

DPBRN Monthly E-Update January 2010

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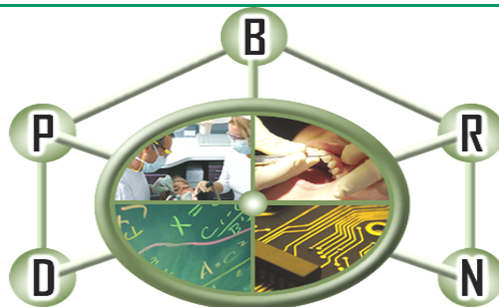
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Each month we will highlight a recent DPBRN publication, recent study results, or other important DPBRN information.

Abstract of DPBRN Publication of the Month

How Dentists Diagnose and Treat Defective Restorations: Evidence from The Dental Practice-Based Research Network *Oper Dent* 2009 34(6); 664-673.

The objectives of this paper were to: (1) identify and quantify the types of treatment that dentists use to manage defective dental restorations and (2) identify characteristics that are associated with these dentists' decisions to replace existing restorations. A questionnaire was sent to all DPBRN practitioner-investigators who reported doing some restorative dentistry. Questions included clinical case scenarios that used text and clinical photographs of defective restorations. Dentists were asked what type of treatment, if any, they would use in each scenario. Treatment options ranged from no treatment to full replacement of the restoration with or without different preventive treatment options. A total of 65% of the dentists would replace a composite restoration when the defective margin was located on dentin and 49% would repair when the defective margin was located on enamel. Dentists who do not routinely assess caries risk during treatment planning were more likely to intervene surgically and less likely to choose prevention treatment. Dentists were more likely to intervene surgically when the restoration was an existing composite, compared to an amalgam restoration. [Click here to read the entire article.](#)

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