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Each month we will highlight a recent DPBRN publication, recent study results, or other important DPBRN information.

## Abstract of DPBRN Publication of the Month

Practices participating in a dental PBRN have substantial and advantageous diversity even though as a group they have much in common with dentists at large. *BMC Oral Health* 2009 Oct 15;9:26-35.

Practice-based research networks offer important opportunities to move recent advances into routine clinical practice. Our objective was to determine whether we met a key objective for DPBRN: to recruit a diverse range of practitioner-investigators interested in doing DPBRN studies. DPBRN participants completed an enrollment questionnaire about their practices and themselves. To date, more than 1100 practitioners from the five participating regions have completed the questionnaire. We tested the hypothesis that there are statistically significant differences in key characteristics among DPBRN practices, based on responses from dentists who participated in DPBRN's first network-wide study (n = 546). There were statistically significant, substantive regional differences among DPBRN-participating dentists, their practices, and their patient populations. Although as a group, participants have much in common with practices at large; their substantial diversity offers important advantages, such as being able to evaluate how practice differences may affect treatment outcomes, while simultaneously offering generalizability to dentists at large. [Click here to read the entire article.](#)

## DPBRN Study Results

Network-wide results from DPBRN Study "Reasons for placing the first restoration on permanent tooth surfaces" are now available. Practitioner-specific results will be mailed shortly to those who participated in this study. [Click here to view the results!](#)

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