



## PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR DENTAL THERAPY AND ORAL HYGIENE

### BOARD EXAMINATION FOR DENTAL ASSISTANTS

Date: 15 May 2015

Time: 3 HOURS (10:00 – 13:00)

TOTAL: 100 marks

#### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer all the questions.
- No cell phones, books or study material may be brought into the venue
- The paper consists of ELEVEN (11) pages including the cover page.
- Mark allocation: 1 mark per fact unless indicated otherwise.
- Your name and ID number must be written on **each** page of the answering sheets
- Question paper and answer sheets (used and unused) must be handed in after the examination

Name: .....

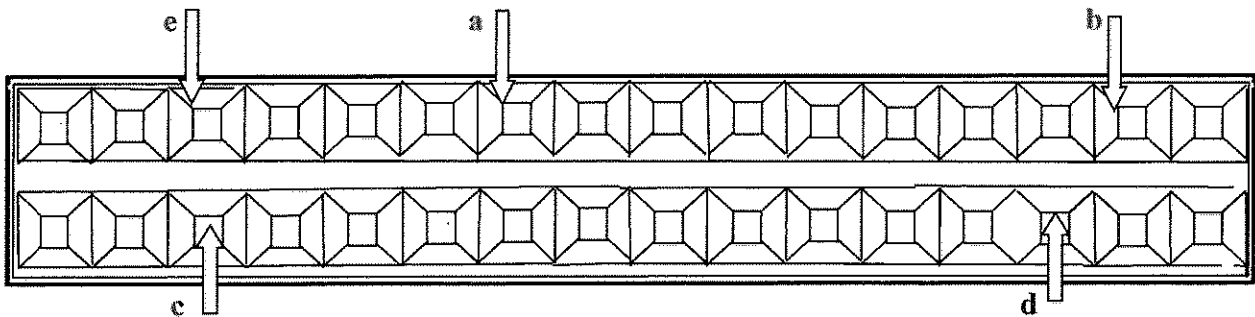
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**QUESTION1 [12]**

- i. List 5 functions within the scope of practice of the dental assistant. (5)
- ii. What is the legal requirement for the dental assistant to be employed as dental assistant? (1)
- iii. What does the term "informed consent" mean? (2)
- iv. Name two ways of obtaining informed consent. (2x2=4)

**Question2 [16]**

The following questions are based on the chart



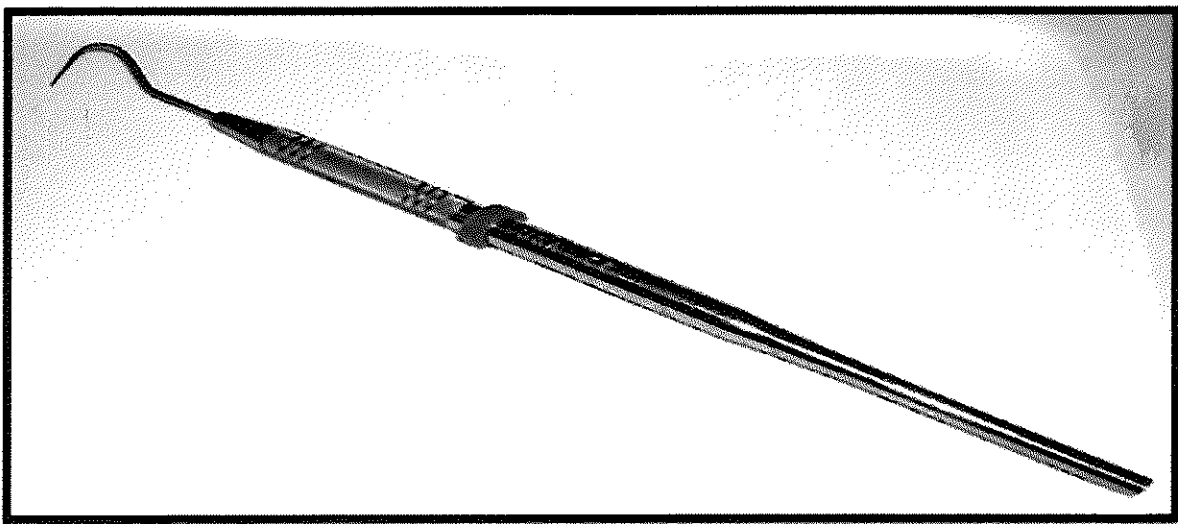
- i. Record the tooth numbers shown by the arrows (a-e) on the charting form above. (5)
- ii. Complete the information below on the charting form.
  - a: tooth extracted
  - b: tooth to be extracted
  - c: fissure sealant needed
  - d: occlusal restoration
  - e: crown (5)
- iii. List six guidelines that the dental assistant should take into account when doing chart/record entries as a legal record. (6)

Name: .....

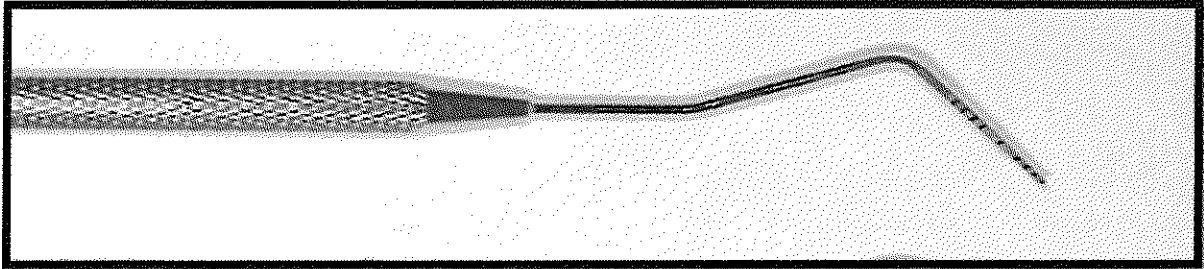
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**Question3 [12]**

Identify and state the function (use) of each instrument below by completing the table.

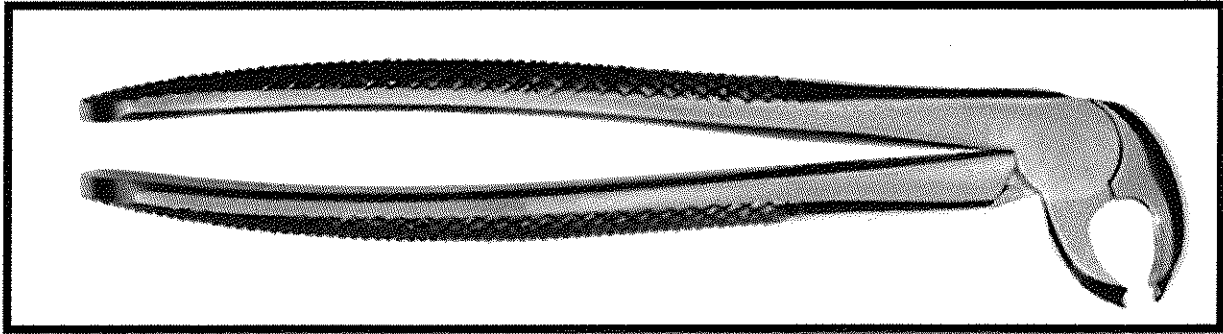


A (2)



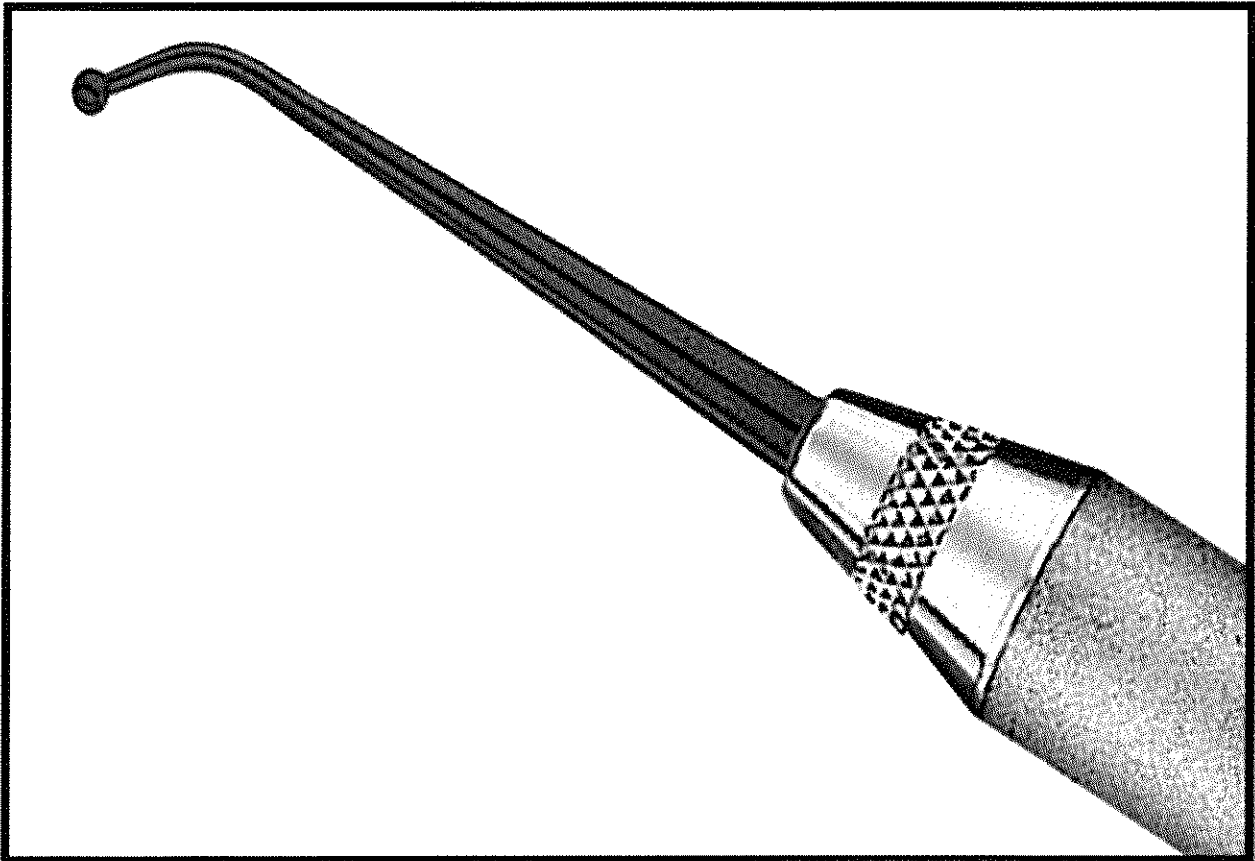
B

(2)



C

(2)



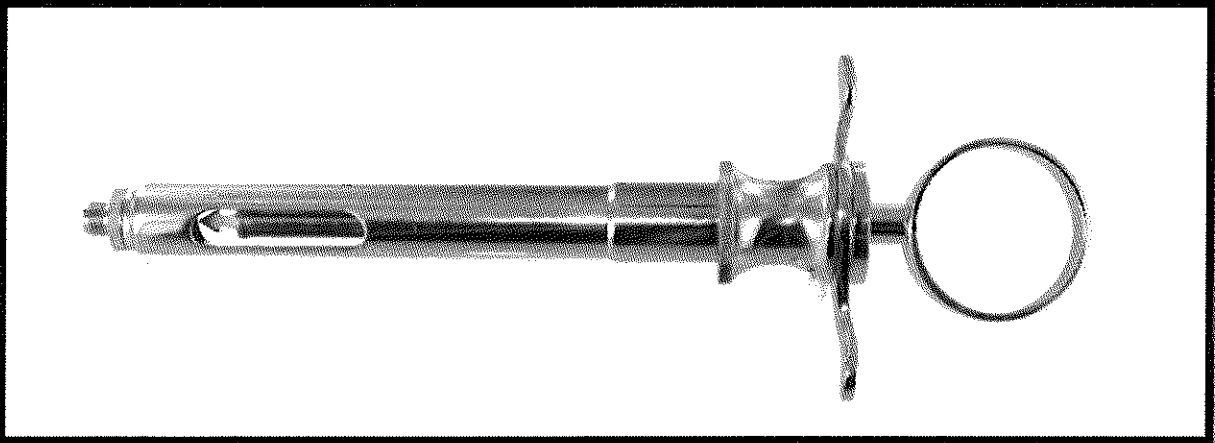
D

(2)



E

(2)



F

(2)

Name: .....

Identification number: .....

	Type of instrument (6)	Use of instrument (6)
A		
B		
C		
D		
E		
F		

**QUESTION 4 [28]**

- i. Explain the term “barrier protection”. (2)
- ii. Give 3 examples of personal protective equipment (PPE) you would use in dentistry. (3)
- iii. Explain why is it important for dental assistants to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when performing tasks that could produce splash, spatter, aerosol, or other contact with body fluids. (3)
- iv. Describe the hand washing procedure that oral health professionals should do before and after seeing a patient. (6)
- v. Describe the procedure of sterilizing used dental instruments. You need to explain the sequence step by step, starting from removal of used instruments from the working area. (10)
- vi. Identify the four (4) types of waste found in an oral health care facility. (4)

Name: .....

Identification number: .....

**QUESTION 5 [14]**

The questions below refer to your role in providing patients with advice regarding their dental care.

- i. You are requested to provide home care instructions to a mother whose child has had an extraction. Describe the information you will give this mother. (4)
- ii. You are asked to advise an elderly patient to care for her dentures (full upper and lower). The patient is partially deaf. Describe the information to be given and the method you would use to ensure that the patient understands you. (6)
- iii. A patient visiting the practice you are working at just received a scaling. The patient complains of "bleeding gums" and the record shows that he brushes his teeth once a day, using a scrubbing technique. Describe the information you will provide this patient. (4)

**QUESTION 6 [14]**

The dentist you are working for informs you that he will be doing an amalgam restoration/ filling on the next patient.

- i. Explain the responsibility/duty of the dental assistant in preparing the surgery, during and after the procedure of doing a restoration. (8)
- ii. When the dentist leaves the room, the patient asks you a number of questions regarding x-rays that she was not comfortable asking the dentist. She wants to know the purpose of taking x-rays (2marks), why a heavy apron was placed over her and why the dentist left the room while the x-rays were being taken (2marks), how safe it was for women to have dental x-rays (2marks). (6)

Name: .....

Identification number: .....

**Question 7 [4]**

Answer **True** or **False** to the following statements.

- i. Dental consumables may be used for up to one year after the expiry date of the consumables. \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. Dental assistants work under supervision of the dentist. Therefore the dental assistant will not be held liable for using materials that are outdated. \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. A dental specialist who straightens teeth is referred to as an orthodontist. \_\_\_\_\_
- iv. Plaque can be removed by rinsing with salt water twice a day. \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL: 100**