

# Fellowship Examination Periodontics: Sample Case

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## Disclaimer

The following sample case is provided for illustrative purposes only. It is intended to demonstrate the style of case presentation and the type of reasoning expected in the Fellowship Examination. It should not be taken as a reflection of the specific content, scope, or level of difficulty of the actual examination.

## Case Scenario

A 52-year-old patient is referred for ongoing bleeding and mobility affecting posterior teeth. They report tooth sensitivity and “getting food stuck” interproximally. Their Medical history includes type 2 diabetes (recent A1C unknown), controlled hypertension. They are a former smoker (quit 1 year ago). The patient had intermittent dental care and multiple large posterior restorations.

*Candidates may be provided with the following supplementary records for interpretation:*

- *Intraoral photographs*
- *Extraoral photographs*
- *Radiographs*
- *Periodontal Charting*

## Data Gathering, Etiology & Diagnosis

Question: From the provided records, summarize the key clinical and radiographic findings and synthesize a working diagnosis.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Accurate selection of salient findings
- Internally consistent diagnosis using contemporary classification, with rationale tied to the observed findings

Question: What uncertainties remain, and what additional information or investigations would most influence your diagnosis?

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Clear statement of diagnostic limits and justified indications for further data
- A plan to reconcile conflicting findings and refine the diagnosis.

## Prognosis, Treatment Planning & Management

Question: State your prioritized problem list and primary treatment objectives, then outline two viable treatment pathways.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Concise, prioritized problems linked to measurable objectives
- Evidence-based options with indications/limitations and anticipated trade-offs; alignment with medical status/behaviours and restorability.

Question: Specify your initial plan and sequencing including criteria to adapt the plan.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Logical sequencing that incorporates risk factor control, local and/or systemic adjuncts as appropriate, and clear re-evaluation criteria.
- Defined thresholds for referral/interdisciplinary coordination

## Post-Treatment Management & Maintenance

Question: What outcomes will you monitor after initial therapy and how will these guide maintenance interval and further care?

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Objective parameters for healing and response.
- Individualized maintenance plan tied to risk and response, with transparent criteria for modifying intervals and re-treatment.

Question: List important post-treatment complications you will watch for and outline your management approach.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Vigilance for biologic/mechanical complications and early, proportionate responses plus safety-netting instructions.
- Recognition of failed/unsuccessful treatments and formulation of alternative options where appropriate.

## Communication

Candidates are assessed on communication holistically throughout the case.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Communicates answers directly, clearly, and logically.
- Articulates reasoning clearly, concisely, and in a well-organized manner; remains relevant and uses appropriate terminology.