

Hypothetical Case Protocol

The following hypothetical protocol is provided as an example of one protocol examined over a 30-minute period. Actual protocols may be more comprehensive than the following example:

The patient is a 41-year-old Caucasian male who was referred for periodontal therapy presented with a chief complaint of “My gums bleed every time I brush, and I recently developed a space between my front teeth”. He is 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighs 192 pounds. His BP is 119/78 and his pulse is 68 beats per minute. He reports an allergy to penicillin. He is not taking any medications regularly. He has a history of infective endocarditis for which his cardiologist has prescribed 500 mg Azithromycin to be taken one hour prior to any dental treatment.

Candidate will usually receive a document with the above description and a periodontal charting of the localized area of interest.

Digitized photographic slides will be used throughout the questioning period for this protocol and may include but are not limited to:

1. Maxillary anterior photographs demonstrating anterior open bite, and an open contact between teeth #7 and #8.
2. Periapical radiographs of the area between teeth #6-1#1
3. Photograph of occlusal view demonstrating excessive occlusal wear
4. Composite slide that includes the preoperative photographs, radiographs and charting of the area #6-11
5. Preoperative photographs of the area #6 – 11
6. Surgical photographs of the area #6 – 11
7. Suture photographs of the area #6 – 11
8. Post – operative photographs at different time intervals of the area #6 - 11
9. One-year post-op radiographs
10. One-year post-op photographs #6-11

Only the necessary images that are pertinent to each category being examined will be shown at each step of the examination. The examiners may have additional information that they can provide upon request.

The following categories will be examined in sequence.

1. Diagnosis

Sample Question: Describe how you would proceed to develop an accurate periodontal diagnosis.

Pertinent slides will be available.

Candidates should consider the following factors in making the diagnoses of Periodontitis Stage 3 Grade B localized and Recession Type 2.

- Medical history
- Occlusal scheme – anterior open bite
- Amounts of plaque and calculus present
- Recession
- Attachment levels/probing depths
- Bone loss relative to patient's age
- Mobility

2. Etiology

Sample Question: Discuss the etiologic factors that are pertinent in this case.

Pertinent available slides will be available

Candidates should consider the following factors:

- Diastema between #7 & 8
- Open contacts
- Food impaction
- Occlusal trauma
- Presence of plaque and calculus
- Anterior open bite
- Habits
- Genetic predisposition

3. Prognosis

Sample Question: What are the short and long-term therapeutic prognoses for teeth #6 – 11?

Pertinent slides will be available

Candidates should be able to discuss:

- Parameters they use to determine the short and long-term therapeutic prognosis.
- Any prognostic classifications they use and why.

4. Treatment Plan

Sample Question: Develop a comprehensive treatment plan for this case that includes options for management of are #6 – 11.

Pertinent slides will be available

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- Detailed treatment sequence
- Medical and Dental consultations needed if any
- All appropriate treatment options for this patient
- Rationale for each treatment offered

5. Therapy

Sample Question: Describe how you would proceed to treat the area #6-11 with an open flap and debridement.

All pertinent slides will be shown as candidate answers sequential questions.

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- Incision design and rationale for it.
- Root surface management techniques and materials if any (manual, rotary, root conditioning etc.)
- Material choice if any
- Flap management prior to suturing
- Suturing technique and materials
- Postoperative instructions and prescriptions if any

6. Evaluation of Therapy and Maintenance

Sample Question: Discuss how and when you would evaluate the results of therapy.

All pertinent slides will be available.

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- Goals of maintenance therapy
- Interval of maintenance therapy recommended
- Parameters considered when evaluating the results of therapy
- Expectations for patient compliance
- Reasons to consider retreatment

Hypothetical Vignette Protocol

Note: This example would represent one ten-minute vignette, which is one third of the vignette protocol. Two additional vignettes, consisting of unrelated topics, would also be included in the thirty-minute vignette protocol.

The patient is a 63-year-old Caucasian female for whom you placed an implant to replace tooth #5. The implant was placed 18 months ago and restored four months following placement. The patient has not been back to your practice since the implant was restored. Her general dentist referred her back to you because of swelling and soreness around the implant.

Candidate may receive a document with the periodontal charting of the localized area of interest if applicable.

In this situation, the periodontal charting demonstrates a 10mm probing depth on the mid-facial of the implant and 5mm probing depths on the mesial and distal facial and palatal interproximal areas.

Digitized photographic slides will be used throughout the questioning period for this protocol and may include but are not limited to:

1. Periapical radiograph presenting a radiolucency over the coronal 1/3 of the implant.
2. Clinical photo presenting edema and erythema of the marginal tissues surrounding implant #5.

1. Diagnosis

Sample question: Describe how you would proceed to determine a diagnosis for the #5 area.

Candidate should be able to describe the clinical appearance, findings and history that would lead to the diagnosis of periimplantitis. Candidate should also be prepared to discuss treatment options available to treat this condition.

Pertinent pictures will be available.

Candidate should consider the following:

- History
- Clinical findings
- Radiographic picture
- Symptoms

2. Therapy

Sample question: Describe how you would proceed to treat implant #5.
Pertinent pictures will be available.

Candidate should be prepared to discuss:

- Surgical vs non-surgical therapy for periimplantitis
- Implant surface contamination and disinfection protocols
- Flap design & defect debridement
- Regenerative procedures proposed including:
 - Grafting materials of choice
 - Barrier membranes of choice
- Suturing techniques and materials
- Postoperative management and prescriptions
- Follow-up therapy recommended and justification
- Criteria for evaluation of success of treatment