Delmar’s HANDBOOK OF Essential Skills and Procedures for Chairside Dental Assisting

Donna J. Phinney, CDA, BA, MEd
Spokane Community College
Judy H. Halstead, CDA, BA
Spokane Community College
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This book is designed as a learning tool for dental assistants who have no previous professional education or are in a short-term training program. It is also ideal as an office handbook for new dental assisting staff. The book is a resized and reformatted approach of the main dental assisting textbook, *Delmar's Dental Assisting, A Comprehensive Approach*. Rather than the comprehensive coverage of the main text, this handbook focuses on the essential clinical dental assisting skills without going into depth in the background information. The text is divided into four primary sections. The first section, “Introduction to Dental Assisting and Basic Dental Sciences” (Chapters 1–5), provides information about the profession of dental assisting, along with oral health, head and neck anatomy, tooth anatomy and supporting structures, and dental charting. The second section, “Preclinical Dental Skills” (Chapters 6–8), covers infection control and management of hazardous materials. This section also covers preparing the patient, reviewing health history, and reading vital signs. The third section, “Clinical Dental Procedures” (Chapters 9–21), covers chairside assisting skills, dental instruments and tray systems, dental radiography, topical and local anesthesia, dental cements and laboratory materials, and the dental specialties. The final section, “Advanced Functions” (Chapters 22–24), covers coronal polish, cavity liners, varnish and cement bases, pit and fissure sealants, bleaching techniques, dental dam, matrix and wedge techniques, retraction cord, and temporary restorations.

The chapters include the following pedagogical features:

- Chapter objectives
- Key terms
- In-text icons indicating handwashing, gloves, mask and protective eyewear, basic setup, and expanded function
- Step-by-step procedures
- Detailed information on dental assisting competencies
- Icons at the beginning of procedures to indicate which function, instruments, and protective equipment are needed
- Equipment and supplies lists prior to procedures
- Boxed information containing tips and summaries