

# National Dental Examining Board of Canada (NDEB) Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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## **Questions**

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- 1. What is the likely diagnosis for a patient with 3 weeks history of prolonged tooth pain to hot and cold, which changed to moderate pain on biting with a dull spontaneous ache relieved by cold?**
  - A. Acute periradicular abscess**
  - B. Chronic periradicular abscess**
  - C. Pulpal necrosis**
  - D. Dental caries**
- 2. The surgical risk for a patient with organic heart disease depends upon?**
  - A. Blood sugar levels**
  - B. Total cholesterol**
  - C. Cardiac output**
  - D. Blood pressure**
- 3. The most important factor for the long term success of the restoration of an endodontically treated tooth is:**
  - A. Type of filling material**
  - B. Absence of post**
  - C. Presence of extracoronary coverage**
  - D. Root canal sealing quality**
- 4. Girls are how many years ahead of boys in terms of growth?**
  - A. 1yr**
  - B. 2yrs**
  - C. 3yrs**
  - D. 4yrs**
- 5. Is there a difference in the response of basal and alveolar bone to pressure?**
  - A. No difference**
  - B. Basal responds more than alveolar**
  - C. Alveolar responds more than basal**
  - D. Yes, there is a difference**

- 6. What is the proper treatment for a 7-year-old with Mesioden, partially erupted #9, and not erupted #8?**
- A. Remove Mesioden and observe progress**
  - B. Immediate orthodontic treatment**
  - C. Extraction of #9 and #8**
  - D. No treatment necessary**
- 7. How much leeway space is present in an 8-year-old child's mandibular arch?**
- A. Approximately 2.5mm**
  - B. Approximately 3.5mm**
  - C. Approximately 4.5mm**
  - D. Approximately 1.5mm**
- 8. Which procedure must be done to ensure acceptable mercury hygiene in a dental office?**
- A. Wearing masks at all times**
  - B. Using dental dams for all procedures**
  - C. Use of high volume evacuation when working with amalgam**
  - D. Sterilizing instruments after each use**
- 9. The coefficient of thermal expansion of metal is \_\_\_ compared to ceramic?**
- A. much lower than**
  - B. slightly lower than**
  - C. the same as**
  - D. slightly higher than**
- 10. In trimming stainless steel crowns, special attention must be paid to the greater length necessary in the region of the MB bulge in the primary which tooth?**
- A. Mandibular First Molar**
  - B. Maxillary First Molar**
  - C. Mandibular Second Molar**
  - D. Maxillary Second Molar**

## **Answers**

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1. B
2. C
3. C
4. B
5. D
6. A
7. B
8. C
9. D
10. A

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the likely diagnosis for a patient with 3 weeks history of prolonged tooth pain to hot and cold, which changed to moderate pain on biting with a dull spontaneous ache relieved by cold?**

- A. Acute periradicular abscess**
- B. Chronic periradicular abscess**
- C. Pulpal necrosis**
- D. Dental caries**

This is because an acute periradicular abscess typically presents with severe pain to hot and cold that is constant, while chronic periradicular abscess causes moderate pain on biting with a gradual onset. Additionally, pulpal necrosis would present with no relief from cold, and dental caries would most likely have cavities present rather than just prolonged tooth pain.

**2. The surgical risk for a patient with organic heart disease depends upon?**

- A. Blood sugar levels**
- B. Total cholesterol**
- C. Cardiac output**
- D. Blood pressure**

When referring to organic heart disease, there is always a risk for complications during a surgical procedure. While options A, B, and D are important factors for a patient's overall health, they do not directly relate to the patient's heart condition. Blood sugar levels are used to monitor diabetes, total cholesterol is an indicator of overall cholesterol levels in the body, and blood pressure is a measurement of the force of blood against the walls of the arteries. However, in the case of organic heart disease, the most important factor to consider for surgical risk is the patient's cardiac output, which is the amount of blood pumped by the heart per minute. If a patient's cardiac output is low due to their heart disease, there is an increased risk of complications during surgery.

**3. The most important factor for the long term success of the restoration of an endodontically treated tooth is:**

- A. Type of filling material**
- B. Absence of post**
- C. Presence of extracoronary coverage**
- D. Root canal sealing quality**

A restoration with extracoronary coverage is the most important factor for the long term success of an endodontically treated tooth because it helps protect the tooth from further damage and contamination. Options A and D may contribute to the success of the restoration, but without proper coverage, the tooth is still at risk. Option B is incorrect because the absence of a post does not necessarily determine the success of the treatment, only the stability of the restoration.

**4. Girls are how many years ahead of boys in terms of growth?**

- A. 1yr
- B. 2yrs**
- C. 3yrs
- D. 4yrs

Girls typically experience a growth spurt around the ages of 10-14, while boys experience their growth spurt a few years later, around the ages of 12-16. This accounts for the average difference of 2 years between girls and boys in terms of growth. Options A, C, and D are incorrect as they do not accurately reflect the usual difference between the growth of girls and boys. Additionally, it is important to note that these are just average differences and individual growth patterns can vary.

**5. Is there a difference in the response of basal and alveolar bone to pressure?**

- A. No difference
- B. Basal responds more than alveolar
- C. Alveolar responds more than basal
- D. Yes, there is a difference**

There is a difference in the response of basal and alveolar bone to pressure. Basal bone is the thicker, denser bone found at the base of the alveolar bone, which surrounds and supports the teeth. It is responsible for providing support for the teeth and withstanding the forces of chewing and biting. Alveolar bone is found closer to the teeth and is responsible for attaching the teeth to the basal bone. While both types of bone may respond to pressure, basal bone is typically more resistant and responds less than alveolar bone, which is more flexible and can adapt to changes. Therefore, the correct answer is D, as the statement "there is a difference" is accurate. Options A, B, and C are incorrect as they imply that there is no difference or that only one type of bone responds to pressure more, rather than acknowledging that there is a difference in their

**6. What is the proper treatment for a 7-year-old with Mesioden, partially erupted #9, and not erupted #8?**

- A. Remove Mesioden and observe progress**
- B. Immediate orthodontic treatment
- C. Extraction of #9 and #8
- D. No treatment necessary

Mesioden is a condition where there is an extra tooth present in the front of the upper jaw. In this case, the Mesioden is partially erupted and has blocked the eruption of tooth #9 and #8. Orthodontic treatment would be necessary to correct the misalignment caused by the Mesioden. Extraction of both #9 and #8 may not be the best course of action as it could potentially cause further issues with dental structure and positioning. And leaving the situation untreated is not advisable as it could lead to further complications. Therefore, the best option would be to remove the Mesioden and closely monitor the progress during the eruption of #9 and #8. This will allow for proper alignment and positioning of the affected teeth while minimizing potential risks and complications.

**7. How much leeway space is present in an 8-year-old child's mandibular arch?**

- A. Approximately 2.5mm**
- B. Approximately 3.5mm**
- C. Approximately 4.5mm**
- D. Approximately 1.5mm**

The correct answer is approximately 3.5mm. This is because an 8-year-old child's mandibular arch is still growing and developing, so the amount of space may vary slightly. However, options A, C, and D are incorrect because they are either too small or too large to accurately represent the average amount of leeway space in a child's mandibular arch. It is important to note that individual differences may also play a factor in the amount of space present.

**8. Which procedure must be done to ensure acceptable mercury hygiene in a dental office?**

- A. Wearing masks at all times**
- B. Using dental dams for all procedures**
- C. Use of high volume evacuation when working with amalgam**
- D. Sterilizing instruments after each use**

High volume evacuation is required when working with amalgam in order to ensure acceptable mercury hygiene in a dental office. This is because amalgam fillings contain mercury, which can create toxic vapors when being manipulated. Wearing masks and sterilizing instruments after each use may be important hygiene practices, but they are not specifically related to mercury. Using dental dams for all procedures can also help with hygiene, but they do not address the issue of mercury specifically. Therefore, option C is the best procedure to follow for ensuring acceptable mercury hygiene in a dental office.

**9. The coefficient of thermal expansion of metal is \_\_\_\_ compared to ceramic?**

- A. much lower than**
- B. slightly lower than**
- C. the same as**
- D. slightly higher than**

The coefficient of thermal expansion of metal is slightly higher than ceramic. This means that metal will expand slightly more than ceramic when exposed to the same amount of heat. Options A and B state that metal has a lower coefficient of thermal expansion compared to ceramic, which is incorrect. Additionally, option C states that both metal and ceramic have the same coefficient of thermal expansion, which is also incorrect.

**10. In trimming stainless steel crowns, special attention must be paid to the greater length necessary in the region of the MB bulge in the primary which tooth?**

**A. Mandibular First Molar**

**B. Maxillary First Molar**

**C. Mandibular Second Molar**

**D. Maxillary Second Molar**

When trimming stainless steel crowns, the dentist must be aware that the MB bulge on primary mandibular first molars often requires longer crowns, making option A the correct answer. Option B, maxillary first molars, typically do not have a significant MB bulge that would require extra length in the crown. Option C, mandibular second molars, may have a slight bulge, but not to the same extent as the first molars. Option D, maxillary second molars, do not have a MB bulge and therefore would not require additional length in the crown. Overall, option A is the most correct answer because of the specific mention of the primary mandibular first molar in the question.