

In This Issue

[Publication of the Month](#)

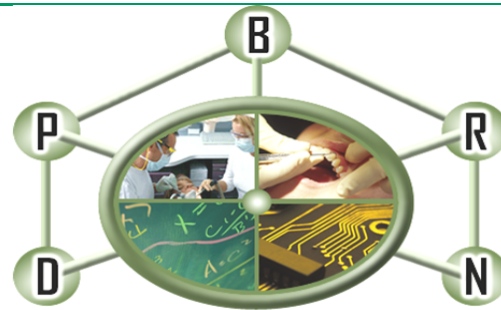
Quick Links

[DPBRN Web Site](#)

[Publication of the Month](#)

Join Our Mailing List

Email:



Dental Practice-Based Research Network
www.DentalPBRN.org

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

Abstract of DPBRN Publication of the Month

Restorative treatment thresholds for interproximal primary caries based on radiographic images: findings from the Dental Practice-Based Research Network *Gen Dent* 2009 Nov-Dec;57(6):654-63

The November/December issue of *General Dentistry* features an article entitled "Restorative treatment thresholds for interproximal primary caries based on radiographic images: findings from the Dental Practice-Based Research Network". The purpose of this article was to quantify the depths of proximal caries lesions that lead dentists in regular clinical practice to intervene restoratively, based on hypothetical scenarios that included both radiographic images and patient background information. This article also identified characteristics associated with restorative intervention in early enamel lesions. Dentists were asked to indicate the depth at which they would restore a lesion, based on a series of radiographic images depicting interproximal caries at increasing lesion depths in a mandibular premolar with two caries risk scenarios: one involving a patient with low caries risk and another involving a patient at higher risk. For a high caries risk patient, 66% of respondents indicated that they would restore a proximal enamel lesion, while 24% would do so once the lesion had reached into the outer third of the dentin. For a low caries risk patient, 39% of respondents reported that they would restore an enamel lesion, and 54% would do so once the lesion had reached into the outer third of the dentin. Dentists in large group practices were less likely to intervene surgically for enamel caries, regardless of patient's caries risk. [Click here to read the entire article.](#)