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# **Practical Examination Marking Criteria**

**BT6C2 – VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 6  
Certificate in Advanced Skin Needling**

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# Practical Examination Marking Criteria

Learners must complete a practical examination for BT6C2 – VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 6 Certificate in Advanced Skin Needling which will be externally set by the awarding organisation and conducted by an external examiner.

Learners will be expected to demonstrate excellent hygiene and client care throughout as well as competence in their relevant skills.

**A maximum of 6 learners to be examined at 1 time.**

## Client requirements

Centres must identify suitable clients for the examination. Centres may ask learners to identify suitable clients.

Clients must meet all the following requirements.

Specifically, clients must:

- Be aged 18 or over
- Not be contra-indicated for advanced skin needling treatments
- Not be hypersensitive to pain or pressure
- Be willing to have advanced skin needling treatments
- Be willing to divulge relevant personal and medical details for the purpose of consultation
- Be prepared for the treatment to be carried out by a learner unknown to them
- Not have practitioner knowledge or experience
- Provide consent to participate

Potential clients must meet with centre staff who will establish suitability in relation to the specified client requirements, the suitability of the skin and health and safety requirements.

It is the responsibility of the centre and learner to work collaboratively to ensure a suitable client is provided for examination purposes.

Learners will be expected to perform the following:

## Marking criteria for BT6C2 – VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 6 Certificate in Advanced Skin Needling

\*Learners must achieve a **minimum of 7 marks for the first 2 sections** to Pass.

### \*Client care – 5 marks (1 mark each)

The learner:

1. Protected client's clothing and removed all jewellery
2. Check the client has utilised the cooling off period and confirms continuation with the treatment
3. Explained the treatment procedure to the client, including treatment sensations, skin appearance post treatment, duration of healing and possible risk and side effects
4. Correctly positioned self and client and ensured the client's comfort/modesty throughout
5. Maintained a positive and professional approach to clients/colleagues throughout

### \*Preparation of area – 5 marks (1 mark each)

The learner:

1. Ensured that preparation complied with legal and organisational requirements
2. Ensured the area was clean and sterilised
3. Ensured all equipment, tools and products were available and ergonomically placed
4. Selected appropriate, clean and disposable PPE for client and self
5. Ensured the working environment was private and secure

### Hygiene and sterilisation – 5 marks (1 mark each)

The learner:

1. Wiped over equipment and accessories with appropriate sanitiser before, during and after use
2. Sanitised hands before, during and after treatment as appropriate and applied sterile gloves
3. Replaced lids on products and removed products hygienically and safely
4. Disposed of general and contaminated treatment waste hygienically and appropriately
5. Maintained and sanitised working area and equipment appropriately, and used and stored small equipment appropriately

## Consultation – 5 marks (1 mark each)

The learner:

1. Demonstrated a variety of consultation techniques and discussed the management of pain relief options (as appropriate)
2. Identified the client's medical history, pre-treatment skincare, lifestyle and aims of treatment
3. Checked patch test results, recognised any contra-indications and took appropriate actions
4. Established the condition and health of the skin and carried out a skin sensitivity test
5. Obtained signed informed consent and finalised and agreed the treatment plan

## Advanced skin assessment – 10 marks (1 mark each)

The learner:

1. Ensure the client's skin is clean, sanitised, dry and prepared for the advanced skin needling procedure
2. Used appropriate skin diagnostic equipment
3. Performed a full skin assessment and identified the condition and health of the skin
4. Identified the client's skin type, skin conditions and skin characteristics
5. Carried out thermal and tactile tests to the area(s) being treated and recorded outcomes
6. Discussed client's primary and secondary skin concerns
7. Identified factors which may limit or affect the desired outcome
8. Checked treatment area for contra-indications that may restrict, prevent or require medical referral
9. Took pre-treatment visual media records
10. Carried out all preparation in a commercially acceptable time

## Advanced skin needling treatment – 20 marks (2 marks each)

The learner:

1. Demonstrated the correct preparation of the area including the use of a topical anaesthetic if appropriate, following manufacturer's instructions and medicines guidelines
2. Selected the appropriate skin needling device, removed it hygienically from its sterile, sealed container and noted on treatment records
3. Selected the appropriate skin needling product(s) to meet the client's needs and treatment objectives and noted on treatment records
4. Selected the correct application techniques for the area(s) to be treated in line with treatment outcomes and objectives
5. Calculated the correct duration and intensity of the application
6. Verbally communicated with the client ensuring comfort was maintained throughout the treatment
7. Monitored skin response and noted clinical end points
8. Concluded the treatment in an appropriate manner including the application of post treatment products in line with manufacturer protocols
9. Worked and completed the treatment in a commercially acceptable time
10. Took post treatment visual media records and stored in compliance with data protection legislation

## Advanced skin needling treatment technique – 35 marks (see below)

The learner:

1. Combined and adapted application techniques as appropriate to each area and to meet the client's needs and treatment objectives (5 marks)
2. Worked in a methodical and systematic manner ensuring even and accurate coverage, avoiding overlapping and overworking the area (10 marks)
3. Monitored effects of the skin needling procedure, observed the skin and client response, used the 1-10 pain threshold scale throughout the treatment, adapted treatment where necessary and used cooling techniques as required (15 marks)
4. Demonstrated adequate support and manipulation of the skin to all areas, following recommended treatment protocol to ensure an effective treatment (5 marks)

## Post care/homecare – 10 marks (2 marks each)

The learner:

1. Update client records recording advanced skin needling information (needling device, needle size, depth and penetration etc.) and client response (skin sensation, skin response)
2. Informed the client of the short, medium and long-term effects of the treatment
3. Discussed post care requirements including homecare, skincare and recommendations for ongoing treatment with the client
4. Informed client how to manage complications/adverse reactions at home and when to refer to a medical practitioner
5. Obtained client signature to confirm agreement to comply with aftercare and recorded all treatment details in line with organisational requirements and current legislation

## Sample oral questions – 5 marks (1 mark each)

1. Explain the importance of using a preparatory skin care programme
2. What safety precautions should be taken when using needling equipment?
3. How do you determine the needle size and depth?
4. What skin sensations might the client feel during the treatment?
5. How would you determine when to stop the treatment?
6. Why is it important to ensure accuracy of the treatment with skin needling?
7. What specific hygiene procedures should be followed with this treatment?
8. What determines the selection of skin needling application methods?
9. What products and practices are essential to ensure proper healing and prevent complications?
10. How do you manage client expectations?

## Document History

Version	Issue Date	Changes	Role
v1.0	24/07/2025	First published	Development Administrator