

# Dental nurses to benefit from new training manual

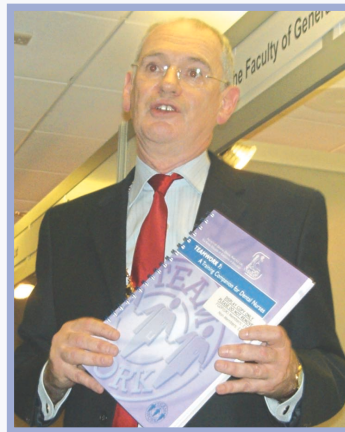
The FGDP(UK) used its presence at the BDA conference in May to launch the highly-anticipated publication *Teamwork 7: A Training Companion for Dental Nurses*. Over two years in the making, this comprehensive manual provides the fundamental knowledge which underpins the work of the dental nurse, and on which they might be assessed when completing registrable qualifications.

The *Teamwork* series, which was taken over by the FGDP(UK) in 2002, has provided training material for dental care professionals (DCPs) since 1990. The first in the series to be published by the Faculty, titled *Teamwork 6: Changing Roles in the Dental Team*, provided information on continuing professional development (CPD) for all DCPs, as well as guidance on extended duties for dental hygienists, and details on the NVQ Level 3 for dental nurses.

## Supporting GDC registration for dental nurses

Since *Teamwork 6* was published, a number of important changes have taken place within the dental nursing profession, including the introduction of statutory registration with the General Dental Council (GDC). Janet Goodwin, Qualifications Manager at the National Examining Board for Dental Nurses (NEBDN), notes: "During the initial interim registration period there have been several recognised routes to GDC registration, most requiring theoretical and/or practical knowledge of working in a dental environment, demonstrated via completion of a recognised dental nurse qualification or relevant working experience. The consequence of registration is that, in future, all dental nurses will be trained to a defined standard, and qualified to carry out their duties within a dental setting."

The FGDP(UK) has long been a powerful voice in standard-setting, and has been working to support registration requirements, while ensuring that there are adequate mechanisms to facilitate CPD for the dental team. The publication of *Teamwork 7* marks a significant step forward in supporting the



Faculty Dean Richard Hayward at the launch of *Teamwork 7*.

professional development of dental nurses, providing an excellent learning resource for dental nurse qualifications, and also a training companion for mentoring, appraisal-setting or CPD activities.

## Professional guidance across key topics

Authored by experienced dental nurse tutors and experts in the field, *Teamwork 7* details the essential knowledge relevant to all of the procedures for which dental nurses offer vital support to the dental practitioner, and which underpins the competencies assessed in the NEBDN National Certificate and NVQ level 3. Chapters include:

- Developing knowledge and practice
- Anatomy and physiology
- Plaque, caries and periodontal diseases
- Health and safety
- Infection control
- Oral health education
- Oral health assessment
- Radiography
- Restorative procedures
- Extractions and minor oral surgery

- Fixed and removable prostheses
- Orthodontics
- Endodontics
- Equality and diversity
- Communication.

## An indispensable resource

Janet Goodwin is enthusiastic about the value of the book to the dental nurse. "With the majority of content written by experienced dental nurses and dental nurse tutors, *Teamwork 7* offers relevant and comprehensive expertise, while promoting a team approach to learning. The book benefits from full-colour images throughout, as well as clear diagrams, tables and flow-charts to aid comprehension. The self-test exercises at the end of each chapter are also very useful in helping readers to assess their understanding and progress. I congratulate the FGDP(UK) and the authors on producing an excellent resource that reflects the recent significant developments in the dental nursing profession".

## One-third discount for FGDP(UK) members

*Teamwork 7: A Training Companion for Dental Nurses* is priced at £28, though FGDP(UK) members can buy the book for £19. DCP Affiliate membership of the Faculty is only £26 per year; join the Faculty when you place your order and not only will you save a third on your purchase, but you'll receive the many benefits that membership brings. Contact Paul Woodcock on 020 7869 6754 to order *Teamwork 7*, and Bill McKinnon on 020 7869 6767 to join the FGDP(UK). You can also email them at [fgdp@rcseng.ac.uk](mailto:fgdp@rcseng.ac.uk).