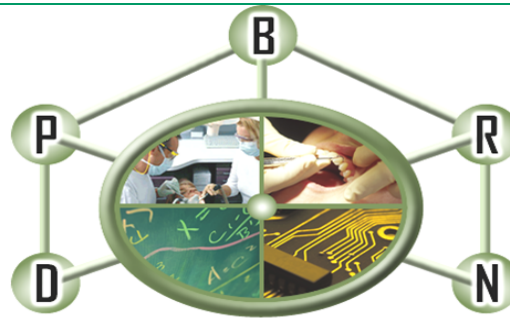


In This Issue

[Publication of the Month](#)

Quick Links

[DPBRN Web Site](#)[Publication of the Month](#)

Dental Practice-Based Research Network
www.DentalPBRN.org

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

Abstract of DPBRN Publication of the Month

General practitioners' use of caries-preventive agents in adult patients versus pediatric patients: findings from The Dental Practice-Based Research Network. J Am Dent Assoc 2010;141(6): 679-687

The June 2010 issue of *Journal of the American Dental Association* features an article entitled "General practitioners' use of caries-preventive agents in adult patients versus pediatric patients: findings from The Dental Practice-Based Research Network ". The purpose of this study was to test the frequency of dentists' recommendations for and use of caries-preventive agents for children as compared with adults. This was done by surveying 467 general dentists in The DPBRN who practice within the United States and treat both pediatric and adult patients. They asked dentists to identify the percentage of their patients for whom they had administered or recommended dental sealants, in-office and at-home fluoride, chlorhexidine rinse and xylitol gum. The results showed that dentists were less likely to provide adult patients than pediatric patients with in-office caries-preventive agents. However, the rate at which they recommended at-home preventive regimens for the two groups of patients was similar. Dentists with a conservative approach to caries treatment were the most likely to use and recommend the use of caries-preventive agents at similar rates in adults as in children. In addition, dentists in practices with a greater number of patients who had dental insurance were significantly more likely to provide in-office fluoride or sealants to adult patients than to pediatric patients. The study concluded that general dentists use in-office caries-preventive agents more commonly with their pediatric patients than with their adult patients. General dentists should consider providing additional in-office caries-preventive agents for their adult patients who are at increased risk of experiencing dental caries.