



Dental Practice-Based Research Network
www.DentalPBRN.org

DPBRN Newsletter

Summer 2011

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Welcome to the Dental PBRN quarterly newsletter! We invite you to see other details at our website, DentalPBRN.org. You can also view the projects for which we are currently recruiting practitioners, as well as suggest and view new research ideas. When you visit our website you can complete your online training course that will provide the foundation for you to begin on a project if you have not already done so.

DPBRN continues to be extraordinarily active and productive, as this edition of the newsletter demonstrates - thanks to all of our practitioner-investigators!

News Items

Network-wide results of DPBRN study "Prevalence of questionable occlusal caries lesions" are now available

The network-wide results for the DPBRN study, "Prevalence of questionable occlusal caries lesions", are now available with individual results mailed out to participating practitioners. The aims of this study are to (1) quantify the prevalence of questionable occlusal carious lesions in permanent teeth in the first 100 consecutive eligible patients of DPBRN practitioner-investigators; (2a) for unopened questionable occlusal carious lesions, to test the hypothesis that the patient's baseline caries risk is significantly associated with lesion description (i.e., perceived caries status); and (2b) for opened questionable occlusal carious lesions, to test the hypothesis that the patient's baseline caries risk is significantly associated with caries depth.

These aims were met by enrolling 82 practitioner-investigators, each of whom recorded information about 100 consecutive patients and 25-50 consecutive questionable early occlusal caries lesions on a 2-page questionnaire. The study recorded the reason why these occlusal lesions were questionable, the tools used to diagnose the lesions, the reason why a certain treatment was rendered, and the depth of the lesions when treated operatively.

Please visit

<http://www.dpbrn.org/> (under the "News" tab) to see the detailed report, overall and by region and to see graphical presentation of study findings, also overall and by region.

We hope that you find these results to be interesting. Thank you for your participation!

Follow us on these networks:



Mission Statement

"To improve oral health by conducting dental practice-based research and by serving dental professionals through education and collegiality".



DPBRN is an effort to help dental professionals directly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of dental care. Essentially, it is research done about and in the "real world" of daily clinical practice.

DPBRN featured in NNOHA Newsletter

The National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) featured a testimonial of DPBRN practitioner-investigator Dr. Adolphus Jackson, of Birmingham, AL in its Spring 2011 quarterly newsletter.

Please visit <http://www.dpbrn.org/> (under the "News" tab) to view the article.

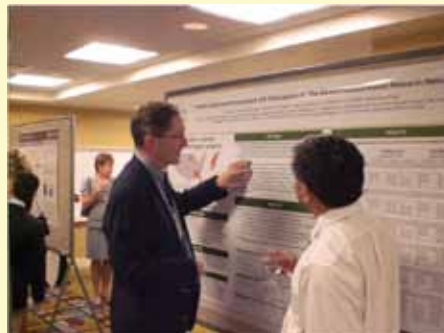
DPBRN presents posters at PBRN National Research Conference

DPBRN presented three posters at the 2011 annual Practice-Based Research Networks National Research Conference June 22-24, 2011, in Bethesda, Maryland. This is an annual research conference of PBRNs sponsored by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

The three DPBRN posters were entitled: (1) "Regional variation in information use by Dental PBRN practitioners"; (2) "Practice improvement associated with Dental PBRN participation", and (3) "Characteristics of questionable tooth decay lesions: findings from The Dental Practice-Based Research Network". In addition to presenting these three posters, DPBRN was discussed as a model for inter-professional research collaborations during a plenary presentation by Dr. Michael Harrington, Director of the Alabama Primary Care Research Collaborative entitled "Collaborations: The Experience of Three PBRNs".

Mainly in attendance are persons involved in medical primary care PBRNs. However, a DPBRN representative has attended this annual meeting each year since 2004.

To view the meeting's web site and agenda please visit <http://pbrn.ahrq.gov/>.



Dr. Gregg Gilbert, DPBRN Network Director, explains a point to Dr. Alvin Wee, Director of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at Creighton University School of Dentistry.



The poster hall at the conference was very busy and well-attended.



Dr. Alvin Wee, Director of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics at Creighton University School of Dentistry and Dr. Peter Gerngross, Director of VADER (Veteran Affairs Dentists Engaged in Research), the VA dental PBRN, discuss one of the posters.



Dental PBRN colleagues in the poster hall

From left to right are: Dr. Michael Harrington, Director of the Alabama Primary Care Research Collaborative; Dr. Gregg Gilbert, DPBRN Network Director; Ms. Holly Hayes, Associate Director of the PBRN Resource Center at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; and Dr. Naoki Kakudate, Director of "DPBRN Japan". To our knowledge, Dr. Kakudate is the conference's first attendee from outside North America since it began in 2002.

Communication from NIDCR about practitioner-investigators in The National Dental PBRN

NIDCR asked that we forward this message:

NIDCR is strongly committed to engaging a diverse and an expanded body of dental practitioners in the future National Dental Practice-based Research Network. Please be assured that practitioners currently engaged in NIDCR funded practice-based research will have a vital and essential role in the future National Dental PBRN. NIDCR has provided a link to important information for PBRN practitioners on the NIDCR website.

To view this information, please visit

<http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/>. Please do not hesitate to contact your PBRN Director or Don DeNucci (denuccid@nidcr.nih.gov) at NIDCR if you have any additional questions pertaining to your role in the National Dental PBRN.

DPBRN presenting at the Alabama Academy of General Dentistry 38th Annual Annual Review of Dentistry Conference

DPBRN will be giving presentations at the Alabama Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) conference held September 8-10, 2011 in Destin, FL. The topics covered include: "Upcoming National Dental Practice-Based Research Network: Why it will benefit your practice", "Regional differences in diagnosing questionable occlusal caries lesions", "CONDOR study of Osteonecrosis of the jaws", "Reasons for replacement or repair of restorations", and "Patient satisfaction with dental restorations".

To find out more information, please visit the Alabama AGD website (<http://www.alagd.org/>).

Testimonial

My staff and I participated in DPBRN studies "Perioperative Pain and Root Canal Therapy" and the "Persistent Pain and Root Canal Therapy". This was my first DPBRN study and it was a good experience. The study data packets were well organized and after the first couple of patients data collection went along smoothly. Participation rate for this study was good and I look forward to learning the study results. I am especially interested in being able to compare the findings from our practice to other practices. I hope that this study and others like it help to improve the quality of dental care. My staff and I look forward to participating in future DPBRN studies.



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Florida/Georgia: Deborah McEdward RDH, BS or Pearl Ann Harris, RDH, BASDH, Education/Training Coordinators for DPBRN, Department of Operative Dentistry at the College of Dentistry, Gainesville, FL.

Kaiser Permanente: Lisa Ann Waiwaiole MS, Research Associate for Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research (CHR), or Gail Morgan, Project Manager for Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research (CHR).

Minnesota: Emily Durand RDH, RF or Heather Weidner at HealthPartners.

Scandinavia: Pia Nørrisgaard RDH or Lene Fabricius-Bekker RDH.

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