

IADR Scientific Groups and Networks (SG/N) Governing Handbook
Revised March 24, 2026

Purpose of Scientific Groups and Networks (SG/N)

The SG/N are integral to IADR and its mission to “Drive dental, oral, and craniofacial research for health and well-being worldwide.” With a focus on specific dental disciplines, interdisciplinary interactions, and/or transdisciplinary initiatives, the SG/N are created and supported, by volunteer members, with support from the IADR Global Headquarters. The SG/N change and evolve over time in response to scientific advances and foci, as well as worldwide needs.

Opportunities for professional development are provided by the governance structure of the SG/N, with annually elected officers and others appointed from within the SG/N. Many groups provide awards and scholarships, which support members at all career levels, particularly included students, trainees, and early career professionals.

Rather than being siloed from one another, SG/N function best when there is cross-fertilization and interaction among them. SG/N are encouraged to engage with their members throughout the year and to organize virtual events in response to their particular needs and opportunities.

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The IADR Global Headquarters supports the SG/N in many areas. All support requests should be forwarded to Riana Hirschler at rhirschler@iadr.org
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Scientific Groups and Networks: Support and Governance

Each Scientific Group and Network (SG/N) has its own Officers, Group Program Chair, Abstract Reviewers, and Session Organizers. A key function of the SG/Ns is to organize the IADR General Session as well as Regional and Divisional meetings, such as the AADOCR/CADR Annual Meeting. SG/N should also be pro-active in communicating with their members throughout the year, and in providing additional scientific and networking opportunities. Additionally, the SG/Ns can provide the Board and Council technical expertise regarding IADR Policy Statements or provide other technical input as needed.

Global Headquarters Support

SG/N Website

Each SG/N website should be hosted at the IADR domain. IADR will provide support and training to SG/N officers to update their own webpages, as well as staff support to update webpages with content provided by the SG/N. Updates and other changes should be sent to Riana Hirschler, SG/N liaison at rhirschler@iadr.org, who will forward them to the appropriate IADR staff member.

Email Services

IADR GHQ also may send out messages on behalf of the SG/N. Every effort is made to send emails out to the selected members within 24 business hours.

Send the following to Riana Hirschler, rhirschler@iadr.org

- Subject Line
- Date you would like the email sent
- Text of email (Word is preferred)
- Attachments. Note we cannot send file attachments, but we can link to them from the text of the emails so readers may download the documents you would like to include.
- Who is the email being sent to – (i.e. to students or all members.)

Award Process Guidelines

Officers must determine award sponsorship at the time of award creation. An agreement, including term dates, must be made and will be managed between the Group/Network officers and the Sponsor. The Group/Network must confirm sponsorship annually. If an award is no longer being sponsored or sponsorship has changed, please contact IADR to update the award website.

IADR Global Headquarters will manage award sponsorship invoicing and payment to award recipients.

Administrative Fee

An 8% IADR administrative fee will be added to all IADR SGN Award sponsorship invoices for award sponsorships of \$5,000 and above. The 8% administrative fee will be allocated to IADR to cover staff management of sponsorship invoicing and disbursement of award payments.

The 8% fee should be added to the sponsorship amount on the sponsor invoice request by the SGN officer and communicated to sponsors.

New Awards must be approved at least one year in advance of the General Session. Officers must submit a request via the IADR SGN Awards [webform](#) to be reviewed and approved by the IADR Board of Directors.

Award Payments

Instructions for Award Payments:

Award payment requests following the General Session may be directed to [IADR Awards Contact](#), and must include the following:

1. The award notification that was sent to recipients via email.
2. Second officer approval via email confirming the recipient and award payment amount.
3. Award payment request forms:
 - a. U.S.:
<https://www.iadr.org/media/865>
 - b. Outside U.S.:
<https://www.iadr.org/media/868>

Sponsor Payment Requests:

*For any award that is sponsored by an entity outside of IADR, funds must be received prior to award payments to recipients, unless two officers confirm that payment can be made using Group/Network funds.

- Sponsor payment details (please visit SG/N Financial Resources for invoice request form).

*It's advised for the SG/N officers to request award sponsorship funds ahead of the IADR General Session so payment can be made to the award recipients in a timely manner.

Newsletters

In addition to emails, the GHQ may assist in the distribution of a SG/N Newsletter to SG/N members. While GHQ can work with Word documents or PDFs, GHQ can also provide a template for the SG/N to complete to assist in the process of creating a newsletter.

Webinars

Webinars IADR SG/Ns must, barring exceptional circumstances, utilize the webinar services of the GHQ. Webinars must be approved by the IADR Board of Directors. Individuals or groups wishing to organize a webinar must first get the approval of their SG/N. Webinar content should be organized around a cutting-edge topic and planned to be no more than 60 minutes (including a question and answer/discussion period). To submit for review visit <https://www.iadr.org/form/webinarseries-proposal-form>.

Annual Process Guidance

January

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- Request for materials to be provided at General Session, i.e. plaques, checks (March meeting)
- 4th Quarter statement provided by GHQ
- March Meeting- Request abstract report of award applicants.
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February

- Confirmation of SG/N business meeting (June/July meeting)

March

- June Meeting- Request abstract report of award applicants

April

- 1st Quarter statement provided by GHQ
- Finalize General Session/award recipient invoices (March meeting)
- Update group award pages (March meeting)
- Request for materials to be provided at General Session, i.e. plaques, checks (June/July meeting)
- SG/N Award contact to confirm award finalists' abstracts are accepted for the General Session.

May

- SG/N Officers to email GHQ to confirm award finalists are registered by the Presenter Pre-Registration Deadline - date to be determined annually.
- SG/N officers to notify award applicants on status of award

June

- Nomination deadline for General Election

July

- Officer nominees due to GHQ
- Session organizers/GPC/Reviewers due to GHQ
- Session proposal/abstract submission site opens (March meeting)
- Finalize General Session invoices (June/July meeting)
- Update group award pages (June/July meeting)
- 2nd Quarter Statement provided by GHQ
- SG/N Officers must request awardee payment to GHQ by the end of the month

August

- Start of officer election
- Session proposal/abstract submission site opens (June/July meeting)

September

- Pre-review of session proposals (March meeting)
- Session proposals due to GHQ (March meeting)
- Annual Report due to GHQ
- Confirmation of SG/N business meeting (March meeting)

October

- Confirmation of business meeting details
- Appointment of AADOCR Councilor
- 3rd Quarter statement provided by GHQ

November

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- Pre-review of session proposals (June/July meeting)
- Session proposals due to GHQ (June/July meeting)

December

- General Election Results

Scientific Group/Network Elected Officers and Appointments Duties and Responsibilities

The work of each IADR Scientific Group/Network (SG/N) is accomplished by the SG/N Officers, headed by the President. The following officer positions are those required for each SG/N; additional officer positions as determined by each SG/N are allowed. The officers are responsible for governing the SG/N, managing SG/N activities and helping ensure the growth and development of their scientific area. The IADR depends on strong leaders to hold these positions to ensure the success of the General Session, governing Council, and growing the IADR membership.

Each SG/N will elect:

- President
- President-elect
- Vice-president (1 year term as VP, 1 as president-elect, 1 as president)
- Secretary/Treasurer (3-year term)
- Councilor (3-year term)

In addition to the elected officer, the SG/N officers will appoint annually Group Program Chairs (GPC), Session proposal organizers, and Abstract Reviewers to manage the SG/N content for the General Session and Annual Meeting. The GPCs, session proposal organizer and reviewers are vital to the success of the General Session. The officers may identify future leaders of the SG/N based on service to the scientific program.

Below are the minimum responsibilities for each officer of the SG/N. All officers have fiduciary responsibility for the SG/N.

President

- Arrangement of business meeting and/or reception in conjunction with IADR GHQ. The annual business meeting and/or reception offers an opportunity for networking within the SG/N and developing future initiatives and leaders.
- Liaison with IADR Regions, Divisions, Sections
The IADR Regions, Divisions and Sections also hold meetings and may ask for assistance of the IADR SG/N in preparation of their local programs. The president will be the contact for any requests and may utilize all resources of the SG/N to meet the requests.
- Website & newsletter liaison
Each SG/N should have a website. The IADR GHQ offers space to host a site. The president will work with the GHQ staff to keep content up to date. If the SG/N chooses to host a newsletter to the membership the president will work with the GHQ to distribute to the SG/N membership.
- IADR SGN Community liaison. Work with IADR GHQ to promote SGN activities and process on IADR SGN Community website
- Recommend candidates for IADR Vice-president
As a leader in a SG/N the president should recommend candidates annually for the office of IADR Vice-president
- Oversight of SG/N budget

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President-elect

- Selection of Group Program Chairs, Session organizers and Abstract Reviewers for IADR General Session and AADOCR Annual Meeting with SG/N officer approval.
The president-elect will be responsible for networking and identifying the GPC, session proposal organizers and reviewers for each General Session and/or Annual meeting. Nominations are ratified by the full SG/N officers. This is an important role in keeping the integrity of the science presented at the General Session.
- Oversight of SG/N budget

Vice-President

- Soliciting nominations for SG/N elected offices.
- The Vice-president will be responsible for identifying candidates to stand for the 3 elected offices of the SG/N. Each SG/N will need at least 2 individuals to stand for election for each position.
- Selection of AADOCR Councilor to represent SG/N at AADOCR Council meeting.
- The Councilor for the IADR is elected by the SG/N membership. The Councilor to represent the SG/N at the AADOCR Council shall be appointed by the SG/N Vice-president. The AADOCR Councilor must be an AADOCR member in good standing.
- Oversight of SG/N budget.

Secretary/Treasurer

- Completing annual report for GHQ.
Per the IADR Constitution the SG/N is required to submit an annual report of activity to the GHQ. The report is share with the Board and Council.
- Reporting on SG/N finances at business meeting.
The GHQ will provide the SG/N Secretary/Treasurer quarterly updates on membership and on invoices. It is the responsibility of the Secretary/Treasurer to report at the annual meeting or via email to the membership how the SG/N resources are being utilized, i.e. awards, symposia sponsorship etc.
- Requesting invoices, payments on behalf of SG/N.
The Secretary/Treasurer is the liaison with the GHQ for payments, invoices etc. that are required on behalf of the SG/N.
- Oversight of SG/N budget.

Councilor

- Represent SG/N at IADR Council Meeting.
The primary responsibility of the Councilor is to attend the IADR Council meeting and vote in a manner that is representative of the SG/N policies.
- Report to SG/N events arising from Council
After the Council meeting the Councilor should report either via email or at the annual business meeting the issues arising from the Council.
- Science policy liaison.
The Councilor will also act as a liaison between the GHQ and the SG/N on any science policy issues. The Councilor will work with the SG/N experts to provide feedback on any questions posed.
- Oversight of SG/N budget

These are the minimum responsibilities, but the opportunities are open-ended such as working to grow membership in the SG/N, expand the symposia offerings or working with Regions/Division/Section on scientific review committees.

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Appointed SG/N Positions

Scientific Group/Networks are required to provide volunteers for the creation of both scientific programs. Please be sure volunteers know which meeting they are signing up to serve prior to providing.

Please do not assign individuals who do not have the time in their schedule to meet these deadlines. Also, due to the steep learning curve involved in being a GPC, the Global Headquarters requests that the GPC serve for at least two meetings. **The GPCs, Reviewers, and Session Proposal Organizers must be current members of IADR.**

Group Program Chairs:

Each Scientific Group must appoint one GPC for all meetings. Generally speaking, the GPCs will have deadlines from mid-October thru mid-December for an AADOCR Meeting and from late-January thru mid-April for an IADR General Session.

- GPCs are responsible for programming the abstracts submitted to the Group/Network. This entails 1) transferring abstracts as needed 2) final review and decision of abstracts, 3) organizing the abstracts into sessions, 4) creating learning objectives, assigning session Chairs and all other required session information. All tasks are completed in the online ScholarOne Abstracts site.
- Providing the name of the Scientific Group/Networks optional Keynote Address Speaker for the meetings to Global Headquarters after conferring with other SGN officers.

Abstract Reviewers: Each Scientific Group/Network must appoint a minimum of three abstract reviewers. **The GPC should not be listed as an abstract reviewer.**

- The abstract reviewers are responsible for reviewing the abstracts assigned to them by the deadline. The Scientific Group/Network and the Group Program Chair are responsible for communicating deadlines with the abstract reviewers.

Session Proposal Coordinators: Each Scientific Group/Network must appoint one individual, separate from the GPC, to act as the Session Proposal Coordinator for any Symposia, Hands-on Workshop, or Focused Learning proposals submitted by their Group/Network. If a Session Proposal Coordinator is not appointed, the GPC will be the designated contact person for session proposal organizers requesting required Scientific Group/Network Sponsorship prior to the formal submission to the ScholarOne Abstracts system.

- The role of the Proposal Coordinator is: 1) to oversee and approve all proposals and co-sponsorships for their Scientific Group prior to the Organizer(s) of the proposal submitting them to the Annual Session Committee for consideration through the online ScholarOne Abstracts system; 2) to ensure that proposals submitted for their Group are diverse and are not repeats of other proposals; 3) to organize all aspects of each program (or otherwise be in direct contact with the individual Organizer(s) of each proposal).
- The Session Proposal Coordinator should consult with the GPC on the topics accepted.

Election of Officers

All current members of the SG/N are eligible to serve as officers of the SG/N and vote in the annual election. The annual election of officers is held in conjunction with the IADR general election for Vice-president. Current member is defined by a member of the SG/N that has paid the current year membership dues. Members are both those that have identified the SG/N as their primary affiliation or have added the SG/N to their annual membership.

Each SG/N must nominate a minimum of two individuals to stand for each elected position, vice-president every year and Secretary/Treasurer and Council every three years. Candidates may only stand for election for one position in each election. SG/N officers are able to be elected to the same office, but may not serve more than two consecutive terms for any elected office.

Prospective candidates for the position of vice president, president-elect or president are encouraged to have held at least 1-2 positions within the SG/N before the election date. This prior experience allows for better and improved understanding of the general operations and limits disruptions of effective processes within the SG/N.

If an officer does not renew their membership at any time during their term, their term is terminated and remaining officers shall appoint a member of the SG/N to fill the vacant position for the remainder of the term. Individuals completing the term of office are still eligible to serve two consecutive terms for the same elected office.

SG/Ns that do not provide candidates may risk not receiving the SG/N membership dues collected for that year.

Officer Accountability and Vote of No Confidence

In the interest of maintaining transparency, trust, and the effective functioning of Scientific Groups and Networks (SG/N), a process is available for addressing concerns regarding the conduct or performance of elected officers. If circumstances arise in which an officer is believed to be acting contrary to the mission of the SG/N or failing to fulfill the responsibilities of their role, the remaining officers may initiate a vote of no confidence.

Initiation of Process

A vote of no confidence may be initiated by a majority (more than 50%) of the remaining SG/N officers. Grounds for initiating such a vote may include, but are not limited to:

- Persistent failure to fulfill officer duties outlined in this Handbook
- Non-responsiveness to official communications or responsibilities
- Actions in conflict with the IADR mission, values, or Code of Conduct
- Ethical concerns or inappropriate use of SG/N resources

Procedure

1. The officers must first make a good-faith effort to address the concern directly with the officer in question.
2. If the issue remains unresolved, the officers shall notify IADR Global Headquarters (GHQ) of their intent to hold a vote of no confidence. GHQ may provide guidance and ensure due process is followed.

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3. A written summary of the concerns shall be prepared and shared with all officers, including the individual in question, at least 10 business days prior to a vote.
4. The vote shall be conducted confidentially via a method agreed upon by the officers and GHQ.
5. A two-thirds majority of the remaining officers is required to pass a vote of no confidence.

Outcome

- If the vote passes, the officer's position is considered vacated effective immediately.
- The remaining officers shall appoint an interim officer to serve for the remainder of the term, consistent with current vacancy procedures.
- The dismissed officer remains eligible to be nominated for a future term, unless otherwise barred due to broader IADR policy.

Appeals and Oversight

Should the officer in question wish to appeal the decision, they may submit a written statement to the IADR GHQ for review. Final oversight lies with the IADR Board of Directors to ensure the process was conducted in accordance with policy.

Officer Vacancies and Appointments

In the event that an elected officer resigns, is removed, or otherwise vacates their position before the end of their term, the following procedures shall be used to ensure continuity of leadership and support the operations of the SG/N.

President or President-elect Vacancy

If either the President or President-elect position is vacated, the remaining officers will move up one position in the leadership succession to maintain the governance structure:

- The President-elect shall assume the role of President for the remainder of the IADR year and will continue to serve as President for the full following IADR year.
- The Vice-President shall assume the role of President-elect immediately and serve in that role through the following IADR year.
- The remaining officers shall appoint an interim Vice-President to serve until the next IADR election cycle.

Secretary/Treasurer Vacancy

If the Secretary/Treasurer position is vacated, the President shall appoint an interim Secretary/Treasurer to serve the remainder of the term until the next IADR election. The interim officer must be a current SG/N member in good standing.

Councilor Vacancy

If the Councilor position is vacated, the President—or another SG/N officer designated by the remaining officers—may temporarily assume the responsibilities of Councilor until the next IADR election. The appointed individual must be an IADR member eligible to vote in Council.

These appointments are made to ensure that the SG/N can continue to meet its responsibilities, including participation in the IADR Council and effective planning for the General Session.

These procedures are especially important given the time between the IADR election and the end of the IADR year, which may span over six months in odd-numbered years.

IADR General Session Programming and SG/N

All IADR Members and Student members are encouraged to submit abstracts and present their research at IADR General Sessions as well as Regional and Divisional Meetings. With 35 SG/N and limited symposia abstract based session slots, priority is given to the SG/N with higher number of submitted abstracts.

Symposia are reviewed by the Annual Session Committee and decisions are made on the quality of the submitted science regardless of the size of individual SG/N. The Annual Session Committee (ASC) will select proposals based on the following: 1) multidisciplinary research, 2) cutting-edge science, 3) relevance of the topic to members, 4) geographic distribution of speakers (prefer to not have all speakers from the same institution), and 5) submissions demonstrating cross-collaboration of more than one Scientific Group/Network. The ASC will also take into account the number of submissions from any one Group or Network to provide a representative distribution of the science across the various SG/Ns.

Consensus Statements

At times SG/Ns may wish to publish a consensus statement on topics of interest to SG/N members. Prior to submission to the IADR Board of Directors for approval, the SG/N should submit the statement to the SG/N membership for comment (recommend post to IADR Community for full member input) for a minimum of 30 days. Once comments are received on draft statements the SG/N should consider and apply as necessary the feedback. Comments and the SG/N feedback should be submitted along with the final statement to the IADR Board of Directors for consideration. Consensus statements may be submitted to the GHQ staff liaison for the IADR Board of Directors consideration.

Business Meetings

Each SG/N will hold business meetings annually. These may be scheduled virtually and also may be held in-person at the IADR General Session and/or AADOOCR Annual Meeting. Each SG/N is represented at the IADR and AADOOCR Council. The SG/N President will work with the IADR GHQ to schedule the meeting each year.

Receptions and business meetings do not necessarily require any funds to host them. Including refreshments and beverages/food is at the discretion of the SG/N and its budgetary resources.

SG/N Financial Resources

Through 2014, membership in a SG/N was voluntary and required payment of dues in addition to IADR and any required Regional, Division, or Section dues. Starting in 2015, membership in one scientific Group or Network was included as part of IADR Dues. Members could still join additional SG/N at an additional standard fee of \$20.00 for members in High Income countries (defined by World Bank), \$12.00 and \$7.00 for those in Upper Middle and Lower Middle/Lower respectively.

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A \$5.00/member management fee was retained by the IADR Global Headquarters (GHQ) if the SG/N managed their own finances in a separate bank account or \$3.00/member if the IADR Global Headquarters managed the SG/N account in a holding account in the IADR funds. In 2017, all SG/N accounts were managed by IADR GHQ and thereafter the management fee of \$3.00/member was applied.

Starting in the 2018 membership year IADR Scientific Groups and Networks no longer were charged an administrative fee for Group or Network membership. IADR Scientific Group and Network dues are set annually by the IADR Council. Each SG/N retains control of the funds collected for SG/N membership. SG/N dues are determined by the IADR Board and voted upon by the Council each year. The dues shall be tiered in accordance with the IADR membership structure.

The GHQ will maintain the record of payments to each SG/N and communicate with SG/N officers on a quarterly basis or as requested. Invoices and/or payments are not initiated by the GHQ without written notice from the SG/N Secretary/Treasurer.

How funds are administered is voted on by the SG/N Officers, but must be consistent with the Mission of the IADR, follow all U.S. non-profit 501(c)3 guidelines, i.e. no political contributions, and must follow the [IADR Corporate Sponsorship Guidelines](#).

Typical expenses for SG/N include but are not limited to

- Symposia expenses, i.e. registration, travel funds, housing, for symposia speakers at the General Session and/or Annual Meeting.
- Logistical costs associated with the SG/N business meeting and/or receptions such as catering or photocopying.
- Support for SG/N awards.

Account Payable Instructions

General guidelines for SG/N accounts may be found at <https://www.iadr.org/media/864>

Payment Request

This includes payments to awardees, business meeting and reception expenses.

Via check

<https://www.iadr.org/media/865>

Via wire transfer

<https://www.iadr.org/media/868>

Expense Reimbursement

Expenses charged to the SG/N must be approved by two officers.

<https://www.iadr.org/media/866>

All expense reimbursements must be approved by an Officer of the Scientific Group or Network (SG/N). If you are unsure whether an expense is reimbursable, contact a SG/N Officer to receive authorization prior to incurring any expense.

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Travel and other expense reimbursement requests must be submitted, along with receipts, no later than 20 business days after the expense has been incurred. If expense reports are not submitted by the 20th business day, SG/N Officers forfeit the opportunity to be reimbursed for all incurred expenses.

Travel expenses for a spouse, family member, or guest will not be borne by the SG/N's finances.

Receipts

A single cash expenditure of over \$25 must be verified with a receipt, which should be attached to the expense report form. When in doubt, attach a receipt. All hotel expenses must be verified with a copy of the hotel bill.

Transportation

If your SG/N permits reimbursement for transportation costs, travel arrangements should be made as early as possible, but in all cases at least 21 days in advance of known travel. IADR will only reimburse for travel made at least 21 days in advance or the Officer can pay the difference between a 21-day advance ticket purchase and a last-minute fare. Only economy/coach class airfare is reimbursable (if permitted by your SG/N).

If an Officer must use a personal car for SG/N-related travel, he/she will be reimbursed at the current IRS maximum rate plus charges for parking and tolls. Fuel, oil, maintenance, insurance, and all other auto expenses are not reimbursable. Additional collision insurance may be purchased, within reasonable limits if a rental car is required.

Tips

If permitted by your SG/N, the following are guidelines for tipping: meals, up to 20%; porters, up to \$2.00 per bag; taxi, up to 20% and/or up to \$2.00 per bag/box; curbside airport check-in, up to \$2.00 per bag/box.

Personal Expenses

Personal expenses such as taxis/buses to tour a city, extravagant meals, and social drinking, dry cleaning, pet accommodations, etc., will not be reimbursed from SG/N finances.

- **Invoice Request**

Request for IADR to provide invoice to a vendor for services or for a sponsorship.

<https://www.iadr.org/media/867>

Procedure for New Scientific Groups and Networks

Per the IADR Constitution, Article V, Section 1 Groups:

Members of the Association interested in any scientific branch or professional field related to craniofacial, oral and dental science, with the approval of the Council, may organize a Group to further the objectives of the Association. A Group will be comprised of a minimum number of members as specified by the Bylaws.

And Article V, Section 3. Networks:

Members of the Association, with the approval of the Council, may organize a Network for the advancement of the objectives of the Association. A Network will be comprised of a minimum number as specified by the Bylaws.

The Bylaws define the minimum number as 50 in By-Laws Section A. 3. (b) and (c).

Suspension or Revocation of Scientific Groups and Networks

Per the IADR Constitution, Article V, Section 5. Suspension and Revocation:

Approval of a Group, Group Chapter or Network may be suspended or revoked for non-maintenance of the minimum number of members required for formation, failing to hold a meeting for two consecutive years, failing to report its activities and its membership, non-compliance with the Association's Constitution, or for other good cause shown. Suspension or revocation will be determined at the Annual Meeting of the Council, by a two-thirds vote of the Council members present and voting. The Group, Chapter or Network threatened with suspension or revocation shall be so notified by the Chief Executive Officer at least 120 days before the annual General Session, and shall be entitled to appear before Council in the form of a delegation of members or Officers, by representation, or by submission of a written statement to defend its right to exist.

APPENDIX

Description of IADR Scientific Groups and Networks (SG/N)

Scientific Groups

Behavioral, Epidemiologic and Health Services Research Group

The purpose of the Behavioral, Epidemiological and Health Services Research Group (BEHSR) is to promote and encourage research in behavioral, epidemiologic, and health services sciences as they relate to oral health. These scientific areas of concentration include research on the epidemiology of oral diseases and their prevention, social inequalities, behavioral dentistry, health professions and public education, evidence-based policy interventions, population-based observational and interventional studies, and community-based participatory action research. The BEHSR sponsors a number of awards for students and other trainees to encourage their participation in oral health-related research. Additionally, there are awards that recognize the most important oral health research in behavioral, epidemiological, and health services arenas. These awards include Distinguished Scientist, Outstanding Student and prizes for published papers/travel. In addition to facilitating oral sessions, symposia, posters, and Lunch & Learning sessions, the BEHSR Group sponsors the Epi-forum, a half-day session held in conjunction with IADR (and AADOCR) meetings. The Epi-forum provides an opportunity for emerging researchers to present their work to a body of experts in a friendly and collaborative environment.

Cariology Research Group

The primary purpose of the Cariology Research Group (CRG) is to promote research on the etiology, epidemiology, risk assessment, pathogenesis, diagnosis, prevention and management of dental caries. Furthermore, the CRG supports and provides a forum for research on dental erosion and abrasion, fluorosis, microbiological and genetic aspects of caries, dental public health and fluoride- and calcium-containing oral care products. The CRG organizes scientific posters, oral presentations, symposia, workshops, and Lunch & Learning sessions at IADR meetings. This Group rewards outstanding contributions in its scientific areas through two awards: the IADR Basil Bibby Young Investigator Award and the IADR Cariology Research Group Travel Award. The CRG also organizes an annual, social event at IADR meetings and embraces social media to communicate and interact with its members.

Craniofacial Biology Group

The primary purpose of the Craniofacial Biology Group (CBG) is to promote excellence in clinical, translational and basic science research focused on the craniofacial complex. This broad category of research encompasses topics that range from mechanisms of early craniofacial development to the diagnosis and treatment of malocclusion. The CBG supports and provides a forum for research on genetic and biochemical control of dental and craniofacial skeletal development; etiology, diagnosis and treatment of craniofacial anomalies; etiology, diagnosis and treatment of malocclusion; 3-D imaging of craniofacial structures; development of biomarkers, animal models of craniofacial development and other relevant topics. The CBG organizes oral presentations, scientific posters, symposia, workshops and Lunch & Learning sessions for IADR, AADOCR and combined IADR/AADOCR meetings. The CBG strongly encourages student participation at meetings and rewards outstanding student research through two awards: the IADR Craniofacial Biology Group Award and the IADR Bernard Sarnat Award. The CBG also organizes social events at IADR, AADOCR and combined IADR/AADOCR meetings. These events offer an excellent opportunity for networking and promote collaborative research opportunities.

Dental Anesthesiology and Special Care Research Group

The Dental Anesthesiology and Special Care Research (DASCR) Group deals with the following research in dentistry: 1) local anesthesia, such as conduction anesthesia and infiltration anesthesia; 2) inhalation or intravenous sedation; 3) pain management - acute or chronic orofacial
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pain, orofacial cancerous pain and synalgia; 4) systemic management of patients with comorbid illness; 5) perioperative systemic management; and 6) general anesthesia and ambulatory general anesthesia. Accordingly, DASCRC is strongly related to basic medicine fields, such as physiology, anatomy, pharmacology, and biochemistry. In addition, sedation and general anesthesia are applied not only to oral surgery but also to general or pediatric dentistry. The DASCRC investigates the management of patients with intellectual disabilities, dental phobias or treatment refusals. The DASCRC group also awards a young investigator prize for innovation. The certificate of recognition and a monetary award are open to student presenters up to the pre-doctoral level.

Dental Materials Group

The Dental Materials Group (DMG) has begun considerable redefinition of the core science related to dental materials. The new biomaterials include forays into nano-structure of polymeric and ceramic materials, meso-structure of ceramics, entirely new types of polymeric options for composites and cements, tissue engineering, substantial exploration of fast fabrication techniques, and new approaches to clinical research for materials evaluation. All of these are in concert with changing emphasis in dentistry that include much stronger prevention, personalized dentistry, special emphasize on caries risk assessment, new approaches to behavior management and state-of-the-art restorative techniques. DMG is committed to doing great science in new ways and exploring better ways to communicate it to others. It maintains strong working relationships with the dental industry and continues to support the mentoring and evolution of young dental scientists.

Diagnostic Sciences Group

The purpose of the Diagnostic Sciences Group is to enhance communication, cooperation and inter-disciplinary activities among those interested in research in the diagnostic sciences, strategies and related disciplines, especially as applicable to diseases, conditions and abnormalities that affect the oral and maxillofacial region. Besides furthering the objectives of IADR, this Group aims to promote the advancement of research, development, and application of innovative diagnostic systems to improve clinical outcomes and to facilitate the presentation, discussion and publication of scientific papers in this area.

Education Research Group

The mission of the Educational Research Group (ERG) is: to promote and encourage research in the methods and techniques for the teaching and knowledge transfer of the art and science of dentistry from teacher to student in the academic, hospital, clinic and related environment; to encourage and facilitate the presentation, discussion and publication of the related scientific education research papers; to provide a forum and organization where all aspects of the latest academic, didactic and tutorial technology is assessed; to encourage an interdisciplinary approach to the investigation of education and education research as it relates to dentistry and the related health sciences; to attract dental educators, scientists and clinicians to research in the field of dental education research via related seminars and discussions; and where appropriate, to disseminate and apply the research findings to "education" of the lay public and responsible institutional and governmental bodies. The ERG is a group of educators, scientists and clinicians whose scope of research targets all aspects of dental education—learning, teaching, technology and innovation. The Group holds special seminars and workshops that offer a forum to review and assess the latest advances in didactic, preclinical, and clinical instruction as well as a variety of related topics from new technologies to continuing professional education.

Geriatric Oral Research Group

The Geriatric Oral Research Group (GORG) provides a focus and forum within IADR to facilitate the exchange of ideas, dissemination of scientific information, and opportunities for collaboration related to geriatric oral research. Group members share interests in research on aging; allied
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fields (such as nutrition, oral physiology, prosthodontics, and conservative dentistry); oral diseases and conditions that impact the overall wellbeing of older people; and policies on the education and clinical practice of dental geriatrics reflecting the most current evidence. Additionally, the GORG aims to promote the publication of research findings in geriatric oral research, and encourage scientists, junior investigators and students to become involved via seminars and discussions. The GORG retains active engagement in the IADR meetings by sponsoring Lunch & Learning sessions, symposia, and a keynote speaker session highlighting the recipient of the IADR Distinguished Scientist Award in Geriatric Oral Research from the previous year. The GORG also sponsors a yearly award for best poster in geriatric oral research. A yearly GORG business meeting provides a venue for members to meet collectively, recognize accomplishments, and support the general business initiatives of the Group. Occasionally there will be satellite symposia to provide a more intimate environment for GORG members to focus attention on specialty topics within dental geriatrics.

Implantology Research Group

The Implantology Research Group consists of educators, scientists and clinicians from across the world, whose scope of research targets all aspects of dental implants: materials and designs; placement techniques; types of restorations; and evaluation methods for a long-term success. This Group's lectures, seminars, symposia and Lunch & Learning sessions offer a forum to review and assess the latest advances in laboratory studies and clinical research – the latest research in implant surface textures and contact cell guidance, development of new implant designs and thread geometry, implant surgical techniques and loading protocols, standardized and advanced clinical implant procedures, and cutting-edge technology associated with implant dentistry.

Lasers & Bio-photonics Group

The Lasers & Bio-photonics Group was created in 2022, with the aim of raising awareness about the importance of lasers and general photonic devices in prevention and therapeutics and their ability to perform different procedures, and with improved outcomes in the craniofacial, oral, and dental areas. The vision: The group envisages improving communication between scientific and education communities, clinicians, researchers, and the industry to allow a more effective investment of research in the right direction, and to move the technology forward as fast and efficiently as possible. Who should be involved? Anyone with an interest or additional input to contribute to subjects related to lasers and photonic devices, regarding education, clinical use, research, development, mechanisms of action for any clinical use, either as a means of diagnostics, treatment of disease or dysfunctions, or tissue modulation to improve health or esthetics in the craniofacial, oral, and dental field. We encourage communication and partnerships between the scientific communities and unbiased support from the industry to promote research and awards amongst the group members and educational events.

Microbiology/Immunology Research Group

The purpose of the Microbiology/Immunology (M/I) Research Group is to further the mission of the IADR/AADOCR by promoting oral health research, enhancing membership and participation in IADR/AADOCR, and fostering the communication and application of research findings that are relevant to dental science. To this end the MI Group was organized with the following objectives in mind: to foster interaction and collaboration among scientists interested in oral microbiology and immunology; to promote information exchange and collaboration among academicians and clinicians who are engaged in basic science research and clinical studies pertaining to oral health and disease; to provide a forum through which new investigators entering the field can begin to network with more established investigators; and to establish contacts with representatives of federal agencies and private industry as potential sources of funding for future studies.

Mineralized Tissue Group

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The Mineralized Tissue Group is comprised of people who have a common interest in the mineralized tissues in the craniofacial region, which include enamel, dentin, cementum and bone in the mandible and maxilla. The Group members come from various backgrounds including developmental, molecular and cell biology, chemistry, mineralogy and materials science. The highly interdisciplinary nature of the Group makes it a great forum for presenting the cutting-edge science from many areas of dental and craniofacial research. In addition, the Group provides a platform for lively exchanges of scientific ideas and serves a network for fostering research collaborations among its members. The Group organizes research symposia on a variety of research topics, reflecting broad interests of its membership. One of the hallmarks of the Group is the focus on the young researchers. A friendly and collegial atmosphere makes it easy for young members to make contacts with more established researchers, many of whom are the global leaders in their fields. Graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and junior independent investigators can count on support and advice from the seasoned group members for their career development and personal growth. Every year, the Group issues four travel awards to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to encourage them to attend the annual meetings of IADR and AADOCR.

Neuroscience Group

The mission of the Neuroscience Group is to provide and facilitate a focus and forum within the IADR for the exchange of scientific information related to orofacial neuroscience, which includes: research on the role of the nervous system in oral, neuromuscular, and temporomandibular joint functions, as well as in the diagnosis and treatment of orofacial disorders (e.g. TMD, neuropathic pain, trigeminal neuralgias, bruxism, etc.); to promote the publication of research findings; to attract young dental scientists and clinicians into neuroscience research; and to help disseminate to the lay public research findings in this field. As a result, the membership in this group offers you great opportunities to network with different orofacial pain and neuroscience research experts; be informed on the most up-to-date research advances in the neuroscience field and grow as a researcher and clinician in this field.

Nutrition Research Group

The Nutrition Research Group is comprised of IADR members who share an interest and expertise in research on nutrition and diet and their interrelationships to oral health, health promotion behaviors, and systemic health. Nutrition and diet are important in the prevention and treatment of many oral diseases and conditions such as caries, periodontal disease, oral cancer, salivary disorders and prosthodontic use, and an important component of epidemiology and public health research. In addition to the IADR objectives, the objectives of this Group are: to provide a focus and forum within the IADR for the exchange of scientific information related to nutrition research; to facilitate the exchange of ideas in this field by promoting formal and informal meetings, symposia and workshops; to promote the publication of research findings in diet and nutrition research, especially as it relates to oral health, oral health promotion, oral diseases and conditions; to encourage scientists, junior investigators and students to become involved in diet and nutrition research via seminars and discussions; and to help disseminate to the dental profession and the public, research findings in this area.

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Group

The Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) Group is dedicated to advancing patient clinical care through dissemination and support of compelling research advancing the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery in a manner consistent with IADR's goals. The Group encompasses and includes researchers, residents and students from all over the world with a wide variety of research interests. From a global or international perspective, OMS research needs to be "at the table" with other surgical and health disciplines engaged in addressing global problems where our knowledge and skills are relevant or unique. This Group is particularly interested in and recognized for its contributions in the areas of head and neck cancer, medication-related

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osteonecrosis of the jaws (MRONJ), orofacial regeneration, obstructive sleep apnea, advances in maxillofacial imaging, dental implants, bone physiology, wound healing, distraction osteogenesis, orofacial pain, and temporomandibular joint disorders.

Oral Health Research Group

The Oral Health Research Group (OHRG) is committed to the improvement of global oral health through research in the areas of prevention of oral diseases, evidence-based interventions and therapies that promote wellness. The OHRG provides a forum for collaboration and dissemination of research through: scientific oral and poster sessions, symposia, workshops, and Lunch & Learning sessions at the IADR meetings; collaboration with other Scientific Groups to co-sponsor symposia, workshops, and oral presentations; business meeting and social networking event at IADR meetings; publication of research findings to improve global oral health. Currently the OHRG recognizes scientific accomplishments through two awards. One for junior researchers recognizes outstanding and innovative research in basic dental science for improvement of public dental health and in recognition of applied research achievements for improvement and development of oral care products for the prevention of oral disease. Another recognizes a body of meritorious research by a member of the IADR Oral Health Research Group, with preference given to a dental hygienist.

Oral Medicine & Pathology Group

The members of the Oral Medicine & Pathology Group (OMPG) have scholarly interests that include basic science research, translational research and clinical research. A broad range of topics comes under this Group including microbiome and orofacial diseases, precision oncology and its role in potentially malignant oral diseases and conditions, oral and head and neck cancers, immune mediated and autoimmune mucosal disease, diseases of the salivary glands, bones and orofacial soft tissues, orofacial manifestations of HIV/AIDS and new approaches in the management of orofacial diseases in clinical practice. The scientific achievements of OMPG members are presented in IADR/AADOCR scientific sessions, organized by the OMPG program chair, that include oral sessions, poster sessions, symposia, lunch & learning sessions and workshops. OMPG funds have supported the AADOCR student research fellowship program and numerous scientific symposia. The Group is currently developing a funding program to support trainees working with OMPG members to travel to the annual IADR General Session.

Orthodontics Research

The Orthodontic Research Group (ORG) is an innovation nucleus welcoming clinicians and researchers across disciplines to advance Orthodontic treatments. Our focus is on translational Orthodontic research that makes meaningful use of basic and clinical research findings to advance Orthodontic care. ORG also increases awareness of our specialty - which provides care to millions of patients each year at a significant cost in both time and money - and we promote innovations to decrease these burdens for the entire population of Orthodontic patients.

The goals of ORG can be summarized as following: 1) Expose clinicians and students to the science that has immediate clinical application; 2) Provide a forum and facilitate the exchange of scientific ideas in Orthodontics among ORG Members and Members of other IADR Scientific Groups; 3) Bring Academia and Industry together for closer collaborations; 4) Provide clinicians with Continuing Education courses teaching cutting-edge approaches to advanced orthodontics; 5) Facilitate presentations, seminars, workshops, symposia and publication of high impact scientific papers in Orthodontic research and innovation; 6) Recognize excellence in both established and young Orthodontic scientists through the presentation of competitive research awards; 7) Help ORG members take their innovative treatments and devices from concept to market. ORG members will receive guidance through the product development pipelines that are becoming increasingly important to our specialty; 8) ORG also recognizes that the future cannot be left to chance. We are actively engaging students in ORG functions and mentoring them to

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take the reins of leadership in ORG; and 9) Keep the Orthodontic community around the world updated through a quarterly newsletter.

Pediatric Oral Health Research Group

The mission of the Pediatric Oral Health Research (POHR) Group is to promote and encourage research in pediatric oral health. The Group works to 1) advance research in pediatric oral health research; 2) promote an interdisciplinary approach to the conduct of observational, investigational, and translational research in pediatric oral health research; and 3) provide an international and cooperative forum to present and discuss pediatric oral health research. The Group is working toward sponsorship and the development of workshops, and Lunch & Learning sessions at IADR meetings, in addition to rewarding outstanding contributions in its scientific area, organizing social events at IADR meetings, and interacting with the leadership of IADR on many levels. POHR often works with other Groups to co-sponsor scientific symposia and poster and oral presentation sessions. Members of POHR also are selected frequently to present or give posters in scientific sessions wholly sponsored by other Groups.

Periodontal Research Group

Beyond its support of the overall IADR objectives, the Periodontal Research Group (PRG) further aims to: 1) advance the study and knowledge of periodontology; 2) facilitate the presentation, discussion and publication of scientific papers on periodontal research; 3) provide a forum and organization in which all scientists whose interests are related to periodontal research may participate; and 4) recognize excellence in both young and established periodontal scientists through the presentation of competitive awards for research. The PRG organizes symposia and Lunch & Learning sessions, hands-on workshops for the IADR General Sessions and, supported by a Group of reviewers, for the evaluation of periodontal research abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations. Finally, PRG officers are responsible for administering a number of prestigious awards.

Pharmacology/Therapeutics/Toxicology Group

The purpose of the Pharmacology/Therapeutics/Toxicology Group (PTTG) is to promote and encourage research in pharmacology, toxicology and therapeutics affecting oral health. These scientific areas include a broad range of topics from principles of drug action to systemic pharmacology and toxicology; and emphasize drugs that are commonly employed in clinical practice, including precautions and contraindications, drug interactions and effects on dental treatment, drug delivery systems and their effects on oral health, as well as other subjects. The goal of the PTTG is also to serve science and scientists to exchange the knowledge of the mechanisms, efficacy, and safety of drugs used in dentistry. In practice, this encompasses basic and clinical pharmacology studies of analgesics, anesthetics, antimicrobials, sedatives, fluorides, and other drug classes used by dentists. The Group has a membership from multiple disciplines and is active in fostering excellence in pharmacology, toxicology and therapeutics research through many mechanisms: organizing scientific posters, presentations symposia, workshops; and Lunch & Learning sessions at meetings of the International and American Associations for Dental Research (IADR/AADOCR); rewarding outstanding contributions in the Groups' scientific area; organizing social events in conjunction with the scientific programs that are sponsored; assisting IADR/AADOCR in developing plans for their annual meetings, maintaining a Web page on the IADR website describing Group activities; and interacting with IADR on many levels.

Prosthodontics Group

The objectives of the Prosthodontics Group are to provide a forum for the exchange of interdisciplinary scientific information in pertaining in prosthodontics and to promote prosthodontics research, particularly among emerging young prosthodontic researchers and teachers. Prosthodontics is a dynamic research field spanning from *in vitro* laboratory research, *Approved by IADR Council, March 21, 2017. Updated: March 24, 2026*

animal research, theoretical engineering, clinical research and epidemiology. The research topics covered in this Group are, but not limited to: prosthodontic-related materials, cariology, implant dentistry, tissue engineering, and quality of life. Additionally, the Group conducts three types of research competition for student/members.

Pulp Biology & Regeneration Group

The Pulp Biology & Regeneration Group focuses on the study of the physiology, pathology and regeneration of the dentin-pulp-complex and its surrounding tissues. The research interests are specified as follows: 1) tooth development: signaling mechanisms during tooth development; 2) inflammation and dental pain: triggers and mechanisms of nociception, the course of inflammatory processes and their influence on tissue repair and regeneration; 3) endodontic Infections: identification, characterization and eradication of pulpal pathogens; 4) instrumentation: equipment and instruments, conventional and novel treatment methods, parameters of endodontic success or failure, and mechanistic studies on tissue responses to endodontic treatment; 5) endodontic and restorative dental materials: biocompatibility testing and research on the effects of those materials on the dental the dentin-pulp complex; 6) dental pulp stem cells: research regarding the isolation and characterization of mesenchymal stem cells from dental pulp or apical papilla; 7) tissue engineering of the dentin-pulp complex: research on the use of stem cells, scaffold materials and growth factors to regenerate a vascularized pulp-like tissue with differentiated odontoblast-like cells capable of forming dentin; and 8) regeneration of dental pulp – regenerative endodontics: the basic science behind and the clinical research of endodontics protocols developed to achieve the regeneration of dental pulp. In addition to IADR's objectives, further objectives are: 1) provide a forum for the exchange of scientific information related to pulp biology and regeneration at IADR meetings; 2) promote the study and knowledge of pulp biology; 3) facilitate the presentation, discussion, and publication of scientific papers on all facets of pulp biology and regeneration research; 4) promote networking and international cooperation in pulp-related research; and 5) organize periodic satellite meetings with the goal of focused scientific discussions on hot research topics, followed by publication of the proceedings in peer-reviewed journals.

Salivary Research Group

The Salivary Research Group (SRG) encompasses clinicians, scientists, students and postdoctoral research fellows who share a common interest in the salivary glands and saliva. Collectively, the research interests of this Group's members include, but are not limited to, the following areas of research: structure-function-relationship between saliva and its components in health and disease; physiology and physiopathology of salivary glands and saliva; association of salivary gland dysfunction with autoimmune diseases e.g. Sjögren's Syndrome and exocrine dysfunction; salivary gland dysfunction due to radiation therapy for the head and neck malignancies, aging, and other causes; biology of stem cells and development of the salivary glands; salivary gland engineering and regenerative therapies; saliva as a diagnostic fluid. The SRG is committed to supporting future salivary gland researchers by recognizing excellence in salivary gland research and it sponsors an annual research award for trainees and the salivary researcher of the year award. Additionally, The SRG issues multiple sponsored travel awards targeting dental students, dental scientists, and non-dental students and postdoctoral fellows.

Stem Cell Biology Group

The mission of the IADR Stem Cell Biology Group is to disseminate knowledge of stem and progenitor cells and translation of fundamental discoveries towards novel clinical therapies or products that benefit oral health of patients. The Group is designed to collaborate with other Scientific Groups and societies, both within and outside IADR, to provide a forum for in-depth discussion of the roles played by stem cells in development, homeostasis, ageing and tissue regeneration. The Stem Cell Biology Group promotes and encourages investigation of stem and progenitor cells and their multiple lineages including pluripotent and multipotent cells as well as

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cells that produce tissues of relevance to orofacial structures. Multi-disciplinary and novel approaches are encouraged to study stem/progenitor cells and their behavior *ex vivo* and *in vivo*. Genetic, biochemical, biomaterial, and physical regulation of stem/progenitor cells and end-lineage cells are among some of the increasingly powerful tools. The Stem Cell Biology Group especially encourages the participation of new investigators, including trainees with interest and dedication to studying stem cell biology as well as well-established investigators who wish to use their expertise to interrogate stem cells.

IADR Networks represent members from multiple disciplines on a particular topic or idea rather than specific research area.

Clinical Translational Science Network

The Clinical and Translational Science Network is a forum for oral health research that takes place at a range of research centers and includes best practices, clinical trial design, research methodologies and clinical and translational research analytical approaches. The network includes all Clinical & Translational research awardees in the United States (NIH/NCATs) and is open to all other government- or privately funded research members with translational research background. The network started in 2012 and has provided programs and symposium for best practices and engages the research categories from T₀ through T₄.

Digital Dentistry Research Network

The IADR Digital Dentistry Network is a collaborative umbrella group of investigators pursuing improvement in the rapidly developing field of digital dental technologies. Our scope covers all disciplines of dentistry testing and integrating digital technologies into diagnosis, treatment planning, and clinical operations. Through traditional and novel mediums, the network is built on facilitating our investigators and interested parties in assessing, producing, and interpreting the latest in digital dental research.

e-Oral Health Network

The e-Oral Health Network has put together an international, interdisciplinary team of researchers and oral health professionals to increase research capacity in the fields of oral health Information, Communication Technologies (ICT) and its related applications. With the overall goal to create a forum and opportunities, via the various research and knowledge transfer activities of his members, to support clinical and public health interventions, as well as educational strategies that use ICT tools and technologies such as teledentistry as a vehicle to improve oral health. Worldwide, and under IADR's umbrella the Network will offer opportunities for research collaboration with recognized experts in the field of e-health, Telemedicine and Health ICT. The network will share experiences and information in regard to ongoing projects and research results with other IADR scientific groups and their members and hope to advance the knowledge in this field.

Evidence-based Dentistry Network

The Evidence-Based Dentistry (EBD) Network is an active network of clinicians, researchers, teachers and guideline developers with a shared interest in promoting the use of best evidence to inform clinical practice and teaching. The key aims of the EBD Network are to: provide a forum across all IADR Groups for the exchange of scientific information pertaining to all aspects of study within the field of evidence-based dentistry; promote the advancement of research in evidence-based dentistry, for example in the fields of research methodology, translational research, systematic review methodology and implementation of research into clinical practice (this will aim to be relevant to and integrate the research interests of, all IADR Scientific Groups); support the dissemination of EBD through teaching; encourage and stimulate interdisciplinary communication

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and collaboration within the field of evidence-based dentistry (this includes networking opportunities at IADR meetings to meet one another and share ideas); assist IADR in developing its scientific program and fulfilling its mission. The Network hopes to provide an open forum in which members may explore the challenges involved in practicing and teaching EBD.

Global Oral Health Inequalities Research Network

By joining the Global Oral Health Inequalities Research Network (GOHIRN), you can become involved in research initiatives with a focus on the following: stimulation, promotion and fostering research on global oral health inequalities; collaboration with the wider health community in research focused on global health inequalities; interdisciplinary research collaboration among those with an interest in global oral health inequalities in research institutions, schools and other center; foster an environment where mentoring junior faculty and students at all levels of training in terms of career development and research focus is prioritized; involvement with and support of IADR in promoting global oral health inequalities research and in collaborating with other international organizations; and achieving the goals for the Global Oral Health Inequalities Research Network including encouraging programs of excellence in global oral health sciences and international health within universities and other appropriate institutions, not confined to dental schools, encouraging capacity building initiatives in global oral health research and pursuit of an implementation agenda, and a solution based approach. GOHIRN offers a supportive forum for conducting and presenting research in all aspects of oral health where inequalities exist, and pursues a local, national and global agenda.

International Network for Orofacial Pain and Related Disorders Methodology (INFORM)

INFORM's specific goal is to maintain and continue to add to a working consortium of multi-national clinical centers having the capability to conduct interdisciplinary basic, translational and clinical research on an international and collaborative level into the etiology, diagnosis, prevention and management of TMD, orofacial pain conditions, and related disorders. One of INFORM's key objectives is to continue to develop comparable evidence-based diagnostic criteria through research collaboration into all acute and chronic dental and orofacial pain conditions. The Research Diagnostic Criteria for Temporomandibular Disorders (Dworkin and LeResche, 1992; RDC/TMD) has become internationally recognized as a useful clinical, laboratory, and epidemiologic classification tool. In order to ensure that (1) patients experiencing TMDs receive only the most appropriate care, (2) laboratory experiments produce generalizable data via reliable classification, and (3) clinical and epidemiological studies are conducted within a common framework, the Consortium now known as INFORM was established in order to foster collaborative international research. Thus far INFORM and its members have yielded the most accurate and useful evidence-based description of the natural history, clinical course and therapeutic efficacy of TMDs and of the risk and protective factors influencing the most common forms of TMDs. In addition, INFORM continues to develop other criteria for conditions such as burning mouth and the phenomenon represented by phantom tooth pain.

Minimally Invasive Dentistry Network

The purpose of the Minimally Invasive Dentistry Network (MIDN) is to facilitate the exchange of ideas, dissemination of scientific information, and opportunities for collaboration related to the holistic MID approaches to manage dental diseases in all age groups (from young to the old) by promoting an interdisciplinary approach to the conduct of laboratory-based, observational, translational and investigational research within the field of evidence-based dentistry (this would aim to be relevant to and integrate the research interests of, all IADR Scientific Groups/Networks). The Network focuses on the etiology, epidemiology, risk assessments, pathogenesis, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of dental diseases by implementing the MID strategies. The MIDN supports and provides a forum for research on new smart biomaterials, topical applications with new technologies such as bioglass, hydroxyapatite formula, S-PRG to manage dental diseases, tissue engineering, new approaches of clinical research using futuristic materials, systems and

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devices from concept to market, regenerative endodontics, MID management of periodontal diseases/tooth discolorations/tooth surface loss/acquired/congenital tooth loss, dental public health to prevent dental diseases. The MIDN will organize scientific posters, oral presentations, symposia, and Lunch & Learning (hands-on options) sessions at IADR meetings.

Network for Practice-based Research

In addition to the IADR objectives, the further objectives of the Network for Practice-Based Research are: to promote and encourage investigation into the methods and techniques for the conduct of research in practice-based settings and networks worldwide; to promote an interdisciplinary approach to the conduct of observational, investigational, and translational research in the practice of dentistry and oral health sciences; to provide an international and cooperative forum to present and discuss practice-based evidence; and to disseminate and apply practice-based research findings when and where appropriate. Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRNs) have emerged as community-based “laboratories” for a wide range of research. They provide opportunities to link community-based clinicians, administrators, dental companies and academic researchers to test research questions in ‘real-world’ settings, where the majority of dental care is provided.

Oral Malodor Network

The Oral Malodor Network seeks to unite researchers and clinicians from diverse backgrounds who share a common interest and expertise in breath research, specifically focusing on halitosis. Our goal is to create a platform that fosters the exchange of interdisciplinary research and knowledge related to halitosis, while also striving to advance the field and raise awareness. Our areas of focus include but are not limited to etiology, prevention, epidemiology, diagnosis, and treatment of oral malodor. We aim to attract more colleagues to breath research, promote the publication of research findings, and effectively communicate our discoveries to the public.

Pride in Dental Research Network

The Pride in Dental Research Network focuses on reaffirming IADR’s commitment to fostering a welcoming and supportive environment for all members of the dental, oral, and craniofacial research community. At the heart of this Network is the creation of a safe, supportive, and empowering space for LGBTQIA+ community members, allies, and friends within the IADR.

Student Training & Research (STAR) Network

The Student Training and Research (STAR) Network is a platform to provide a global, non-institutional based, mentoring, training and career development forum for students, residents, junior faculty, clinicians and training program directors. The objectives of the STAR Network are: to stimulate, promote and foster student research on a global level; to promote and encourage collaboration in programs to foster students research training globally; to promote interdisciplinary collaboration among those with an interest in student training and research at institutions, schools and other centers; to provide mentoring to students at all levels of training in terms of career development and research focus; and to support IADR in promoting research training and student research activities and in collaborating with other international organizations. The goals for the STAR Network are to: encouraging student research and training international at universities and other appropriate institutions, not confined to dental schools; and encourage the development of student networks and mentorship building initiatives globally in the various IADR Regions and Divisions. The STAR Network wants to bridge the knowledge and “know how” gap in clinical and basic science research, academic career development, and training methodologies globally so that the young students, researchers and program directors are exposed to best practices beyond their own schools, mentors or programs. This Network connects motivated, qualified students, mentors and program directors to equally motivated, young researchers and mentors providing the opportunity to build connections on a regional and global level. Finally, the Network provides

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an educational platform through the IADR General Sessions presenting symposiums, seminars, Lunch & Learning sessions, and symposia related to the STAR Network's goals and objectives.

Women in Science Network

The Women in Science Network aims to serve the need for promoting the interests of women, communication, research collaboration and career mentoring among – but not restricted to – female members. The goals of this Network are to: examine and highlight issues related to women professionals such as evidence on policies and benefits (including childcare, tenure clock with child birth/adoption, recruitment, salary etc.), leadership skill building for women, and oral health issues related to women; promote and encourage collaboration in research focused on women's oral health; promote interdisciplinary research collaboration among women in different schools and/or centers; provide mentoring to junior women faculty and students at all levels of training in terms of career development and research focus; review data from IADR/AADOCR on membership of committees and programs and encourage appropriate representation of women; and generate surveys and analyze data related to women in dental science.

Chronology of Scientific Groups and Networks

The International Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research was founded in 1920 and for most of its first two decades there were no separate scientific groups. The first scientific group approved by the IADR was the **Dental Materials Group** in 1939. The IADR constitution was revised in 1940 to allow for the formation of additional scientific groups, with Article V, Section 3 stating “Members in any branch of dental science, with the approval of the Association, may organize a Group for the group advancement of the objects of the Association.” This language we rephrased in 1956 to “Members in any branch of dental science, or in fields related to dental science, with the approval of the Association may organize a group to further the objectives of the Association in special scientific or professional fields.”

However, it was not until 1965 that the second scientific group, the **Craniofacial Biology Group** was approved. Then came the **Periodontal Research Group** (1969) and the Behavioral Sciences Group (1971), later expanded to the now, **Behavioral Sciences, Epidemiologic and Health Services Research**. By the end of the 1970’s nine additional Scientific Groups were approved, bringing the total number of groups to 13; **Pharmacology/Therapeutics/Toxicology** and **Salivary Research** (1972), **Microbiology/Immunology, Mineralized Tissue, and Prosthodontics** (1974), Pulp Biology (currently **Pulp Biology and Regeneration**) (1975), **Cariology Research** and **Neuroscience** (1976), and **Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery** (1979).

The remainder of the 20th Century brought an additional seven scientific groups, bringing the total to 20; Experimental Pathology Group (currently **Oral Medicine and Pathology**) (1981), **Implantology** (1983), **Geriatric Oral Research** (1988), Diagnostic Systems (currently **Diagnostic Sciences**) (1989), **Nutrition Research** (1993), Oral/Dental Hygiene Research (currently **Oral Health Research**) (1994), and **Education Research** (1996).

Dental Anesthesiology and Special Care Research (2000) became the 21st Scientific Group. In 2003, the concept of Networks was born after a group of members approached the IADR Board about forming an evidence-based dentistry scientific group. Not wishing to imply the other scientific groups were “non-evidence based” and the fact that the principles of evidence-based medicine and dentistry would apply across a range of scientific groups, the Board and Council approved the formation of the **Evidence-based Dentistry Network** (2003). The Network concept led to 8 additional networks; **International RDC/TMD Consortium Network** (2006, name change 2017), **Network for Practice-based Research** (2008), **Women in Science Network** (2011), **Clinical and Translational Science Network** and **Global Oral Health Inequalities Research Network** (2012), **Student Training and Research (STAR) Network** (2013), **e-Oral Health Network** (2017) and **Digital Dentistry Research Network** (2021). Four additional traditional scientific groups were also added in the last years; **Pediatric Oral Health Research** (2012), **Stem Cell Biology** (2013), **Orthodontics Research** (2017), **Lasers & Bio-photonics Group** (2022), **Oral Malodor Network** (2024), and the **Pride in Dental Research Network** (2025).

In summary, in the first 50 years of IADR between 1920 and 1970 there were just 3 scientific groups. By 2000, there were 21 Scientific Groups. With the advent of networks in the early 2000’s, there were 25 Scientific Groups and 11 Networks by 2024. (See Table)

TABLE

IADR Scientific Groups and Networks	Founded
Dental Materials	1939
Craniofacial Biology	1965
Periodontal Research	1969
Behavioral, Epidemiologic and Health Services Research (formed as Behavioral Sciences Group)	1971
Pharmacology/Therapeutics/Toxicology	1972
Salivary Research	1972
Microbiology/Immunology	1974
Mineralized Tissue	1974
Prosthodontics	1974
Pulp Biology and Regeneration (formed as Pulp Biology Group)	1975
Cariology Research	1976
Neuroscience	1976
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	1979
Oral Medicine and Pathology (formed as Experimental Pathology Group)	1981
Implantology	1983
Geriatric Oral Research	1988
Diagnostic Sciences (formed as Diagnostic Systems Group)	1989
Nutrition Research	1993
Oral Health Research (formed as Oral/Dental Hygiene Research Group)	1994
Education Research	1996
Dental Anesthesiology and Special Care Research (name changed, 2020; formed as Dental Anesthesiology Group)	2000
Evidence-based Dentistry Network	2003
International Network for Orofacial Pain and Related Disorders Methodology (INFORM) (name changed, 2017; formed as International RDC/TMD Consortium Network)	2006
Network for Practice-based Research	2008
Women in Science Network	2011
Clinical and Translational Science Network	2012
Global Oral Health Inequalities Research Network	2012
Pediatric Oral Health Research	2012
Stem Cell Biology	2013
Student Training and Research (STAR) Network	2013
e-Oral Health Network	2017
Orthodontics Research	2017
Digital Dentistry Research Network	2022
Lasers & Bio-photonics Group	2022
Minimally Invasive Dentistry Network	2022
Oral Malodor Network	2024
Pride in Dental Research Network	2025

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