

Dental Hygiene & Assisting Continuing Education

NHTI, CONCORD'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DENTAL HYGIENIST REFRESHER PROGRAM FACT SHEET

Target Population

This course was prepared for dental hygienists who have been out of practice for a time and want to get back into the field or for those who are practicing, but feel their skills need updating. Individuals interested in taking the refresher course are required to have an inactive or current Dental Hygiene License.

Program Overview

The course is designed to review theory and techniques learned in dental hygiene school and on the job. Current “best practices” will be introduced, but specialized procedures will not be covered in great detail and, in some cases, will require additional courses.

Program Goals

- Dental Hygiene Process of Care
- Definitive Oral Prophylaxis
- Radiographic Techniques
- Review of Current Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines
- Review of Hand Instrumentation including Ultrasonics

Course objectives are met through didactic and clinical instruction which will introduce, update, and review current techniques in the practice of dental hygiene.

Program Outcomes

Participants who complete the course can be assured they have had the opportunity to learn the most up to date, science-based theory and techniques. The program satisfies the criteria of the *NH Board of Dental Examiners* when a refresher course is mandated for hygienists who want to renew their active dental hygiene license.

Program Description (20 CEUs)

The program is broken into the following three components:

- Online assessment and review of theory (2 CEUs)
- Clinical review (18 CEUs)
 - 3-hour lab session to review hand instruments and the ultrasonic tips on a typodont
 - 4-hour clinic session
 - 2-hour radiology review

The online portion needs to be completed before the start of the scheduled hands-on sessions.

The lab/clinical portion will consist of one three-hour session using a typodont, as well as a clinical session with a patient, where periodontal hand scaling instruments and ultrasonic units will be reviewed. A radiology session will be scheduled where students will learn the newest digital skills, techniques, complete a full mouth series of radiographs on DXTR, and will be introduced to digital radiographic equipment.

Course Materials

Participants will be expected to purchase, or have access to, the following textbooks:

Fundamentals of Periodontal Instrumentation, Nield-Gehrig, 8th edition, 2019

Clinical Practice of the Dental Hygienist, Boyd L., Mallonee L., 14th edition, 2023

Required Materials

Students will need a variety of Gracey curettes, scalers (universal, sickle), and a typodont to practice instrumentation. Instrumentation is to be practiced weekly on a typodont. If needed, instruments may be available on a loaner basis (for an additional fee).

Also required for the course: scrubs, lab coat, loupes/light if you have them, scrub cap, proper leather or pleather clinic shoes, and two pairs of safety glasses (one for student, one for patient). Gloves, masks, and face shields will be provided for refresher course (NO latex - NHTI's clinic is a latex free environment).

Practicing and reviewing instrumentation helps the student get back into practice and become acquainted with proper ergonomics. Practicing prior to clinical sessions makes the sessions more productive. The following link is the typodont recommended. P15DP-TR56C (#1 Hygiene School Model) – pink model. Link:

<https://kilgoreinternational.com/product/dental-hygiene-models/>

Prerequisites and Required Documents

All participants will need to have:

- Current CPR Certification
- College Transcript (proof of graduation from an accredited college)
- Copy of inactive or current Dental Hygiene License
- Completed Dental Hygiene Refresher Application

Scheduling

The scheduling of this course will be based upon faculty availability. Students are expected to provide one client for the clinical portion of the course.

At the conclusion of the course, students will be awarded a certificate indicating successful completion of the refresher course which satisfies the rules of the *New Hampshire Board of Dental Examiners* and will be eligible to take the ADEX exam if needed (5 years or more inactive) to determine licensure. Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) will be awarded.