

Table 1. Selected findings from the first 1,086 enrollees in the Dental PBRN ^a

Characteristic	% distribution or mean (S.D.)	Typical fee (\$) for a ...	
Practice arrangement		Single uncomplicated extraction (ADA 7110)	73.6 (20.4)
Employed by another dentist	6%	2-surface amalgam (ADA 2150)	80.5 (17.1)
Self-employed, no partners, no cost-sharing	65%	3-canal molar root canal (ADA 3330)	551.8 (89.7)
Self-employed, no partners, with cost-sharing	4%	Porcelain crown (ADA 2750, 2751, 2752)	578.8 (94.4)
Self-employed as a partner	12%	Full denture (ADA 5110 or 5120)	837.7 (356.3)
Other	13%	Cast partial denture (ADA 5213 or 5214)	861.3 (253.7)
Full-time personnel in practice		% procedures you refer to other dentists ... ^b	
# full-time hygienists	1.5 (1.5)	Prosthetic crowns/bridges (not implants)	3.5 (13.8)
# full-time dental assistants	2.0 (2.5)	Removable partial dentures	5.5 (18.7)
# full-time laboratory technicians	0.2 (0.6)	Full dentures	16.4 (32.9)
# full-time other office personnel	1.8 (2.0)	Non-surgical extractions	19.8 (32.4)
Part-time personnel in practice		Implant restorations	26.2 (41.9)
# part-time hygienists	0.5 (0.9)	Anterior tooth root canals	23.3 (38.7)
# part-time dental assistants	0.4 (0.9)	Surgical extractions	55.3 (38.5)
# part-time laboratory technicians	0.0 (0.2)	Molar tooth root canals	59.0 (41.6)
# part-time other office personnel	0.4 (0.8)	Endodontic surgery	87.7 (28.5)
% age group of patients in practice		Periodontal surgery	86.7 (27.9)
1-18 years old	23.8 (24.8)	Implant surgery	92.4 (23.3)
19-44 years old	28.2 (13.9)	Orthodontics	93.0 (21.0)
45-64 years old	30.8 (14.9)	% patients who get the service at some time while they are in your practice ... ^b	
65+ years old	16.9 (12.6)	In-office whitening	4.5 (7.7)
% racial/ethnic distribution of patients		Intraoral photographs taken	14.6 (25.4)
White, not of Hispanic/Latino origin	69.6 (20.2)	Patient education from videos or slides	15.2 (28.6)
Black/AA, not of Hispanic/Latino origin	21.8 (17.8)	Intraoral video images taken	14.7 (26.8)
Hispanic or Latino	4.6 (6.6)	At-home whitening	18.0 (18.3)
Asian or Pacific Islander descent	3.1 (3.9)	Diet counseling	28.9 (32.7)
Other	1.0 (6.0)	Fluoride gel/rinse for home use	29.9 (25.7)
% practice revenues, by source		Blood pressure screening	33.9 (35.9)
Dental insurance	55.6 (23.2)	Patient education from written pamphlets	37.7 (32.7)
Self-pay	38.0 (23.1)	In-office fluoride application	49.6 (30.6)
Unpaid bills	4.4 (5.8)	Oral cancer screening examination	92.2 (20.0)
Other	3.6 (14.0)	Oral hygiene instruction	91.2 (17.8)
Practice busy-ness		Dental x-rays	96.1 (10.2)
Too busy to treat all who request appointments	10%	% patient contact time you spend doing... ^b	
Provided care to all, but practice over-burdened	17%	Procedures for esthetic reasons	22.4 (20.8)
Provided care to all, but practice not over-burdened	54%	Procedures for non-esthetic reasons	76.4 (22.2)
Not busy enough	19%	# root canals each month that you do or refer	16.3 (22.8)
% patient contact time you spend doing... ^b		# dental extractions each mo. you do or refer	39.3 (60.1)
Implants (prosth. & surgical implant procedures)	1.6 (5.3)	Member of dental organizations ...	
Periodontal therapy (surgical and non-surgical) ^c	2.6 (5.3)	American Dental Association	84%
Endodontic therapy (surgical and non-surgical)	8.8 (10.1)	Academy of General Dentistry ^b	49%
Removable prosthetics (full & partial dentures)	9.3 (10.0)	Other dental organizations	49%
Extractions (surgical & non-surgical)	10.5 (11.2)		
Other (sealants, exam, preventive, diagnostic)	10.6 (12.4)		
Non-implant restorative	58.6 (19.2)		

^a Not all findings are shown here because some characteristics appear in Table 2 to make comparisons to dentists nationally.

^b Although all answered, analyses here are limited to general dentists.

^c For this and all questions, we queried the time that the dentists spends doing the procedure; this does not include hygienists' time.

Table 2. Comparison of U.S. dentists with the first 1,086 Dental PBRN enrollees (PBRN includes some Scandinavian dentists)

Characteristic	% or mean (S.D.) for U.S. dentists in 2000	% or mean (S.D.) among Dental PBRN dentists
Type of practice		
Generalist	80%	76%
Specialist	20%	24%
Age (years)	50.3	48.3
Gender		
Male	86%	86%
Female	14%	14%
Racial/ethnic identification of dentist		
White, not of Hispanic origin	86%	92%
Black/AA, not of Hispanic origin	3%	4%
All other	11%	4%
Graduation year *		
Before 1970	24%	27%
1970 to 1979	31%	26%
1980 to 1989	31%	28%
1990 or later	15%	19%
Hours spent in direct patient care each week	32.7 (7.4)	32.2 (7.0)
# operatory chairs used	4.5 (2.9)	4.4 (2.3)
Visit scheduling		
% visits scheduled more than a day in advance	91%	90%
Less than one day/emergency/urgent care	9%	10%
% patient contact time you spend doing...		
Periodontal therapy (surgical & non-surgical)	6.0 (13.0)	5.6 (15.3)
Endodontic therapy (surgical & non-surgical)	8.5 (14.2)	11.6 (20.2)
Waiting time in your practice		
# days for a new patient examination	10.5 (12.2)	8.4 (12.0)
# days for a treatment procedure	9.2 (10.2)	9.6 (14.9)
# minutes in waiting room after arriving	8.1 (7.5)	9.9 (8.4)
# practices at which you provide care		
One	90%	86%
Two	8%	11%
Three or more	2%	3%
Age group of patients in practice		
65+ years old	18%	17%
Insurance coverage by patients in practice		
Covered by a private insurance program	64.9%	60.0%
Covered by a public program	4.9%	10.5%
Not covered by any program	30.3%	27.1%
# patient visits dentist has each week	62.3 (45.6)	58.3 (47.5)

* Dental PRBN dentists in this comparison were limited to those who graduated in 1998 or earlier because only these would have been eligible for the ADA survey.