

In the *Dental Diagnostics CPU*, students are guided through many dental diagnostic procedures. Students study dental anatomy and physiology, follow universal precautions employed in the dental field, and implement communication and subjective evaluation techniques while addressing clients. Lessons include dental charting, dental hygiene assessment, plaque assessments, dental radiography, creating dental impressions, and performing dental bacteria cultures.



Areas Covered

- ◆ Overview of dentistry as a health care field
- ◆ Identification of the four types of teeth and their functions
- ◆ Examination of different tooth surfaces
- ◆ Differences between types of tooth notation systems
- ◆ Plaque detection experiment evaluating plaque removal
- ◆ Development of a presentation on oral hygiene
- ◆ Radiographs used in the field of dentistry
- ◆ Mixing alginate, loading alginate trays, and taking alginate impressions
- ◆ Exploration of forensic odontology
- ◆ Skills and knowledge to aid students in various HOSA competitions



Career Pathway Unit Includes:

Dental Diagnostics CD and Instructor's Overview Booklet, Alginate Powder, Bitewing Viewer, Dental Assistant Textbook, Dental Charting Textbook, Dental Manikin with Compact Bench Mount, Dental Radiology Flash Cards, Dental X-Rays, DEN-Test Bacteria Culture Test Kit, Disclosing Tablets, Impression Trays, Skills Cart™

Dental Diagnostics Goals & Activities

- Explore three major careers associated with the dental field and the responsibilities, education, and licensing requirements for each.
- Examine the eight dental specialties and licensing requirements for the general dentist.
- Research laws pertinent to dental assistants, hygienists, dental laboratory techs, and dentists.
- Explore the oral cavity and its components.
- Define dentition, deciduous dentition, secondary dentition, and mixed dentition.
- Identify the four types of teeth and their functions.
- Examine different tooth surfaces.
- Differentiate between the various types of tooth notation systems.
- Explore the basics of dental charting.
- Record information obtained during an oral examination on a tooth diagram chart.
- Discuss charting tooth information.
- Explore how assessment of dental hygiene is necessary to diagnose and treat a patient.
- Record information on a new client profile sheet.
- Define asepsis, antiseptic, and sterilization.
- Conduct a dental exam using a dental manikin.
- Determine the three factors considered in the oral hygiene evaluation.
- Conduct a plaque detection experiment to evaluate brushing and plaque elimination.
- Define plaque and calculus.
- Contrast intrinsic and extrinsic tooth stains.
- Define x-ray and radiograph.
- Determine how radiographs are used in dentistry.
- Examine different types of radiographs and why each particular type is used.
- View actual bitewing x-rays using an x-ray viewer.
- Develop an understanding of safety issues surrounding radiation exposure.
- Distinguish between radiolucent and radiopaque and give an example of each.
- Conduct a bacteria culture test.
- Explore three factors that influence the density on a radiograph.
- Identify inadequacies in radiographic images.
- Explain how penumbra or umbra can be diminished in a dental radiograph.
- Explore the relationship between bacterial growth in the mouth and the development of dental caries.
- Examine microbiology and microorganisms and determine the roles they play.
- Determine different classifications of bacteria.
- Discuss why controlling viral infections has traditionally been difficult.
- Explore physical and chemical properties of alginate.
- Examine factors that influence the stability of alginate.
- Recognize what dental impressions are and what they are used for in the dental field.
- Practice mixing alginate, loading alginate trays, and taking alginate impressions using a typodont.
- Complete upper and lower dental impressions.
- Define forensics and striations.
- Explore forensic odontology.
- Explore how dental impressions are used to develop study models.
- Develop a conclusion on the effects of brushing on bacteria.



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