

RCDC



THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS
OF CANADA

FELLOWSHIP EXAMINATION CANDIDATE STUDY GUIDE ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL RADIOLOGY

Introduction

The intent of this guide is to provide the candidate with an understanding of the format used for the Fellowship Examination in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology.

Fellowship Examination Format

The Fellowship Examination is a test of clinical decision making. Specifically, the ability to assess, treat, and understand probable outcomes. These questions are case based. A typical clinical case protocol contains a hypothetical patient situation (a clinical vignette) developed from actual cases and may include a patient history, radiographs, and/or clinical photographs. The candidate is then questioned on how he/she will manage the patient, emphasis is placed on patient care decisions, as if the candidate was caring for the patient.

As part of their preparation, it is also highly recommended that candidates gain as much experience as possible working through case-based oral examination questions. While preparing for the oral examination it is also helpful to have other colleagues and/or mentors present the candidate with clinical cases using the aforementioned format. It is better still if the candidate is provided cases that they have never seen before or are unfamiliar with.

Radiology candidates must be familiar with all classes of diseases AND image types ranging from intraoral films to CT, MR, and other advanced imaging modalities.

The Fellowship Examination consists of two parts.

For BOTH parts it is important to think and answer according to the following thought processes:

1. Identify the diagnostic image(s) provided, including imaging modality and anatomical areas depicted.
2. Describe the pertinent findings on the imaging examination in the format of a Radiology report.
3. Provide a differential or definitive interpretation of the abnormality/ies.
4. Comment on the disease mechanism of the condition(s) in the differential diagnosis / definitive interpretation. Name the cause of the condition(s) if established in the literature.
5. Comment on the management of the case (where applicable, other images, imaging techniques or diagnostic tests that may be indicated to provide further information).

Cases used are cases that might reasonably be expected to be seen by a practicing radiologist and covers the full range of dental and medical diagnoses.