Bloom's Taxonomy of Actions Verbs

Cognitive Domain	Example and Key Action Verbs
Knowledge: Recall previous learned information.	Examples: Recites principle of ALARA related to radiation safety. Lists the code of ethics. Knows the infection control policy for sterilization of handpieces.
(Lowest level)	Key Verbs: defines, describes, identifies, knows, labels, lists, matches, memorize, names, omits, orders, outlines, read, recalls, recite, recognizes, records, reproduces, selects, states, writes.
Comprehension: Understanding the meaning, translation, interpolation, and interpretation of instructions and problems. State a problem in one's own words.	Examples: Rewrites information on medical complications related to cardiac disease. Explains in one's own words the steps in the ADPIE process of dental hygiene care. Translates nutritional guide from English to French.
	Key Verbs: associate, classify, comprehends, converts, defends, demonstrate, describes determines, distinguishes, estimates, explains, express, extends, generalizes, gives an example, identifies, infers, interprets, judge, match, paraphrases, predicts, rewrites, summarizes, translates.
Application: Use a concept in a new situation or unprompted use of an abstraction. Applies what was learned in the classroom into novel situations in the workplace.	Examples: Demonstrates safe and effective ultrasonic debridement. Applies infection control procedures during client care.
	Key Verbs: applies, changes, choose, completes, computes, constructs, demonstrates, discovers, examines, explains, manipulates, modifies, operates, predicts, prepares, produces, relates, review, shows, solves, uses.
Analysis: Separates material or concepts into component parts so that its organizational structure may be understood. Distinguishes between facts and inferences.	Examples: Selects appropriate antimicrobial product and use of product for a client with high caries risk. Gathers resources (textbooks and journals) to review information for a training session on bitewing radiographs in the office.
	Key Verbs: analyzes, breaks down, categorizes, compares, contrasts, deconstructs, detects, develops, diagrams, differentiates, discriminates, distinguishes, illustrates, infers, outlines, prioritizes, relates, selects, separates.
Evaluating: Synthesize and make judgments about the value of ideas or materials.	Examples: Selects the most appropriate solution for a client's home care to improve effectiveness. Hires the most qualified candidate. Explains and justifies treatment and follow up for a periodontal involved client with diabetes.
	Key Verbs: appraises, compares, concludes, contrasts, criticizes, critiques, defends, describes, differentiates, discriminates, evaluates, interprets, justifies, relates, summarizes, supports.
Creating: Builds a structure or pattern from diverse elements. Put parts together to form a whole, with emphasis on creating a new meaning or structure.	Examples: Writes a manual for the dental office to standardize the care of diabetic clients. Designs a computer program to standardize medical history forms in the office. Integrates training from several sources to solve a problem. Revises and processes to improve the outcome.
(Highest level)	Key Verbs: categorizes, combines, compiles, composes, creates, devises, designs, explains, generates, invents, makes, modifies, organizes, plans, rearranges, reconstructs, relates, reorganizes, revises, rewrites, summarizes, tells, transforms, writes.

Try incorporating measurable verbs within the OLP Learning Plan. Verbs that are ambiguous are less objective and make it difficult to prioritize outcomes. For example: comprehend, experience, feel, know, listen, perceive, realize, recognize, see, understand.