



OSCE Checklist: Dental History Taking

Opening the consultation	
1	Introduce yourself and the dental nurse including your names and roles
2	Confirm the patient's name and date of birth
3	Ask the patient to take a seat and ensure they are comfortable
4	Briefly explain what the dental assessment will involve using patient-friendly language
5	Gain consent to proceed with the dental assessment
Presenting complaint	
6	Use open questioning to explore the patient's presenting complaint
History of presenting complaint	
7	Gain further details about the patient's presenting complaint using a mixture of open and closed questioning.
8	Explore the patient's ideas, concerns and expectations
9	Summarise what the patient has told you and ask if you've missed anything
Medical history	
10	Ask if the patient has any known medical conditions and if the patient does, you should gather more details to assess how well controlled the disease is and what treatment(s) the patient is receiving
11	Check the patient's allergy status and clarify the details of any allergic reactions
12	Check if the patient is currently taking any medications, including over the counter remedies
13	Perform a systems review to screen for medical conditions which may be relevant
Social history	
14	Record the patient's current and past smoking history, including the type and amount of tobacco or substance used
15	Record the frequency, type and amount of alcohol consumed
16	Record diet history in order to help assign caries and tooth wear risks
17	Record the patient's current occupation
Dental history	
18	Clarify the patient's recent dental history and assess their overall attendance frequency
19	Ask the patient how they feel about visiting the dentist to get a sense of their level of dental anxiety
20	Ask about the patient's oral hygiene routine including toothbrushing, interdental cleaning, and mouth rinsing
Discussing the next steps	
21	Thank the patient
22	Signpost what will happen next (most likely a dental exam)

23	Provide an opportunity for them to ask questions or voice their ideas and concerns	
Key communication skills		
24	Active listening	
25	Summarising	
26	Signposting	

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