



Training Dental assistants to take impressions

It is now within the scope of practice of dental surgery assistants to take dental impressions provided they have had adequate training. This involves theoretical aspects and a practical log of relevant experience supervised by an appropriate person.

Recent work has created the necessary resource for orthodontists to carry this out in-house, to improve the skill mix within their practices and extend the duties of their assistants to make their roles more fulfilling.

The OSG of the BOS has created the necessary theoretical aspects in the form of Powerpoint presentations. These can be combined with practical sessions and then a record of experience to fulfil the requirements for CPD.

This resource pack consists of the following:-

1. Training outline
2. The Taking of Alginate Dental Impressions unit 1
3. The Taking of dental impressions- unit 2
4. Impression taking for DCP's- a skeleton course outline
5. Record of experience log
6. Powerpoint for delivering the theoretical content.
7. Register of attendance
8. Evaluation form
9. CPD certificate

Once all elements of the training is complete then feedback from the participants can be recorded and a CPD certificate produced. The feedback and records of experience and attendance need to be retained within the practice for future reference.

We would like to acknowledge Matt Clover at Wessex Orthodontics and Fran Cannings and Ben Taylor at Wells Orthodontics.

The following sources were used to help design the course

Orthodontic team training, Warwick University 2009
GDC guidelines

Health and Safety at work guidelines.

We hope you find this a helpful aid to developing your practice teams.

Rod Ferguson OSG October 2016