

# Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (Surgical DOPS)

## Trainer/Trainee Guidance Points

These guidance points are to be used in conjunction with point 6 ('performs the technical aspects in line with the guidance notes') on the main Surgical DOPS form. A mark should not be given for each of these points – they should instead be used to inform the mark to be given for point 6.

**Specialty:** Orthodontics

**Procedure:** Changing an archwire with requirement for wire bending or auxiliary placement (e.g. pontic, piggy-back)

### Steps to be performed

1. Explains to the patient what is going to happen at that appointment
2. Ensures appropriate instruments and materials are readily available
3. Ensures appropriate protective equipment in place
4. Ensures the patient is positioned appropriately
5. Removes existing arch wire, ligatures and any auxiliaries using appropriate instruments
6. Disposes of contaminated ligatures, auxiliaries and existing arch wire safely; observing health and safety and infection control measures
7. Evaluates and can explain the current clinical situation and confirms what additional requirements are needed (e.g. size and design of wire bends, size of space for pontic, gauge of wire for piggy-back), explains this to the assessor
8. Selects appropriate wire(s) and uses study models, if needed, as reference to customise wire correctly, estimates correct length of wire required before shortening wire using appropriate instruments.
9. Executes bends in wire/choice of auxiliary appropriately and places archwire in patient's mouth, ligates using the appropriate ligature technique ensures occlusion is checked for any interferences
10. Cuts distal ends of archwire to final length or cinches archwire, where appropriate
11. Demonstrates new wire and auxiliaries to patient (where appropriate) to patient and explains about discomfort, as required
12. Ensures clinical records are completed correctly and follow-up is arranged
13. Ensures appropriate cross infection techniques observed throughout the entire observed period
14. Demonstrates high standards of professionalism throughout the entire observed period
15. Demonstrates good communication (including instructions when required including advice to patient regarding wire bends/auxiliary, throughout the entire observed period)
16. Ensures safe clinical practice throughout the entire observed period