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## PRESS RELEASE

### **New DCP Key Skills assessment provides flexible CPD**

An innovative assessment has been unveiled by the Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK), presenting an exciting opportunity for dental care professionals (DCPs) to gain continuing professional development (CPD).

The Key Skills in Primary Dental Care assessment for DCPs enables all DCP groups to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the seven Key Skills identified by the FGDP(UK) as a core part of delivering a high standard of patient care, namely:

- Medical emergencies
- Infection control
- Record keeping
- Radiography
- Legislation
- Team development
- Communication and complaints handling.

Assessment is via a portfolio of evidence, which will also record workplace achievements and allow candidates to show how they are meeting their professional responsibilities.

Following the successful completion of each Key Skill, candidates will be awarded a certificate which will form a valuable part of a professional development portfolio. Key Skills certification will also contribute to the mandatory CPD requirements to be introduced by the General Dental Council.

The FGDP(UK)'s DCP Officer, Sally Hunter, comments, "*This new initiative is a real step forward for busy DCPs looking for a cost-effective way to gain CPD through distance learning. Working at their own pace, DCPs will have an opportunity to demonstrate a commitment to delivering the best care for their patients. There is also plenty of support from the Faculty, including a study pack for all registrants which provides guidance on how to compile the portfolio*".

The initial registration fee for the assessment is £30, which covers the cost of the support materials and assessment of one Key Skill, with a fee of £20 for each further Key Skill submitted. The FGDP(UK) and Smile-on Ltd have also launched a second edition of the successful e-learning package, *Key Skills in Primary Dental Care*, which has been adapted as a learning tool for DCPs as well as general dental practitioners, and is recommended as a valuable preparation tool for the Key Skills assessment.

To find out more or to register, visit [www.fgdp.org.uk/dcp](http://www.fgdp.org.uk/dcp), or contact Sally Hunter on 020 7869 6766 or [shunter@rcseng.ac.uk](mailto:shunter@rcseng.ac.uk).

ENDS

The Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) is the academic home for general dental practitioners (GDPs) and dental care professionals (DCPs) in the UK. Based at The Royal College of Surgeons of England, it aims to promote excellence in the standards of patient care in general dental practice by encouraging involvement in postgraduate training and assessment, education and research. The FGDP(UK) supports the career development of both GDPs and DCPs and recognises the value of an integrated dental team in modern dentistry.

For more information, please contact Charlotte Worker on 020 7869 6759 or [cworker@rcseng.ac.uk](mailto:cworker@rcseng.ac.uk). Also visit [www.fgdp.org.uk](http://www.fgdp.org.uk) for further details.