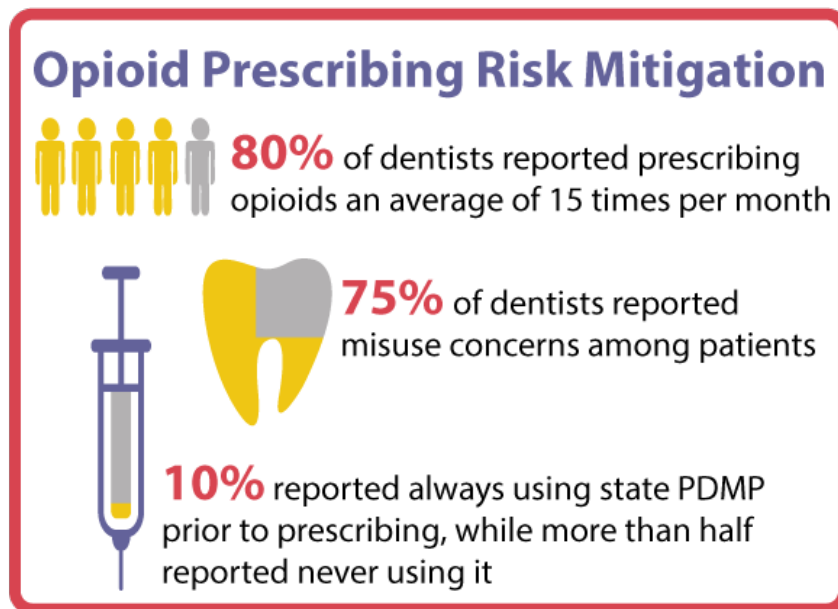


Opioid Prescribing Poll Results—Interest in Web-Based Continued Dental Education

The Network's recent poll revealed opioid prescribing risk mitigation strategies had relevance for the majority of respondents. Professionals also expressed interest in a web-based continuing dental education program addressing best practices in pain management and implementation of risk mitigation strategies when prescribing opioids in the dental setting.



Nationally, the use of a prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) before prescribing opioids is a recommended risk mitigation strategy. The poll revealed that many respondents were unaware of this available resource, and 22% of respondents always used their PDMP prior to their opioid-prescribing episodes.

Also, it is recommended that patients get educational materials on the safe use, storage, and disposal of opioid prescriptions, as well as risks associated with misuse and diversion. However, a majority of respondents indicated that education is not a regular part their dental practice.

The next quick poll on *the use of prophylactic antibiotics* will be released March 17th.