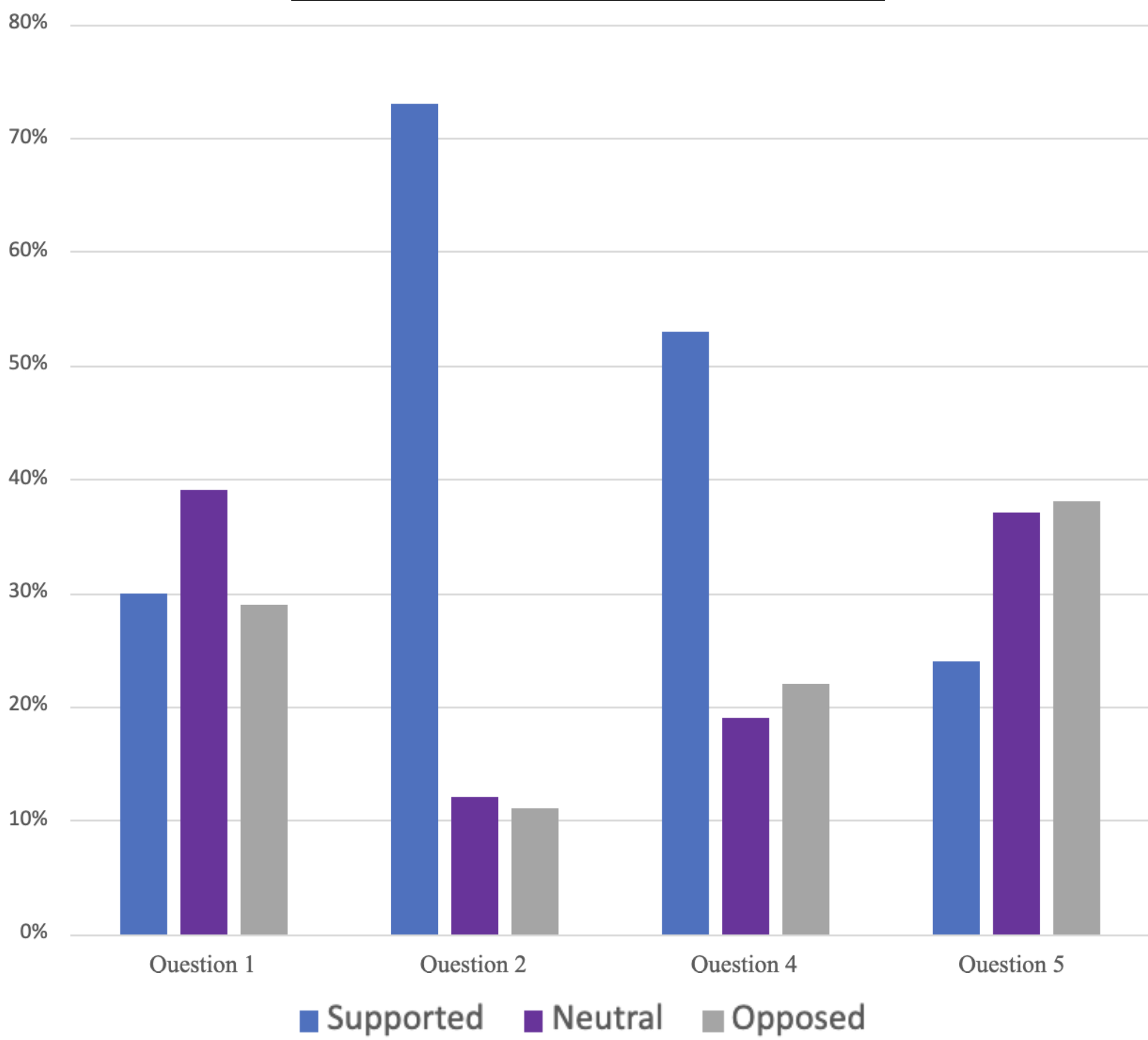


Background	Methods	Findings	Discussion
Food Insecurity (FI) is a household-level economic and social condition characterized by limited access to nutritious food. This study investigates dental practitioners' knowledge of food insecurity assessment and treatment in practices.	A brief 5-question food insecurity short survey ("Quick-Poll") was conducted through the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network (PBRN). A total of 332 dental practitioners who are members of the National Dental PBRN responded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an impactful division in food insecurity screening in dental settings. Caries was selected as the primary oral health issue influence by FI. Lack of comfort and knowledge in directing FI patients to appropriate resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The results emphasize the significance of FI as a concern within professional dental environments. Next steps include future research, including a PBRN clinical study on interventions for oral health improvements in food-insecure patients.

Mixed opinions about screening for FI in dental practices and acknowledgment of FI's has a substantial impact on oral health.

Quick Poll Results



The Quick Poll on FI was constructed with five questions:

1. Please indicate how much you agree with the following statement: Dental practitioners should screen patients for food insecurity as part of the professional dental role.
2. On a scale of 1 (very impactful) to 10 (not impactful at all), what impact do you feel food insecurity has on a person's oral health?
3. Which oral health issues does food insecurity most impact?
4. On a scale of 1 (very comfortable) to 10 (not comfortable at all), how comfortable would you feel directing a patient to resources that support people with food insecurity in your local community, such as information on a local food bank or providing information on receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits?
5. How interested would you be in participating in a study about food insecurity among dental patients?

