INTRODUCTION TO:
The National Dental Practice-Based Research Network

The nation’s network
Objectives of the orientation presentation

• Describe practice-based research
• Discuss the goals of the National Network
• List the levels of participation
• Explain the organizational structure and study development
• Identify some rules and regulations regarding participation
• Describe the benefits of enrollment
• Learn what to expect next from the network
• Introduce the National and Southwest Region staff
Where are PBRNs in the Research “Pipeline?”

Academic Health Center:

- Basic Research
  - Bench
- Bedside
  - Bookshelf
- Community
  - Practice-Based Research
Research Cycle

Identify knowledge gap

Systematic search for adequate answer

Generate and clarify study question

Design Study

Collect data

Analyze and interpret results

Implement in practice
Collaboration is Key!

- Identify knowledge gap
- Systematic search for adequate answer
- Generate and clarify study question
- Design Study
- Collect data
- Analyze and interpret results
- Implement in practice

Practitioners
What is a **dental practice-based research network (PBRN)**?

- A group of dental practices that has affiliated to investigate research questions and to engage in sharing experiences and expertise.

- Designed to gather *real world* evidence for the prevention and treatment of oral diseases.
How is PBRN research different from other types of research?

- Laboratory research
- Clinical trials in academic settings
- Practice-based research
- Community-based research
Rigorous but not relevant
Finally, a new era for oral health research!

Laboratory studies and clinical trials in academic settings can be ...

- Well designed
- Scientifically sound
- Statistically significant
- Impractical for a busy clinical practice
A knowledge explosion

THE LATEST RESEARCH SHOWS THAT WE REALLY SHOULD DO SOMETHING WITH ALL THIS RESEARCH

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“If we want more evidence-based practice, we need more practice-based evidence.”
—Lawrence W. Green, DrPH

References
Funding for the network

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research is the federal government’s lead agency for scientific research on oral, dental, and craniofacial health and disease. NIDCR is one of the National Institutes of Health in the US Department of Health & Human Services.
NIDCR funded 3 networks from 2005-2012 to start dental practice-based research
Dental Practice-Based Research Network
The three networks participated and collaborated in joint studies.
With the success of each of the three networks, and the power of the CONDOR collaboration, NIDCR decided to fund a consolidated initiative for the next 7 years.
The National Dental PBRN Regions

Western Region
Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research

Midwest Region
HealthPartners Institute for Education & Research

Northeast Region
University of Rochester
Rochester, New York

South Atlantic Region
University of Florida

Southwest Region
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

South Central Region
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Practitioners are engaged at every step of the research process

- Generating ideas for studies
- Developing study design
- Designing data collection forms
- Feasibility testing
- Pilot testing
Practitioners are engaged at every step of the research process

- Data collection
- Data analysis
- Presentations
  - Local
  - Regional
  - National
- Manuscript preparation
Enrollment

National Dental PBRN
Completed Enrollment Questionnaires
(Cumulative through February 2, 2013)

- Dentists: n=1,467
- Hygienists: n=451
- Non-Pract.: n=175

Total = 2093

5,000!
## Enrollment by Region

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<td>1467</td>
<td>451</td>
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Our Mission

To improve oral health by conducting dental practice-based research and by serving dental professionals through education and collegiality.
Practical science done about, in, and for the benefit of real world clinical practice.
Participation

• 3 levels of participation
  1. Informational - receive newsletters and correspondence
  2. Limited - participate in survey type of studies
  3. Full - participate in clinical studies

• You decide which studies you want to participate in
A precious national resource

• The first **source** for what works, when, and for whom

• **Instrumental** in doing studies that have a great **clinical impact** by improving dental care and oral health in routine clinical practice.

• providing enhanced opportunities for professional **collaboration**

• Enhancing the patients and the **public view** of dentistry as a profession committed to contributing to the their well being through in-office research and quality improvement
The main decision-making body of the network

- Majority voting authority lies with the six practitioner-investigator representatives

- Additional voting members are...
  - National Network Director
  - Coordinating Center Director

- NIDCR program official is non-voting *ex officio*
Executive Committee

**South Central Region**
Dr. George Allen
Mobile, AL

**Midwest Region**
Dr. Vanessa Burton
Minneapolis, MN

**Northeast Region**
Dr. William Calnon
Chili, NY

**Western Region**
Dr. Walter Manning
Albany, OR

**South Atlantic Region**
Dr. George Ford
Atlanta, GA

**Southwest Region**
Dr. Claudia Cavazos
Laredo, TX
"In the short amount of time I have been involved with the EC, I have become very familiar with the concept of practice-based research. I have learned a lot and my interest in research data has increased. The group is extremely organized and is focused on bringing practical data that dentists can use on a day to day basis."

Claudia Cavazos
Laredo, TX
Eligibility criteria to serve as a regional representative on the committee:

- licensed practitioner in daily or regular practice
- general dentist or hygienist who sees patients in a general practice setting
- has participated in at least one clinical study
- access to email, able to receive attachments via email, and willing to communicate via email on a regular basis
- able to participate in regularly-scheduled meetings held by teleconference/videoconference and an annual face-to-face meeting at locations throughout the U.S.
Steering Committee

• Decides how best to implement the decisions made by the Executive Committee

• Voting members are the...
  • National Network Director
  • Coordinating Center Director
  • Director of each of the six Regions

• Deputy Director of each Region and a Regional Coordinators Group representative also attend
Other network-wide entities

**National Network Director**
- Oversees network administration
- University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Coordinating Center**
- Specific scientific and administrative functions
- Westat in Rockville, Maryland

**Publications & Presentations Committee**
- Facilitates and monitors progress of all network presentations and publications
Other network-wide entities

**Communications & Dissemination Committee**
- Oversees communications and dissemination activities
- University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Practitioner Training & Education Component**
- Oversees practitioner training and education activities
- University of Florida

**Study Teams**
- Once a protocol concept has been approved, a Study Team is formed
- This team administers the study from protocol development, to feasibility and pilot testing, data collection, data analysis, and study closure
Institutional Review Boards

- Must **review and approve** all federally funded research in the United States

- Ensure that proper procedures will be used to **protect** the rights and interests of research participants

- Are **associated** with each regional node and the National Network Director’s office
Independent groups of experts charged with monitoring:

- protection of research participants
- compliance with the protocol
- data quality
- study progress
The National Dental PBRN protocol development process (abridged)

Study idea originates from one of several sources →

A 1-2 page concept proposal or abstract is developed →

Executive Committee reviews concept and approves, suggests revision(s), or rejects →

NIDCR concept review →

With NIDCR approval, a Study Team is formed →

Executive Committee approves a full version of the protocol →

Study Team develops draft for Executive Committee review with input from the Steering Committee →

NIDCR Clinical Studies Group evaluates and approves the protocol →

NIDCR Data & Safety Monitoring Board evaluates and approves the protocol →

Regional Institutional Review Boards approve the protocol →

Study Implementation
Rules and regulations linking practitioner-investigators to their regional administrative base

- Each practitioner must be linked to an Institutional Review Board for each study
  
  This is usually done via:
  - An Individual Investigator Agreement
    http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/
  - A study-specific Practitioner Informed Consent if needed

- There must be a contractual agreement to follow regulations
  
  - Fee for Service Agreement/Statement of Work
  - Financial Conflict of Interest
  - Confidentiality

- Practitioners are remunerated for the time involved with the study – not for enrolling patients
All practitioners doing in-office research are required to have:

• **Human Subjects Protection training:**
  This is required by NIH, our funding agency

• **HIPAA** (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) training.

Practitioners who will be participating in in-office research will be provided further information about these requirements.
Training for the Southwest Region members

www.citiprogram.org
Training for the Southwest Region members

Test 291200 (Member ID: 3062148)

CITI Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative

CRF 8705160: Practice Based Research Gradebook

To pass this course you must complete all required modules with a combined score of 70. Your current score is 0.

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Benefits of participating as communicated by practitioner-investigators

Improve....

• The **quality** of dental care by participating in projects

• The **logistics** of daily operations and the delivery of clinical care

• **Team building** for practice staff by engaging the entire staff in the excitement of discovery and quality improvement
Benefits of participating as communicated by practitioner-investigators

Increase, Enhance and Expand…..

• Increase your practice's visibility and stature among dental patients

• Enhance communication with your patients, through your involvement with studies

• Expand the vision for patient care by including a formalized research and quality improvement component
Benefits of participating as communicated by practitioner-investigators

You will receive....

• CE credit for network meetings and activities
• Financial remuneration for research time
• Opportunities to present at local, state, and national dental meetings and research conferences
Benefits of participating as communicated by practitioner-investigators

This network will provide...

• A focus on clinical excellence

• Venues for collegial interactions and exchange of ideas with fellow practitioners

• An opportunity for clinicians to see what is effective in their practices

• A community of learning and camaraderie
What to Expect Next

• Research opportunities will be presented through email, mailings and personal calls. The methods will vary with every study.

• If you are interested in a particular study you will be asked to contact a regional coordinator and they will enroll you into the study and ensure the proper paperwork and training are completed before you begin.
Dissemination of Study Results

- Webinars
- Publications
- Regional and National meetings
- Mail outs
Interact and stay connected

- Attend annual meetings of practitioner-investigators
  - held in each region
  - ‘talk shop’ with fellow practitioners
  - discuss study results
  - participate in long-range planning
  - develop new study ideas
- Give presentations at clinical and research meetings
- Serve on committees or planning entities
- Participate in studies
- Participate in manuscript preparation for publication
National Dental PBRN Webinar September 14, 2012
Earn Free CE Credit

The National Dental PBRN will host a webinar about results from a network study "Prevalence of questionable occlusal caries lesions" and information on a proposed network study "Decision aids for the management of questionable occlusal caries lesions" at 12PM Central time (11M Eastern, 10AM Pacific) on Friday, September 14, 2012.

You will receive 1 hour of CE credit for attending. To register for this free webinar, please click here. Space is limited, so register now!
Interact and stay connected

www.nationaldentalpbrn.org
National Dental PBRN Facebook page
National Dental PBRN on Twitter

NDPBRN (dentalpbrn) on Twitter - Windows Internet Explorer

NDPBRN
@DentalPBRN

NDPBRN is a consortium of participating practices and dental organizations committed to advancing knowledge of dental practice.
Birmingham, AL  •  http://www.DentalPBRN.org

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NDPBRN @DentalPBRN December 2011 DPBRN E-Update: dentalpbrn.org/uploadeddocs/2...
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National Leadership

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National Network Director
and South Central
Regional Director

Andi Mathews
National
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Sonia Makhija
South Central
Regional Deputy Director
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We look forward to working with you!

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