



in collaboration with



# Dental Industry Specialist in Infection Prevention and Control (DISIPC)™

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## Exam Outline and Suggested References

The DISIPC exam assesses knowledge-based competence.

The purpose of the DISIPC exam is to ensure that individuals meet the minimum national standard for knowledge-based competence in dental infection prevention and control for the industry specialist. See [dentalinfectioncontrol.org](http://dentalinfectioncontrol.org) for DISIPC exam eligibility requirements.

Effective 05/14/2021

# DISIPC

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## Exam Outline Overview

### Exam Weighting by Domain

- I. Regulatory and Occupational Safety (15%)
- II. Prevention of Disease Transmission (45%)
- III. Infection Control Protocols (40%)

### Pretest Exam Details

- Number of Multiple-Choice Questions: 170 (Pretest event only)
- Time for Exam: 130 minutes (Pretest event only)

Overall performance on the exam determines the candidate's pass/fail status.

The DISIPC exam pretest will only be administered in-person at a Pearson VUE test center.

If you participate in this pretest event your exam results will not be available immediately. You will be notified of your exam results and certification status no later than December 31, 2021.

# DISIPC Exam Outline

The Dental Industry Specialist in Infection Prevention and Control (DISIPC)<sup>™</sup> exam is developed and administered by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB). DANB exams are created using the exam outline, which is reviewed by subject matter experts including those from the fields of oral healthcare and dental infection prevention and control. The outline was developed using a content validation study (CVS), which included a job analysis survey where industry specialists in dental infection prevention and control were surveyed about how often tasks are performed and how important competent performance of tasks is to the health and safety of the public. The Organization for Safety, Asepsis, and Prevention (OSAP) Board of Directors and OSAP members participated in the CVS and development of this exam outline, which was reviewed and approved by DANB's Board of Directors.

## I: Regulatory and Occupational Safety (15%)

**A. Describe differences between laws, rules, regulations, standards and guidelines as they apply to dental infection prevention and control.**

1. CDC Guidelines.
2. OSHA Standards and Regulations.
3. State laws and rules.

**B. Explain OSHA Hazard Communication Standards as they relate to storage and hazardous waste disposal protocols found on safety data sheets (SDS).**

## II: Prevention of Disease Transmission (45%)

**A. Describe disease transmission concepts, including but not limited to:**

1. chain of infection.
2. modes of transmission.
3. cross-contamination.

**B. Describe exposure prevention precautions, including but not limited to:**

1. standard precautions.
2. transmission-based precautions.
3. personal protective equipment (PPE).
4. engineering, work practice and administrative controls.

**C. Describe dental unit water quality, including but not limited to:**

1. formation of biofilm and associated risks.
2. sequence for flushing and shocking waterlines.
3. types of products used for maintaining and shocking waterlines.

4. methods of testing dental unit water quality.

### **III: Infection Control Procedures (40%)**

#### **A. Describe CDC guidelines for instrument processing, including but not limited to:**

1. sequence of instrument processing.
2. cleaning/decontamination workflow.
3. preparing and packaging instruments for sterilization/disinfection.
4. sterilization and monitoring.
5. storage of instruments.
6. conditions and factors that impact instrument processing.
7. handpiece sterilization protocol.
8. maintenance of sterilization equipment.

#### **B. Describe environmental infection control concepts and procedures, including but not limited to:**

1. housekeeping and clinical surfaces.
2. cleaning/disinfecting products.
3. surface barriers.

#### **C. Describe types of and disposal procedures related to regulated medical waste.**

#### **D. Describe how to maintain infection control supplies, including but not limited to:**

1. follow manufacturers' instructions for use (IFUs).
2. rotation and storage of instruments and supplies.
3. single-use and disposable items.

# DISIPC Exam Suggested References

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DISIPC exam item writers use the following suggested exam preparation references to develop this exam. These are resources that subject matter experts determined as providing the most up-to-date information needed to meet or surpass a determined level of competence on this exam.

This list is intended to help prepare you to take this exam is not intended to be comprehensive or an endorsement of any of the publications listed. You should prepare for the DISIPC exam using as many different study materials as possible. Any one reference will likely not include all the material required to study to take the exam.

## Suggested Exam Preparation References

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).
  - *Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings — 2003* (MMWR, Vol. 52, RR 17). [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5217a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5217a1.htm)
  - *Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings: Basic Expectations for Safe Care*. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Oral Health; 2016. [www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/summary-infection-prevention-practices/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/summary-infection-prevention-practices/index.html)
2. U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).
  - *Hazard Communication Standard* (Code of Federal Regulations #29, Part 1910.1200)
  - *Bloodborne Pathogens Standard* (1910.1030). [www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1030](http://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1030)
3. Miller, Chris. *Infection Control and Management of Hazardous Materials for the Dental Team*. 6th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier/Mosby, 2018. **[This edition only.]**

## Additional/Optional Study Resources

1. The Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP). [www.osap.org](http://www.osap.org).
  - *From Policy to Practice: OSAP's Guide to the Guidelines*
  - *OSAP Dental Infection Control Bootcamp™*
  - *OSAP's OSHA & CDC Guidelines: Interact Training System*
2. The DALE Foundation. [www.dalefoundation.org](http://www.dalefoundation.org).
  - *The DALE Foundation's DANB ICE Review*
  - *The DALE Foundation's DANB ICE Practice Test*
3. OSAP-DALE Foundation. [www.dentalinfectioncontrol.org](http://www.dentalinfectioncontrol.org)
  - *OSAP-DALE Foundation Dental Infection Prevention and Control eHandbook*
  - *Understanding CDC's Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings*
  - *General Aspects of Instrument Processing*