



American
Association of
Orthodontists®

My Life. My Smile. My Orthodontist.®



FAQ – Anterior Openbite Study

Section I: The Network

1. What is the National Dental Practice Based Research Network (NDPBRN)?

The NDPBRN was created by NIDCR to conduct research on clinically important dental topics. The network spans the entire nation, but is divided into six regions. Each network has the infrastructure to supervise the studies that are approved by the National Network. Member dentists in each region conduct research using their own patients.

2. What is the AAO's Practice Based Research Network (PBRN) Committee?

The AAO has a PBRN Committee, which was formed to assist with conducting practice based research in the National Network, as well as in other settings. The 2015-2016 committee members are: Jaime DeJesus (Chair), Veerasathpurush Allareddy, Jeff Erickson, Greg Huang, Brent Larson, Bhavna Shroff, Flavio Uribe, John Callahan (Trustee Liaison) and Jackie Hittner (AAO Staff Liaison).

3. What do I need to do to sign up as one of the study clinicians?

Go to the website and follow the directions to [enroll](#). You will be contacted by a regional coordinator who can assist you with the entire training process.

Section II: Why Is Participating in the Openbite Study Important?

1. The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) has been fostering practice-based research for over 10 years, and the openbite study is the first orthodontic study that is being conducted on a National scale. It is extremely important that the profession embrace this type of research and that orthodontists demonstrate their willingness to participate. By doing so, we will place our profession in an excellent position to secure future funding from NIDCR to conduct practice based research. As many of you know, federal funding for clinical research in orthodontics is scarce, so we should recognize and maximize this opportunity.
2. By participating in this study, you will be helping with a comprehensive and rigorous assessment of current methods to treat openbites and to retain the correction. The analyses performed using data from your patients will allow us to generate clinically relevant evidence that can be used to provide better treatment to our future patients. This is the ultimate goal of any kind of orthodontic research. Participating in this study is great way for practitioners to give back to our specialty. It is a win for patients, practitioners, and the profession!
3. In the course of conducting the openbite study, we will train a large number of orthodontists on practice-based research methods. This group of practitioners will gain valuable experience, and

they can be invited to participate in future orthodontic studies. This network of orthodontists will be an invaluable asset to our profession for years to come.

Section III: Eligibility for Practitioners

4. Who can participate?

Any dentist in the United States and its territories can participate. Most will be in private practice. However, faculty members can also participate if they have a faculty practice, and graduate students may be able to contribute to studies by enrolling their patients, too. (In this case, graduate students usually enroll their patients under the Graduate Program Director or the Department Chair.) If you are affiliated with a university and interested in participating, please contact [Dr. Greg Huang](#) to discuss how to proceed, as there may be some additional agreements that need to be secured from the institution.

5. If I have more than one practice location, can I enroll patients from any location?

Yes, as long as you are the orthodontist of record at these locations.

Section IV: General Training and Incentives

6. What training will I need to complete in order to participate?

Each region has specific training, but in general, it consists of an online orientation video, as well as online training on human subjects and financial conflict of interest.

7. Are there any incentives to complete the training?

All AAO members who complete the training by November 21, 2015 and submit their training certificate to the AAO will receive one year of access to the AAO online lectures website.

8. Can past training satisfy the training requirements?

Possibly, but it is likely that prior training will not satisfy all the current training requirements. It will be best to review your prior training with your regional coordinator, to determine what additional training needs to be done.

9. What training does my staff need to complete for the study?

Staff training will depend on the level of their involvement. Regional coordinators can assist with this question. (Please see list of Regional Coordinators in Section VIII)

Section V: Available Orthodontic Studies

10. What studies are available to join now?

Right now, the [anterior openbite study](#) is enrolling practitioners and patients. A Class II study and root resorption study are in planning stages.

Section VI: Specific Aims of the Openbite Study

11. What are the aims of the openbite study?

The primary aims are to assess the success of treatment and the stability afterwards. We also plan to assess the options that orthodontists are recommending, and the treatments that patients

accept. Additionally, we will investigate how patient and treatment factors influence treatment success and stability. Finally, we also plan to ask patients about their satisfaction with treatment.

Section VII: Details Regarding the Openbite Study

12. What kind of patients will qualify for the openbite study?

We are enrolling adult patients (18+) who are in **active** treatment. They must have had an anterior openbite at the time treatment was started.

13. How many patients do I need to participate in the openbite study?

Ideally, you should have at least 3 adult anterior openbite patients in active treatment. However, if you only have a couple of patients, you will be allowed to enroll, especially if you anticipate starting more adult patients with anterior openbites in the next 6 months.

14. Can I enroll patients who have completed treatment?

No, we are only enrolling patients who are in active treatment. They should be finishing their treatment within the next 24 months. This is to prevent selection bias.

15. What about patients who start treatment after I begin participating in the study?

You are allowed to enroll new patients once they have started their treatment, as they become active patients at that time. However, their treatment should be planned to be completed by October 2018. This is the latest date that we can collect data.

16. What consent documents will my patients need to sign?

Consent forms specific to this study have been developed, and all patients will need to sign them prior to their participation.

17. Can staff help me with the study?

Yes, they can. If they assist with the consenting process, they will need to undergo human subjects training. For most activities, like uploading records, they will not need human subject training.

18. How much time will the open bite study take to complete?

The initial online training may take from 2-4 hours. Then, there is a study specific training session that may take about one hour. After that, you may spend about one hour total for each patient, and this one hour of time would be spread out over a period of 2 to 3 years. We have designed the study to minimize any interference with your daily practice. The majority of the doctor forms can be filled out during non-patient times using the patient's records.

19. Will I have to change my treatment protocol?

No, you will treat your patients however you feel is most appropriate. You can even modify the treatment plan mid-course if you deem necessary. We do not wish to influence your treatment. We only wish to assess its success and stability.

20. Do I need to use any specific retainers or retainer regimen?

No, again, you are free to recommend the retainers and regimen that you feel are most appropriate.

21. What records will be needed from each patient?

We will need a pre-treatment cephalometric and intra-oral photo, an end of treatment cephalometric and two intra-oral photos, and two intra-oral photos one-year post treatment. If you take CBCTs, those are fine, but we will ask you to create a cephalometric from the CBCT and submit the cephalometric. There also will be questionnaires that the orthodontist and patient will need to complete at enrollment, completion of treatment, and during retention.

22. How are records transferred, and what format is used for x-rays and photos?

All questionnaires will be sent to the central data coordinating center. Envelopes will be provided. All x-rays and photos will be uploaded to a secure image collection site in jpeg format.

23. Will patient records be identifiable?

No, all records will be sent to the central data collection center with identifiers removed. Additionally, all data will be analyzed with no patient or doctor identifiers.

Section VIII: Patient and Doctor Compensation for Openbite Study

24. Will there be any compensation for the patient?

The patients will be compensated \$25 at enrollment, \$25 at the end of treatment, and \$50 one year after treatment has ended.

25. Will there be any compensation for the clinician?

The clinician will be compensated \$100 at enrollment for each patient, another \$100 at completion of treatment, and \$100 one year after treatment has ended.

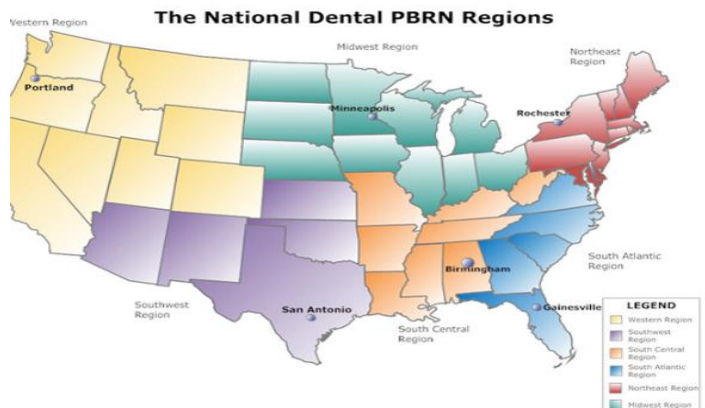
Section IX: Getting More Information?

26. Who will be my contact person for the study?

That will depend on your region.

The lead regional coordinators are:

Northeast: [Pat Ragusa](#)
South Atlantic: [Deborah McEdward](#)
South Central: [Claudia Carcelen](#)
Midwest: [Sarah Basile](#)
Southwest: [Meredith Buchberg](#)
Western: [Camille Baltuck](#)



27. Can I communicate directly with the research team?

Yes, if you have questions, you can contact your regional directors or [Dr. Greg Huang](#)