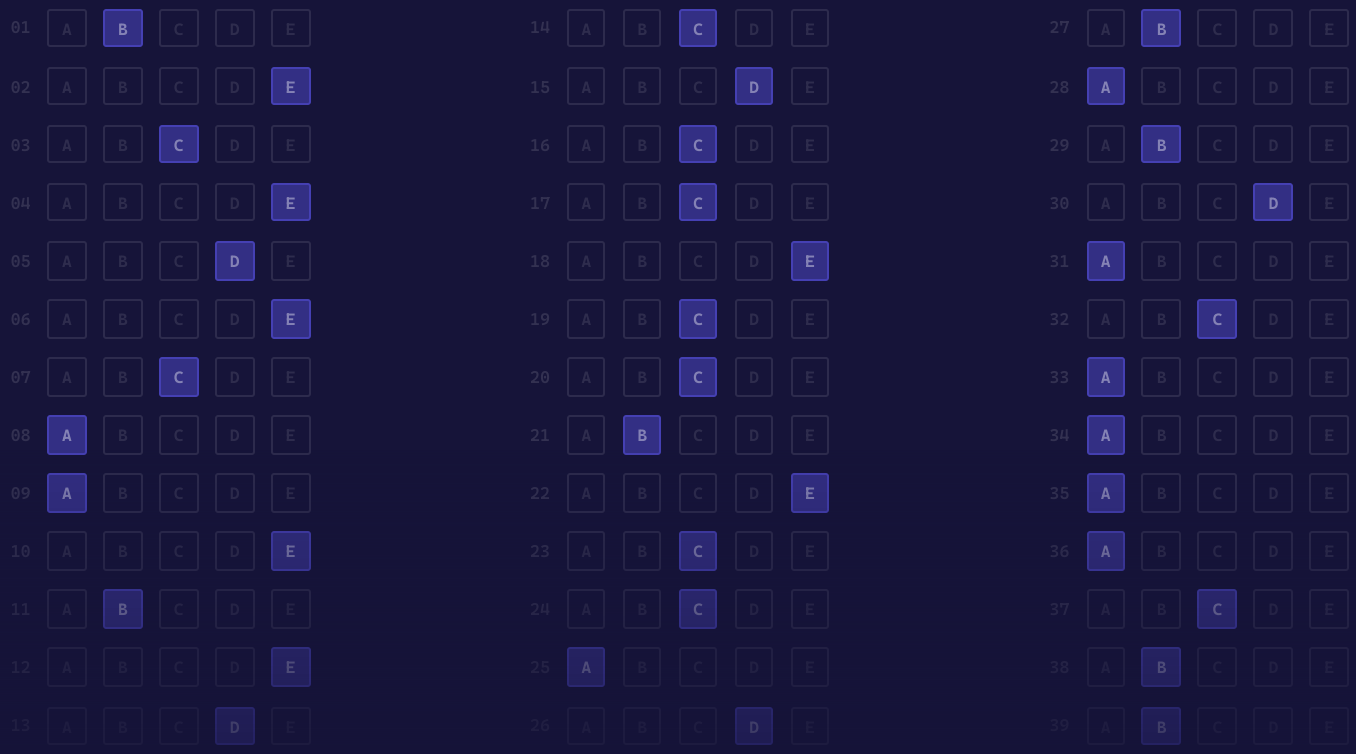
MOMETRIX
SMARTER PREP. BETTER RESULTS.



PRACTICE QUESTIONS

CA DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

QXGUBF5J

CA Orthodontic Assistant Permitholder Exam

EDITION	QUESTIONS	FORMAT
Demo	9	Limited Edition PDF

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for CA DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA `QXGUBF5J`, each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, `QXGUBF5J`
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

mometrix.net

QUESTION 1 SINGLE CHOICE

Under the California Dental Practice Act, which of the following procedures is permissible for a holder of an Orthodontic Assistant Permit (OA Permit) to perform?

A **Activating archwires (tightening) for the purpose of moving teeth**

B Preparing and placing orthodontic bands on teeth

C Performing a final archwire adjustment that determines the final occlusion

D Cementing orthodontic bands on teeth after removal of appliances

ANSWER A

WHY Under California law, OA Permitholders may place and remove orthodontic appliances, place separators, and activate archwires for the purpose of moving teeth. The remaining options—cementing or placing bands, and making final archwire adjustments that determine final occlusion—are duties reserved for a licensed dentist and may not be performed by an OA Permitholder.

QUESTION 2 SINGLE CHOICE

Which duty is NOT permitted for an Orthodontic Assistant Permit (OA Permit) holder under the supervision of a licensed dentist in California?

A Removing orthodontic appliances

B Placing and removing ligatures and elastic ties

C Taking impressions for study models and orthodontic appliances

D **Cementing bands after removal of bands**

ANSWER D

WHY California regulations specify that an OA Permitholder may NOT cement bands after removal of bands—this is a duty that must be performed by a licensed dentist. The other listed duties—removing orthodontic appliances, placing and removing ligatures and elastic ties, and taking impressions—are within the OA Permitholder's scope when performed under appropriate supervision.

mometrix.net

QUESTION 3 SINGLE CHOICE

An Orthodontic Assistant Permitholder performing permitted duties must work under what level of supervision by a licensed California dentist?

A **Direct supervision – the dentist must be physically present in the dental office at all times**

B General supervision – the dentist authorizes the procedure but does not need to be physically present

C No supervision is required once the permit is issued

D Indirect supervision – the dentist must be in the building but not at the chairside

ANSWER A

WHY Per the California Dental Practice Act, an Orthodontic Assistant Permitholder is required to perform permitted duties under DIRECT supervision, meaning the licensed dentist must be physically present in the dental office while the permitholder is performing the authorized procedures.

QUESTION 4 SINGLE CHOICE

In addition to holding a current CPR certification, what is required before a dental assistant in California can apply for the Orthodontic Assistant Permit?

A Graduation from an accredited dental school

B **Completion of an approved course in the duties of an orthodontic assistant, or 12 months of work experience performing those duties under a licensed dentist**

C Completion of a 4-year orthodontic residency program

D A separate license issued by the California Dental Board

ANSWER B

WHY To qualify for the Orthodontic Assistant Permit in California, applicants must either complete an approved course covering the OA Permit duties OR have at least 12 months of work experience performing those duties under a licensed dentist, along with holding a valid CPR certification. The other options describe credentials the permitholder is not required to have.

mometrix.net

QUESTION 5 SINGLE CHOICE

What is the correct first step a dental team member should take after a percutaneous injury (needlestick) in the orthodontic office?

A Report the incident only at the end of the workday

B Immediately wash the wound with soap and water and report the exposure right away

C Apply alcohol directly to the wound

D Squeeze the wound to express blood, then continue working

ANSWER B

WHY Following a needlestick or other percutaneous exposure in the dental setting, the first step is to immediately wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water, then promptly report the exposure to the appropriate supervisor so that post-exposure evaluation and follow-up can begin. Applying alcohol, expressing blood, or delaying the report are not appropriate actions.

QUESTION 6 SINGLE CHOICE

After patient treatment, which instrument processing step MUST be performed BEFORE placing instruments into the autoclave?

A Steam sterilization

B Packaging in sterilization pouches with autoclave-compatible indicators

C Wearing the instruments in patient care areas to confirm fit

D Storing the instruments in a dry cabinet until next use

ANSWER B

WHY Standard instrument processing requires that contaminated instruments first be cleaned (e.g., by ultrasonic cleaning or instrument washer) and then, BEFORE sterilization, packaged in sterilization pouches with appropriate chemical/process indicators. Sterilization (autoclaving) is then performed on the packaged instruments; wearing unsterilized instruments on patients or storing them unsterile violates proper asepsis.

mometrix.net

QUESTION 7 SINGLE CHOICE

When providing chairside orthodontic care, an OA Permitholder should wear which combination of PPE?

A Gloves only, because orthodontic procedures do not generate aerosols

B **Gloves, mask, eye protection, and appropriate clinical attire**

C Gloves and a gown only, since aerosolization cannot occur during orthodontic care

D Eye protection and a mask, but gloves are optional if hands are washed

ANSWER B

WHY Standard precautions require that all patient care be performed using PPE appropriate to the anticipated exposure. For orthodontic procedures—including those that may generate aerosols (such as band fitting or removal with a handpiece)—gloves, mask, and eye protection, plus appropriate clinical attire, are required. Gloves are never optional, regardless of whether handwashing is performed.

QUESTION 8 SINGLE CHOICE

A patient undergoing fixed orthodontic treatment is having difficulty cleaning around brackets and wires. Which instruction is most appropriate for an OA Permitholder to provide under dentist supervision?

A Avoid brushing near the brackets to prevent debonding of the appliances

B **Use an interproximal brush and floss threaders daily to clean under wires and around brackets**

C Rinse only with water, since brushing will loosen the bands

D Limit oral hygiene to once daily because more frequent brushing irritates gingival tissue

ANSWER B

WHY Patients with fixed orthodontic appliances need enhanced oral hygiene, including the use of interproximal (proxy) brushes and floss threaders to clean beneath archwires and around brackets. Advising patients to avoid brushing, brush less often, or only rinse is incorrect and contributes to gingivitis and decalcification around brackets.

mometrix.net

QUESTION 9 MULTIPLE CHOICE

Under California law and standard dental recordkeeping practice, which of the following must be included in an orthodontic patient's clinical record? (Choose two.)

A **A signed, written consent or informed consent documentation before initiating orthodontic treatment**

B The patient's social security number, recorded regardless of relevance to care

C **Updated treatment notes, including progress and any complications encountered**

D The personal cell phone number of the supervising dentist's spouse

ANSWER **A · C**

WHY California dental recordkeeping standards require that records include evidence of informed consent before treatment, as well as ongoing, dated treatment notes documenting progress, instructions, and any complications. Recording a patient's SSN when not relevant to care and recording the personal phone number of an unrelated party are inappropriate and are not part of required recordkeeping.

mometrix.net