

## Results of Quick Poll on Cleft Lip and Palate Treatment

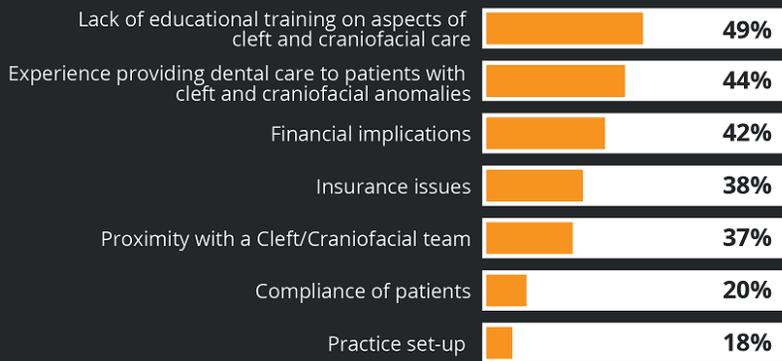
Cleft Lip and/or Palate (CL/P) is the most common congenital craniofacial anomaly with an incidence of 1 in 700 live births. In the United States, 2650 babies are born with a cleft palate and 4,440 babies are born with a cleft lip with or without a cleft palate each year. Dentists play a pivotal role in the continuum of CL/P care. In April 2019, a Quick Poll on CL/P treatment was conducted by the National Dental Practice Based Research Network (Network).

A total of 414 practitioners responded to the Quick Poll. The results of the Quick Poll showed that the practitioners enrolled in the Network were actively involved in providing oral health care to those with CL/P. Close to 66% of respondents conducted routine periodic dental examinations in their clinics, 62% exposed radiographs in their clinics, 61% provided oral hygiene, 53% delivered restorative care, 22% provided orthodontic care (both limited and comprehensive phases of orthodontic treatment), and 5% provided infant orthopedic treatment.

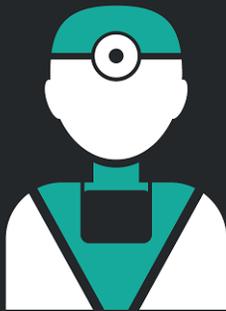
14% of respondents were formally affiliated with a Cleft/Craniofacial team, 32% mentioned that they were not formally affiliated with a team but are interested in affiliating. Several factors were identified as motivators for providing oral health care for those with Cleft Lip and Palate. These included: Want to help those with cleft and craniofacial anomalies (76% of respondents); experience providing dental care to patients with cleft and craniofacial anomalies (46%); personal connection/experience (38%); community engagement (31%); prior educational training (23%); increase revenue/production of practice (10%), and marketing of practice (5%). Some of the other factors mentioned were: team experience, feeling of professional obligation, and feeling that it is right thing to do.

The Quick Poll attempted to identify potential barriers for practitioners to providing oral health care for those with CL/P. Barriers for providing care included: lack of educational training on aspects of cleft and craniofacial care (49% of respondents); experience providing dental care to patients with cleft and craniofacial anomalies (44%); financial implications (42%); insurance issues (38%); proximity with a Cleft/Craniofacial team (37%); compliance of patients (20%); and practice set-up (18%).

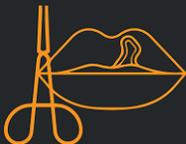
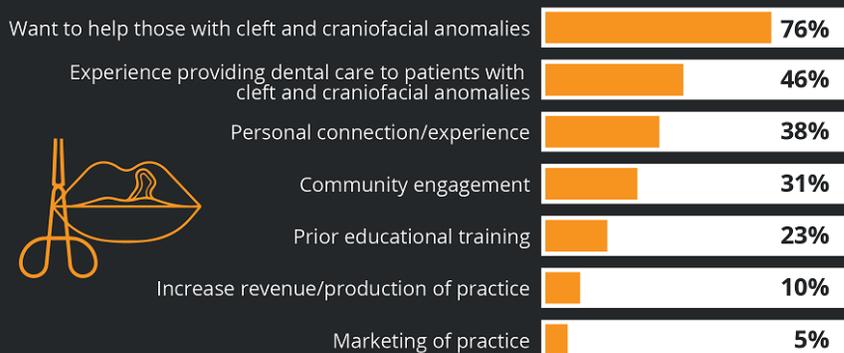
### The Quick Poll attempted to identify potential barriers for practitioners to providing oral health care for those with CL/CP.



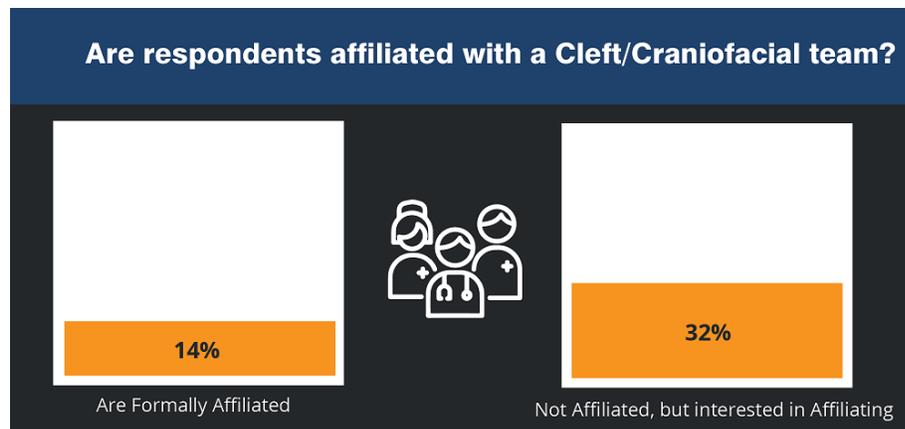
### How are Network practitioners providing care to their patients with CL/CP?



### Several factors were identified as motivators for providing oral health care for those with Cleft Lip/Cleft Palate.



Some of the other factors mentioned were:  
team experience, feeling of professional obligation, and feeling that it is right thing to do



### References:

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