

# Fellowship Examination Pediatric Dentistry: Sample Case

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## Disclaimer

The following sample case is provided for illustrative purposes only. It is intended to demonstrate the style of case presentation and the type of reasoning expected in the Fellowship Examination. It should not be taken as a reflection of the specific content, scope, or level of difficulty of the actual examination.

## Case Scenario

A five-year-old child is referred to your office for a new patient examination. The mother reports that the child complains of intermittent pain when chewing.

*Candidates may be provided with the following supplementary records for interpretation:*

- *Intraoral photographs*
- *Extraoral photographs*

## Assessment, Diagnosis & Prognosis

Question: How would you proceed?

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Focused/organized review of history (medical/dental/family/diet/oral hygiene & prevention – caries risk/behaviour), history of the chief-complaint.
- Age-appropriate exam and justified selection of initial radiographs; integrates clinical and radiographic information to formulate a general diagnosis
- States what further information/tests are required and proposes a reasonable plan to resolve it.

*Additional imaging or information will be provided as requested if clinically justified and aligned with the case.*



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Question: What are your clinical and radiographic findings? List your diagnoses.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Accurate selection of relevant clinical and radiographic findings (able to describe normal + abnormal & explain why).
- Able to integrate all their findings to appropriately diagnose pulpal and periodontal conditions and caries with consideration of the stage of development.
- Able to draw links and associations between their findings to justify their diagnoses

Question: What prevention strategies are appropriate?

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Determines adequate at home and in-office prevention regimen for this patient
- Provides adequate dietary counseling that is specific to this child's history
- Identifies individualized oral-hygiene instruction

## Treatment Planning and Management

Question: Discuss treatment options that you would consider and the rationale for your recommendations.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Presents viable pathways matched to age, cooperation, caries risk, and medical history; able to explain the pros and cons of the various options.
- Recommends a patient-specific plan with a variety of options and ability to justify why the treatment plan may require adjustments.

Question: Which behaviour guidance options would be most appropriate, and how would you review them with the parent?

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Selects appropriate guidance options based on cooperation, treatment extent, pertinent medical history and safety.
- Explains benefits, limitations, and responsibilities in understandable, guardian friendly terms; confirms understanding and documents consent.
- Incorporates parental preference/choice/ appropriately without compromising safety or standards.

### Treatment Outcomes, Complications, and Variations

Question: The decision is made to treat this patient with midazolam and nitrous oxide sedation. During the dental procedure, you perform a pulpotomy on tooth 8.5. After removal of coronal tissue, and applying a cotton pellet for 5 minutes, hemostasis is still not obtained. The first permanent molars have just started to emerge. The patient is cooperative and stable. What management options for tooth 8.5 will you review with the parent/guardian, and which option will you recommend?

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Outlines appropriate options and justifies choice using eruption status, prognosis, behaviour, and caries risk.
- Communicates advantages and disadvantages, and follow-up needs; defines success criteria and next steps if response is suboptimal.



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Question: The patient comes in for a continuing care/recall visit. They are now 6 years of age. The family presents with the chief complaint, “We can’t get her to stop sucking her thumb.” How would you manage the chief complaint?

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Appropriate questioning and reviewing of chief complaint.
- Discusses potential complications.
- Identify behaviour modification techniques with patient.
- Identify indications for referral or alternative strategies if habit persists.

## **Communication**

Candidates are assessed on communication holistically throughout the case.

Proficient response demonstrates:

- Communicates answers clearly and logically. Stays relevant and uses appropriate terminology. Reasoning is generally methodical and understandable.
- Communicates effectively and appropriately with patients, guardians, other health care providers in the overall care of the patient