



Australian Government

HLTDEN021 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice

Release: 2

HLTDEN021 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Release 2 HLTDEN021 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTDEN021 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTDEN021 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice supersedes and is equivalent to HLTDEN007 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice.

Application

This unit of competency describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to minimise the risk of radiation to the patient, practitioner and others during the exposure of a prescribed dental radiographic image. It also describes the quality assurance measures that must be undertaken to ensure all radiographs are of consistent diagnostic standard.

This unit applies to dental assisting work under the instruction and supervision of the dental practitioner.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian standards and industry codes of practice.

No occupational licensing, certification or specific legislative requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Dental radiography work must only be performed by a person with a radiation user licence granted by the relevant State/Territory regulatory authority under legislation.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Dental Assisting

Unit Sector

Dental

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements describe the essential outcomes

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Apply the principles of radiation biology to protect patient, practitioner and others from ionising radiation. | 1.1. Implement safe work practices to minimise risks to practitioner, patient and others of immediate and long-term effects of radiation.
1.2. Correctly identify and select the exposure variables of dental X-ray generating equipment according to manufacturers' instructions and patient requirements.
1.3. Apply the correct units of radiation dose. |
| 2. Determine image characteristics of dental radiographic image. | 2.1. Ensure visual qualities of the radiograph are of a diagnostic standard to minimise the necessity for re-takes.
2.2. Ensure geometric qualities of the radiograph are of a diagnostic standard to minimise the necessity for re-takes. |
| 3. Minimise radiation by maintaining quality in processing. | 3.1. Ensure correct positioning of the radiation receptor.
3.2. Follow procedures for processing dental radiographic images to produce images of diagnostic standard.
3.3. Identify processing errors and implement corrective measures to produce a diagnostic radiograph.
3.4. Follow quality assurance and maintenance processes of all radiographic equipment in accordance with manufacturers' instructions. |

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

HLTDEN021 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice supersedes and is equivalent to HLTDEN007 Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>