

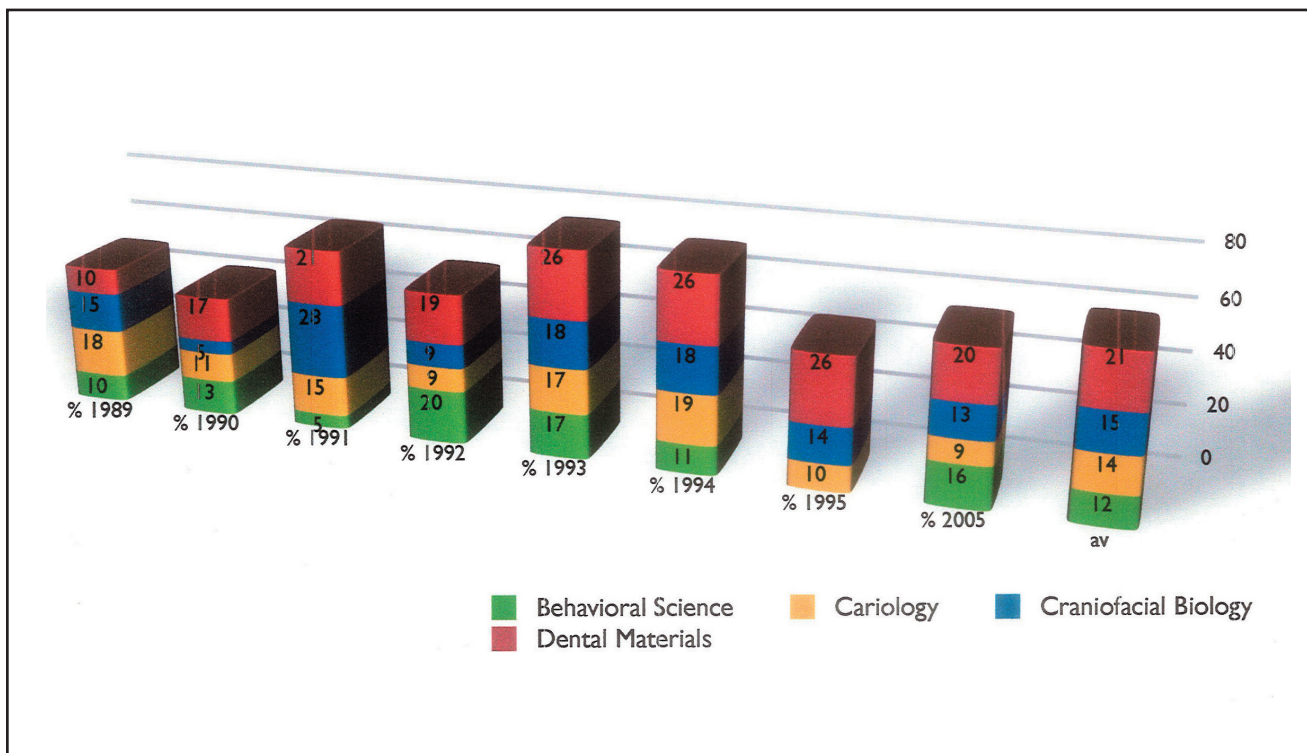
Current Research in Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Norman Olsen, former professor and head of Pediatric Dentistry and dean of Northwestern University Dental School had defined pediatric dentistry as the specialty that encompasses all facets of dentistry limited to a specific age.¹ He felt it was difficult to determine objectively the scope of research interests that should be included or excluded from the list of the members of the specialty. Therefore in 1995, my colleague, Dr. Allen Goldberg, and I were interested in determining the major areas of research presented at the annual meeting of the International Association of Dental Research (IADR/AADR). The IADR/AADR meetings have a great impact on dental research and tend to bring together a large number of investigators in dentistry from this country and abroad. The presentations were divided according to the IADR/AADR groups in which they were presented at the IADR/AADR meetings in 1990 and 1991 and then surveyed. Those presentations authored by current members of the AAPD were recorded in *Pediatric Dentistry*.² At the time, we used the directory of members of the AAPD in 1992 and 1993, since there was the possibility that students might have

joined the academy after graduation. At that time we were able to find 83 abstracts by AAPD members in 1990, and the dominant research interests were dental materials, craniofacial biology and cardiology, but there were also presentations in all the different IADR/AADR groups. Presentations in 1991 increased to 121 with the major research interests. By 2006, many more professionals joined the academy, therefore we decided to repeat the survey using abstracts of 2005 and the membership directory of 2007. The number of presentations had increased, as expected, and more AAPD members presented papers; however, our distribution tabulations did not change significantly. Below, you may see the final results as presented at IADR/AADR meeting. There are a large number of presentations and members of the academy presenting papers. The major areas of interest are still dental materials, craniofacial biology and cariology, but all the different groups had some AAPD members presenting papers. These results are shown in the graphic on the next page. We felt that the results of our study would be of interest to our academy members.

Table. Results presented at the IADR/AADR meeting

Category	Percentage of paper submission/ year								av
	% 1989	% 1990	%1991	%1992	%1993	%1994	%1995	%2005	
Behavioral Science	10	13	5	20	17	11	0	16	12
Cariology	18	11	15	9	17	19	10	9	14
Craniofacial Biology	15	5	28	9	18	18	14	13	15
Dental Materials	10	17	21	19	26	26	26	20	21



Graphic. Major areas of interest for paper submissions.

References

1. Olsen NH. Recent and current research in pedodontics. *Jour Am Dent Assoc* 1959;58:33-6.
2. Loevy HT, Goldberg AF. Dominant research interests of pediatric dentists: dental materials, craniofacial biology and cariology. *Pediatr Dent* 1995; 17:375-6.

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