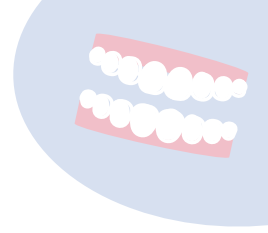


Careers in clinical dental technology



Clinical dental technicians can create all the appliances which a dental technician can make, but they can also treat some patients.

What do clinical dental technicians do?

Clinical dental technicians are able to carry out the laboratory work of a dental technician to create dental appliances, ranging from crowns to orthodontic appliances and prosthesis for patients having facial reconstruction following head and neck cancer.

In addition to their laboratory work they also have the ability to directly treat some patients who have no teeth and are requiring a full set of false teeth (dentures) without them needing to attend the dentist.

Where do clinical dental technicians work?

- in the NHS in specialist teaching or district hospitals
- within the commercial sector either in private dental laboratories or on a self-employed basis
- in education teaching the next generation of technicians in university.

What skills do I need to be a good dental technician?

- you will need to be coordinated, have good manual dexterity and practical skills in order to produce accurate work
- have good communication skills and people skills, with a calm and friendly manner
- be creative with an interest in design and production
- have a strong attention to detail
- the ability to take instructions and interpret information and technical data
- able to concentrate for long periods of time
- good IT skills
- able to work alone and as part of a team.

How do I become a clinical dental technician?

To become a registered clinical dental technician with the general dental council (GDC) there is the opportunity to undertake further training through a diploma once qualified as a dental technician. To become a dental technician you either need to have undertaken a degree, BSc (Hons) in dental technology – this is available at Cardiff Metropolitan University – or follow an alternative route through part-time study or a diploma.

Alternatively, there may be opportunities outside of Wales to study a degree course in BSc (Hons) in clinical dental technology.

Want to find out more?

Careersville: <https://careersville.heiw.wales>

NHS Wales Careers: www.nhswalescareers.com