Sample Questions for the Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry Examination

Here are some sample MCQ examination questions. Each is in the style of currently used Examination Questions with 'True'/ 'False' options. Try them out to test your own knowledge. The answers are given at the end.

Q1: Periodontology
When considering periodontal surgery:
A it is indicated for pockets with >6mm probing pocket depth measurements
B the success rate of free gingival grafting is in the region of 75%
C a gingivectomy can be considered for a patient with drug induced gingival overgrowth
D apical repositioning surgery allows a reduction in probing pocket depth measurements
E it is indicated in patients with poor plaque control

Q2: Removable prosthodontics
Regarding major connectors for mandibular metal-based removable partial dentures:
A there should be a minimum of 3mm between the gingival margins of the remaining teeth and the superior part of a lingual bar connector
B the distance between the gingival margins of the remaining teeth and the floor of the sulcus (during function) should be 5mm at least
C the cross sectional profile of a lingual bar connector is rectangular
D a lingual plate connector offers more indirect retention than a lingual bar
E a lingual plate connector causes more plaque retention than a lingual bar

Q3: Fixed Prosthodontics
In relation to resin retained bridgework (also referred to as resin bonded bridgework)
A effective adhesion is achieved by cementing with zinc phosphate cement
B anterior resin retained bridges are more successful than posterior resin retained bridges
C cantilevered resin retained bridges are more successful than fixed-fixed resin retained bridges (i.e. those with two wings)

D sandblasting of the fitting surface of the metal wing is no longer necessary to achieve retention

E the average longevity of a resin retained bridge is less than the average longevity of conventional bridges

Q4: Oral Surgery
Recurrence following enucleation is common with:
A radicular cyst
B odontogenic keratocyst
C unicystic amelobastoma
D paradental cyst
E dentigerous cyst

Q5: Endodontics/ Fixed Prosthodontics
When considering re-root canal treatment for a lower first molar tooth:
A If a pre-treatment periapical radiolucency is present, the likely success rate for the retreatment will be in excess of 90%
B The tooth is likely to have 3 canals - 1 mesial and 2 distal
C The irrigating material of choice is sodium hypochlorite
D Calcium hydroxide is the most appropriate intra-canal inter-appointment dressing
E If a disto-occlusal amalgam restoration was present prior to re-treatment, then a crown is the most appropriate coronal restoration for this tooth on completion of re-root canal treatment

How did you do? The answers are given on the next pages....
Answers: The true answers are underlined.

Q1: Periodontology
When considering periodontal surgery:
A  it is indicated for pockets with >6mm probing pocket depth measurements
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Q2: Removable prosthodontics
Regarding major connectors for mandibular metal-based removable partial dentures:
A  there should be a minimum of 3mm between the gingival margins of the remaining teeth and the superior part of a lingual bar connector
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Q3: Fixed Prosthodontics
In relation to resin retained bridgework (also referred to as resin bonded bridgework)
A  effective adhesion is achieved by cementing with zinc phosphate cement
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C  cantilevered resin retained bridges are more successful than fixed-fixed resin retained bridges (i.e. those with two wings)
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Q4: **Oral Surgery**

Recurrence following enucleation is common with:

A  radicular cyst  
B  odontogenic keratocyst  
C  unicystic amelobastoma  
D  paradental cyst  
E  dentigerous cyst

Q5: **Endodontics/ Fixed Prosthodontics**

When considering re-root canal treatment for a lower first molar tooth:

A  If a pre-treatment periapical radiolucency is present, the likely success rate for the re-treatment will be in excess of 90%  
B  The tooth is likely to have 3 canals - 1 mesial and 2 distal  
C  The irrigating material of choice is sodium hypochlorite  
D  Calcium hydroxide is the most appropriate intra-canal inter-appointment dressing  
E  If a disto-occlusal amalgam restoration was present prior to re-treatment, then a crown is the most appropriate coronal restoration for this tooth on completion of re-root canal treatment

We hope you enjoyed our sample questions! If you are interested in sitting the Diploma of Primary Care Dentistry examination, or if you would like more information, please contact:

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