



MONTHLY E-UPDATE

August 2012

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The National Dental PBRN is now enrolling practitioners

The National Dental PBRN is now enrolling practitioners. You may enroll online by clicking [here](#), then follow directions from there to complete the enrollment questionnaire. You need to have a working email address in order to enroll. If you previously participated in another network such as the DentalPBRN, PEARL or PRECEDENT, you will need to re-enroll due to revised enrollment questions, the need to update information, and the opportunity to submit ideas for research studies. For more information on the nation's network, click [here](#).

If you have completed the Enrollment Questionnaire, thank you for joining the nation's network! If you feel any of your colleagues may also be interested in joining the network, please invite them to join by visiting [NationalDentalPBRN.org](#) and clicking on the enroll now link.

National Dental PBRN Article of the Month

Repair or replacement of defective restorations by dentists in The Dental Practice-Based Research Network

The June 2012 issue of the *Journal of the American Dental Association* features an article entitled "Repair or replacement of defective restorations by dentists in The Dental Practice-Based Research Network".

The authors sought to determine whether dentists in practices belonging to the network were more likely to repair or to replace a restoration that they diagnosed as defective; to quantify dentists' specific reasons for repairing or replacing restorations; and to test the hypothesis that certain dentist-, patient- and restoration-related variables are associated with the decision between repairing and replacing restorations.

Practitioner-investigators (P-Is) recorded data for consecutively seen restorations in permanent teeth that needed repair or replacement. The collected data included the primary reason for repair or replacement, tooth surface or surfaces involved, restorative materials used and patients' demographic information.

P-Is collected data regarding 9,484 restorations from 7,502 patients in 197 practices. Seventy-five percent (7,073) of restorations were replaced and 25 percent (2,411) repaired. Secondary caries was the main reason (43 percent, n = 4,124) for treatment. Factors associated with a greater likelihood of repairing versus replacing restorations included: the dentist having graduated from dental school more recently, the dentist practicing in a large group practice, the dentist being the one who placed the original restoration, patient's being of an older age, the original restorative material's being something other than amalgam, restoration of a molar and the original restoration's involving fewer tooth surfaces.

The authors concluded that dentists in the network were more likely to replace than to repair restorations. Secondary caries was the most common reason for repairing or replacing restorations. Certain dentist-, patient- and restoration-related variables were associated with the repair-or-replace decision.

Click [here](#) to view the PubMed abstract.

Click [here](#) to visit the JADA web site.

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