

GDC Standards for the dental team

All GDC registrants are expected to work within the GDC Standards, in full. Below are a summary of some of the standards and guidance that may change in relevance as your role develops.

9 Core Principles	Relevant Standards	Relevant Guidance
1.Put patients' interests first	1.1 listen and discuss all options. 1.3 Be honest, act with integrity. 1.4 holistic and preventative approach. 1.5 treat in a hygienic and safe environment. 1.9 find out about laws and regulations that affect your work.	1.5: radiography, health and safety, decontamination, waste, medical emergencies. 1.9: data protection. Registration, Direct Access, indemnity.
2.Communicate effectively with patients	2.1,2.2, 2.3 Communicate effectively and take into account communication needs. 2.4 Give information about costs.	You must promote patients' rights and responsibilities for making decisions, by explaining all options, including delaying treatment, you must be honest when answering questions.
3.Obtain valid consent	3.1 Obtain valid consent, 3.2 Make sure they understand the decisions they are being asked to make. 3.3 remains valid at each stage of treatment.	3.1.2 Document discussions. 3.1.3 Discuss options, risks and benefits, prognosis, cost, what might happen if treatment not undertaken, guaranteed work. 3.1.4 Document that patients understand.
4.Maintain and protect patients' information	4.1 contemporaneous, accurate, complete patient records. 4.2 Protect patient confidentiality. 4.3 Only release information in exceptional circumstances.	4.1.3 Follow current legislation with regard to retaining, storing and disposing of patient records. 4.1.6 If you refer a patient to another dental professional, you must make an accurate record of this referral in the patients notes. 4.2.7 If you want to use patient information for example using photos in teaching or as portfolio/ appraisal evidence, you must obtain patient consent and use as little as possible, anonymising data. 4.3.3 If a patient is at risk of harm, you must inform the relevant authorities. 4.3.5 Where you decide to release information you must document reasons.

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5. Have a clear and effective complaints procedure		
6. Work with colleagues in a way that is in patients' best interests	<p>6.2 Be appropriately supported when treating patients</p> <p>6.3 Delegate and refer appropriately</p> <p>6.4 Only accept a referral if you are trained and competent to carry out the treatment</p> <p>6.5 communicate clearly with team members in patients best interest</p>	<p>6.3.1 You can delegate responsibility for a task but not the responsibility</p> <p>6.3.3 You should refer patients on if the treatment is outside your scope of practice</p> <p>6.3.5 If you need to refer a patient to someone else, you must explain the process to the patient and record in the notes</p> <p>6.5.1 Document any discussions you have with colleagues about a patients care</p>
7. Maintain, develop and work within your professional knowledge and skills	<p>7.2 Work within your knowledge, skills, professional competence and abilities</p> <p>7.3 Update and develop your professional knowledge and skills</p>	<p>7.3.2 Take part in activities that develop your knowledge and skills. Your CPD activity should improve your practice. See GDC advice on CPD</p>
8. Raise concerns if patients are at risk	<p>8.1 Always put patient safety first</p> <p>8.2 Act promptly if patients or colleagues are at risk</p> <p>8.5 Take appropriate action if you have concerned about the possible abuse of vulnerable children or adults</p>	
9. Make sure your personal behaviour maintains patients' confidence in you and the dental profession		

