
Practice Test for the

DANB

Dental Assistant Exam

Dental Assisting National Board

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Introduction



Measuring of Dental Assisting Excellence

The Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) began in 1948 to provide professional certification for dental assistants. DANB's mission is to promote the public good by providing credentialing services to the dental community.

DANB offers five national certifications: National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA), Certified Dental Assistant (CDA), Certified Orthodontic Assistant (COA), Certified Preventive Functions Dental Assistant (CPFDA) and Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant (CRFDA). In addition to these national certifications, DANB offers certificates of knowledge-based competency in Radiation Health and Safety (RHS), Infection Control (ICE), Coronal Polishing (CP), Sealants (SE), Topical Anesthetic (TA), Topical Fluoride (TF), Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP), Impressions (IM), Temporaries (TMP) and Isolation (IS).

DANB certifications and certificates of knowledge-based competency are recognized by or required in 37 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Air Force and the Department of Veterans Affairs. There are currently more than 37,000 DANB certificants nationwide.

DANB further supports the dental community through its affiliation with the DALE Foundation. The DALE Foundation was incorporated on March 17, 2010, as a nonprofit education and research foundation, with DANB as its sole member. Although DANB and the DALE Foundation work closely together, they are separate organizations.

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General Chairside Assistance

1. A permanent dentition consists of how many teeth?

- a. 28
- b. 30
- c. 32
- d. 26

2. Which teeth are sometimes called the "eye" teeth?

- a. Premolars
- b. Canines
- c. Incisors
- d. Bicuspid

3. Which proximal surface of a tooth is closest toward the midline of the body?

- a. Occlusal
- b. Facial
- c. Incisal
- d. Mesial

4. A permanent dentition consists of how many premolars?

- a. 4
- b. 8
- c. 12
- d. None

5. When a mouth is divided into fourths, the parts are referred to as:

- a. Quadrant
- b. Arch
- c. Sextant
- d. Posterior/Anterior

6. Using the Universal System of tooth designation, what tooth is #12?

- a. Maxillary right canine
- b. Maxillary left first premolar
- c. Maxillary left canine
- d. Maxillary right first premolar

7. Using the International Standards Organization system of tooth recording, which tooth is #25?

- a. Mandibular right central incisor
- b. Maxillary left second premolar
- c. Mandibular left central incisor
- d. Maxillary right second premolar

8. What is the structure that connects cementum to the alveolar bone?

- a. Dentin
- b. Pulp
- c. Periodontal ligament
- d. Enamel

9. A gold crown is marked by:

- a. Horizontal lines through the crown
- b. Vertical lines through the crown
- c. Diagonal lines through the crown
- d. A solid colored crown

Practice Test for the DANB Dental Assistant Exam KEY

General Chairside Assistance

1. **c.** 32 teeth make up a permanent dentition.
2. **b.** Canine teeth are sometimes called "eye teeth."
3. **d.** Mesial is the closest proximal tooth surface toward the midline of the body.
4. **b.** 8 premolars exist in a permanent dentition.
5. **a.** Quadrants are the four parts when a mouth is divided into four sections: upper right, lower right, upper left and lower left.
6. **b.** Tooth #12 is the maxillary left first premolar.
7. **b.** Maxillary left second premolar is #25 when using the ISO system of tooth recording.
8. **c.** Periodontal ligament is the connective tissue fibers that encircle the tooth, attaching the cementum to the alveolar bone.
9. **c.** Diagonal lines through the crown indicate a restoration made of gold material.
10. **a.** Black ink is appropriate for charting treatment completed by a previous provider.
11. **b.** Diastema - a space between the upper central incisors.
12. **b.** Measure for 30 seconds, then multiply by 2, for a rate per minute.
13. **c.** 40 mm Hg should be added to the brachial pulse rate in order to determine the inflation level during a blood pressure reading.
14. **a.** 10-20 is the average adult respiration rate.
15. **b.** 60-100 bpm is the normal pulse rate in a resting adult.
16. **d.** General dental assistant guidelines recommend that dental practices keep a signed privacy policy in a patients file for at least 6 years. Some state laws set the minimum at 5 years.
17. **d.** Health history review is not a part of a dental examination> However it should be considered when assessing the patient's needs.