

Pediatric Research in Office Settings (PROS)
Brief Summary of Fall 2008 Meetings

PROS Chapter Coordinators met in Boston at the AAP National Conference and Exhibition on October 10th and 11th.

The group heard updates on the launching of two network projects – *Brief Motivational Interviewing to Reduce Child BMI (BMI²)* and *Clinical Effort Against Secondhand Smoke Exposure (CEASE)*. Each study tests an innovative approach to delivering effective pediatric care on a topic of major clinical and public health importance.

An update on the Secondary Sexual Characteristics in Boys (SSCIB) study of pubertal onset emphasized that the study still needs new study sites – especially practices and clinics that see substantial numbers of African American and Latino children. SSCIB offers valuable training on the assessment of pubertal development plus enhanced reimbursement for sites with high minority populations.

Coordinators approved a proposal on evaluating a practical “common factors” approach to addressing the behavior problems that arise in office visits. Coordinators also reviewed and requested revisions of a new proposal on preventing oral health problems in infants and toddlers.

Attendees heard an excellent presentation on coordination between primary care medical homes and specialists. They also listened to updates on recently concluded PROS studies, the latest PROS publications, and new grant applications on several topics: pediatrician-mediated teen driving interventions, teen smoking cessation, and best treatment for children with persistent asthma.

For further information about PROS, go to <http://www.aap.org/PROS/>. For information about getting involved in PROS activities in California Chapter 4, contact Harry Pellman, MD at hpellman@earthlink.net.