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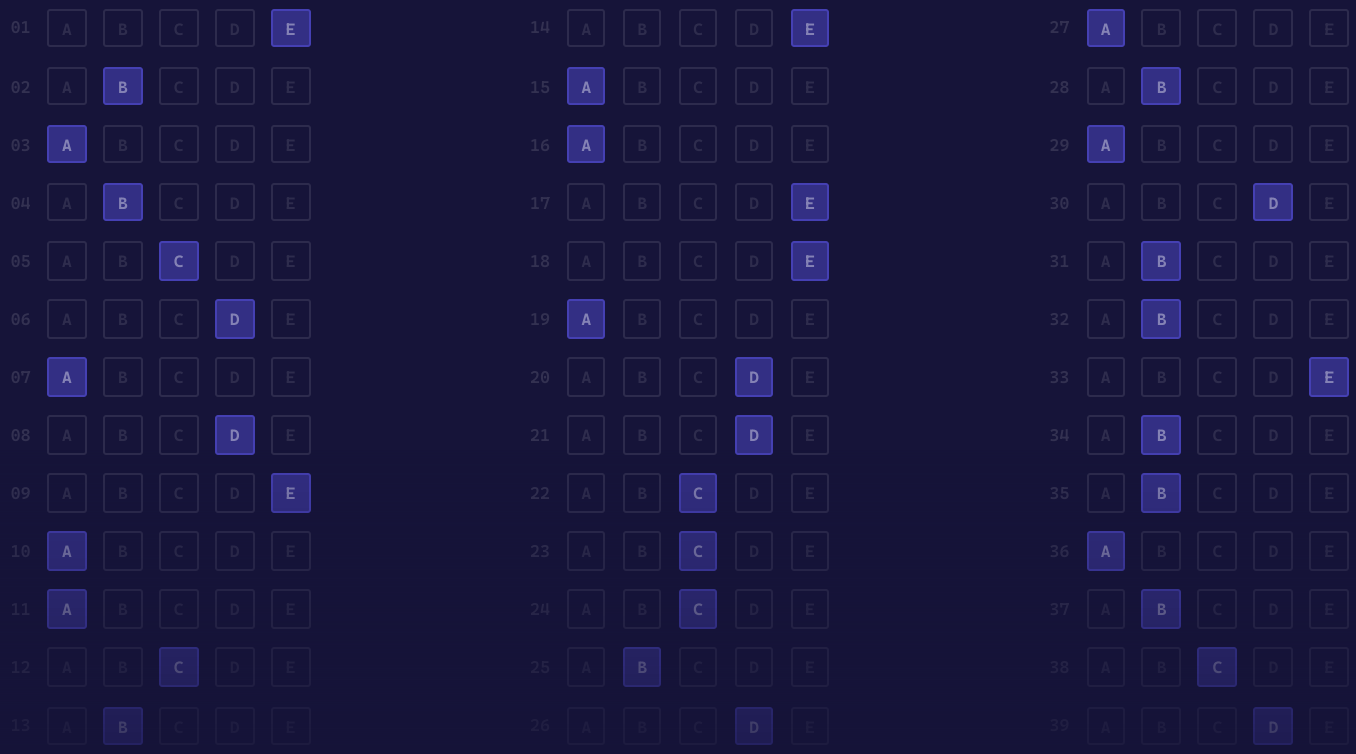

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

CA Dental Hygiene Board

HRX6UNXD

CA Registered Dental Hygienist Law and Ethics Written Examination

EDITION	QUESTIONS	FORMAT
Demo	9	Limited Edition PDF

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for CA Dental Hygiene Board `HRX6UNXD`, 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, `HRX6UNXD`
- the question number
- the email address on your order

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

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QUESTION 1 SINGLE CHOICE

Under the California Dental Practice Act, which of the following procedures is within the scope of practice of a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) when performed under appropriate supervision?

A Diagnosis of dental caries

B Administration of local anesthesia (when certified and meeting specified requirements)

C Placement and finishing of amalgam restorations

D Extraction of erupted permanent teeth

ANSWER B

WHY Business and Professions Code (BPC) Section 1910.5 and 1910.6 specify the functions an RDH may perform. An RDH may administer local anesthesia only if they have completed a Board-approved course and meet the certification requirements. Diagnosis, placement and finishing of restorations, and extraction of teeth are not within the RDH scope of practice and must be performed by a licensed dentist.

QUESTION 2 SINGLE CHOICE

Under California law, a Registered Dental Hygienist may perform certain duties without the dentist being physically present in the office. This level of supervision is defined as:

A Direct supervision

B General supervision

C Personal supervision

D Immediate supervision

ANSWER B

WHY Per the California Dental Practice Act (BPC Section 1907), 'general supervision' means that the dentist has authorized the dental hygienist to perform a procedure, but the dentist is not required to be physically present in the office while the procedure is performed. Direct and personal/immediate supervision both require the dentist to be present in the facility during the procedure.

QUESTION 3 MULTIPLE CHOICE

An RDH in California is required to follow infection control regulations. Which of the following are mandatory elements of compliance? (Choose two.)

A Use of barriers to prevent patient-to-patient contact

B Written office procedures to minimize exposure to bloodborne pathogens

C Performance of all infection control protocols only when treating known infectious patients

D Adherence to the California Code of Regulations regarding sterilization of instruments

ANSWER **B · D**

WHY California Code of Regulations Title 16 Section 1005 requires dental practices to maintain written office protocols for infection control and follow specific sterilization, disinfection, and barrier protocols for every patient (not just known infectious patients). The regulations apply to all patients treated under Standard Precautions.

QUESTION 4 SINGLE CHOICE

Continuing education for license renewal of a Registered Dental Hygienist in California is required to include which of the following topics at specific intervals?

A Cosmetic dental procedures

B Infection control and California Dental Practice Act

C Advanced orthodontic therapy

D Dental laboratory fabrication techniques

ANSWER **B**

WHY Per BPC Section 1936.1, RDH license renewal requires continuing education that includes infection control (every renewal period) and the California Dental Practice Act (every renewal period), among other required topics. Cosmetic procedures, advanced orthodontics, and lab fabrication are not mandated CE subjects.

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QUESTION 5 SINGLE CHOICE

A patient confides to a Registered Dental Hygienist that they have a transmissible infectious disease. Under California law and ethical obligations, what is the hygienist's primary obligation?

A Notify the patient's employer of the infectious status

B Maintain patient confidentiality consistent with HIPAA and California Medical Information Act requirements

C Inform all staff members and post a notice in the break room

D Refuse to treat the patient

ANSWER B

WHY California law and HIPAA require dental hygienists to maintain the confidentiality of patient health information. Disclosures are restricted to those authorized by law. Employers, co-workers, and others do not have a right to know the patient's infectious status without consent or legal mandate. Refusing to treat a patient based solely on a protected health condition is also unlawful.

QUESTION 6 MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which of the following are functions that a Registered Dental Hygienist in California is NOT authorized to perform? (Choose two.)

A Scaling and root planing

B Final diagnosis and treatment planning

C Removal of plaque, stains, and calculus

D Cutting or removing hard or soft tissue

ANSWER B · D

WHY Per BPC Section 1907 and related statutes, an RDH may remove plaque, stains, and calculus and perform scaling and root planing under appropriate supervision. However, the RDH cannot make a final diagnosis or treatment plan, and cannot cut or remove hard or soft tissue. Both of those functions fall exclusively within the dentist's scope of practice.

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QUESTION 7 SINGLE CHOICE

California regulations require that dental patient records be retained for a minimum of how many years from the date of the last service, for adult patients?

A One year

B Three years

C Seven years

D Ten years

ANSWER C

WHY California Code of Regulations Title 16 Section 1628 requires that patient records be maintained for a minimum of seven years from the date of the last service for adult patients (and for minors, until age 21 or seven years, whichever is longer). The Dental Hygiene Board enforces recordkeeping standards applicable to hygienists providing services within their scope.

QUESTION 8 SINGLE CHOICE

A Registered Dental Hygienist in California who becomes aware of another licensed dental professional's impairment due to drug or alcohol abuse is required to:

A Take no action if it does not affect patient care

B Report the impairment to the Dental Hygiene Board or Dental Board of California

C Confront the individual in front of patients and staff

D Only report if the impaired professional requests a leave of absence

ANSWER B

WHY Under California law (BPC Section 1909 and reporting requirements), licensees have an obligation to report known or suspected impairment of a dental licensee to the appropriate licensing board. Failure to report can itself constitute grounds for disciplinary action against the reporting licensee.

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QUESTION 9 SINGLE CHOICE

Informed consent for dental hygiene procedures in California requires that the patient be informed of:

A The dentist's personal financial information

B The nature of the procedure, its risks, benefits, and alternatives

C The hygienist's past legal history, if any

D Names of all other patients treated that day

ANSWER **B**

WHY California law (Cobbs v. Grant and codified in BPC Section 1682 and related) requires that informed consent include disclosure of the nature of the proposed treatment, its material risks, benefits, and reasonable alternatives. Disclosures of a provider's personal information or other patients' identities are not required and would violate privacy laws.

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