



Dental Practice-Based Research Network
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Each month we highlight a recent DPBRN publication, recent study results, or other important DPBRN information.

DPBRN News Item

Sixth annual meeting for Permanente Dental Associates DPBRN practitioner-investigators

Permanente Dental Associates (PDA) held its 6th annual regional meeting of DPBRN practitioner-investigators on October 1st, 2011 in Portland, Oregon. This was one of the best attended DPBRN annual meetings for the region, with close to 60 PDA dentists gathering on a Saturday in the Kaiser Permanente Town Hall Ballroom.

Dr. Dan Pihlstrom, the PDA region's DPBRN Executive Committee member, once again emceed and kept the meeting moving at an engaging pace. Dr. Don DeNucci, Program Officer at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), shared NIDCR's perspective about the future of practice-based research networks, emphasizing the crucial role that practicing clinicians will play in that future. Dr. Michael Hazel, a practicing dentist from West Linn, Oregon and a member of the PRECEDENT dental PBRN, shared study results from the PRECEDENT practice-based research network. He talked about a computer-assisted relaxation program in treating patients with a fear of dental injections, as well as results from a study on third molar extractions. Ms. Lisa Waiwaiole, Research Associate at the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research, shared the region's results from the DPBRN study about 18-month follow-up of restorations placed on permanent tooth surfaces. Finally, Dr. Gregg Gilbert, DPBRN National Director, presented results from the DPBRN study about patient satisfaction with dental restorations. Each presentation was followed by opportunities for questions and answers.

More opportunities for practitioner discussion came during breakout

sessions, where four PDA dentists led small groups in discussing relevant topics from DPBRN studies. Dr. Ethan Kaufman led the session discussing key results from the blood glucose testing in dental practice study. Dr. Ernest Meshack-Hart discussed with other attending PDA dentists the results of the DPBRN study about questionable occlusal caries lesions. Dr. John Hill led the discussion about patient satisfaction with dental restorations and Dr. Raul Amador led the group discussing the impact of participation in practice-based research on clinical practice and patient care.

Six dentists received framed DPBRN certificates for their participation in the "Peri-operative and Persistent Pain and Root Canal Therapy study".

The PDA region continues to be a highly successful group of practitioner-investigators, and they look forward to the new National Dental PBRN phase that will begin in 2012.



Dr. Ethan Kaufman led the session discussing key results from the blood glucose testing in dental practice study.



Drs. Larson Floor and Samuel Gottlieb enjoying themselves at the meeting.

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The entire group of attendees.



Dr. Raul Amador led the group discussing the impact of participation in practice-based research on clinical practice and patient care.



Dr. John Hill led the discussion about patient satisfaction with dental restorations.



Dr. Kaufman and his group discussing the blood glucose study.



Dr. Dan Pihlstrom giving the closing remarks at the meeting.