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Expanded Outline - TN RDA Examination in Two Components:
TN General Chairside (90 Questions) and TN Radiation Health and Safety (30 questions)

(Note that the letters in parentheses following each subcategory reflect the areas in the Tennessee Dental Practice Act's Scope of Dental Assisting Practice (0460-4-.08) to be measured by this examination.)

I. Tennessee General Chairside (90 total questions)

A. Apply knowledge of oral anatomy and morphology (ss) (10 questions)

- 1) Identify and locate the morphologic types of teeth in the primary and permanent dentition.
- 2) Identify the surfaces of the teeth.
- 3) Identify, describe, and note any abnormal findings in the head and neck region, including:
 - i) common diseases that have manifestations in the oral cavity.
 - ii) dental hygiene related problems.
 - iii) oral manifestations of inflammation.
 - iv) pathologic conditions.
- 4) Perform charting procedures.
 - i) Identify the permanent and primary teeth according to the Universal Numbering System.
 - ii) Chart conditions in the patient's oral cavity and accurately transcribe the record.

B. Perform chairside dental assisting procedures (20 questions)

- 1) Manage all types of patients, including those with special needs & problems (ss)
- 2) Using four-handed dentistry, assist with general dentistry and dental emergency procedures, including preparing tray set-ups (f):
 - a. place and remove rubber dams (k)
 - b. place and remove matrices for restorations (g)
 - c. remove sutures and staples (i)
 - d. fabricate, place and remove temporary restorations (j)
 - e. place and remove socket dressings (l)
 - f. place and remove periodontal dressings (m)
 - g. take dental plaque smears (n)
 - h. pack and remove retraction cord, with or without vasoactive chemicals, for restorative procedures (z)
 - i. select and pre-fit stainless steel crowns or other preformed crowns for insertion by the dentist (gg)
 - j. take oral cytologic smears (hh)
 - k. perform pulp testing (ii)
 - l. pack pulpotomy paste (jj)
 - m. dry canals with absorbent paper points (kk) and (mm)
 - n. wound care (pp)
 - o. irrigate extraction site (qq)
 - p. place exposure chains and attachments (rr)
 - q. remove ligatures and arch wires (q)

- r. select, bend, pre-size and place arch wires (®)
- s. select, re-fit, cement, cure and remove bands or brackets (s)
- t. place and remove pre-treatment separators (t)
- u. remove loose or broken bands (u)
- v. place springs on wires (v)
- w. place hooks on brackets (w)
- x. place chain elastics on brackets (x)
- y. ligate arch wires to brackets (y)
- z. apply tooth conditioners for bonding (ff)
- aa. fit, adjust and cement correctional appliances (oo)

C. Prepare, manipulate and apply chairside dental materials/perform procedures related to these types of materials (15 questions)

- 1) Impression materials/taking impressions (p) and (o)
- 2) Amalgam (bb)
- 3) Composites (not on list)
- 4) Liners and bases (ee)
- 5) Cements/removal (h) and (aa)

D. Prevention and management of medical/dental emergencies (d) and (ss) (5 questions)

- 1) Take vital signs.
- 2) Implement techniques for the prevention of medical/dental emergencies.
- 3) Recognize the signs and symptoms related to specific medical conditions/emergencies likely to occur in the dental office.
- 4) Respond to and assist in the management of chairside emergencies.

E. Pharmacology and pain control (cc), (dd), (nn) (5 questions)

- 1) Demonstrate a basic understanding of medications commonly used in oral health care.
- 2) Recognize medications related to the patient's present and/or past medical/dental history.

F. Preventive dentistry (5 questions)

- 1) Patient education (ss)
- 2) Oral hygiene (ll)
- 3) Nutrition (c)
- 4) Fluorides (b)

G. Infection control and occupational safety (e) (20 questions)

- 1) Prevent cross-contamination and disease transmission in the dental office and commercial dental laboratories.
- 2) Maintain aseptic conditions.
- 3) Select sterilization or disinfection in a given situation.

- 4) Perform sterilization procedures.
- 5) Perform disinfection procedures.
- 6) Follow the standards and guidelines of occupational safety for dental office personnel.
- 7) Incorporate all safety measures when using toxic materials or irritants.
- 8) Maintain office compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.

H. Legal aspects of dentistry (ss) (10 questions)

- 1) Records
 - a) Identify the legal significance of medical and dental histories.
 - b) Identify items included as part of a legally documented patient record.
 - c) Implement precautions necessary in lending records to another dental office.
- 2) Legal responsibilities and regulations
 - a) Obtain consent for routine and emergency office dental care.
 - b) Maintain the patient's right to privacy (HIPAA).
 - c) Recognize the legal responsibilities of the dental assistant in relation to Tennessee's Dental Practice Act.

II. Tennessee Radiation Health and Safety (30 total questions)

A. Expose and evaluate (a) (10 questions)

- 1) Select appropriate radiographic technique.
- 2) Select appropriate radiographic film to examine, view, or survey conditions, teeth or landmarks.
- 3) Select appropriate equipment for radiographic techniques.
- 4) Select patient management techniques before, during and after radiographic exposures.

B. Radiation Safety (ss) (10 questions)

- 1) Patient
- 2) Operator

C. Quality Assurance (ss) (10 questions)

- 1) Identify exposure errors, and ways to avoid these errors in future exposures.
- 2) Identify processing errors, and ways to avoid these errors.
- 3) Correctly mount and label radiographs for diagnostic assessment.