



## CPD REQUIREMENTS FOR DENTISTS

The CPD Standards Office is a unique organisation and was founded with the vision of understanding and enabling positive and successful CPD and learning experiences. As a highly specialised expert team, our university led research has equipped us with extensive expertise on all things CPD.

Between the work of the Professional Development Consortium and the CPD Standards Office dual CPD research and accreditation activities sharpen our knowledge and expertise. This enables us to work with individual coaches, training providers, employers, and 'membership organisation's as a collaborative CPD network & community.

# CPD Requirements for Dentists

## The Regulator

The Dental Industry is regulated by the General Dental Council (GDC) who set mandatory CPD requirements for the following professions:

Dentists and dental care professionals

Dental hygienists

Dental technicians

Orthodontic therapists

Clinical dental technicians

Dental nurses

Dental therapists

## The main changes to the CPD scheme

As of January 2018, the GDC has launched a revised CPD scheme for dental professionals. See below for all the changes:

### Over a five-year cycle:

- Dentists are now required to do 250 hours (with 75 hours verifiable CPD)
- Dental Care Professionals are now required to do 150 hours of CPD (with 50 hours verifiable CPD).

### The GDC defines 'verifiable CPD' as (GDC, 2018):

Verifiable CPD is activity that meets our definition of CPD and for which there is documentary evidence that you have undertaken the CPD and that the CPD has:

- Concise educational aims and objectives
- Clear anticipated outcomes
- Quality controls.

The GDC does not directly approve providers of CPD and instead mandates that individual professionals must decide whether to record a learning activity as verifiable CPD. For CPDSO providers, keep in mind that CPD Standards only accredits verifiable CPD activities.

See the GDC's website for more information: - <https://www.gdc-uk.org/professionals/cpd>

## Supplying the CPD Training & Resources

The revised CPD policy by the GDC will generate a renewed focus on CPD for the dental professions. For any providers supplying CPD training, activities or resources there are fresh opportunities for CPDSO providers to deliver into this market.

Under the new CPD scheme, the following learning activities can be recorded:

Courses and Lectures

Reading Journals

Training Days

Conferences

Peer Review

Clinical Audit

E-learning Activities

## What are CPD topics of interest?

In terms of topic areas, the GDC is careful not to be too prescriptive as each individual dentist should determine their own learning goals within their Personal Development Plan, and effectively have full control and autonomy over the CPD topics they choose.

That said, the GDC does strongly recommend the following topics to ensure that dental professionals are up to date with essential information:

- Medical Emergencies
- Radiography and radiation protection
- Complaints handling
- Safeguarding children and young people
- Disinfection and Decontamination
- Legal and ethical issues
- Oral Cancer: Early detection
- Safeguarding vulnerable adults



Outside of these recommended topics, dental professionals can choose to do technical subjects as part of their CPD, or focus on skills such as management, leadership or project management. Finally, if they are setting up a dental business, they will need generic business skills such as marketing, social media or finance, hence there are many opportunities for CPDSO providers to sell their CPD activities to the dental industry.

## Building your presence within the industry

The CPD Standards Office only accredits verifiable CPD activities, which are now of heightened interest to dental professionals. To build your reputation and presence within the dental industry, we recommend the following:

### Exhibiting or Sponsoring at Industry Events:

The British Dental Association offers affordable exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities for the various courses and events it runs through the year see:

<https://bda.org/events/Sponsorship/Documents/Exhibition%20and%20Event%20Sponsorship%20prospects%202018.pdf>

### Awards Evenings

FMC Information host a range of awards evenings which have sponsorship opportunities, see; <https://www.fmc.co.uk/product-category/events/awards/>

## Industry Trade Journals and Magazine

Popular trade magazines provide opportunities for advertising or editorials and include:

Dentistry Magazine

- <https://www.fmc.co.uk/shop/dentistry-magazine/>

The Dentist - <http://www.the-dentist.co.uk/>

Dental Practice Magazine

- <https://www.dentalpracticemagazine.co.uk/>

Dentistry Today - <http://www.dentistrytoday.com/>



## Other Professional Bodies

The professional bodies within this industry also host various events, training sessions and annual conferences, where there can be opportunities to get involved through sponsorship or exhibiting.

We recommend following these organisations on social media to keep abreast of industry news and potential opportunities:

British Dental Association - <https://bda.org/>

British Association of Dental Nurses - <http://badn.org.uk/>

British Association of Dental Therapists - <https://www.badt.org.uk/>

British Orthodontic Society - <https://www.bos.org.uk/>

We hope you have found this factsheet helpful.

Please see [www.cpdstandards.com](http://www.cpdstandards.com) for more information on our accreditation services or call 0203 745 6463 for further advice.