</td>
<td>2 2 2</td>
<td>3 4 4</td>
<td>4 3 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 5 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probing depth</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recession</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bleeding on probing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● ●</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Mobility |     | 2 |
| Furcation |     | B-III |
Reference Texts

A list of textbooks and references commonly used in DDS/DMD programs can be found in the Reference Materials & Resources section of the NDEB website.

Regulations

- Participants must be punctual for all sessions. Participants arriving late for a session may not be admitted.
- Family or friends must not accompany a participant as space at the centre is provided only for participants and staff.
- Participants must not bring devices with recording, transmitting, or receiving abilities, radios, cameras, cell phones, pagers or other electronic aids/devices into the Assessment room.
- Participants must not use dictionaries, calculators or other informative material.
- Participants may use ear plugs and magnification aids such as magnifying glasses or loupes.
- Participants must have the ID card visible at all times and must return the card to the Assessment Administrator at the end of each session.
- Participants must bring standard (wood) lead pencils (No. 2 or HB) and a block eraser. Items such as mechanical pencils, mechanical erasers, pens, or felt-type markers are not allowed in the assessment room.
- The ability of a participant to read, interpret, and comply with instructions and other written material is part of the assessment. Assessment Administrators and Invigilators will not answer questions involving content.
- Once the assessment is in progress, any participant who leaves the assessment room for any reason, including the use of washroom facilities, will not be allowed to re-enter unless special accommodation has been granted by the NDEB office.
- Participants must stop writing at the indicated time. The transfer of answers from books to answer score sheets must be completed within the session time. Additional time will not be allowed.
- Participants who do not abide with the above Regulations will receive a zero score for the ACJ.
Assessment Integrity

- All assessment material is copyrighted. Any attempt to reproduce or assemble assessment material is strictly prohibited and will be prosecuted.
- Participants are prohibited from copying or otherwise obtaining answers from other participants, from providing answers to other participants, and from talking or otherwise disrupting the conduct of the assessment. Participants are responsible for ensuring that their answers are not visible to other participants.
- Participants must be aware that the NDEB uses a software program to identify suspicious answer similarities between pairs of participants. The NDEB may void the results of both participants involved in suspicious occurrences identified by the software program.
- Participants are prohibited from removing test material including ID cards, books, and answer score sheets from the assessment room and from copying or making notes of any test item. Doing so will be considered as compromising the integrity of the assessment. The consequences of such actions are outlined in the NDEB By-laws. The NDEB will verify that all ID cards and books are returned. Participants who fail to return their ID cards and book may receive a zero score for the assessment.
- As per the NDEB By-laws, the NDEB will not tolerate the reconstruction of questions through memorization or recollection and/or the distribution of assessment material for the purpose of preparing or assisting an individual to take the assessment.
- Fraud, dishonesty or other misconduct will not be tolerated.

Special Accommodation

- Participants who are unable to attend an assessment on the scheduled date, due to religious reasons, must request special consideration for an alternate session to the NDEB office prior to the registration deadline date. The request must be in writing and must include original documentation confirming the inability to attend. The NDEB will accommodate requests for alternate sessions, but may have to offer alternate locations.
- Participants requiring special accommodation, due to a diagnosed medical condition, must submit a request in writing to the NDEB office within two weeks of the registration deadline date. The request must include original documentation indicating accommodation measures required. Additional supporting documentation may be requested by the NDEB office.
- Food and/or drink (including water) are not allowed in the assessment room. Participants requiring food and/or drink, due to a diagnosed medical condition, must submit a request in writing to the NDEB office within two weeks of the registration deadline date. The request must include original documentation indicating the accommodation measures required. Additional supporting documentation may be requested by the NDEB office.
Compassionate Appeal

Participants who consider themselves disadvantaged by a personal circumstance beyond their control, occurring either immediately before or during the assessment may, within one week of this personal circumstance occurring, request that the NDEB make a special consideration to void the results of the assessment. The NDEB may grant permission for the participant to withdraw from the assessment. Participants may also request special consideration for a refund of up to 50% of the assessment fee. Details can be found in the NDEB By-laws and Policies for Assessments & Examinations available on the NDEB website.

Passing Standard

In order to assure a consistent level of difficulty, the NDEB uses test equating and re-scaling procedures to correlate participant raw scores to scores on a reference assessment and to a standardized passing score of 75. Participants must obtain a minimum test equated, re-scaled score of 75 to be successful in the Assessment of Clinical Judgement.

The Assessment of Clinical Judgement may contain a number of questions that are being tested and these questions may not contribute to any participant’s result.

Results

The results of the Assessment of Clinical Judgement will normally be released within six weeks from the date of the assessment. Email notification will be sent when results are available in the participant’s online profile. Results will not be released by telephone, email, or fax.

The results of the Assessment of Clinical Judgement will be sent to universities in Canada offering a Qualifying or Degree Completion Program. Results cannot be obtained from educational institutions or Provincial Licensing Authorities.

Manual Rescores

Within three months of the release of results, participants can request a manual rescore. Two NDEB staff members perform a manual rescore by comparing the answers on the participant’s answer score sheet with the master answer key. The result of the manual rescore will be the final score. In most circumstances, this process confirms that no errors were made during the scanning and electronic scoring process.

Repeats

A participant can take the Assessment of Clinical Judgement three times.