

The Denplan stairway programme



Introduction

The Denplan Stairway Programme is a structured postgraduate development initiative relevant to all dentists in every sector of general practice. It gives you an easy and flexible opportunity to gain verifiable CPD and earn educational credits towards an MSc from the University of Birmingham in Primary Dental Care.

Training Events in the Denplan Stairway Programme are open to all Denplan members - you do not have to be working towards the Denplan Stairway Award to attend and gain verifiable CPD.

Programme Structure

- The programme is made up of 13 units
- **Units 1 to 10** are Training Events, followed by completion of a practice project
 - Each Training Event provides six hours of verifiable CPD and the practice project gives a further 14 hours
 - Each completed unit gives you two educational credits
 - Delegates on a Training Event who wish to pursue the topic further will receive a practice project protocol. On completion of the project or audit, it is submitted electronically to the Programme Co-ordinator for validation
 - Only delegates attending a Training Event can submit practice projects for validation
- **Unit 11** consists of full attendance at the Denplan National Conference and completion of a Personal Development Profile (PDP). This gives you two educational credits
- **Unit 12** consists of Denplan Excel Accreditation and gives you four educational credits
- **Unit 13** consists of completion of an online course, The Secret of Success, and gives you two educational credits
- You require a total of 20 educational credits to gain the Denplan Stairway Award. This can then be used towards an MSc in Primary Dental Care from the University of Birmingham
- Units can be completed in any order and there is no time limit for completion
- You can attend as many Training Events as you wish

Unit 1 Clinical Leadership and Governance for Success

(Incorporating Care Quality Commission compliance)

This course will cover the key skills of leadership and management required to maintain practice success. Explore how standards now required for registration with the CQC may drive the leadership and management of dental practices in this new era of regulation.

Objectives

- 1.** Define practice success and establish the needs of our patients as dental consumers.
- 2.** Identify key skills for leadership and management.
- 3.** Clarify CQC standards required for continued registration of dental practices, and match these standards to the needs of your patients.
- 4.** Consider how to use key leadership and management skills to produce evidence for CQC compliance and to maintain practice success.
- 5.** Identify how Denplan can support licensing with the CQC and continued practice success.

Practice project

Run the treatment choices and consent audit supplied on your CD. In a team meeting discuss results. Develop a practice action plan for improvements, where results indicate, on the mini Team Development Plan (mini-TDP) provided. Submit results and the mini-TDP for validation.

This course is designed for dentists and practice managers.



Unit 2 CPD Essentials

Ongoing registration with the GDC requires Dentists and Dental Care Professionals are required to undertake CPD in recommended core subjects. Delegates will cover all of the principal core subjects.

Modules

- Radiology
- Infection Control
- Complaints Handling and Ethics
- Medical Emergencies
- CPR

Objectives

- Cover the core CPD subjects required by the GDC

Practice project

Discuss the implementation of 'Best Practice' in infection control as defined in HTM-01 05 in a team meeting and develop a budgeted action plan.

Submit the budgeted action plan for validation in mini-TDP format supplied.

Unit 3 Clinical Consultations

A review of best practice in conducting clinical consultations for the general dental practitioner.

Objectives

1. Explore current professional standards for clinical examination and record keeping.
2. Discuss the value of special tests as diagnostic aids including radiography.
3. Establish processes for arriving at an evidence-based diagnosis and treatment plan with each patient.
4. Identify the communication skills required to support the clinical consultation, including rapport building with your patients.

Practice project

Undertake the Clinical Evaluation Exercise (mini-CEX) with peer observation of a recall patient examination.

Also undertake the Team Assessment of Behaviour (TAB) exercise using a minimum of three team members.

Write an action plan of personal developments (mini-PDP) that you will make in light of the feedback on the form provided. Submit the completed mini-CEX and TAB assessments with your resulting mini-PDP for validation.

Unit 4 Periodontal Risk Management

A review of best practice in periodontology for the general dental practitioner.

Objectives

1. Establish contemporary methods for the diagnosis and the risk assessment of patients with regard to periodontal disease.
2. Consider the evidence base for the management of patients with periodontal disease.
3. Explore the evidence for the relationship of periodontal disease to systemic disease.
4. Discuss methods for achieving patient compliance with periodontal treatment.

Practice project

Categorise 100 sequential adult patients attending your practice for examination into three risk groups for periodontal disease (a. low risk, b. medium risk, c. high risk) using evidence based criteria.

Submit a report indicating the criteria, the evidence base used and the numbers of patients allocated to each group for validation. Indicate briefly in the report your patient management policy for each risk group.

Unit 5 Endodontic Update

A review of current best practice in endodontics.

Objectives

1. Discuss the management of patients with pulpal and peri-radicular disease.
2. Explore contemporary principles of endodontic therapy.
3. Consider the use of modern techniques, materials and equipment in endodontic therapy.
4. Establish the principles of re-treatment and surgical endodontics.

Practice project

Conduct the retrospective endodontic audit protocol.

Submit your results and a report of actions you intend to take as a result of this audit for validation.



Unit 6 Minimally Invasive Techniques

A look at the importance of, and techniques for, preserving natural tissues in general dental practice.

Objectives

1. Establish the importance of tissue preservation.
2. Explore techniques for the prevention of dental caries, tooth wear and trauma.
3. Investigate minimally invasive direct and indirect restorative techniques.
4. Review the opportunity for minimally invasive cosmetic solutions.

Practice project

Conduct the prospective clinical audit of restorations you have provided. Submit your results and a report of actions you intend to take as a result of the audit on the mini-PDP form for validation.

Unit 7 Prosthetic Paradise

A review of current best practice in prosthetics.

Objectives

1. Explore the principles of the construction and design of removable prostheses.
2. Investigate aesthetic considerations in the construction of dentures.
3. Review useful techniques for the management of challenging cases.
4. Establish how to get the best from your laboratory technician.

Practice project

Conduct the prospective audit on removable prostheses you have made for patients.

Submit the results of the audit together with a report of actions you intend to take as a result of the audit for validation.

Unit 8 The Scope of Implants

An introduction to the contemporary scope of implant dentistry in general practice.

Objectives

1. Explore the principles of implant based restorative dentistry.
2. Discuss how to select and assess cases.
3. Consider the application of basic surgical techniques for implant dentistry.
4. Establish the clinical indications and contra-indications for implant based restorative dentistry.

Practice project

Assess the potential need for implant-based restorations in your patient base following the protocol.

Submit the results and a report of actions you intend to take to manage this potential need on the mini-PDP form.

Unit 9 Advanced Restorative Techniques

A review of current best practice in advanced restorative dentistry.

Objectives

1. Establish the evidence base for advanced restorative dentistry.
2. Discuss the principles of advanced crown and bridge work.
3. Explore the common causes of failure of advanced restorative dentistry.
4. Consider the restoration of partial or complete edentulism using crown and bridge methods and implant procedures.

Practice project

Undertake the Direct Observation of Procedures (DOP) protocol by peer review for a crown or bridge preparation visit.

Also conduct a Case-based Discussion (CbD) on an advanced restorative case you have treated with a peer following the protocol. Submit a copy of the CbD and DOP forms.



Unit 10 Denplan National Conference

This conference is held every 18 months with a different and varied clinical and management programme. It runs for three consecutive days.

Practice project

Delegates can claim two educational credits if they are certified as attending the whole programme and submit the mini Personal Development Profile (PDP).

Unit 11 Denplan Excel Accreditation

The successful accomplishment of Denplan Excel Accreditation requires an initial training course and organising the practice team structure and practice processes. A facilitated practice visit by a qualified Practice Advisor who holds the FGDP Certificate in Practice Appraisal will be arranged and the standard confirmed.

An audit of oral health using the Denplan Excel Oral Health Score is mandatory. An independent patient feedback survey is also mandatory and practice teams are supported (by their Denplan Consultant) in the analysis.

Approximately every 18 months the practice is revisited by a Practice Advisor to confirm that the standard is being maintained. This visit always includes further audit (e.g. record keeping, radiology and team management).

Practice project

Ongoing Accreditation will be recognised by the award of four educational credits.

Unit 12 The Secret of Success

This online course (providing 20 hours of CPD) explores the evidence base for the fundamental key to running a successful dental practice. In fact, there is no 'secret'. The evidence is very clear. However, with the considerable day to day pressures of running the modern dental practice the immediate, and sometimes urgent, issues facing us can cause us to lose sight of the fundamental truth.

Objectives

1. Clarify the meaning of success and the role of profit.
2. Establish the importance of our patients' oral health to our success.
3. Identify the role that job satisfaction for the whole dental team plays in our success.
4. Consider the central relationship of patient satisfaction to our success and to identify the issues most important in achieving patient satisfaction.
5. Use a focused patient survey designed to measure practice success and formulate a team action plan to deal with any development needs identified by the survey.