

## What Is Research?

Research is any activity undertaken to increase our knowledge. It is an organized analysis of a problem, issue or question.

### What Is Involved in Research?

- Reviewing literature on a topic to draw a new conclusion on that topic
- Adjusting setting, environment etc. to see their effects
- Searching in an organized manner for existing relationships between items

### What Are the Benefits of Involvement in Research?

- Enhance analytical thinking abilities
- Provide valid basis for clinical practice
- Contribute to overall dental knowledge base
- Increase eligibility for professional advancement

### What Are the Types of Research?

- Pure: generates new knowledge for knowledge's sake
- Experimental: adjusts one or more items to see the effect on other items
- Clinical: takes place in "real world" environments
- Applied: answers practical questions to help you do your job better
- Descriptive: describes a group, situation or individual
- Laboratory: occurs in tightly controlled settings



## Building the Foundation

### Building a Critical Mass of Researchers

- Increase number of dental hygienists with advanced degrees
- Establish research as a career path

### Identifying Priorities

- Commit to using the NDHRA to guide research
- Continue to identify and update research needs, goals and objectives

### Valuing Research

- Reinforce importance of research
- Advocate for increased dental hygiene research initiatives



## Advancing the Profession

### Integrating Research Throughout the Profession

- Utilize the NDHRA as a driving force behind efforts of the association
- Encourage application of research knowledge

### Collaborating with Other Professionals and Research Entities

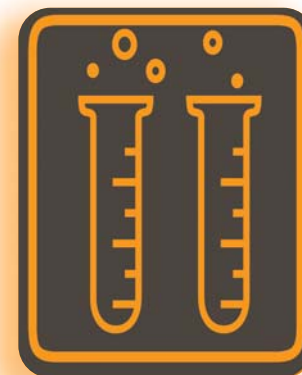
### Communicating the Findings

- Create uniform taxonomy used to define language of the profession
- Encourage compliance with the Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials
- Create forums for exchange of ideas

## ADHA Division of Research

### The ADHA Division of Research Has Two Major Goals:

1. Broaden ADHA's involvement in a variety of oral health research initiatives
  - Foster research that reflects the NDHRA and promotes the profession of dental hygiene
  - Increase activity in seeking grants to foster independent research activities
  - Seek opportunities to become involved in collaborative research with professionals that have interest in and commitments to health promotion and disease prevention
2. Support internal association-related endeavors that rely on research or statistical expertise
  - Design, formulate, tabulate and interpret research initiated by the divisions
  - Serve as a resource to the association
  - Acquire data that supports the educational goals of the profession and the public and private policies that advance the profession



## Why Should I Get Involved in Dental Hygiene Research?

Dental hygiene research has become increasingly important to achieving the mission of ADHA—to advance the art and science of dental hygiene—and to advancing the profession of dental hygiene. Your involvement will help to achieve the mission and advance the profession.



### National Dental Hygiene Research Agenda

The National Dental Hygiene Research Agenda (NDHRA) serves to guide research, enhance patient-centered care, improve the quality of services and foster other professional efforts. Both inside and outside of the research arena, it is important for practitioners, who provide the greatest representation of the profession to the public, to make decisions that are firmly grounded in knowledge that is obtained from research and clinical experiences. To help advance the profession, the NDHRA provides directions to hygienists on the following priority research areas:

- Health Promotion/Disease Prevention
- Health Services Research
- Professional Education and Development
- Clinical Dental Hygiene Care
- Occupational Health and Safety

## How Do I Get Involved?

### ADHA Council on Research

The Council on Research (COR) consists of individuals with a recognized expertise in dental hygiene research. The COR develops recommendations for action plans and programs related to research for the ADHA strategic plan. The COR also has oversight for the development of dental hygiene research policies, conferences and seminars.

### ADHA Research Resource Persons Network

The Dental Hygienists' Research Resource Persons Network (RPN) is a group of professionals who volunteer their services in support of the ADHA's mission to improve the oral health status of the United States. The primary goal of the RPN is to provide technical and capacity-building assistance to dental hygienists and community-based organizations and institutions on behalf of the ADHA for the purpose of assisting local efforts to improve oral health access.



### Become Involved.....

Visit: [www.ADHA.org/research](http://www.ADHA.org/research)  
or call: 312-440-8900

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# Dental Hygiene Research

How I Can Help:

Build the Foundation  
&  
Advance the Profession