

QCA Level 7



abdo

DIPLOMA in ADVANCED CONTACT LENS PRACTICE

Conditions of Admission
Syllabus and Assessments
Requirements 2019

ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH DISPENSING OPTICIANS

DIPLOMA in ADVANCED CONTACT LENS PRACTICE

FOREWORD

Holders of the ABDO Certificate in Contact Lens Practice are invited to develop their knowledge and skills to an advanced level to achieve the Association's Diploma in Advanced Contact Lens Practice

Candidates should be aware that the Advanced Diploma examination requires demonstration of current, broad, in-depth knowledge and skills in the field of contact lens practice – to a more advanced standard than that required for the CL Certificate examination, to reflect the level 7 QCA award.

The Diploma in Advanced Contact Lens Practice examination is designed to assess the ability of the candidate as follows –

- Practical knowledge of advanced contact lens practice including fitting complex lenses and advanced contact lens aftercare

Achievement of the Diploma in Advanced Contact Lens Practice permits the use of the qualification – FBDO (Hons) CL

CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION

(a) The candidate must hold the ABDO Certificate in Contact Lens Practice [applications from holders of an overseas ABDO contact lens qualification would be referred to the Association's Academic Board].

(b) the candidates must have accrued a minimum period of 12 months personal clinical experience in contact lens practice following achievement of the Certificate in Contact Lens Practice and must be on the GOC Contact Lens Specialty Register.

(c) The candidate acknowledges and accepts the conditions governing the issue of diplomas, further details of which may be obtained from the Association.

ASSESSMENTS INFORMATION

Examination Information

There are 6 units involving a variety of formats - practical sessions, objective structured clinical examination [OSCEs], dissertation, short answers paper and a viva on case records. Units may be taken in any order, separately or together in one sitting.

Candidates may attempt Units in any order within a 3-year period but all Units - including any resits - must be successfully achieved within 5 years.

A minimum of 2/3 examiners will examine each candidate. Any borderline marks are reviewed on the day of the practical examination in consultation with the examiners involved and the supervising examiner of the day.

Examination and marking notes

General

If candidates present themselves on the day of the examination, they are deemed to be fit and well and able to participate in the examination.

If any adjustments or considerations need to be actioned, these need to be communicated on the relevant forms to the Examinations Department at the time of the examination application.

Diploma in Advanced Contact Lens Practice Examination

The pass mark is 60% in each unit. There is no aggregation so any unit gaining less than 60% will be retaken. If a candidate is unsuccessful, a report is issued with the results indicating the areas requiring special attention/study.

The four attempts rule applies to each Unit of the examination. However, candidates should note that any resits must be completed within 5 years of commencement of the first unit assessment.

Examination Requirements

Candidates are advised that it is their responsibility to-

1. Provide (and pay any fee for) a PRESBYOPIC subject patient for Unit B of the examination. Subjects are required for all attempts of Unit B – whether the examination

is a first attempt or a resit. The patient must NOT be one of the following:

- i) a qualified or certified Contact Lens Optician;
- ii) Dispensing Optician involved in contact lens training;
- iii) Qualified or pre-registration Optometrist

the interests of fair assessment, the following will prevent completion of the practical examination –

- Failure to make provision for a Unit B subject patient
- Provision of a subject who does not meet the above requirements.

The Association will provide a patient for Unit A and a fitting set for Unit B

2. Bring to the examinations -

A current spectacle prescription for the subject

Solutions/ stains etc.

Trial frame etc and such as crossed cylinder [if used] for Units A & B

DOCUMENTATION DEADLINES

Summer Examinations

1 March	Examination application forms to reach ABDO examinations
31 May	Final date for Unit E dissertation [2 copies] to reach ABDO Examinations
31 May	Final date for Unit F case records to reach ABDO Examinations

Winter Examinations

1 October	Examination application forms to ABDO Examinations
30 November	Final date for Unit E dissertation [2 copies] to reach ABDO Examinations
30 November	Final date for Unit F case records to reach ABDO Examinations

SYLLABUS of ASSESSMENTS

Unit A – Fitting for Astigmatism

(1 hour]

Content -

- [i] Assess and comment on the fittings of soft toric lenses. Discuss any fitting changes required
- [ii] Design a rigid toric corneal lens for an empirical order.
- [iii] Demonstrate ability to achieve an astigmatic over-refraction including refractive verification

Format – Practical assessment including demonstration of supporting theory knowledge

- [i] Viva using media technology
- [ii] Viva
- [III] Practical Examination

Unit B - Presbyopia Management

([i] 15 minutes/[ii] 45 minutes]

Content –

- [i] Select a pair of lenses from a soft multifocal fitting set provided by ABDO
- [ii] Discuss rationales for choices of presbyopia management
Discuss current availability of current rigid and soft multifocal lenses and associated techniques – and rationale for lens choice from multifocal fitting set provided by ABDO
Assess the lenses chosen in situ
- [iii] Demonstrate refractive management of presbyopic patient.

Format –[i] Open - book practical examination [candidates will be given a multifocal fitting set and product fitting information]
[ii]/[iii] Viva/Practical assessment including demonstration of supporting theory knowledge

Unit C – Specialist Contact Lens Fittings

[1 hour)

Content -

[A] Corneal Irregularities

[i] Induced

- Laser treatments
- Keratoplasty
- Trauma

[ii] Pathological

- Keratoconus
- Ectasia

[B] Therapeutic

- Drug delivery
- Bandage
 - o Pain management
 - o Protection

[C] Cosmetic contact lenses

- Congenital
- Trauma
- Appearance
- Visual[occlusion]

Format – OSCEs involving Case Scenarios and Viva regarding management

Unit D - Current Knowledge

(1 hour)

Content –

Demonstrate an up-to-date knowledge of

- Products
- Fitting philosophies
- Emerging technology
- Legislation

Format - Short answers paper

Unit E – Issues Associated with Contact lens Practice

[A] 15 mins/

[B] 1 hour]

Content –

[A] Myopia Management [current knowledge]

- Knowledge of drugs treatment
- Orthokeratology options [currently off-licence]
- Soft contact lens options
- Knowledge of spectacle correction options
- Limitations/expectations/inclusion criteria
- Product availability

[B] Dry Eye Management

- Classification
- Management techniques
 - o Lubricants
 - o CL management
 - o Other methods

Format – [A] Dissertation presented in advance of the examination /
Viva on the day of the examination

[B] Viva

Unit F - Case Records

[1hour]

Content –

Case records - 12 case records to be provided by the candidate [see case record notes] in advance of the examination, to demonstrate the range and depth of their experience. Cases will be discussed in detail with the candidate including decisions made and actions taken.

Format – Case records presented in advance of the examination
Viva on the day of the examination

CASE RECORDS INFORMATION for UNIT F

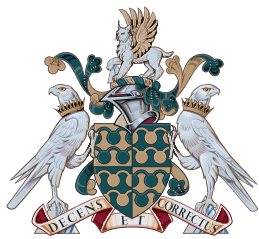
12 Case records are required to be presented to the Association by 30 November for the Winter session and 31 May for the Summer sitting. Candidates failing to submit their case records by this date will be withdrawn from the examination and may lose their fee.

The records should demonstrate the range and depth of experience of a candidate, and should be current – that is the patients should have had an aftercare appointment within the last twelve months. The case notes are required to cover the following contact lens patients-

- | | |
|--|----------|
| • High Rx [over +10.00 / over – 10.00] | 1 record |
| • Extended/continuous wear | 1 record |
| • RGP toric | 1 record |
| • Presbyopia [must include multi-focals] | 1 record |
| • Corneal status required large diameter RGP | 1 record |
| • Pathology or Induced Irregularity | 1 record |
| • Management of CL patient with - | |
| o Red eye | 1 record |
| o Infection | 1 record |
| o Ocular complication | 1 record |

Remaining 3 records chosen by candidate to demonstrate breadth and depth of knowledge and experience.

The case records are required to demonstrate that a minimum of twelve months after-care has been given. Therefore, the case records must show the initial contact lenses issued, at the latest, by 31 May of the preceding year (for Summer exams) and 30 November of the preceding year (for Winter exams). If the records do not meet these criteria, they will be considered invalid. The reduced number of records therefore presented will reflect in the marks for that section.



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