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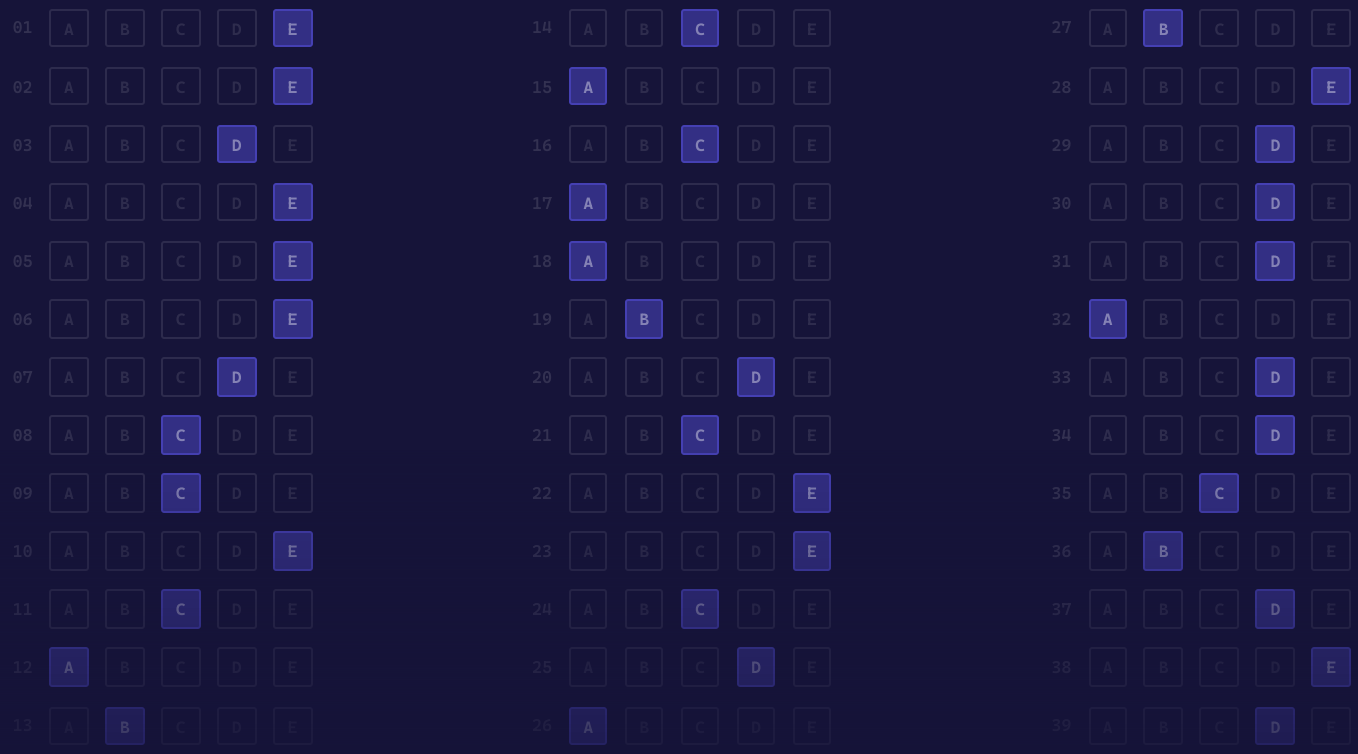

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

CA DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

M8ABXVX5

CA Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Examination

EDITION	QUESTIONS	ISSUED
Demo	9	September 4, 2026

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Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for CA DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA `M8ABXVX5`, 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, `M8ABXVX5`
- the question number
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QUESTION 1 MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which of the following requirements must be met before a Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF) performs coronal polishing on a patient under direct supervision of a licensed dentist in California? (Choose two.)

A **Completion of a Board-approved coronal polishing course**

B A written prescription from the supervising dentist identifying the teeth to be polished

C **Proof of a current RDAEF license issued by the Dental Board of California**

D A signed medical consultation from the patient's physician

E Successful completion of a California dental jurisprudence examination

ANSWER **A · C**

WHY To perform coronal polishing in California, an RDAEF must hold a current, valid RDAEF license issued by the Dental Board of California and must have successfully completed a Board-approved coronal polishing course. Coronal polishing is not performed under a written order/prescription, does not require physician consultation, and the RDAEF law exam is a separate licensing requirement rather than a per-patient coronal polishing prerequisite.

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QUESTION 2 MULTIPLE CHOICE

Under California law, which of the following conditions must be satisfied for an RDAEF to legally place pit and fissure sealants? (Choose two.)

A The patient must be 18 years of age or older

B The supervising dentist has diagnosed the need for the sealant and prescribed the treatment

C The RDAEF must complete a Board-approved course in pit and fissure sealants

D The procedure must be performed in a hospital setting

E A second dentist must be physically present in the operatory

ANSWER **B** · **C**

WHY An RDAEF may place pit and fissure sealants only after completing a Board-approved sealant course and only when the supervising dentist has examined the patient and prescribed the sealants. There is no minimum age requirement of 18 (sealants are commonly placed on children), the setting is the dental office, and only the supervising dentist's presence is required — not a second dentist.

QUESTION 3 SINGLE CHOICE

Under the Dental Board of California regulations, an RDAEF may place an interim therapeutic restoration (ITR) only after which condition has been met?

A The patient signs a separate informed consent form specific to ITR placement

B The supervising dentist has diagnosed the need for the ITR and prescribed the treatment

C The ITR material is limited to glass ionomer only

D The California Department of Public Health has issued a standing permit for the practice

ANSWER **B**

WHY An RDAEF may place an interim therapeutic restoration only when the supervising licensed dentist has personally examined the patient, diagnosed the condition, and prescribed the ITR. There is no special state standing permit, no material restriction to glass ionomer written into the RDAEF regulation, and the general informed consent for treatment covers the ITR.

QUESTION 4 SINGLE CHOICE

Which of the following procedures is within the legally defined scope of practice of an RDAEF in California?

A **Final cementation of a crown fabricated by the supervising dentist**

B Orthodontic appliance activation adjustments

C Final impressions for indirect restorations

D Pulp capping

ANSWER A

WHY Final cementation of crowns and bridges fabricated by the supervising dentist is an extended function that an RDAEF may perform under direct supervision. Orthodontic appliance activation is generally outside the RDAEF scope (performed by the dentist), final impressions for indirect restorations are not authorized as an RDAEF extended function, and pulp capping is a diagnosis-dependent procedure reserved to the dentist.

QUESTION 5 SINGLE CHOICE

An RDAEF is preparing to cement a crown on a patient. The supervising dentist has examined the patient, written the prescription for the cementation, but is currently in another office treating a different patient. Which form of supervision is required for this extended function?

A General supervision

B **Direct supervision, with the dentist physically present in the dental office**

C No supervision is required because the dentist wrote the prescription

D Indirect supervision only

ANSWER B

WHY Crown cementation by an RDAEF is an extended function that, by Dental Board of California regulation, requires direct supervision — meaning the supervising dentist must be physically present in the dental office (not necessarily in the operatory) and available for immediate consultation. A written prescription alone is insufficient; the dentist must be in the office.

QUESTION 6 SINGLE CHOICE

According to the Dental Board of California's infection control regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 1005), personal protective equipment (PPE) worn during patient treatment must be changed and discarded

A At the end of each calendar day, regardless of use

B Between each patient and whenever the PPE is torn, soiled, or contaminated

C Only when visibly soiled

D Once per treatment session, even when multiple patients are seen

ANSWER B

WHY Section 1005 requires that PPE such as gloves, masks, protective eyewear, and gowns be changed between each patient and whenever they are torn, soiled, or contaminated. The standard is not tied to clock time, not deferred until visibly dirty, and not a single pair per day.

QUESTION 7 SINGLE CHOICE

A dental handpiece that was used on a patient must be processed before reuse on the next patient. According to Dental Board of California infection control standards, which sequence correctly describes the required steps?

A Wipe down with surface disinfectant, then bag for autoclaving without internal cleaning

B Clean and lubricate according to manufacturer instructions, then sterilize using an FDA-cleared method such as autoclaving

C Soak in cold disinfectant overnight, then reuse without further processing

D Place directly in the autoclave without any prior cleaning or lubrication

ANSWER B

WHY Handpieces must be cleaned and lubricated per the manufacturer's instructions and then heat-sterilized (typically autoclaved) between patients. Surface disinfection or overnight cold soak does not achieve sterilization of the internal lumen, and autoclaving without prior cleaning can damage the handpiece and is not considered proper reprocessing.

QUESTION 8 SINGLE CHOICE

Which of the following duties is permitted to a Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) but is NOT within the RDAEF's additional scope of practice?

A Coronal polishing

B Pit and fissure sealants

C Interim therapeutic restorations

D Taking impressions for diagnostic models

ANSWER D

WHY Taking impressions for diagnostic (study) models is a duty permitted to a Registered Dental Assistant and is not an extended function. Coronal polishing, pit and fissure sealants, and interim therapeutic restorations are extended functions that require RDAEF (or dentist) performance. The question asks which duty is allowed to an RDA but is not part of the RDAEF-specific additional scope.

QUESTION 9 SINGLE CHOICE

An RDAEF is approaching the end of a two-year license renewal cycle. To renew the RDAEF license with the Dental Board of California, the licensee must complete

A 25 hours of Board-approved continuing education, including a mandated infection control course

B 50 hours of continuing education, half of which must be clinical

C No continuing education if the license has not been disciplined

D A one-time 6-hour California dental jurisprudence refresher

ANSWER A

WHY California requires RDAEF licensees to complete 25 hours of Board-approved continuing education every two-year renewal period, including the required infection control and California Dental Practice Act courses. There is no blanket 50-hour requirement, continuing education is mandatory regardless of prior discipline history, and jurisprudence is required as part of the 25 hours rather than as a separate one-time refresher.