

TREATMENT PLAN PROTOCOL

At Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, the Practice Coordinators (PCs) are members of the Department of Comprehensive Care. The final step of the examination procedure is to guide the student in design of the appropriate treatment plan.

Phasing and Sequencing

1. The student should consider procedures as being in the following categories and phases:
 - a. Unphased procedures include: post and core or simple restoration of an endodontically treated tooth, temporization including interim dentures, treatment of pain including endodontics, diagnostic procedures, internal referral (D0115), extraction, whitening trays and occlusal guards
 - b. Phase 1: Prevention
 - c. Phase 2: Operative
 - d. Phase 3: Fixed Prosthodontics
 - e. Phase 4: Removable Prosthodontics and all procedures that should be done at treatment plan conclusion (implant should always be done after stabilization of decay)
 - f. Sequencing:
 - i. The second number in a phased treatment is the sequence.
 - ii. Assign the sequence within a phase to guide the student in determining the urgency of a particular treatment.
 - iii. Considerations in phasing treatment:
 1. Sequence all procedures within a phase.
 2. Sequence more pressing procedures earlier in the phase.
 3. Often unphasing or rephasing will be done at the discretion of the PC.

Notes on specific procedures

Periodontics

Phase 1 Periodontics must always include a Perio or gingivitis follow-up. There must be a gingivitis case complete or a periodontal case complete in phase 1. At the perio follow up visit, the determination is made whether or not the gingivitis or periodontitis case is complete. If not completed, the instructor advises the student which periodontal procedures are necessary for the patient to achieve optimal periodontal health.

Before beginning phase 3 treatments such as prosthodontics, the patient should be in gingival health, or have a perio release case note specifying prosthodontic procedures that may be completed prior to the perio or gingivitis case complete.