

# Selecting & setting up the teeth (if natural teeth are to be used)

	Types of learning	Resources	UK General Dental Council learning outcome(s)	Session learning outcome(s)
Session	Didactic elements		1.1.6 1.1.5	Correctly identify a full complement of upper and lower teeth
	Reflective	Collected natural teeth		Identify individual teeth based on root and crown morphology
	Critical appraisal	Chapter 3		Identify the physical features of gross dental caries
	Peer review			

\* - black (dentists), blue (therapists)

## Teaching notes

### KEY POINTS:

- ✓ Identify critical tooth anatomy
- ✓ Encourage students to share resource
- At Newcastle our students collect natural teeth from local dentists in the year running up to the skills course. At regular intervals they are reminded how important it is to find a full complement of natural teeth. Although we will be able to substitute some teeth for plastic Frasco® teeth, we will only do this for posterior teeth that are designated for amalgam restorations and cavity preparations.
- Inspect and describe typical features of the Frasco tooth types under a microscope or document camera, particularly those aspects conferring structural durability. Chapter 3 will help as a reference.
- Initially the students should use **their own natural** teeth; once they have identified duplicates and missing teeth, they can begin to swap amongst themselves.
- Once a full set is obtained, coronal calculus should be removed using the spoon excavators. Teeth should be dried and labelled with pencil on the root before being laid out onto a damp paper towel in the FDI notation and wrapped up for storage prior to setting up in plaster.
- Encourage good communication between the group and a team working approach. Working alone in the corner without sharing duplicate teeth is unacceptable.
- When setting up the teeth in plaster, the students should be encouraged to lay out their previously identified teeth and double check the identity of each. They should be free from gross caries. Teeth should be set up in sextants, mixing new plaster on each occasion. It is very important to ensure that the contact points are correct – otherwise this will jeopardise the skills exercises that are to follow.
- As mentioned previously, it is not essential to have the following natural teeth:

1	41
2	12, 32, 42
3	13, 43
4	
5	
6	26
7	17, 27, 47