

Community Research for Oral Wellness Network

CROWN

March 2009



Dear CROWN Members:

We have received very favorable reviews for the RAPID (Risk Assessment and Prevention in Dentistry) Study grant. The reviewers think the study is innovative, significant and agree with the methodology and implementation. However, they will not recommend funding if there are not 30-40 letters of support indicating the willingness of offices to participate.

To recap, the purpose of this study is to determine the effectiveness of a Learning Collaborative approach to understand the process of adopting new patient care practices in dental offices. The study uses risk-based preventive services as the model service. It uses an enhanced study club environment (Learning Collaborative) by creating more interaction in a smaller group and by having participants implement and assess the topics from the Learning Collaborative. It provides a unique opportunity for personal growth and office improvement in your office, while contributing to the dental profession. It places you on the cutting edge of generating evidence for best practices by participating in practice-based research. The professional benefits will outweigh the effort of participation and the study staff will work with you to minimize disruption in your daily schedule.

A summary of the study activities is provided on the next page. Participation by 40 offices means recruitment per office is 20 patients and limits chart reviews to 3 times. Incentives are \$25 per patient per visit as well as additional incentives for chart reviews. A new, Web-based service at the University will support electronic meetings to supplement or replace the proposed in-person Learning Collaboratives, saving you time and encouraging offices at greater distances to participate.

We are sensitive to concerns about how this might affect patients or office flow/efficiency.

- Patient participation is strictly voluntary;
- Incentives are for completing data collection forms; most data are clinical measures you routinely make;
- You will receive free CE credits for participation in the Learning Collaboratives.

The grant application has a special re-submission date of March 20th, which means letters of support must reach me by Friday, March 13th. I will supply templates for letters, but they need to be on your letterhead, signed. Electronic, mailed or faxed letters are acceptable. Fax, phone or email us if you would like a letter template. One example is included. If you previously provided a letter of support, simply change the date and send it again (and thank you). I will call next week to see if there are additional questions you would like answered.

Finally, if you have colleagues who might be interested in this study, (for example, study club colleagues), please feel free to share this information with them. If you let me know, I will provide them with additional details. I look forward to working with you. Thank you!

Catherine Demko, PhD
Community Dentistry
CROWN, Co-Director

Stephen Wotman, DDS
CROWN, Director

CROWN Associates:

Stephen Wotman, DDS
Howard Bailit, DMD, PhD
Edward Callahan, PhD
Catherine A. Demko, PhD
Susan Flocke, PhD
Donna Homenko, RDH, PhD
James Lalumandier, DDS, MPH
Michelle Hamilton, BA
Danny Sawyer, DDS, PhD
Kurt Stange, MD, PhD
Joseph Sudano, PhD
Kristin Williams, DDS
Kristin Z. Victoroff, DDS, PhD
Stephen Zyzanski, PhD

CROWN

School of Dental Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-4905

Phone: 216-368-8804
Fax: 216-368-5888
E-mail: crown@case.edu