

Cheat Sheet - Procedures

For your dental assisting written exam

According to the NDAEB Candidate Handbook, the Domain Description covers what you need to know to meet the standard of being admitted into the profession. Below, we've made a concerted effort to identify where exam topics align to sections in the current versions of textbooks, which are:

1. Modern Dental Assisting (MDA), 13th Edition, Bird and Robinson
2. Dental Assisting, A Comprehensive Approach (DA-CA), 5th Edition, Delmar
3. Clinical Practice of the Dental Hygienist (CP-DH), 12th Edition, Wilkins

Our recommended sections focus on the competencies from the Canadian Dental Assisting Legal Scope of Practice, and will get you started in the right direction.

1. Radiography

(MDA) – Procedures 39-1 to 39-3 (p.573-575); Procedures 41-2 to 41-7 (p.613-637); Procedures 42-1 to 42-3 (p.655-657). (DA-CA) – Procedure 22-3 (p.499-507); Procedure 22-4 (p.508-510); Procedure 22-5 (p.513-514); Procedure 22-7 (p.523); Procedure 22-8 (p.525); Procedure 23-1 (p.541-543); Procedure 23-2 (p.556-558). (CP-DH) – Procedures (p.222-236)

2. Preliminary Impressions

(MDA) – Procedures 46-1 to 46-3 (p.716-720); (DA-CA) – Procedures 39-1 to 39-5 (p.921-926); (CP-DH) – Procedures (p.245-246).

3. Dental Dam

(MDA) – Procedure 36-4 (p.513-514); (DA-CA) – Procedure 19-3 (p.437-441).

4. Treatment Liners

(MDA) – Procedure 44-1 (p.686); (DA-CA) – Procedure 37-12 (p.887).



5. Matrices & Wedges

(MDA) – Procedures 49-1 to 49-3 (p.771-774); (DA-CA) – Procedures 38-4 to 38-8 (p.909-914).

6. Selective Coronal Polishing

(MDA) – Procedure 58-1 (p.917-919); (DA-CA) – Procedures 32-1 to 32-4 (p.763-769); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.787-788).

7. Oral Hygiene Education

(MDA) – Procedure 15-3 (p.202); (DA-CA) – Procedures 4-2 to 4-8 (p.56-61); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.421-422).

8. Dietary Counselling

(MDA) – (p.211-212); (DA-CA) – Procedure (p.572-591).

9. Fluoride Application

(MDA) – Procedures 15-1 & 15-2 (p.199-201); (DA-CA) – Procedure 4-9 (p.67); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.603-607).

10. Fabricate & Insert Bleaching Trays

(MDA) – Procedure 47-7 (p.744); (DA-CA) – Procedure 35-3 (p.831-832); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.807).

11. Pit & Fissure Sealants

(MDA) – Procedure 59-1 (p.926-927); (DA-CA) – Procedure 30-1 (p.718-720); (CP-DH) – Table 37-1 (p.624-626).

12. Topical Anesthetic

(MDA) – Procedure 37-1 (p.528); (DA-CA) – Procedure 20-2 (p.458-461); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.659-660).

13. Desensitizing Agents



(MDA) – Procedure 44-3 (p.687); (CP-DH) - Procedure (p.774)

14. Suture Removal

(MDA) – Procedure 56-8 (p.888); (DA-CA) – Procedures 25-7 to 25-9 (p.619-622); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.755-756).

15. Take & Record Vital Signs

(MDA) – Procedures 27-1 to 27-6 (p.382-384); (DA-CA) – Procedures 13-1 to 13-4 (p.281-288); (CP-DH) – Procedures (p.174-183).

16. Acid Etch Prepared Cavities

(MDA) – Procedure 44-7 (p.691); (DA-CA) – Procedure 37-9 (p.879).

17. Pulp Vitality Testing

(MDA) – Procedure 54-1 (p.842); (DA-CA) – Procedure 24-1 (p.569).

18. Retraction Cord Placement & Remove Retraction Cord

(MDA) – Procedure 50-1 (p.787-788); (DA-CA) – Procedure 33-4 (p.794-795).

19. Fabricate, Cement & Remove Provisional Crowns & Provisional Restoration

(MDA) – Procedures 51-1 to 51-3 (p.799-803); (DA-CA) – Procedures 39-21 to 39-23 (p.963-968).

20. Take and Record Gingival Plaque Indices

(DA-CA) – Procedure 4-1 (p.49); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.372-377).

21. Applying anti-microbial Agents

(MDA) – Procedures 55-2 & 55-3 (p.866-867); (DA-CA) – Procedure 4-9 (p.67); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.604-607).

22. Remove Perio Dressings

(MDA) – Procedure 55-4 (p.868); (DA-CA) – Procedure 31-6 (p.751).



23. Face Bow Transfer

(MDA) – Procedure 47-1 (p.735); (DA-CA) – Procedure 39-14 (p.946-947).

24. Periodontal Screening & Recording (PSR)

(MDA) – Procedure 28-4 (p.407-408); (CP-DH) – Procedure (p.378-380).

25. Fabricate Mouthguards

(MDA) – Procedure 47-7 (p.744); (DA-CA) – Procedure 39-17 (p.953-954).

26. Assessing and Reporting Oral Health Status

(MDA) – Procedures 28-1 to 28-3 (p.402-407); (DA-CA) – Figure 13-5 to 13-12 (p.276-277); (CP-DH) – Procedures (p.186-199).

