

Fellowship Examination Blueprint: Oral Medicine & Pathology

Blueprint

Competency Domain	Percentage
1. Patient Assessment and Diagnosis	30 – 35%
2. Treatment Planning and Management	15 – 20%
3. Treatment Evaluation and Modification	15 – 20%
4. Histopathology	25 – 35%
5. Communication	5 – 15%

Competencies

1. Patient Assessment and Diagnosis

- 1.1 Obtain and interpret a comprehensive medical, dental, and social history, and pain history.
- 1.2 Assess, critically evaluate, and obtain a patient's chief complaint and thorough, relevant history of chief complaint
- 1.3 Conduct comprehensive extraoral and intraoral examinations and differentiate between normal and abnormal findings, including interpretation and correlation of all relevant findings
- 1.4 Order, interpret, and correlate diagnostic imaging
- 1.5 Order and interpret appropriate investigations, including blood tests, salivary tests and microbiological investigations.
- 1.6 Perform medical risk assessments for medically complex patients.
- 1.7 Recognize, assess, and interpret oral manifestations of systemic disease
- 1.8 Diagnose developmental abnormalities, acquired syndromes, infectious, immunologic, mucosal, dermatologic, salivary gland, hematologic, bone, soft tissue, odontogenic, and systemic diseases.
- 1.9 Diagnose orofacial pain and neurosensory conditions.
- 1.10 Correlate data from clinical, radiographic, laboratory and histopathological sources.
- 1.11 Establish differential and final diagnoses.
- 1.12 Recommend additional investigations or referral as needed.

2. Treatment Planning and Management

- 2.1 Develop individualized, evidence-based treatment plans that incorporate patient values, medical status, and psychosocial factors.
- 2.2 Prescribe and manage topical and systemic medications safely.
- 2.3 Describe the management approach, including rationale, alternative therapies, and potential complications for oral and maxillofacial diseases and conditions, including orofacial pain and TMJ disorders.
- 2.4 Manage oral complications of systemic diseases and therapies.
- 2.5 Manage diseases, conditions and complications of varying complexity in the oral and maxillofacial region
- 2.6 Coordinate care with other dental and medical providers.
- 2.7 Identify indications for surgical vs. non-surgical management.

3. Treatment Evaluation and Modification

- 3.1 Discuss criteria and methods for assessing treatment outcomes, complications, and strategies for modifying treatment.
- 3.2 Identify and manage adverse effects or complications.
- 3.3 Understand and describe appropriate responses and management strategies for medical emergencies.
- 3.4 Modify or adjust treatment plans based on evolving patient needs.
- 3.5 Establish follow-up plans that are condition-specific and patient-centered.

4. Histopathology

- 4.1 Perform gross examination and appropriate dissection of oral and maxillofacial surgical and cytological specimens.
- 4.2 Recognize indications for, perform and interpret the findings from appropriate ancillary laboratory techniques, including histochemistry, immunohistochemistry, in situ hybridization, flow cytometry, cytogenetics and molecular pathology.
- 4.3 Explain diagnostic decision-making based on histopathologic findings.
- 4.4 Describe and correlate histologic findings with clinical, radiologic, microbiologic, and biochemical data.
- 4.5 Prepare structured and clear pathology reports.
- 4.6 Communicate critical, urgent, or unexpected results efficiently.
- 4.7 Participate in intra- and extra-departmental consultations as needed.



RCDC

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS
OF CANADA

5. Communication

- 5.1 Communicate effectively with patients, their families, and other healthcare professionals.
- 5.2 Adapt communication based on the patient's age and stage of development.
- 5.3 Obtain informed consent from patients and/or their parents, guardians, or substitute decision makers.
- 5.4 Collaborate with members of the interdisciplinary healthcare team.
- 5.5 Demonstrate collegiality when discussing differing opinions with other healthcare professionals.
- 5.6 Ensure the continuity and coordination of patient care through the appropriate transfer of information.
- 5.7 Consistently apply accurate, discipline-specific terminology when communicating clinical reasoning and decisions.
- 5.8 Communicate in a structured, clear, concise, and logical manner.
- 5.9 Clearly and transparently articulate clinical reasoning and decision-making processes.