



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

DPBRN News Item

DPBRN presentation to DMD students at University of Florida College of Dentistry: "Learning about practice-based research collaborations with practitioners-investigators"

The Florida/Georgia site of the Dental Practice-Based Research Network in conjunction with Dr. Shannon Wallet, hosted a presentation and reception, on October 19th. Forty-one students from the dental research elective class and members of the student research group of the American Dental Research Association participated in the event. The University of Florida, College of Dentistry has inaugurated a research elective class. The College's vision has a strong research emphasis that incorporates The DPBRN both externally, with private practitioners, and internally, with development of a research curriculum for students. The event inaugurated active interaction between students in a research curriculum and dental practitioners in private and public health practices who are engaged in DPBRN research. Changing curriculum to incorporate new research findings is one of the fastest methods of disseminating new findings into the dental practice environment and thereby benefiting the health of the population.

The presentation provided an overview of The DPBRN, giving the students background information on the NIH initiative to establish practice-based research in dentistry and the formation of the dental PBRN's. A description of the process, by principal-investigator Dr. Valeria Gordan and the research coordinator Deborah McEdward, showed how practitioners are engaged in each step of the process from study conception to publication and presentation of results. Students were interested in the range of studies that The DPBRN has been involved in over the past 6 years, both in variety of topics and types of studies, as well as their integration in a patient setting.

Two practitioner-investigators, Dr. Anibal Torres, in private practice in Clermont FL, and Dr. Gary Lease, staff dentist at South Lake Community

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Health Center in Groveland FL, were also speakers at the event. Students were eager to interact with both practitioners. We were encouraged by the enthusiastic response from the student audience.



Dr. Valeria Gordan presented background information on the NIH initiative to establish research in practice-based research in dentistry and the formation of the dental PBRN's.



Dr. Anibal Torres, DPBRN practitioner-investigator from Clermont, FL spoke about The DPBRN to the students.



Dr. Gary Lease, practitioner-investigator from Groveland, FL speaking with a student after the presentation.



Drs. Lease and Torres spoke to the students about The DPBRN.



Dr. Torres spoke with students after the presentation.

DPBRN's vision is that every graduating student appreciates the importance of science in everyday clinical practice. It sees a future in which research and quality improvement are done on a routine basis in everyday clinical practice just because this is what we do as a profession. We also want graduating students to feel empowered to lead evidence-based dentistry and DPBRN efforts in local communities and on a broader level.