



DPBRN Newsletter Spring 2010

In This Issue

[News Items](#)

[Studies Update](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Mission Statement

"To improve oral health by conducting dental practice-based research and by serving dental professionals through education and collegiality".



DPBRN is an effort to help dental professionals directly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of dental care. Essentially, it is research done about and in the "real world" of daily clinical practice.

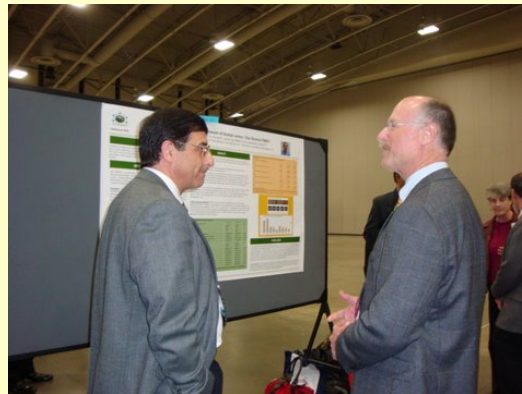
Welcome to the Dental PBRN quarterly newsletter! We invite you to see other details at our website, <http://www.DentalPBRN.org>. You can also view the projects for which we are currently recruiting practitioners, as well as suggest and view new research ideas. When you visit our website you can complete your online training course that will provide the foundation for you to begin on a project if you have not already done so.

DPBRN continues to be extraordinarily active and productive, as this edition of the newsletter demonstrates - thanks to all of our practitioner-investigators!

News Items

DPBRN posters and presentations at AADR meeting in Washington, DC

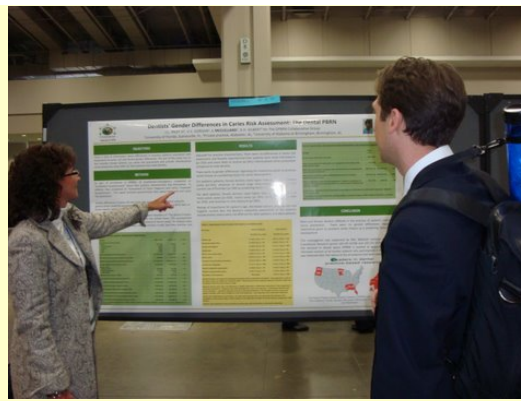
DPBRN was well-represented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Dental Research in Washington, DC March 2-5, 2010. DPBRN had multiple abstracts, given as oral presentations or posters, which garnered a lot of interest in our network. Congratulations to all the presenters for a job well done!



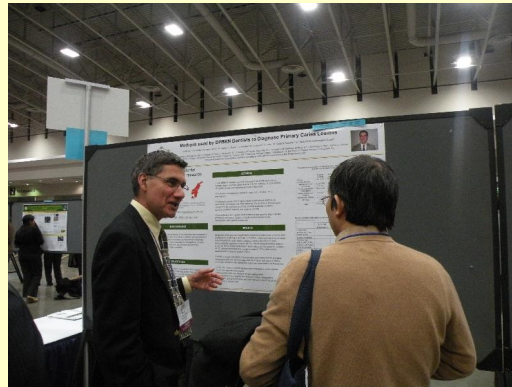
Dr. Craig Ajmo, practitioner-investigator from Dunedin, FL, discusses his poster with Dr. Joe Riley, from the University of Florida.



Some have referred to much of dental research conducted to date as "scientifically valid, statistically significant, but clinically useless". We would like to change that.



Dr. Jocelyn McClelland, practitioner-investigator from Birmingham, AL discusses her poster.



Dr. Brad Rindal, Investigator at HealthPartners, discusses his poster.

Annual meeting of the Alabama/Mississippi region of DPBRN practitioner-investigators

Alabama and Mississippi DPBRN practitioner-investigators held their annual meeting April 9-10, 2010 at the Renaissance Ross Bridge Golf Resort and Spa in Hoover, AL. A total of 85 persons attended, including more than 70 practitioner-investigators. During the reception, practitioner-investigators were able to view recent DPBRN research posters and related materials. Dr. Gregg Gilbert, DPBRN Network Chair, gave an update on DPBRN's latest activities and how practitioner-investigators are actively participating in the publication and dissemination process. Dr. Donald DeNucci of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, one of the institutes of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, presented important background information on dental PBRNs as well as the future of dental PBRNs, and provided a national perspective for the conference.

Dr. Gerald Anderson, a practitioner-investigator from Selma, AL, and representative of the AL/MS region on the DPBRN Executive Committee, presented results from the May 2008 DPBRN Network-wide meeting held in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Patrick Foy, a practitioner-investigator from Minneapolis, MN and representative of the MN region of the DPBRN Executive Committee, presented his journey from being a skeptic of the PBRN concept to being a fervent advocate. Dr. Allen Kessler, a practitioner-investigator from Fairfield, AL, presented the results of a DPBRN study on the outcomes of root canal treatment.

Attendees also participated in a rotating poster discussion session. Four practitioner-investigators gave five-minute presentations beside their DPBRN poster, followed by a question-and-answer session for 5-10 minutes. The attendees rotated through four DPBRN

research posters. The practitioner-investigators presenting the posters were: Dr. Charles Yarbrough of Mobile, AL; Dr. Rick Redmond of Sylacauga, AL; Dr. Raymond Tso of Wetumpka, AL; and Dr. Jocelyn McClelland of Alabaster, AL.

Attendees separated into 8 small groups to discuss 7 topics: (1) ideas for the future of The DPBRN; (2) DPBRN study "Blood glucose testing in dental practice"; (3) DPBRN study "Hygienists' internet tobacco cessation study"; (4) DPBRN study "Peri-operative pain and root canal therapy"; (5) DPBRN study "Prevalence of questionable occlusal caries lesions"; (6) DPBRN possible study "Permanent restoration or sealant for occlusal caries (PROSOC); and (7) DPBRN possible study "Saliva and oral health". When the groups re-convened to summarize their discussions, the information from each breakout session was thought-provoking. Thanks to all attendees for putting so much energy into the breakout sessions! Thanks also to the 8 DPBRN practitioner-investigators who led each of the 8 groups (Drs. Gerry Walker of Trussville, AL, George Allen of Mobile, AL, Randall Palmore of Pinson, AL, Mary T. Wallace of Rainbow City, AL, Emery Cole of Sumiton, AL, Roberto Pischek of Robertsdale, AL, Wendy Holder of Alexander City, AL, and Jared Murrell of Warrior and Gardendale, AL).

Practitioner-investigators were very interested in future opportunities to discuss practice-based research with practitioners from the other DPBRN regions and to compare procedures and outcomes. Overall, based on evaluation forms completed by the attendees, the event was a big success and provided a fun opportunity to share information about ongoing and planned studies. Many thanks to DPBRN staff for their hard work, as well as to all of the practitioner-investigators, for making the AL/MS meeting a great success!



During the reception, recent DPBRN research posters were on display for attendees to view.



Dr. Charles Yarbrough of Mobile, AL, gave a presentation as part of the rotating discussion session.



Dr. Rick Redmond, of Sylacauga, AL, also gave a presentation as part of the rotating discussion session.



Attendees participated in small break-out groups to discuss different topics. This group was discussing ideas for future DPBRN projects and was led by Dr. Gerry Walker of Trussville, AL.



Several attendees were presented with certificates for completion of a DPBRN study. Pictured from left to right are: Sherry Sutphin, Regional Coordinator for the AL/MS region; Dr. Warren Arrasmith of Bessemer, AL; Dr. Adolphus Jackson of Birmingham, AL; Dr. Randy Harvell of Huntsville, AL; Dr. Wilson Wright of Birmingham, AL; Dr. Robert Rives of Jackson, MS; Dr. Jerome Scales of Birmingham, AL; and Jackie Love, Regional Coordinator of the AL/MS region.

Studies Update

- **Longitudinal study of dental restorations placed on previously unrestored surfaces**
Data collection has been ongoing since 2008 and is anticipated to end in 2011 for most practices.
- **Longitudinal study of reasons for repair or replacement of dental restorations**
Data collection is currently underway and is expected to be completed at the last practice in early 2012.
- **Prevalence of questionable occlusal caries lesions**
Data collection is complete and data analysis is currently underway.
- **Peri-operative pain and root canal therapy**
Pilot testing in the Minnesota region is complete. Recruitment in two regions is already underway and IRB approval applications have been submitted in the other regions.
- **Blood sugar testing in the dental practice**
Data collection is complete in all US regions and the Scandinavian region is expected to finish in late April.

Contact Us

Alabama/Mississippi: Andi H. Mathews BS, RDH at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Florida/Georgia: Deborah McEdward RDH, BS or Pearl Ann Harris, RDH, BASDH, Education/Training Coordinators for DPBRN, Department of Operative Dentistry at the College of Dentistry, Gainesville, FL.

Kaiser Permanente: Lisa Ann Waiwaiole MS, Research Associate for Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research (CHR), or Gail Morgan Project Manager for Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research (CHR).

Minnesota: Emily Durand RDH, RF or Heather Weidner at HealthPartners.

Scandinavia: Pia Nørrisgaard or Lene Fabricius-Bekker RDH.