



Wisconsin  
Research &  
Education  
Network . . . *for our health*

# WREN's Collaboration with a Dental Network (PEARL)

*A work in progress*

Michael Grasmick, PhD; Peggy O'Halloran, MPH; Paul Smith, MD

Wisconsin Research and Education Network and the University of Wisconsin Department of Family Medicine

# Outline

- introduction to PEARL
- background & significance to our study
- collaborative aim
- funding and WREN timeline
- study design (surveys)
  - WREN Survey Takers Group
- survey screen shots
- next collaboration with PEARL?

# PEARL

- Practitioners Engaged in Appplied Research and Learning
- launched in 2005 at NYU College of Dentistry
- \$26.7 million over seven years from NIH
- mandate to expand the research evidence base in dentistry
- almost 200 practitioner-investigators in 23 states

# Background & Significance

## Accute Pain:

- common both in dentistry and primary care
- very little literature on prevalence in primary care
- physician attitudes poorly described in literature
- no literature to support the anecdotal link of attitudes to prescriptions given and adequacy of pain relief

# Collaborative Aim

Describe the attitudes and practices related to the treatment of acute pain and any differences between primary care clinicians and dentists

# Funding and WREN Timeline

- \$19,310 (includes 26% F&A)

	2010												2011	
	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	
Review literature and formulate research question.	█	█												
Write survey questions, program Qualtics™ and beta test			█											
Obtain approval from UW DFM Research Committee.			█											
application to UW Health Sciences IRB and obtain approval.			█	█	█	█	█	█	█					
Recruit WREN members to participate in our Survey Group	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█						
Deploy survey and send three reminders across a three week timeline.									█					
Download data in Excel format and send data to PEARL for analysis.											█			
Review PEARL analysis and make conclusions												█		
communication to one statewide and to one national meeting.													█	
Write manuscript for publication in peer-reviewed journal.													█	

# Study Design – Survey 1 (1 of 3 scenarios)

- Scenario #1

A 25 year old male slipped on the ice while carrying a package and fell **hitting his face on the curb** about 12 hours ago. He did not lose consciousness, but he has facial bruises, swelling and **broke off part of an incisor**. He put ice on the injury when he got home. He took Ibuprofen 600 mg every 6 hours and it “helps some,” but **he woke up twice last night because of the pain**. He has an abrasion, ecchymosis and swelling on his nose, right cheek and forehead. He has an angular fracture with no pulpal exposure and approximately 1/3 of the incisal edge is gone. You do not suspect any bone fractures.

- Non-medication recommendations or treatments?
- Medication and dose and number of pills and instructions?

# Study Design – Survey 2 (practices)

**What type of drugs would you commonly prescribe for acute orofacial or dental pain? (check all that apply)**

- NSAIDS
- Acetaminophen
- Tramadole (Ultram)
- Opioids
- Muscle relaxants
- Anticonvulsants
- Other, specify

# Study Design – Survey 2 (practices)

**When would you consider prescribing an opioid in addition to acetaminophen or an NSAID for acute pain? (check all that apply)**

- after the patient has tried the maximum dose of an NSAID
- after you prescribed two or three different kinds of NSAIDs within adequate pain relief
- the patient has inadequate daytime pain relief pain with non-narcotics
- the patient has inadequate nighttime pain relief and difficulty in sleeping
- other, specify

# Next PEARL Collaboration

Your ideas / suggestions ?

