



# Network News



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Quick Poll - Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA)

There's still time to participate in November's [Quick Poll](#) on "Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA)".

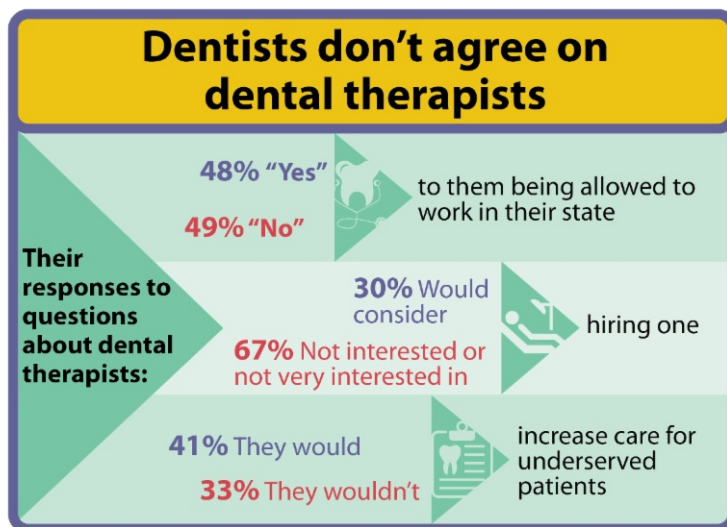
Recently moved? New contact information?

Exciting things are happening in The Network. Stay updated and in the know by emailing your Regional Coordinator your updated information.

## Quick Poll Results

### Quick Poll Results: Dentists Disagree on Role of Dental Therapists

Dentists and hygienists who responded to our November Quick Poll are split almost 50-50 on whether dentists in their state should have the option to hire a dental therapist, a relatively new group of dental professionals authorized in very few states. With 504 votes cast, 249 (49 percent) respondents opposed and 244 (48 percent) supported dental therapists working in their states. (About 2 percent of poll respondents didn't answer the question.) [Read more...](#)



## Study Updates

### Let's End 2016 With a High Response Rate for our Questionnaire Study!

You may have been contacted by a regional coordinator and a study team at Georgia Tech because you were **randomly**

[Join our Mailing List](#)

**selected** to participate in the Knowledge Networks online questionnaire.

To achieve success for the Network, we need your help in participating in this study. The study will close mid-December, so it's imperative that you complete the survey soon. You will be compensated for your time.

If you have any questions about this study, contact your regional coordinator as soon as possible.

Thank you for your participation!

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## Studies Currently Recruiting Participants

- Leveraging Electronic Dental Record Data for Clinical Research
- Management of Painful Temporomandibular Disorders (TMD)

[Read more...](#)

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## Network News

### Network Newsletter Back in Your Mailbox for January 2017!!

The National Dental Practice-Based Research Network is bringing it back old school for the month of January 2017. The monthly newsletter with Network happenings, news, and more will arrive in your mailbox in early January. Thumb through the pages and enjoy the same articles you've become accustomed to reading about:

- **Network news**
- **Meeting announcements**
- **Review updates**
- **Quick Poll results.**



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### New Membership Directory Coming January 2017!

The New Year brings a new addition to The National Dental Practice-Based Research Network website-a searchable Member Directory! With more than 5,500 fellow Network members, the directory will be your quick and easy way to:

- **Find a member from your region** whom you met at a meeting
- **Connect with fellow members** with the same research interests
- **Review and update** your information.

[Read more...](#)

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## We Want To Hear From You: Network Regional Meetings

The National Dental PBRN is excited to host four regional annual meetings in 2017. Meetings offer a vital part of membership collaboration. Take advantage of the opportunity to interact with your colleagues from across the region(s). Between five and seven continuing education units (CEUs) will be provided.



Additionally, two members of the Westat Communications Team will be joining us at each meeting. They'll be speaking one-on-one with members about changes to membership communications (e.g., new website, data briefs, etc.) and how to increase engagement. Your input is vital to the continued success of Network communications. [Read more...](#)

## Article of Interest

### Dentists Need To Use Available Tools To Avoid Dangerous Opioid Prescribing Practices

NSAIDS are the best choice for dental pain; they work as well or better than opioids and, overall, dentists are prescribing fewer opioids.[1] But you wouldn't know that by looking at some dentists' prescription pads. In 2012 and 2013, South Carolina dentists wrote an average of 150 opioid prescriptions per year that were filled, a 2016 study in The Journal of the American Dental Association reported. Most importantly, many recipients were also getting opioids from other prescribers-information that the dentists could have learned from their state prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP).

The study authors analyzed 2.3 million prescription records from South Carolina's PDMP. South Carolina ranks among the top 13 states for number of painkiller prescriptions per person.[2] [Read more...](#)

[1] Trends in Opioid Analgesic-Prescribing Rates by Specialty, U.S., 2007-2012."The greatest percentage increase in opioid-prescribing rates during 2007-2012 occurred among physical medicine/rehabilitation specialists (+12.0%). The largest percentage drops in opioid-prescribing rates occurred in emergency medicine (-8.9%) and dentistry (-5.7%)."

[2]<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/images/p0701-opioid-painkiller2.pdf>