Opioids: Are You Part of the Problem?

CR Survey Results (N=1,155)

- My dental specialty is: 95% general dentist, 2% prosthodontist, 3% other
- Do you prescribe opioids in your practice? 80% yes, 20% no
- What alternative drugs do you prescribe for pain control? (multiple answer possible): 94% NSAIDs, 70% acetaminophen, 11% other
- Which opioid do you prescribe most commonly? 67% hydrocodone, 21% codeine, 7% oxycodone, 3% tramadol, 2% other
- Has your use of opioids been altered in the past five years? 67% yes, 33% no
- Please indicate how it may have been altered: 48% decreased significantly, 30% decreased moderately, 20% decreased slightly, 2% increased
- What is your usual prescription for pain control after impacted third molar surgery? (multiple answer possible): 43% NSAID, 40% hydrocodone, 27% acetaminophen, 10% codeine, 6% oxycodone, 3% dexamethasone
- How many doses of opioids per patient do you prescribe for impacted third molar surgery? 24% none, 20% 1–5, 26% 6–10, 23% 11–15, 7% other
- Have you ever had a patient overdose on opioids? 2% yes, 87% no, 11% unknown
- Have you or any of your friends had children die from opioid abuse? 15% yes, 80% no, 5% unknown
- Do you make use of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs in your state? 70% yes, 17% no, 13% don’t know about this program
- Are you personally aware of any dental colleague who has/had a substance abuse issue? 43% yes, 57% no
- Do you know which may have been abused? (multiple answer possible): 63% opioids, 60% alcohol, 25% nitrous oxide, 11% benzodiazepines, 7% amphetamines, 14% other
- Have any of your patients had a GI bleed from NSAID prescription post third molar surgery? 3% yes, 69% no, 28% unknown
- Have any of your patients had liver toxicity from Acetaminophen (Tylenol)? 4% yes, 63% no, 31% unknown
- Which NSAID do you most commonly prescribe? 91% ibuprofen, 7% naproxen, 2% other
- Have you or any of your friends had children requiring rehabilitation for opioid addiction? 25% yes, 66% no, 9% unknown