

So.....You Want to be a

Dental Nurse?



The Molar Mentoring Guide to the Dental Nursing Role

We get asked all the time “What do dental nurses do?”, so we’ve created this blog to tell you more about the role, help you decide if it’s the right career for you and give you advice on your first steps to becoming a fully qualified dental nurse.

There’s a whole lot more to dental nursing than people think, operating the “sucky thing” is just one very small part of your day to day job.



Your responsibilities:



Setting up the surgery and decontamination room ready for the day in line with current legislation. This means full equipment checks and testing, disinfection of work surfaces, preparing patient records and checking all due lab work is in place. You may also be responsible for emergency drugs and first aid kits and checking stock is up to date.



Welcoming and interacting with your patients. Sometimes you may be expected to work on reception, answering the telephone, making patient appointments and taking payments.



Providing assistance for dentists/hygienists/therapists. This will include preparing and providing the correct dental instruments and equipment, mixing materials, making notes, maintaining the cleanliness of the surgery and disposing of clinical waste following practice policies.





There are a few ways to gain your dental nursing qualification. When you qualify, you can register with the GDC (General Dental Council). Here at Molar Mentoring we offer the NEBDN (National Examining Board for Dental Nursing) National Diploma in Dental Nursing which takes approximately 12 months to complete. Lessons are offered in the classroom once a month or online. You can find out more by downloading our "Courses for Dental Nurses" guide from our website.

Another question we often get asked is "What can I do after I qualify?" and the answer is, specialise. Want to be an oral health educator? There's a course for that. What about taking impressions or applying topical fluoride? There's courses for that too. Dental nursing opens a lot of doors and career progression is good. Molar Mentoring can assist you here too, we offer a wide selection of post-registration courses and you'll find all the info in the previously mentioned "Courses for Dental Nurses" guide.

Earning Potential:

We know everyone wants to know how much they'll get paid, so here it is. As a trainee dental nurse you can expect to earn minimum wage, this amount varies depending on how old you are. Once qualified this increases to £25,000 per year on average, depending on your location.



Now you know what dental nurses do, how they train and what they can earn, we hope this blog has been useful to you.

Established in 2016 by Heidi Grimwood, Molar Mentoring are fully accredited by the NEBDN to deliver dental nursing courses including the National Diploma, the first step in YOUR dental nursing career.

Need further information? Want to chat?

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