The National Dental Practice-Based Research Network

the nation’s network
What is a dental practice-based research network (PBRN)?

- Practice-based research networks, or PBRNs are group of clinics or practices interested in and involved with research.

- The network conducts research that is done in and about the real world of daily clinical practice, where the overwhelming majority of the population receives its dental care.

- Designed to gather real world evidence for the prevention and treatment of oral diseases.

“If we want more evidence-based practice, we need more practice-based evidence.”

Lawrence W. Green, DrPH
Where are PBRNs in the Research “Pipeline?”
What kinds of studies take place in PBRNs?

- Descriptive and observational studies
- Intervention studies
- Qualitative and mixed method studies

Study example:
Feasibility of Identifying Undiagnosed Diabetes in Community Dental Practices
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
NIDCR funded 3 networks from 2005-2012

to start dental practice-based research
With the success of each of the three networks, 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
The National Dental PBRN represents an important opportunity for health professionals (dentists and hygienists) and organizations involved in dental care across the United States.

**The goals of the network are to conduct national oral health studies on topics of importance to you and your patients, provide outcomes that will improve patient care, and implement those outcomes into routine clinical practice**

A key objective will be to conduct studies that will improve the knowledge base for clinical decision-making.
What are the benefits of joining the network?

- involved with national studies designed for busy clinicians
- compensated for your participation in studies
- Earn free CE credits
- Exchange ideas with fellow practitioners
- Distinguishes your practice from other practices, acting as a practice promoter or practice builder
- Increases your practice's visibility and stature among dental patients
- Enhances communication with patients by showing that you and your office care about the scientific basis of daily clinical practice
- Serves as a team builder for practice staff, and engages the entire staff in the excitement of discovery and quality improvement
- Studies can improve the quality of dental care by contributing to the scientific basis for the dental procedures that are their focus
- Potential to present at local, state, and national dental meetings and research conferences
What do I need to do to become a member in the National Dental PBRN?

**Enroll** in the network by going to [www.nationaldentalpbrn.org](http://www.nationaldentalpbrn.org) and filling out the enrollment questionnaire.

Enrollment may be at any one of three levels:

1. **Informational:** receive newsletters and correspondence

2. **Limited:** receive newsletters and correspondence AND participate in surveys/questionnaires

3. **Full:** receive newsletters and correspondence, participate in surveys/questionnaires, **AND** participate with in-office research
Interact and stay connected

**Website**  
http://www.nationaldentalpbrn.org/

**Facebook**  
http://www.facebook.com/pages/National-Dental-Practice-Based-Research-Network-NDPBRN/126966417368332?v=wall

**Linked-in**  
http://www.linkedin.com/groups/National-Dental-PracticeBased-Research-Network-3723139?mostPopular-&gid=3723139

**Twitter**  
http://twitter.com/#!/DentalPBRN

**YouTube**  
http://www.youtube.com/user/DentalPBRN/