Welcome to the third issue of the STOHN newsletter!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
- Human Subjects Research Training
- Current Projects
- New Research Subcommittee
- Studies Updates
- PBRN Convocation
- Resources for Cancer Patients

Have you completed Human Subjects Research Training?

All STOHN Members are required to complete this training!

Simply visit the PBRN Resource Center website:
http://iims.uthscsa.edu/community_pbrn.html

1. Watch a 30-minute video
2. Complete a 14-question quiz

It’s that easy!

In the Works

Although there are no studies currently in progress,
the STOHN staff is staying busy with several projects:

Developing a tobacco toolkit to provide tailored resources for dentists who want to help their patients quit. (See page 3 for more information about this project.)

Formulating a research question on bisphosphonates and wound healing. A research sub-committee has been formed (see page 2) and a literature search conducted.

Extending on the pilot study of undiagnosed diabetes in the dental office to learn more about how patients are being monitored for diabetes risk. (See page 3, the last STOHN newsletter, and the STOHN website for more information about diabetes projects.)

Planning for the PBRN Convocation in October (see page 4). STOHN will provide speakers, training, and posters.

Updating the STOHN website with pictures of our members and their practices. Soon YOU could be featured!
**STOHN Research Foci**

**Diabetes & Oral Health**
Is the dental office a good place to screen for diabetes?

**Tobacco Cessation**
How can dentists help patients to quit?

**Bisphosphonates and Wound Healing**
What do dentists and patients know about the potential risks?

---

**Bisphosphonates Research Subcommittee Formed**

**Veronica Young, PharmD, MPH** is a faculty with The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy. Dr. Young’s areas of interest include evidence-based practice, interprofessional education, community service learning, and women’s health. Her focus on women's health includes pharmacologic management of menopause and osteoporosis, with an emphasis on the role of bisphosphonates in postmenopausal osteoporosis.

**Stephen Hackmyer, DDS** is an Associate Clinical Professor Department of Pediatric Dentistry, University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio and former Interim Pediatric Dentistry Program Director at the Dental Branch at UTHSC-Houston. He attended pharmacy school before moving to dental school. He worked with implants as part of his residency and is interested in the effects of bisphosphonate use in pediatric and special-needs patients.

**Cara B. Gonzales, PhD, DDS**, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Dental Diagnostic Science where she performs translational research in the field of oral cancer and assists in training students in the clinic and the laboratory. Her primary research focus is characterizing the mechanisms of oral cancer pain. Specifically, she is characterizing tumor secreted molecules that activate pain receptors in the trigeminal system and evaluating the utility of novel drugs to alleviate the resultant pain.

**Thomas Oates, DMD, PhD**, is co-director of STOHN, Assistant Dean for Clinical Research, and Professor in the Department of Periodontics at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. His research efforts have included investigations of the associations between oral health and systemic disease, including diabetes. He has experience evaluating bisphosphonate-related research proposals for the NIH.
**Completed Study:**
**Barriers, Solutions, and Resources for In-Office Tobacco Cessation Counseling**

**Purpose:** Determine barriers to dentists and physicians providing in-office tobacco cessation counseling, brainstorm solutions, and provide resources.

**Methods:** 6 dental and 6 primary care practices were recruited to completed a brief survey and participate in a focus group.

**Survey Results:** 87 dental and medical professionals (doctors, dentists, nurses, hygienists, assistants, and office personnel) participated. Of these, 66 (76%) were located in Bexar county. 25 (29%) participated in some type of in-office tobacco cessation counseling with patients. Only 11 (13%) knew that practices could bill for these services, and only 7 (8%) had actually billed for it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Group Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Patient Attitudes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annoyed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frustrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evasive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barriers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resources &amp; Solutions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop a rapport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connect to primary complaint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Future Steps:** This information will be used to create tobacco cessation kits based on dentists’ and doctors’ real-life concerns and requests.

---

**Completed Study:**
**Assessment of Dentists’ and Patients’ Willingness to Participate in Finger-Stick Diabetes Study**

**Purpose:** Assess the willingness of dentists and patients to participate in a study that will involve a finger-stick assessment of Blood Glucose Level.

**Methods:** Single-question survey.

**Results:** Of 219 patients aged 35-65 surveyed, 156 (72%) said they would be willing to receive a finger-stick blood glucose check in the dentist’s office to assess diabetes risk. 13 network dentists said they would be willing to offer such a screening in-office.

**Future Steps:** This data can be used to support a grant application to conduct the in-office assessments.
New Member Spotlight
Dr. Maria C. Garanzuay
UTHSCSA, 2006
Dr. Alicia Galvan
UTHSCSA, 2002
Dr. Donna G. Miller
Baylor, 1985
Dr. Gregg S. Nolan
UTHSCSA, 1986
Dr. Richard H. Lazor
UTSA, 1978

New Members of the Board of Directors
Dr. Jennifer Bone
UTHSCSA, 2001
Dr. Cheryl Davis
University of Alabama, 1995

Did You Know?
Free, Confidential, One-on-One Support For People Affected by Oral Cancer Is Available Through LiveStrong
Spanish website: http://www.livestrongespanol.org/site/c.ikLUJ8MNKrH/b.5115905/k.6909/LIVESTRONG_SurvivorCarei.htm

STOHN is recruiting!
If you have colleagues interested in joining, please direct them to the information below.

South Texas Oral Health Network
Rahma Mungia BDS, MSc, DDPHRCS, Director
7703 Floyd Curl Drive, Mail Code: 7728
San Antonio, Texas 78229
Tel: 210-567 7809
Fax: 210-567 7820
http://iims.uthscsa.edu/community_pbrn_stohn.html