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A MARKETING PLAN FOR A MATURE DENTAL PRACTICE

by

Linda C. Keup

Bachelor of Science, Minot State College

An Independent Study

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of

The University of North Dakota

in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

Master of Business Administration

The University of North Dakota Graduate Center May, 1987

APPROVAL PAGE

This independent study submitted by Linda C. Keup in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Business Administration from the University of North Dakota is hereby approved by the Faculty Advisor under whom the work has been done. This independent study meets the standards for appearance and conforms to the style and format of the Graduate School of the University of North Dakota.

E. Ray Ladd

E A Taled

PERMISSION

Title: A MARKETING PLAN FOR THE MATURE DENTAL PRACTICE

Department: School of Business and Public Administration

Degree: Master of Business Administration

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Signature Sinda C. Keup

Date May 8, 1987

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Without the unfailing support of my husband, David and children, Sarah, Ben, and Chrissy, this program would remain a "dream for tomorrow."

ABSTRACT

A MARKETING PLAN FOR THE MATURE DENTAL PRACTICE
Linda C. Keup

The University of North Dakota Graduate Center Faculty Advisor: E. Ray Ladd

The market faced by a dental practitioner today is radically different from the one twenty years ago. Thus, the mature dental practice must adapt and change in response.

The cultural, social and legal issues which have created today's dental marketplace are examined through a review of the literature.

By means of an internal audit of the staff and a survey of current patients, attitudes toward one dental practice were acquired. Results of those surveys are explored for predictability. Demographic data was also gathered from the surveys, and the market currently served is identified. Additional target markets are identified and appropriate marketing concepts defined.

Finally, based on research results, literature review and corporate mission, a marketing plan for this particular dental practice was developed.

CHAPTER I

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to produce an appropriate and workable marketing plan for one dental practice in Minot, North Dakota.

In order to produce such a plan, it is necessary to examine the cultural, social and legal issues which have brought dentistry to a consumer-oriented and business minded profession.

In addition to background information from the survey of the literature, primary research was done in the dental practice itself. The methodology of this research involved an internal audit of staff members to assess their perceptions of the practice. Also, a survey of 1000 current patients was conducted under the auspices of Health Systems Managment, P.O. Box 306, Alamo, California. Reactions to and attitudes toward this dental practice were assessed and demographic data gathered as well.

The doctor developed a philosophy and a mission statement, based on his beliefs about the dental practice and its stakeholders.

From these resources, then, was the marketing plan developed.

SCOPE

This study involves one dental practice in Minot, North

Dakota. It is a plan designed for use in an office of a single

practitioner doing general dentistry. In this office, assignment

of benefits is accepted, but there is no participation in Health

Maintenance Organizations, Preferred Provider Organizations,

Individual Practice Associations, or Capitation plans.

It is not intended to be a universal tool, used without the primary research. Variations in demographic and psychographic characteristics preclude this study and its resulting marketing plan from being used by other practices. Similar research and analysis of findings in other practices could lead to a similar marketing plan, however.

LIMITATIONS

The analyses are based on self-reported data, which presents two potential problems: people generally tell us what they think we want to hear; and since selection of a dentist is a freely made choice, an individual may appear to have failed to make the right choice if the dentist he/she selected scores low.

The analysis was based on a quantifiable integer being assigned to each response. Statistical analysis was performed by SAS software, and the assumption is made that the software operated correctly in its calculations.

CHAPTER II

Changes in Demand and Causes

During the decades of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, there occurred a series of events which ultimately led to what some believe to be a crisis in dentistry today. Demand for dental services is dropping as the supply of dentists is an all time high.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, there began a concerted effort to expand the duties of dental auxiliaries (assistants and hygienists). This significantly increased the production potential of dentists. $^{\rm 1}$

Tooth decay has declined by about 50% since the mid 1960s. Better nutrition which leads to better overall health and improved dental work are contributors, but the real key is the fluoridation of drinking water, started in 1946 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.² By 1983, a full 53% of the American population had access to fluoridated water supplies.

^{1/}Dr. Chester W. Douglass, "A Brighter Outlook," Dental Economics (April 1986):41-58.

²Richard Greene, "What's good for America isn't necessarily good for the dentists," Forbes (August 13, 1984): 79-81.

This cavity bust was accompanied by a baby bust--the number of children aged 5-13 fell 17% and the number of 14-17 year olds dropped 6%.3

The number of dentists soared just when fewer children with less decay were seeking treatment.⁴ This oversupply of practitioners resulted from the Health

Profession Assistance Legislation.⁵ The federal government perceived that Americans were not receiving adequate dental care and through the aforementioned legislation, increased its funding for dental education. As a result, the number of first year dental students rose to 6300 in 1978 from 3000 in 1961. Recently, dental schools have been responsive to the oversupply and the number of first year students fell to 4700 in 1985.⁶

Increased specialization also occurred during the early 1970s.

The development of competition has come from alternative delivery systems such as health maintenance organizations, preferred provider organizations, individual practice associations, corporate dental facilities, retail dentistry, and franchises. Franchises come in three forms: the traditional which sells franchise rights to dentists opening offices of their own;

³Thomas G. Exter, "Dental Demographics," American Demographics (February 1985): 31-33.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Douglass, p. 41.

^{6&}lt;sub>Ibid</sub>.

second, the franchise which opts for mall locations; and third, the Century 21 style which offers a brand name and an ad program to dentists who wish to continue on their own. 7 These franchises and retail dental clinics usually offer extended hours, instant care, lower fees and the security of a brand name for a mobile population. 8

Competition has also arrived in alternative financing systems. Dental insurance coverage has increased substantially. Capitation plans, which pay dentists a monthly fee for each employee of participating organizations, regardless of the amount of dental work performed, are becoming popular.

Future Demand and Opportunities

And what of future demand?

A recent Gallup poll showed that 81% of all Americans believe being in good health is very important. 9 Dental practitioners can expect increased importance to be placed on dental health as a result. In addition, this generation is generally more aware of their oral health and dentists can translate that into involve-

⁷Julie Liesse Erickson, "Franchises biting into dental business," <u>Advertising Age</u> (November 8, 1984): 28.

^{8&}lt;sub>Ibid</sub>, p.29.

⁹C. Rubestein, "Wellness is all...," Psychology Today 16
(October, 1982): 30.

ment.10

Only about one half of the American population sees a dentist on anything approaching a regular basis. A serious gap still exists between dental needs and demand for dental care. 11

In 1979, the Surgeon General's report "Healthy People" outlined twelve objectives for achieving improved oral health in the U.S. These objectives include reduction of dental caries in children; assurance of fluoridated water supplies; education in oral hygiene practices and preventive measures; elimination of highly cariogenic snacks from school lunch programs and vending machines; reduction of gingivitis and periodontal disease; requirement of mouth guards in organized contact sports; and early identification of oral cancers. 12 Dental professionals have varied opportunities in meeting these objectives.

Whereas the traditional dentist focused on restoration of carious teeth, and replacement of teeth lost to disease, today's dentist will be more involved in preventive and esthetic dentistry and control and treatment of oral disease. 13 As our population

¹⁰Elizabeth Giangrego, comp., "Changing Treatment needs of the Postfluoride Generation," <u>Journal of the American Dental Association</u> 112 (March 1986): 317.

¹¹D. Grembowski, "Utilization of dental services in the U.S.
and an insured population," American Journal of Public Health 75
(January 8, 1985): 87.

¹²Stephen B. Corbin, Dushanka V. Kleinman, and J. Michael Lane, "New Opportunities for Enhancing Oral Health: Moving Toward the 1990 Objectives for the Nation," Public Health Reports 100 (September-October 1985):516-520.

¹³Giangrego, pp. 316-317.

ages, more of them will retain their own dentition for longer periods. Therefore restorative work such as crowns, bridges, implants, partial and full dentures, will increase in demand.

Baby boomers experienced high rates of cavities as children and will need more complex dental care the rest of their lives. 14

A recent study revealed that in a population which has large rates of insurance coverage, utilization of dental services exceeds the U.S. rate. 15

Opportunities, thus, do exist for the astute dental practitioner who recognizes them and is prepared to adapt to this changing and increasingly competitive environment. As dentistry becomes more of a competitive enterprise, it require an increasing awareness of the value and need for effective marketing.

Marketing and Advertising the Dental Practice

Factors mentioned previously--increasingly competitive environment, changing demographics, and a decreasing incidence of tooth decay all have created a niche for marketing the dental practice.

In fact, some faculty members in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and allied health fields have acknowledged the importance of and need for all health care students to study marketing. They feel that it would be good for the students and would ultimately

¹⁴Exter, p. 32.

¹⁵Grembowski, p. 87.

benefit health care delivery, promote quality patient care, and result in cost effectiveness. Others oppose the concept based on health care being an altruistic field and an inappropriate forum for discussing selling or promoting.16

These two divergent views are indicative of the dental profession's view of marketing and advertising.

Evidence of this is the decision by American Dental Association members to turn down a proposal for a national ad campaign in the fall of 1984.17 The ADA has been using Operation Outreach to help members distinguish between marketing and advertising and, according to Robert Roach, ADA Executive Director for Communications, the outlook for dental marketing is good. 18

Until recently, the ADA imposed a code of conduct on its membership prohibiting almost all promotional activities. "The U.S. Supreme Court decision in Bates and O'Steen versus State Bar of Arizona (1977) ruled such restrictions on advertising to be a violation of free speech and effectively struck down most ethical prohibitions. Moreover, the Federal Trade Commission, arguing that consumers should not be deprived of the free flow of information, has fought to subject the American Dental Association and other professional associations to Federal antitrust legislation that prohibits restricting advertising (other than false or

¹⁶Susan R. Carroll, "Health Care Students ought to learn marketing," Marketing News (July 18, 1986): 14.

^{17&}quot;Dentists Give Brush to proposal to launch ad campaign," Marketing News 18 (December 7, 1984): 1.

¹⁸ Ibid.

misleading."19

Few dentists are taking advantage of recently acquired access to advertising. A 1982 survey indicates fairly strong aversion to advertising by dentists themselves. Consumers were much more tolerant and accepting of the ads. Dentists believe that advertising will not enhance the profession's image and that advertising cannot communicate the technical complexity and varying qualities of work offered.²⁰

The results of this study are significant in pointing up opinion differences between dentists and consumers.

It is possible that dentists have a different perception of what attributes are important to consumers. In a study in Great Britain, competence was ranked first, followed by likeable, careful, social, trusthworthy, gentle, and sympathetic. 21

Dental practitioners have long revered technical excellence and paid scant attention to those skills which their patients consider most important.

As Avrom King has stated, "Perception is reality."22 If a dental practice is to adopt a "marketing concept", it will become

¹⁹ Irwin A. Shapiro and Robert F. Majewski, "Should Dentists Advertise?" Journal of Advertising Research 23 (June/July 1983): p. 33.

^{20&}lt;sub>Ibid</sub>, pp.35-36.

²¹Andree Liddell and Brenda May, "Patients' perceptions of dentists' positive and negative attributes," <u>Social Science and Medicine 19:8, 1984: 840.</u>

 $²²_{\rm AVrom}$ E. King, "How to Write Philosophy/Mission Statements for Your Dental Practice, a tape program by the Nexus Group, Inc., 1986.

more consumer-oriented, listening to those perceptions of its consumer/patients.

Summary

In this chapter, a survey of the literature concerning health care and specifically dental marketing was examined.

Factors responsible for the current interest in and need for marketing were explored. Opportunities for the future were identified and legal and professional attitudes toward marketing and advertising were examined.

CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY Internal Audit of the Staff

As the first step in developing a marketing plan, an internal practice audit was taken of the current staff members. Five staff members were surveyed, including two chairside assistants, one hygienist and two business coordinators. These individuals have been employed in the practice from three to twenty years.

Each of the marketing mix components - product, price, place, promotion - was surveyed. The objective was to determine staff perceptions of the practice and to determine whether staff members have a clear concept of the aims and philosophy of the practice. Any areas in need of attention would also be highlighted by the results of the audit.

It is important to note that in the product questions, only two relate to actual technical dental work. The remainder deal with "customer service" -- patients being treated with warmth, gentleness, respect and care.

Before a dental practice can successfully present itself to the public, all members of that team must be in tune with the philosophy of the practice and committed to it. The aim of this audit is to provide a springboard for discussion of that philosophy and each staff member's role in marketing it.

The audit was completed privately by each staff member and

returned anonymously in an envelope. A sample copy is found on the following pages.

THE INTERNAL PRACTICE AUDIT

exercise is the key first step in the collection of data essential to developing a plan. We to get our act together before we can successfully present it to the public. All members e team, including the doctor, should answer each question privately. There are no right or answers. Tabulating the responses will enhance our insight into the current state of our enting mix (Product, Price, Place, Promotion).

a check mark under the single most appropriate response.

			Some-		
	Always	Usually	times	Rarely	Never
PRO	DUCT				
Our office offers a full range of dental services.			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		****
We emphasize prevention and patient education.				-	
The quality of our dental service is excellent.					
Doctors use the latest techniques and continue their education.					
Patients believe our practice is unique.				 	
Patients calling our office are given an appointment within one week or less.				·	
All incoming phone lines are never busy at the same time.					
The person who answers the phone is warm, friendly and courteous.					
Emergencies are seen promptly.					
Appointments suit patients' convenience; i.e., evenings, weekends.					41-14-14-14-14-14-14-14-14-14-14-14-14-1
Patients are greeted promptly by name as soon as they enter the reception area.					
Patients are left alone while they are waiting and being treated 5-10 minutes or less.					
At least one member of the team knows each patient personally.					
Patients feel loyal to our practice.				,	
We treat our patients with tender loving care.				-	

	Always	Usually	Some- times	Rarely	Never
The majority of our patients are easy to nandle.	V				
Each new patient receives a tour of our offices.			***************************************		
Patients receive a follow-up call after reatment.				*****	
Over 80% of our patients accept full, ecommended treatment plans.			***************************************		
Doctor/staff/patient communications are good to excellent.				M	
Patients can see that staff members enjoy their work.					
Staff members are comfortable with the type of patients we serve.		·			
Our office has regular staff meetings to which every member of the team contributes.					
PRIC	CE				
Patients are fully informed about fees.					
Patients perceive our fees as reason- able.		***************************************	•		
We offer special packages examina- tion, x-rays, consultation for new patients.					
Financial arrangements are clearly ex- plained before treatment begins.					
We try hard to work out a payment plan he patient can afford.					
Our office has a comprehensive fee ist.		-			
We offer assistance to patients with hird party payments.					
We accept credit cards and/or insurance assignments as well as cash.					
Discounts are offered for certain groups, i.e., senior citizens).					
					

	Always	Usually	Some- times	Rarely	Never
lave no problem talking with patients out money.			APPENTATION AND A CALL	**************************************	
work to make patients want the atment they need.			N. Ale		
have very few complaints from pat- its about fees.					Antonio de Malada de Caracida
es are reevaluated at least once a ar.	-		N. Corporation		
ocedures exist for dealing with com- ints/disputes about bills.	#F14F1 MAIL				
r patients are "sold" on our practice fore fees are discussed and treatment gins.					
PLAC	CE			,	
e outside of our building and its grounds attractive, neat and clean.					
fice location is easy for new patients find.					
r office sign is clearly visible to sersby.					
her types of service businesses are the same building or nearby.					w
r office is accessible for disabled and erly patients.					
ere is adequate parking for patients.					
fice is located on or near public nsportation.					***************************************
fice decor reflects our image.				*******	
tire office (reception area, operatories,					
llpaper, paint, upholstery look new and rkling.		•			
ception area is inviting and well-lit.		*************************************			
r furniture is comfortable.			***	,	
ading material in reception area is ried and up-to-date.		. ———	M		

	Always	Usually	Some- times	Rarely	Never
Office decor is personalized with doctor's and staff's interests and/or talents.		<u></u>			
taff is appropriately dressed for prac- ice's image.					
taff is well-groomed.			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Dental equipment looks modern and spark- ing clean.			N		
reas are set aside for patients' privacy uring consultations.					
Patients are visible to staff as soon is they arrive in reception area.					
PROMO	TION				
All of our staff actively refers to our bractice.	***************************************		-		
Staff is trained in asking patients or referrals.					
taff asks all patients for referrals.					
The majority of our patients refer to our practice.					
Patients receive cards on special occa- sions; i.e., birthday, graduation.					
Patients giving referrals receive a gift or other reward.					
New patients are sent welcoming letters and practice brochures.					
All patients are sent prompt recall notices.				48 - MILION B. A MILION B. L 120-	
Reception area has bulletin board with pic- ures of patients, their interests, talents.					
We send congratulations and educational naterials to new patients.	w				
We report back promptly to referring loctors.		weet weet to see the see the see			
Our doctor projects enthusiasm about lentistry.		· ·		i	
We've introduced our practice to local pharmacists.	*****				

	Always	Usually	Some- times	Rarely	Never
Patients leave with some reminder of our office; e.g., pen, memo pad with our name.					
Everybody on the team takes an active role in promoting the practice.					
Doctor or other staff members give public talks.					
Doctor makes presentations at professional meetings.					
Staff understands office image we're marketing.					
nks for your assistance. Please replace in the	e envelope	and return	to the	staff men	nber in
may score your own answers below, or turn i	t in to the	assigned	scorer, v	vho will c	omputë
each Always score 5 points each Usually score 4 points each Sometimes score 3 points each Rarely score 2 points each Never score 1 point			,		
up your scores for each section, and place th	em in the	blanks bel	ow:		
PRODUCT points ÷ 23 =					
PRICE points ÷ 15 =	_				
PLACE points ÷ 19 =					

PROMOTION ____ points ÷ 18 = ____

Survey of Current Patients

The survey was designed by and made available to subscribers of <u>The Press Report</u> and its parent company, Health Systems Management. It was duplicated and mailed, with a cover letter and an addressed stamped envelope to 1000 patients of record. Copies of both the survey and the letter are found in the Appendix.

Health Systems Management acted as a mail-drop, extrapolating information pertinent to national data gathering and then returned all surveys to us. It was believed that people would be more honest in their evaluations if the survey were not returned directly to the dental office.

The purpose of the survey was to learn patients' perceptions of this practice, identify demographic variables and to highlight areas needing attention relative to a marketing plan.

Dear Patient:

Our office is one of a select group which has been invited to participate in a national survey of consumer attitudes about dentistry. Because you are one of our valued patients, we are asking you to help us serve you better by taking the time to fill out the enclosed survey form.

We are delighted at this opportunity to participate, because we believe the results of the survey will help us improve our quality of service to our patients. Each participating doctor's office will receive a report about the attitudes and concerns of its patients and a comparative analysis with other offices around the country.

But, in order to participate, we need your help. Please take a few minutes to honestly and objectively respond to each question on the survey form. All replies are anonymous and confidential. Simply place your completed form in the enclosed, stamped envelope, which is pre-addressed to Health Systems Management, and drop it in the mail.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

ATTITUDES ABOUT DENTISTS AND DENTISTRY

Dental Consumer: Thank you for participating in this special national survey. Please take ment to complete the following questionnaire. For questions 1 through 27, mark the box most closely matches your opinion. The remaining questions are self-explanatory.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
When phoning my dentist's office, I usually receive prompt, courteous attention.					
Members of the staff are friendly and courteous.					
The dentist really listens to me.				×	
The dentist seldom spends enough time with me.				-	
The dentist explains things to me in plain, simple English.					
The dentist seems to remember me from visit to visit.					
The dentist and his staff do not look professional.		<u></u>			
wouldn't consider changing dentists.					
usually have to wait too long when I arrive at the office.				-	
The dentist helps calm my fears about treatment.					
The office location is inconvenient.					<u> </u>
t's easy to find parking close to the office.					
The office hours are convenient.					
The dentist's office is easy to find.					
The dentist's office is not clean.					
The reception area is comfortable.					
The dentist asks too many personal questions.		·		·	
am told in advance what the treatment will cost	•				
The dentist's fees are too high.					·

	Strongl Agree	y <u>Agree</u>	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The dentist is willing to discuss special payment terms.					
The dentist and his staff are gentle, careful and competent.					
I feel my time is respected.				<u></u>	
I don't think the dentist keeps up with the latest in dentistry.		·			
It's difficult to get an appointment on short notice.			-		
The dentist and his staff have taught me a great deal about taking care of my teeth.		· ·			
Overall, I am quite satisfied with the care I receive.	-				
I feel very nervous about visiting the dentist.			 		
I have referred others to this dentist.	*		Ye	S	N
I visit the dentist:	-			-	
Every 3-4 months Every 12 months Every 2 years		Every 6 Every 18 Less than	months		
I have been with this dentist:					
Less than 6 months 2 - 5 years		6 months More tha			
I would recommend others to choose this dentist.			Ye	s	N
My first visit was for:					
Regular examination		Cleaning			
Toothache		Other (pl	ease ex	plain)	-
Upon first entering the reception room of this of you remember your first impression?	fice, prid	or to mee	ting sta	off or doct	or, do

l first	went to this dentist because:			
	Referred by friend or relative		Referred by another heal fessional	th pro-
	Referred by member of dentist's staff		Yellow pages	· •
<u> </u>	Noticed Office		Other:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
The si	taff is concerned that I return for regular	appointm	nents. Yes	N
Other	family members who use the same dentist.	:		
	Spouse		Children (#)	
	Parent		Other:	
Other than c	services I think would be appropriate for tone):	this dent	ist to provide (o.k. to che	ck more
	Nutrition counseling	-		
	Counseling to overcome anxiety about de	ntal trea	tment	
	Educational programs and activities for c	hildren		a de la companya de l
	Child care service in the dental office			
	Transportation to/from dentist's office			
	Other (please specify):			
The th	nings I like most about this dentist's practi	ce are:		
f L co	and change enuthing about this destintly and	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	A mould be	<u> </u>
. 1 (ould change anything about this dentist's pr	actice,	t would be:	
pref	er to visit a dentist located near:			
	Home		Work	. "
	Shopping		School	
	Other (please specify):	,		
In ord	er to get to my dentist, I travel:			
	Less than 1 mile		1 - 5 miles	
	5 - 10 miles		Over 10 miles	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT, P. O. Box 306, Alamo, CA 94507

M

PERSONAL DATA

All information is kept confidential.

The only purpose is developing a composite of survey participants.

Please check appropriate places.

Age:

_____ Under 18

		-	30	3 - 35 6 - 50 1 - 65 ver 65	
Status:	Single	Married		Divorced	Widowed
ldren:	0	1	2	3	4 or more
on:					c
Less than 4	yrs. high school yrs. college yrs. college		gh school ollege gra	graduate duate	·
ld Income:					
\$0 - 5,000 \$11,000 - 15 \$26,000 - 35 \$51,000 +		\$1	6,000 - 10 6,000 - 2 6,000 - 5	25,000	
ion:			··		
chedule (hours/days)):				
			<u> </u>		
w, please write yo NLY IF YOU WAN	be interested in volu ur name, address, and T TO BE CALLED. portion of the form I	telephone nur Otherwise, the	nber belo	w. NOTE: F	LEASE DO
		Tel. No.	()		
					her
ate		2	Zip Code		

Corporate Mission Statement

We are in the health care business with a specialty and emphasis in oral health, which we believe to be one important component of a person's overall health.

It is our goal to restore and maintain each patient's optimal dental health. This is accomplished by means of preventive, restorative, prosthetic and orthodontic dentistry and education.

We believe our patients are entitled to the benefits of the latest developments and techniques available; thus, we will participate in continuing education as much as possible.

We strive to create an environment in which a person can experience a high degree of comfort, concern, warmth and respect as well as technically excellent dental care. We also strive to form lasting relationships with those people who choose to use our services.

We are committed to development of a dental team which embraces the philosophy of this dental practice. We believe continuing education to be critical in this development. Job satisfaction and reward will be commensurate with involvement in and commitment to this philosophy.

Fees for our services will reflect the excellence of the skill, care, and judgment used in our office.

Corporate Objectives

The following are overall objectives of this dental practice, based on the corporate mission and philosophy of the dentist:

To restore each patient to his/her optimal dental health

To insure the comfort of each person

To build a loyal patient base, which refers to the practice

To promote lasting relationships with patients

To build a strong dental team which is committed to the mission

To develop a comfortable working environment for all staff

To maintain fees at competitive levels, but reflective of excellence

To build a reputation for excellence

To continue the education which was begun in dental school

CHAPTER IV FINDINGS

Staff Attitudes and Perceptions

Based on the indicated scoring method, the following strengths and weaknesses of the marketing mix, as perceived by the staff, are identified.

Always = 5 points Usually = 4 points Sometimes = 3 points Rarely = 2 points Never = 1 point

Scores for all five audits were added; then divided by 5 to get a score on that component of the marketing mix. Results of that computation is as follows:

Product = 89.2 Price = 53.2 Place = 84.2 Promotion = 60.2

There is evidence, then, that the product offered to the patients is more than acceptable in the eyes of the staff. They apparently believe the quality of dental service is excellent, that the latest techniques are learned and used, that patients are treated with warmth, friendliness, respect and courtesy. Items which scored a 3, 2, or 1 include: patients believe our practice is unique; patients receive an appointment in one week or less; all incoming lines are never busy at the same time; appointments suit patients' convenience, i.e. weekends, evenings; patients under treatment are left alone 5-10 minutes or less; patients feel

loyal; and one member of the team knows each patient personally. Of particular importance is the lack of follow-up calls after treatment and acceptance of full recommended treatment plans by less than 80% of the patients.

The second area--price--received the lowest score. Areas of greatest concern: patient perception of fees being reasonable, patients being fully informed about cost of treatment, having financial arrangements clearly explained before treatment begins, and having few complaints about fees. Clearly, this is an area which needs attention. Patient perceptions of the fees may be directly related to staff perceptions and some clarification may be necessary.

Place ranks high on the scale. The office is seen as modern, clean, professional, comfortable and accessible and that the staff is well-groomed and appropriately dressed. It is noted that there is no office sign and there are few other service businesses nearby. The audit concerned itself with those areas which the patient uses and does not address the business office, lab, and storage space, which are woefully inadequate in the present office space.

Promotion is the other area which scored relatively low. It is apparent that the staff must be more aggressive in inviting referrals, more active professionally, and generally take a more active role in promoting the practice. Direct contact with patients on a more personal level is missing (e.g., congratulations, sympathy, welcome, thank you, etc.)

THE INTERNAL PRACTICE AUDIT

Gercise is the key first step in the collection of data essential to developing a plan. We get our act together before we can successfully present it to the public. All members team, including the doctor, should answer each question privately. There are no right or answers. Tabulating the responses will enhance our insight into the current state of our ing mix (Product, Price, Place, Promotion).

a check mark under the single most appropriate response.

a check mark under the single most appre	briace rest	JOHSE*				
mbers indicate the number of res	ponses. <u>Always</u>	<u>Usually</u>	Some- times	Rarely	Never	
PRO	DUCT					
ur office offers a full range of dental ervices.	_5					
e emphasize prevention and patient ducation.	_3					
he quality of our dental service is xcellent.	4	1			440000000000000000000000000000000000000	
octors use the latest techniques and ontinue their education.	_4	1				
atients believe our practice is unique.	1	3	1			
atients calling our office are given an ppointment within one week or less.			2		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Il incoming phone lines are never busy t the same time.		3	1	1		
he person who answers the phone is arm, friendly and courteous.	4	1	<u> </u>			
mergencies are seen promptly.	2	3				
ppointments suit patients' convenience; e., evenings, weekends.	1	2		1	1	
atients are greeted promptly by name s soon as they enter the reception area.		5	***************************************			
atients are left alone while they are vaiting and being treated 5-10 minutes r less.				_4	1	
at least one member of the team knows ach patient personally.	1	3	1			
atients feel loyal to our practice.	1	3.	1			
Ve treat our patients with tender loving are.	1	4				

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	Always	<u>Usually</u>	Some- times	Rarely	Never
The majority of our patients are easy to handle.		5			
Each new patient receives a tour of our offices.		***************************************	2	2	1
Patients receive a follow-up call after treatment.		-	2	3	
Over 80% of our patients accept full, recommended treatment plans.	-	2	3		
Doctor/staff/patient communications are good to excellent.		3	1	1	
Patients can see that staff members enjoy their work.		5			
Staff members are comfortable with the type of patients we serve.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	5			
Our office has regular staff meetings to which every member of the team contributes.	1	<u>4</u>			
PRIC	CE				
Patients are fully informed about fees.		1	4		
Patients perceive our fees as reason- able.		1	3	1	
We offer special packages examina- tion, x-rays, consultation for new patients.		3	1		1
Financial arrangements are clearly explained before treatment begins.		2	3		
We try hard to work out a payment plan the patient can afford.	2	3			
Our office has a comprehensive fee list.	1	4			
We offer assistance to patients with third party payments.	2		1	1	·
We accept credit cards and/or insurance assignments as well as cash.	4			,	1
Discounts are offered for certain groups, (i.e., senior citizens).	1		2	1	1
THE DDESC DEDODT • DO D	. 41 ~	. 110			

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	Always	<u>Usually</u>	Some- times	Rarely	Never
have no problem talking with patients bout money.	1_	2	1		
eatment they need.	2	3			
e have very few complaints from pat- ents about fees.		1	3	1	war was believed to the same
ees are reevaluated at least once a	2	1	2		
rocedures exist for dealing with com- aints/disputes about bills.		4	,		1
ur patients are "sold" on our practice efore fees are discussed and treatment egins.		4	1		
PLAC	CE				
ne outside of our building and its grounds re attractive, neat and clean.	3_	2			*****
ffice location is easy for new patients find.	1_	4_			
ur office sign is clearly visible to assersby.		1	2	2	
ther types of service businesses are the same building or nearby.	2_	· 	2		1
ur office is accessible for disabled and derly patients.	4	1			
ere is adequate parking for patients.	3_	2			
ffice is located on or near public ansportation.	4_	1			
fice decor reflects our image.	3	2			
atire office (reception area, operatories, c.) is clean at all times.	1.	4			
allpaper, paint, upholstery look new and arkling.	1	4			
eception area is inviting and well-lit.	3		1	***************************************	
r furniture is comfortable.	3_	2	*****		
eading material in reception area is ried and up-to-date.	5				-
THE PRESS REPORT • D.O. Boy 206	• 41	7-1:0	4505 - /4	15) 000 10	

	Always	<u>Usually</u>	Some- times	Rarely	Never
Office decor is personalized with doctor's and staff's interests and/or talents.	_4	1			
Staff is appropriately dressed for practice's image.	_2	3			
Staff is well-groomed.	_4			 .	
Dental equipment looks modern and spark- ling clean.	_4	_1_			
Areas are set aside for patients' privacy during consultations.	_4	1			*************************
Patients are visible to staff as soon as they arrive in reception area.	2	3			
PROMO	TION				
All of our staff actively refers to our practice.	3	2			
Staff is trained in asking patients for referrals.		2		2	
Staff asks all patients for referrals.			2		
The majority of our patients refer to our practice.	2	1	1	*******************************	<u> </u>
Patients receive cards on special occasions; i.e., birthday, graduation.			3	1	_1
Patients giving referrals receive a gift or other reward.	_4	_1_	- 4.4		
New patients are sent welcoming letters and practice brochures.	_3	_1	1		
All patients are sent prompt recall notices.	2	3			
Reception area has bulletin board with pictures of patients, their interests, talents.					5
We send congratulations and educational materials to new patients.	_1		2	_1	1
We report back promptly to referring doctors.		_1	2	_2	
Our doctor projects enthusiasm about dentistry.	2	3			
We've introduced our practice to local pharmacists.	_1	_3			1
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	Always	Usually	Some- times	Rarely	Never
Patients leave with some reminder of our office; e.g., pen, memo pad with our name.		3	2		
Everybody on the team takes an active role in promoting the practice.	3	2			
Doctor or other staff members give public talks.			4	1	
Doctor makes presentations at professional meetings.		*** **********************************	2	2	
Staff understands office image we're marketing.	1	<u>4</u>			
aks for your assistance. Please replace in the	e envelope	and retur	n to the	staff men	aber in
may score your own answers below, or turn i for you.	t in to the	e assigned	scorer,	who will c	ompute
each Always score 5 points each Usually score 4 points each Sometimes score 3 points each Rarely score 2 points each Never score 1 point					
up your scores for each section, and place th	em in the	blanks be	low:		
PRODUCT points ÷ 23 =	_				
PRICE points ÷ 15 =					

____ points ÷ 19 = ____

PROMOTION ____ points + 18 = ____

PLACE

Market Definitions and Analysis of Findings Demographic Data

This dental practice is located in a community of 34,000, which serves an economic area of approximately 100,000 in northwest North Dakota. It is an area heavily dependent upon agriculture. A state university and a Strategic Air Command Base are also located there. Small communities surrounding the city are important markets for products and services.

In the community itself, there are 27 practicing dentists for a ratio of 1260:1. In the economic area, there are approximately 50 dentists for a ratio of 2000:1.

Because of the dependency on agriculture, the population has been fairly stable for a period of 30 years, and is expected to continue. The nationwide aging of the population will be a factor in this area, perhaps felt more intensely because of a lack of opportunities for young people.

Of the people responding to the survey:

- 64.4% are female
- 71.8% are married
- 69.1% have 2 or more children
- 70.8% have some college education
- 58.9% have incomes above \$25,000

Age groups are represented fairly equally

Although not covered in the surveys, estimates from office records indicate that approximately 50% of current patients have some form of dental insurance coverage.

Frequency Distribution

A copy of the survey with frequency results is found on the following pages. Results are given in percentage form. Complete results are shown on the computer print out in the Appendix.

Three of the marketing mix variables--product, price, and place--were measured.

As noted previously, none of the product questions directly relate to the physical product, e.g., a filling or crown.

Dentistry is a service in which it is difficult for the patient/-consumer to discern technical quality; therefore, the perceptions of quality and level of satisfaction are based largely on extra-oral factors. Those factors include a courteous, friendly staff who are gentle, careful and competent; a dentist who remembers his patients, spends adequate time with them and really listens; explains things simply, but doesn't ask too many personal questions; and keeps up with the latest in dentistry. Results are highly favorable in this area, as they were in the staff audit.

Factors relating to place are also favorable, with location noted as convenient, easy to find, and with easy parking. The office is perceived as clean and comfortable and leaves a positive first impression. Again, these results correspond to results of the staff audit.

Price factors--fees themselves, advance information on cost of treatment and special payment terms--are not perceived as

Price factors—fees themselves, advance information on cost of treatment and special payment terms—are not perceived as favorably. This, too, corresponds to the staff responses. 46.3% of those surveyed believe fees to be too high. This is believed to be a reflection of general attitude of all dental fees being too high as well as those in this particular office. One—third reported "not knowing" if fees were too high, presumably because they hadn't had the opportunity to compare.

40% of the respondents said they "didn't know" if the dentist were willing to discuss special payment terms with them, many indicating they "never asked" or "pay cash."

Overall, those surveyed display confidence, loyalty, and satisfaction. While 74.9% wouldn't consider changing dentists, 96.9% are satisfied with the care they receive, 82.3% have referred others to the practice and 98.1% would recommend that others choose this practice.

Other factors which will influence the marketing plan are:

- 34% of those surveyed report feeling nervous about going to to the dentist.
- 77.6% visit the dentist at least every 12 months.
- 62.7% have been in the practice more than 5 years.
- 59% were referred by a friend or relative, and 12% were referred by another health professional.
 - 1.5% came to this office because they noticed the office.
 - 2.0% came because of the Yellow Pages.
 - 68.9% prefer a dentist to be located near home, but many reported "it doesn't matter in a town this size."

ATTITUDES ABOUT DENTISTS AND DENTISTRY

Dental Consumer: Thank you for participating in this special national survey. Please take ent to complete the following questionnaire. For questions 1 through 27, mark the box most closely matches your opinion. The remaining questions are self-explanatory.

most closely matches your opinion. The remaining	questione	, 4.0 00		•	
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
hen phoning my dentist's office, I usually receive rompt, courteous attention.	69.6	29.4	0.7	0.2	
dembers of the staff are friendly and courteous.	70.3	29.2	0.2	0.2	
The dentist really listens to me.	50.5	41.0	<u>6.3</u>	2.0	0.2
The dentist seldom spends enough time with me.	5.4	9.4	3.2	<u>56.8</u>	<u>25.2</u>
The dentist explains things to me in plain, simple English.	46.0	50.4	1.2	1.9	0.5
The dentist seems to remember me from visit to visit.	63.2	31.0	4.1	1.7	
The dentist and his staff do not look professional.	0.7	1.7	1.2	40.6	<u>55.7</u>
wouldn't consider changing dentists.	39.8	35.1	13.8	8.6	2.7
I usually have to wait too long when I arrive at the office.	3.2	4.6	3.2	58.7	30.3
The dentist helps calm my fears about treatment.	28.1	<u>53.9</u>	9.9	6.9	1.2_
The office location is inconvenient.	5.4	9.0	1.0	52.9	31.7
It's easy to find parking close to the office.	<u>52.7</u>	45.1	0.2	1.5	0.5
The office hours are convenient.	46.1	49.0	1.7	3.1	
The dentist's office is easy to find.	49.5	47.8	0.7	1.7_	0.2
The dentist's office is not clean.	2.7	1.2	0.5	33.0	62.6
The reception area is comfortable.	48.1	48.8	1.9	1.2	
The dentist asks too many personal questions.	1.0	1.0	1.5	49.5	47.1
I am told in advance what the treatment will cos	t.20.6	43.0	10.6	19.7	6.1
The dentist's fees are too high.	15.8	30.5	33.7	16.5	3.4

	Strongly Agree		Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The dentist is willing to discuss special payment terms.	17.8	38.6	40.4	2.8	0.5
The dentist and his staff are gentle, careful and competent.	46.0	51.6	0.2	1.7	0.5
I feel my time is respected.	37.6	55.0	3.9	3.4	
I don't think the dentist keeps up with the latest in dentistry.	2.2	3.7	8.9	<u>43.</u> 7	41.5
It's difficult to get an appointment on short notice.	2.0	<u>15.</u> 7	19.5	<u>47.</u> 1	15.7
The dentist and his staff have taught me a great deal about taking care of my teeth.	21.5	_58.6	10.0	9.5	0.5
Overall, I am quite satisfied with the care I receive,	45.9	51.0	1.0	1.5	0.7
I feel very nervous about visiting the dentist.	9.7	25.6	2.7	<u>44.</u> 9	17.1
I have referred others to this dentist.		<u>&</u>	2 <u>3</u> Ye	es	<u>17.</u> 7 No
I visit the dentist:					
5.6 Every 3-4 months 86.1 Every 12 months 9.3 Every 2 years	4.8	Every 6 Every 18 Less than	months		
I have been with this dentist:					
3.7 Less than 6 months 22.9 2 - 5 years		6 months More tha			
I would recommend others to choose this dentist.			<u>98,1</u> Ye	es	1.9 No
My first visit was for:					
63.5 Regular examination	7.1	Cleaning			
8.6 Toothache	20.7	Other (p	lease ex	xplain)	
Upon first entering the reception room of this of you remember your first impression?	fice, prid	or to mee	eting sta	aff or doc	tor, do
61.2% - Excellent 12.9%	- Favor	rable			
20.8% - Don't Remember 5.1%	- Negat	tive			

st went to this dentist because:			
.0 Referred by friend or relative	12.4	Referred by another health fessional	ı pro-
.5 Referred by member of dentist's staff	2.0	Yellow pages	
.5 Noticed Office	18.7	Other:	- 1
staff is concerned that I return for regular	appointm	ents. <u>95.8</u> Yes	4.0 No
er family members who use the same dentis	t:		•
6 Spouse		Children (#)	
9 Parent	6.5	Other:	
er services I think would be appropriate for one):	this dent	ist to provide (o.k. to check	more
Nutrition counseling			
Counseling to overcome anxiety about de	ental trea	tment	
Educational programs and activities for	children		
Child care service in the dental office			
Transportation to/from dentist's office			. •
Other (please specify):			
things I like most about this dentist's pract	tice are:		
could change anything about this dentist's p	practice,	it would be:	
efer to visit a dentist located near:	•		
.9 Home	12.8	Work	
.3 Shopping	0.6	School	
.5 Other (please specify): *Many of the not matter	ese resp in a cit	oonses indicated that y of this size.	it did
order to get to my dentist, I travel:		- ,	
6.0 Less than 1 mile	46.8	3 1 - 5 miles	
5.15 - 10 miles	_22.1	Over 10 miles	

PERSONAL DATA

All information is kept confidential.

The only purpose is developing a composite of survey participants. Please check appropriate places.

5.4 M <u>64.</u>	4 F	1	Age:	$\frac{0.2}{22.5}$ Un			
· .	5.	, ·		21.3 51	- 50 - 65 ver 65		
atus:	12.0 Single	71.8 M	Married	4.9	Divorced	11.0	Widowed
en:	<u>17.9</u> 0	12.9	25	5.12	24.2 3	19.8 4	or more
4 Less than 4 y 0 Less than 4 y 6 More than 4	rs. college	- -	22.8 H 27.2 C	igh school ollege grad	graduate luate		
Income:							
.8 \$0 - 5,000 , 9 \$11,000 - 15,0 <u>. 9</u> \$26,000 - 35,0 <u>. 9</u> \$51,000 +		- - -	18.3\$	6,000 - 10, 16,000 - 25 36,000 - 50	5,000		
ដ							•
dule (hours/days):							
			-	, 		- <u>, </u>	-
: If you would be please write your Y IF YOU WANT rould leave this p	r name, address, TO BE CALLED	and telep O. Otherv	hone nu	mber belov	w. NOTE:	- PLEASE	DO
			Tel. No	. ()			
·		•					

Zip Code

Correlation Among Dependent Variables

Correlation among the selected dependent variables was run on the SAS computer software, with the complete results shown in the Appendix.

Questions 8 ("I wouldn't consider changing dentists"), 26 ("Overall, I am quite satisfied with the care I receive"), 28 ("I have referred others to this dentist"), and 31 ("I would recommend others to choose this dentist") were found to be correlated.

There was not high correlation, but enough to be significant.

Questions 29 ("I visit the dentist:" how often) and 30 ("I have been with this dentist:" how long) had insignificant correlation to the others, but are negatively correlated to each other. This may be explained by the fact that if a person has been in the practice for a significant length of time, his oral health has been restored and is being maintained, requiring less frequent visits.

Regression Results

Several multiple regression models were created and run, utilizing the SAS software. Questions 8, 26, 28, 29, 30, and 31 were used as dependent variables and each was regressed against all other questions in the survey (except the other dependents). The significance level was set at 1.0 for entry into the model.

A matrix of the results is shown on the following pages.

Computer results which show the final step and the summary of each regression model are shown in the Appendix.

In the model using question 8 ("I wouldn't consider changing dentists") as the dependent variable, the following factors showed a fairly strong B value and F value: 1) "The dentist and staff have taught me a great deal about the care of my teeth"; 2) "Fees are too high" (negative); 3) "The office is not clean" (negative); 4) "The office is easy to find"; 5) "My time is respected". Also entering the model, but only marginally, is difficulty of getting an appointment on short notice (negative).

This would indicate that loyalty to the practice can be assured by respecting a patient's time, teaching patients how to care for their own teeth, making the office easy to find, keeping fees as reasonable as possible, and maintaining as clean an office as possible.

Using question 26 ("Overall, I am quite satisfied with the care I receive") as the dependent variable produced the following model: 1) "Members of the staff are friendly and courteous"; 2) "My time is respected"; 3) "The dentist does not keep up with the latest in dentistry" (negative); 4) "The dentist is willing to discuss special payments terms"; 5) "I feel very nervous about visiting the dentist" (negative). Also entering the model with marginal impact and significance were 1) "The office hours are convenient"; 2) "The reception area is comfortable"; 3 & 4) age and education (both showing significance at higher age brackets and education levels); and 5) "I usually have to wait too long while I'm in the office".

Overall satisfaction, it appears, is indicated by a friendly, courteous staff, respecting a patient's time, the dentist keeping up on the latest and a willingness to discuss special payment terms. People who are not nervous about visiting the dentist are more likely to express satisfaction, as are older and more highly educated people. Convenient office hours and a comfortable reception room are marginal indicators. There seems to be no plausible explanation for variable #9 ("I usually wait too long") entering the model as a positive indicator.

In the model with question 28 ("I have referred others to this dentist") as the dependent, the independent variables entering were 1) "The dentist seems to remember me from visit to visit"; 2) "My time is respected"; 3) "The staff is concerned that

I return for regular appointments"; 4) "Fees are too high" (negative); 5) "The reception area is comfortable" (negative).

This does show some correlation with previous models but the comfortable reception area as a negative independent may indicate a weakness in the model, perhaps caused by the difference in scaling (1-5 versus 1-2).

When #29 ("I visit the dentist:" how often) served as dependent variable, 1) "...prompt, courteous attention on the phone"; 2) "The staff has taught me a great deal about caring for my teeth"; 3) age and 4) immediate family members using the same dentist entered as positive independent variables. However, the comfortable reception area and a gentle, careful, and competent staff entered as negative independents. This would seem to indicate that the less comfortable the reception area is and the less gentle, careful, and competent the staff is, the more often patients will visit. The entire model is weak, however, with neither B nor F values showing much strength.

The model using #30 ("I've been with this dentist:" how long) likewise very weak, particularly in the B values. A favorable first impression, having one's time respected, and first visit being for an exam, being nervous, having easy parking and the office being easy to find as a negative are the only independent variables with even fair reliability and none of them show much impact.

In the final model, with #31 ("I would recommend others to choose this dentist") as the dependent variable, the independent

variables showing fairly strong reliability are the dentist remembering the patient from visit to visit, being referred by a friend or relative, a convenient office location which is easy to find, and being female. Dependents having significant impact are the dentist remembering the patient, the dentist avoiding too many personal questions, and again, being female. More independents entered this model than the others, but no clearly defined model is formed.

Building an effective overall model for marketing dimensions from these individual ones is not easy, but there are some independent variables which are repeated or are sufficiently reliable to be included. These are:

"My time is respected."

"The staff is friendly and courteous."

"The dentist and staff have taught me a great me a great deal about taking care of my teeth."

"Fees are too high." (negative)

"The dentist remembers me from visit to visit."

Being female

Being referred by a friend or relative

REGRESSION RESULTS MATRIX

EPENDENT EABLES

DEPENDENT VARIABLES

-						1
	8	26	28	29	3Ø	31
				.59 8.9		
		.20 9.15			3 5.58	
						: 1
			4-1-11			B)
***************************************			.07 2.42			.31
			-			
		.07 3.59				
Ø					01 2.38	12 3.53
1					.	.12 5.40
2		7000			.06 9.92	,
3		.08 2.85				
4	.28 6.43				05 7.27	.20 4.16
.5	18 4.88					

REGRESSION RESULTS MATRIX, CONTINUED

EPENDENT IABLES				DEPENDI	ENT VARIAB	LES
T	73.4	and the second s	D-11-			
	8	26	28	29	30	31
.6		.08 4.19	06 3.75	27 5.22		
.7					.03 4.65	18 5.02
.8						10 4.50
.9	21 8.47		Ø4 2.52		01 2.16	09 3.50
.Ø		.10 6.48				
1				29 2.79	.Ø4 3.28	
2	.27 5.82	.36 41.42	.20 29.29		.04 6.01	
.3		Ø8 5.27				
4	10 2.29					
15	.24 8.54			.27 7.94		
16	,		:			
17		06 6.84			.Ø2 8.48	
8	***************************************					
19						
Ø						

REGRESSION RESULTS MATRIX, CONTINUED

EPENDENT IABLES

DEPENDENT VARIABLES

	8	26	28	29	3Ø	31
32					.Ø2 8.47	.Ø7 2.39
3					.Ø3 8.22	07 2.12
4						10 14.18
\$5			.23 3.01			
6				.28 2.6		
37						
38						
39						.29 7.08
l Ø				.22 5.8		
11						
1 2		.Ø5 3.78				
13		.Ø4 2.49				
14						

Target Market

Demographic data from the patient surveys indicates that while the age groups are quite equally represented, the largest segment is over 65 (27.7%). The nationwide demographics indication is that the bulk of the population will be aging in the next 20 years. It is safe to assume that the local population will follow the national trend, particularly given the economic situation which does not offer significant opportunities for young people.

It is not the desire of this dentist to limit the practice to a specialty or a narrow segment of the population. Rather, it is to serve discriminating people who value excellence and are willing and able to pay for it. Those people would also seek and appreciate education on health issues and a lasting relationship with a health professional.

Discriminating people are found across the spectrum of ages, educational levels, and income. It is the intent of this practice to particularly target those of the 36-55 year age group with college backgrounds.

The patient surveys indicate overall satisfaction with the practice by a large majority of the current patients, most of whom are college educated and earning at least \$25,000.

As cited earlier, the Baby Boomers have experienced extensive caries in childhood and will require extensive and complex restorative dental care as they age. At the present time, they are more interested in providing their children with the best care possible. This includes preventive care and some orthodontic and restorative care. As their children grow up and begin to care for themselves, the focus will be once again on their own dental needs.

CHAPTER V. THE MARKETING/OPERATIONS PLAN

The marketing and operations plan are a natural outgrowth of the information gathered in the process—the staff audit, the patient surveys, corporate mission and objectives, demographic data, and target market identification.

Because the reporting of results has been done according to marketing mix variables, the marketing and operations plan is presented similarly.

The product area is that which is least in need of attention.

The staff and patients regard the product as being not only

adequate, but very satisfactory. However, in order for patients to

be referrers they must be not only satisfied, but enthusiastic.

First, a commitment to excellence demands that the dentist and staff be involved in continuing education courses. This will involve not only technical courses, but those dealing in people skills as well. A seminar at which the entire team can be present is an immediate goal.

A new, in-house computer system was recently installed, with greater service the ultimate goal. Insurance benefits, recall dates, full treatment data, and a number of demographic and psychographic variables are easily tracked and identified. More assistance with insurance will be a natural by-product. Another

is a written treatment plan, complete with expected insurance benefit. This plan would be presented in a conference room setting rather than a clinical one.

The recall system would be handled by the computer with complete tracking. Recall is done by telephone with quite good success in this office.

Another advantage of the computer is the ability to send word-processed letters to selected groups of patients or even a single individual. A bank of letters will be stored for use as opportunity arises.

In addition, a tickler file will be established on the computer. As patients complete treatment, name and phone number and notes on treatment will be entered into a file. Every patient in that file will receive a follow-up phone call from a staff member.

With the prevalence of two-career families in our target market, it is necessary to establish some evening and weekend hours, even if it is only once or twice a month. In addition, hygiene appointments will be scheduled during noon hour for the benefit of those professional people not able to leave their work during regular office hours.

An answering service should be contracted to receive after hours emergency calls. This number need not be published, but made available to patients as they leave the office.

Emphasis will continue to be placed on educating the patients in this practice and seeking out other opportunities for educational presentations (e.g., nursing home staff, senior citizens

groups, health clubs, hospital education series).

The appointment book will be structured to assure that each patient's time is respected, not wasted in waiting. In addition, the appointing should be done to provide as even a flow of revenue as possible.

Price

This is the area perceived by staff and patients alike as needing attention. The fee structure will be examined and then compared to local, state and national figures. While it is not anticipated that fees will be reduced, the way they are handled can be.

First, the staff must be made aware of how and why the fees were set at the present level. When the staff is committed to the value that the fee represents, they can more easily communicate that fact to the patient.

Fees must be discussed and any special payment terms arranged prior to the patient beginning treatment.

A series of newsletter articles concerning the factors which make up the fee would educate the patient and perhaps move him/her to value the service more.

While the surveys didn't indicate a dissatisfaction with the office setting, there are a number of factors which have caused the doctor to decide to relocate.

The areas of the office which the patient uses are adequate and pleasant. However, the business office and storage space are very cramped and make for fairly unpleasant working conditions.

It was decided, therefore, to relocate.

A suite of offices will be available in a new professional building adjacent to a major medical clinic. This location will meet a number of objectives in the marketing plan--more visibility, service businesses (health care) located nearby, and an expectation of increased referrals from other health professionals.

The larger space will provide more pleasant working conditions for all members of the staff.

It will be the goal in decorating the office to create a relaxed and comfortable environment for the patients. Particular attention will be paid to colors, textures and styles to convey that feeling. The decor will also reflect the image of excellence, and the interests and tastes of the doctor and staff.

Promotion

With the mission and desired image established, a promotional plan can now be laid out.

A newsletter was established several years ago and full advantage will be taken of that medium for educational and promotional purposes. It will be sent to patients of record and to other health professionals in the area. In addition, new residents and other individuals in the target market will receive a copy.

A media company will be contacted for design of a logo to be used on stationery, statements, appointment and recall cards and business cards (which will be printed for all staff members). In addition, brochures outlining practice philosophy and policy will be prepared for distribution to current and new patients and to all health professionals, fitness centers, the YMCA, etc.

Welcome letters will be sent to all new patients, along with one of the brochures. In addition, cards will be sent to patients for special occasions (graduation, special awards, sympathy, promotion, etc.). A series of rewards will be established for active referrers, i.e., a letter for the first, a small gift for the second, flowers for the third, a gift certificate for dinner for the fourth.

At this time, full-blown advertising will not be undertaken. Sponsorship of athletic events, a sports team, or educational

opportunity will be done with only the name being mentioned.

The Yellow Pages offers an opportunity which has not been exploited by this office. Along with the design of stationery, etc. a large ad for the Yellow Pages will be designed.

With the relocation of the office comes another opportunity for advertising. Ads will be placed announcing the move.

Also, open houses will be held for current patients and for local professionals.

CHAPTER VI

Summary

This paper has explored the cultural, social, and legal characteristics which have created an opportunity for health care marketing, and in particular, marketing a dental practice.

A variety of data gathering methods was used, including literature survey, audit of the current staff, and a survey of current patients. The data gathered was entered into computer software for analysis--frequency count and regression analysis.

From the information, a target market was established and a marketing plan outlined.

It is possible, with enough information, to predict which factors, particularly extra-oral ones, will lead to patient loyalty and satisfaction with the dental practice.

While some of the models were not particularly strong, others had sufficient reliability and impact to be considered significant indicators of the dependent variables.

Based on demographic variables for a given location, information concerning a particular practice (patient profile and mission statement), a marketing plan can be devised for that practice.

It will be the responsibility of the entire dental team to implement this plan since there are implications for all. Success of the plan must be a goal for all individuals and there must be

established methods of monitoring results and for rewarding success. It is suggested that one individual be responsible for guiding the plan to completion.

APPENDIX

CORRELATION AMONG DEPENDENT VARIABLES

BLE	N	MEAN	STD DEV	SUM	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
	407 410	4.0073710 4.3975610	1.0609247 0.6600688	1631.0000 1803.0000	1.0000000	5.0000000 5.0000000
	390	1.8230769	0.3820938	711.0000	1.0000000	2.0000000
	396	3.9848485	1.3254176	1578.0000	1.0000000	6.0000000
	407	3.4447174	0.8282365	1402.0000	1.0000000	4.0000000
	374	1.9812834	0.1357037	741.0000	1.0000000	2.0000000

ON CORRELATION COEFFICIENTS
B > |R| UNDER HØ:RHO=Ø / NUMBER OF OBSERVATIONS

X8					
X8	X26	X31	X28	X29	X30
1.00000	0.35573	Ø.269Ø1	0.23360	0.09761	0.05360
0.0000		0.0001	0.0001	0.0538	
407	404	367	385	391	400
X26			-		
X26	X8	X28	X31	X30	X29
1.00000	Ø.35573				0.06985
0.0000		0.0001	0.0001		
410	404	389	372	405	394
X28		•	• . –		
X28	X26	X31	X8	X3Ø	X29
1.00000	0.31033		Ø.2336Ø	0.19392	
0.0000	0.0001		0.0001		0.4905
. 390	389	358	385	386	377
X29					
X29	X8	X26	X31	X28	X3Ø
1.00000	0.09761	0.06985	Ø . Ø5925	0.03562	-0.02539
0.0000	0.0538	Ø.1664	Ø.2622	0.4905	Ø.6153
396	391	394	360	377	394
X3Ø					
X3Ø	X28	X26	X31	X8	X29
1.00000	Ø.19392	0.08831	0.07827	0.05360	-0.02539
0.0000	0.0001	Ø.Ø759	0.1329	Ø.2849	Ø.6153
407	386	405	37Ø	400	394
X31					
X31	X28	X8	X26	X30	X29
1.00000	0.30856	0.26901	Ø.25856	0.07827	0.05925
	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	Ø.1329	0.2622
374	358	367	372	370	360

FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION RESULTS* "ATTITUDES ABOUT DENTISTS AND DENTISTRY"

. = no response; 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = don't know; = agree; 5 = strongly agree

	Xl	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
eceive prompt ourteous ittention on the phone	2 3 4 5	1 3 122 289	Ø.2 Ø.7 29.4 69.6	1 4 126 415	0.2 1.0 30.4 100.0
	X2	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Staff is Friendly and Courteous	2 3 4 5	1 1 1 121 291	Ø.2 Ø.2 29.2 7Ø.3	1 2 123 414	Ø.2 Ø.5 29.7 1ØØ.Ø
	х3	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist really listens to me	1 2 3 4 5	5 1 8 26 168 207	0.2 2.0 6.3 41.0 50.5	1 9 35 203 410	%.2 2.2 8.5 49.5 100.0
	X4	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	
Dentist seldom spends enough time with me		10 102 230 13	25.2 56.8 3.2	1ø2 332 345	25.2 82.0 85.2

	4 5	38 22	9.4 5.4	383 4ø5	94.6 100.0
	X5	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist explains in simple language	1 2 3 4 5	4 2 8 5 207 189	Ø.5 1.9 1.2 5Ø.4 46.Ø	2 10 15 222 411	Ø.5 2.4 3.6 54.Ø 10Ø.Ø
,	х6	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist remembers me from visit to visit	2 3 4 5	2 7 17 128 261	1.7 4.1 31.0 63.2	7 24 152 413	1.7 5.8 36.8 100.0
	х7	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist and staff do not look professional	1 2 3 4 5	6 228 166 5 7 3	55.7 40.6 1.2 1.7 0.7	228 394 399 4Ø6 4Ø9	55.7 96.3 97.6 99.3 100.0
	x8	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Would not consider changing dentists	1 2 3 4 5	8 11 35 56 143 162	2.7 8.6 13.8 35.1 39.8	11 46 102 245 407	2.7 11.3 25.1 60.2 100.0

	х9	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Usually have to wait too long while in office	1 2 3 4 5	6 124 240 13 19 13	30.3 58.7 3.2 4.6 3.2	124 364 377 396 4Ø9	30.3 89.0 92.2 96.8 100.0
	XlØ	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	
Dentist helps calm my fears about treatment	1 2 3 4 5	9 5 28 40 219 114	1.2 6.9 9.9 53.9 28.1	5 33 73 292 4 <i>ø</i> 6	1.2 8.1 18.0 71.9 100.0
	X11	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Office location is inconvenient	1 2 3 4 5	5 13Ø 217 4 37 22	31.7 52.9 1.0 9.0 5.4	130 347 351 388 410	31.7 84.6 85.6 94.6 100.0
	X12	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Easy to find parking near office	1 2 3 4 5	3 2 6 1 186 217	0.5 1.5 0.2 45.1 52.7	2 8 9 195 412	0.5 1.9 2.2 47.3 100.0

	X13	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Office hours are convenient	2 3 4 5	1 13 7 203 191	3.1 1.7 49.0 46.1	13 20 223 414	3.1 4.8 53.9 100.0
	X14	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Office is easy to find	1 2 3 4 5	5 1 7 3 196 203	Ø.2 1.7 Ø.7 47.8 49.5	1 8 11 207 410	Ø.2 2.0 2.7 50.5 100.0
	X15	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Office is not clean	1 2 3 4 5	6 256 135 2 5 11	62.6 33.0 0.5 1.2 2.7	256 391 393 398 409	62.6 95.6 96.1 97.3 100.0
	X16	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Reception area is comfortable	1 2 4 5	1 5 8 202 199	1.2 1.9 48.8 48.1	5 13 215 414	1.2 3.1 51.9 100.0

	X17	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist asks too many personal questions	1 2 3 4 5	7 192 2Ø2 6 4 4	47.1 49.5 1.5 1.0 1.0	192 394 400 404 408	47.1 96.6 98.0 99.0 100.0
	X18	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
I am told cost of treatment in advance,	1 2 3 4 5	8 25 8ø 43 175 84	6.1 19.7 10.6 43.0 20.6	25 105 148 323 407	6.1 25.8 36.4 79.4 100.0
	X19	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	
Dentist's fees are too high	1 2 3 4 5	9 14 67 137 124 64	3.4 16.5 33.7 30.5 15.8	14 81 218 342 406	3.4 20.0 53.7 84.2 100.0
	X2Ø	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist is willing to discuss special payment terms	1 2 3 4 5	16 2 11 161 154 71	Ø.5 2.8 4Ø.4 38.6 17.8	2 13 174 328 399	0.5 3.3 43.6 82.2 100.0

	X21	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist and staff are gentle careful and competent	1 2 3 4 5	4 2 7 1 212 189	Ø.5 1.7 Ø.2 51.6 46.Ø	2 9 10 222 411	0.5 2.2 2.4 54.0 100.0
	X22	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	
My time is respected.	2 3 4 5	8 14 16 224 153	3.4 3.9 55.0 37.6	14 30 254 407	3.4 7.4 62.4 100.0
	X23	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist does not keep up with latest in dentistry	1 2 3 4 5	10 168 177 36 15	41.5 43.7 8.9 3.7 2.2	168 345 381 396 4Ø5	41.5 85.2 94.1 97.8 100.0
	X24	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Difficult to get appointment on short notice	1 2 3 4 5	14 63 189 78 63 8	15.7 47.1 19.5 15.7 2.0	63 252 33Ø 393 4Ø1	15.7 62.8 82.3 98.0 100.0

	X25	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Dentist and staff have taugh me alot about care of my teet	4	24 2 37 39 229 84	0.5 9.5 10.0 58.6 21.5	2 39 78 3Ø7 391	0.5 10.0 19.9 78.5 100.0
	X26	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Overall, I am satisfied with care I receive.	1 2 3 4 5	5 3 6 4 2Ø9 188	Ø.7 1.5 1.Ø 51.Ø 45.9	3 9 13 222 410	0.7 2.2 3.2 54.1 100.0
	X27	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
I feel very nervous about visiting the dentist.	1 2 3 4 5	12 69 181 11 1ø3 39	17.1 44.9 2.7 25.6 9.7	69 250 261 364 403	17.1 62.0 64.8 90.3 100.0
	X28	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
I have referred others to this dentist		25 69 321	17.7 82.3	69 39ø	17.7 100.0

	X29	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
I visit dentist (1=<2 yrs 2=every 2 yrs 3=every 18 mos 4=every 12 mos 5=every 6 mos 6=every 3 mos)	1 2 3	19 33 37 19 143 142 22	8.3 9.3 4.8 36.1 35.9 5.6	33 7Ø 89 232 374 396	8.3 17.7 22.5 58.6 94.4 100.0
	X3Ø	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
I have been wit this dentist: (1=<6 mos 2=6 mos-2 yrs 3=2-5 yrs 4=>5 yrs)	h . 1 2 3 4	8 15 44 93 255	3.7 10.8 22.9 62.7	15 59 152 4Ø7	3.7 14.5 37.3 100.0
	X31	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
I would recommend this dentist. (1 = No 2 = Yes)	1 2	41 7 367	1.9 98.1	7 374	1.9 100.0
	X32	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Reason for firs visit: (1=Other 2=Toothache 3=Cleaning 4=Exam)	t . 1 . 2 . 3 . 4	9 84 35 29 258	20.7 8.6 7.1 63.5	84 119 148 406	20.7 29.3 36.5 100.0
	X33	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
First impressio (l= Negative		co race com cuis com cuis cup valit cup cuis ram com acite o		VIII 1446 AND 1456 AND 1456 CITE WHO WITH CITE WITH CITE WAS	

4= Excellent

	X34	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Reason for choosing dentist (1=Other 2=Noticed Offic 3=Yellow Pages 4=Staff Refer 5=Dr. Refer 6=Friend/Family Refer	2 e 3 4 5 6	13 75 6 8 26 5Ø 237	18.7 1.5 2.0 6.5 12.4 59.0	75 81 89 115 165 4Ø2	18.7 20.1 22.1 28.6 41.0 100.0
	X35	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Staff is concerned that I return regularly (1=No 2=Yes)		14 16 384 1	4.0 95.8 Ø.2	16 400 401	4.0 99.8 100.0
	X36	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Other family members using same dentist: (1=Other 2=Parent 3=Spouse/Child	1 2 3	124 19 20 252	6.5 6.9 86.6	19 39 291	6.5 13.4 100.0
	X37	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
I prefer dentist located near: (1=Home 2=Shopping 3=Other 4=Work 5=School)	1 2 3 4 5	55 248 19 45 46 2	68.9 5.3 12.5 12.8 Ø.6	248 267 312 358 36Ø	68.9 74.2 86.7 99.4 100.0

	X38	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
How far to dentist: (1=<1 mile 2=5-10 miles 3=1-5 miles 4=>10 miles)	1 2 3 4	7 1Ø6 21 191 9Ø	26.Ø 5.1 46.8 22.1	106 127 318 408	26.0 31.1 77.9 100.0
	X39	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Sex (1=Male 2=Female)	1 2 4	8 144 262 1	35.4 64.4 Ø.2	144 406 407	35.4 99.8 100.0
	X4Ø	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Age (1=<18 2=18-35 3=36-50 4=51-65 5=>65)	X4Ø 	FREQUENCY 11 1 91 114 86 112	Ø.2 22.5 28.2 21.3 27.7		
(1=<18 2=18-35 3=36-50 4=51-65	1 2 3 4	11 1 91 114 86	Ø.2 22.5 28.2 21.3	FREQUENCY 1 92 206 292	PERCENT . 0.2 22.8 51.0 72.3

	X42	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
# of Children: (1=0 2=1 3=2 4=3 5=4 or more)	1 2 3 4 5	52 65 47 91 88 72	17.9 12.9 25.1 24.2 19.8	65 112 203 291 363	17.9 30.9 55.9 80.2 100.0
	X43	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Education: (1=<4 yrs h.s. 2=h.s. grad 3=<4 yrs colle 4=college grad 5=>4 yrs colle	5	11 26 92 113 110 63	6,4 22.8 28.0 27.2 15.6	26 118 231 341 404	6.4 29.2 57.2 84.4 100.0
	X44	FREQUENCY	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE FREQUENCY	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
Income: (1=0-5000 2=6000-10000 3=11000-15000 4=16000-25000 5=26000-35000 6=36000-50000 7=51000 +	1 2 3 4 5 6	54 10 19 50 66 90 76 50	2.8 5.3 13.9 18.3 24.9 21.1 13.9	10 29 79 145 235 311 361	2.8 8.0 21.9 40.2 65.1 86.1 100.0

STEP 8 VARIABLE X6 REMOVED R SQUARE = $\emptyset.35279663$ C(P) = 5.69624676

		C(P)	- 3,090240/0		
	DF.	SUM OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARE	F	PROB>F
REGRESSION ERROR TOTAL	6 179 185	74.08729280 135.91270720 210.00000000	12.34788213 Ø.75928887	16.26	Ø.ØØØ1
	B VALUE	STD ERROR	TYPE II SS	F	PROB>F
INTERCEPT	1.86255914				
X14	0.28750811	Ø.11338393	4.88207280	6.43	Ø.Ø121
X15	-0.17731416	0.08027191	3.70481617	4.88	Ø.Ø284
X19	-0.20744087	0.06211979	8.46712073	11.15	Ø.Ø01Ø
X22	0.27064528	Ø.1121793Ø	4.41959520	5.82	Ø.Ø168
X24	-0.10251808	Ø.Ø6768985	1.74164960	2.29	Ø.1317
X25	0.24077370	0.08240135	6.4827Ø878	8.54	0.0039
BOUNDS ON C	ONDITION NUMBER	1.534044,	44.82046	TYDING STANK FORMS COUNT SCHOOL SCHOOL STANK COUNTY STANK AND STANK STAN	ow vysme comm veille yrank nické middl annab váldíl

NO OTHER VARIABLES MET THE 1.0000 SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO THE MODEL.

	VAR	IABLE	NUMBER	PARTIAL	MODEL	
STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	IN	R**2	R ** 2	C(P)
-	****		7	a 1070	α 10 7 0	22 2622
1	X22		1	Ø.1978	Ø.1978	38.2623
2	X19		2	0.0604	Ø.2581	23,6852
3	Xl4		3	Ø.Ø364	Ø.2946	15.6852
4	X25		4	ø . ø336	Ø.3282	8.4566
5	X15		5	0.0163	Ø.3445	5.9733
6	X24		6	0.0083	Ø.3528	5,6962
7	х6		7	0.0062	ø.359ø	5.9824
8		х6	6	0.0062	Ø.3528	5,6962
_		110	ŭ	5.000	2,3323	3,0302
		VARIA	BLE			
	STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	F	PROB>F	
	1	X22		45.3586	0.0001	
	2	X19		14.8937	0.0002	
	3	X14		9,3967	Ø.ØØ25	
	4	X25		9.0557	Ø.ØØ3Ø	
	5	X15		4.4840		
					0.0356	
	6	X24		2.2938	Ø.1317	
	7	Х6		1.7335	Ø.1897	
	8		Х6	1.7335	Ø.1897	

SAS 20:59 THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1987
STEPWISE REGRESSION PROCEDURE FOR DEPENDENT VARIABLE X26

STEP 14	VARIABLE X40	REMOVED	R SQUARE	= 0.54030309
			C(P) =	-2.88008468

	DF	SUM OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARE	F	PROB>F
REGRESSION ERROR TOTAL	10 176 186	33.74149457 28.70770330 62.44919786	3.37414946 Ø.16311195	20.69	0.0001
	B VALUE	STD ERROR	TYPE II SS	F	PROB>F
INTERCEPT X2	Ø.8Ø1298Ø1	a acc7c710	1 40306000	0.15	a aaso
X2 X9	0.20193053 0.06601924	Ø.Ø6676748 Ø.Ø3484253	1.49196890 Ø.5856Ø867	9.15 3.59	Ø.ØØ29 Ø.Ø598
X13	0.08074601	0.04781767	Ø.46510521	2.85	Ø.0330 Ø.0931
X15 X16	Ø.Ø828ØØ28	0.04701707 0.04045115	Ø. 48318321 Ø. 68341993	4.19	Ø.Ø422
X2Ø	0.09765847	0.03836554	1.05687330	6,48	Ø.Ø118
X22	Ø.35522374	Ø ₈ Ø55197Ø7	6.75550330	41.42	0.0001
X23	-0.07760076	Ø.Ø3379656	0.85994885	5.27	0.0228
X27	-0.05702740	0.02180662	1.11551739	6.84	Ø.ØØ97
X42	ø.ø467997ø	0.02407354	0.61644131	3.78	Ø.Ø535
X43	Ø.Ø4267622	0.02703400	0.40647816	2.49	Ø . 1162
BOUNDS ON C	ONDITION NUMBER	1.738816,	123.2926		

NO OTHER VARIABLES MET THE 1.0000 SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO THE MODEL.

STEP	VARI ENTERED	ABLE REMOVED	NUMBER IN	PARTIAL R**2	MODEL R**2	C (P)
1 2	X22 X2Ø		1 2	Ø.3889 Ø.Ø421	Ø.3889 Ø.431Ø	32.5319 19.6850
3 4	X27 X2		3 4	Ø.Ø3Ø6 Ø.Ø288	0.4615 0.4903	10.9033 2.7579
5	X5		5	0.0101	0.5004	1.2079
6 7	X23 X16		6 7	0.0073 0.0075	Ø.5Ø77 Ø.5152	Ø.6248 -Ø.Ø285
8	***40	X5	6	0.0043	Ø . 51Ø9	-Ø.5244
9 1Ø	X42 X43		7 8	0.0083 0.0068	Ø.5192 Ø.526Ø	-1.4439 -1.8468
11	X9		9	Ø.ØØ68	Ø . 5329	- 2.2535
12 13	X13 X4Ø		1Ø 11	0.0074 0.0047	0.5403 0.5450	-2.8801 -2.5434
14	2200	X4Ø	10	Ø.ØØ47	Ø.54Ø3	-2.8801

	VARI	ABLE		
STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	F	PROB>F
1	X22		117.7088	0.0001
2	X2Ø		13.6125	0.0003
3	X27		10.3897	0.0015
4	X2		10.2720	Ø.ØØ16
5	X5		3.6465	Ø.Ø578
	VARI	ABLE		
STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	F	PROB>F
6	X23		2.6779	0.1035
7	X16		2.7779	Ø.Ø973
8		X5	1.5747	Ø.2112
9	X42		3.0821	ø.ø8ø9
1Ø	X43		2.5588	Ø.1115
11	х9		2.5857	0.1096
12	X13		2.8514	0.0931
13	X4Ø		1.8140	Ø.1798
14		X4Ø	1.8140	Ø.1798

STEP 7	VARIABLE X11 RE		SQUARE = 0.2389616 P) = -11.9338540		
	DF	SUM OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARE	F	PROB>F
REGRESSIC ERROR TOTAL	ON 5 178 183	5.83767662 18.59167121 24.42934783	1.16753532 Ø.1Ø444759	11.18	0.0001
	B VALUE	STD ERROR	TYPE II SS	F	PROB>F
INTERCEPT X6	9.59878Ø55 Ø.Ø6516Ø2Ø		Ø.25261 <i>0</i> 29	2.42	Ø.1217
X16	-0.06083781		0.39202054	3.75	Ø.Ø543
X19	-0.03619861		Ø.26327459	2.52	Ø.1141
X22	Ø. 20458772	·	3.05945383	29.29	0.0001
X35	Ø.23157499		0.31420718	3.01	0.0846
BOUNDS ON	N CONDITION NUMBE	IR: 1.257975,	27.94154	i saam raddi vallib vallib raddi saksi saasi (1816 valli valli saksi saksi sa	-vyggs -uggs comp corpus kinnes vousis vousis vousis vousis confi

NO OTHER VARIABLES MET THE 1.0000 SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO THE MODEL.

SAS 21:01 THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1987

STEP	VAR ENTERED	REMOVED	NUMBER IN	PARTIAL R**2	MODEL R**2	C (P)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	X22 X35 X16 X19 X6 X11	X11	1 2 3 4 5 6 5	0.1912 0.0127 0.0129 0.0118 0.0103 0.0085 0.0085	0.1912 0.2039 0.2168 0.2286 0.2390 0.2475 0.2390	-9.8829 -10.5557 -11.2672 -11.7590 -11.9339 -11.7308 -11.9339
,		2111	3	2,220		,
		VARI <i>A</i>	BLE			
	STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	F	PROB>F	
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	X22 X35 X16 X19 X6 X11	X11	43.0175 2.8892 2.9628 2.7492 2.4185 2.0096 2.0096	<pre>Ø.0001 Ø.0909 Ø.0869 Ø.0991 Ø.1217 Ø.1581 Ø.1581</pre>	

STEPWISE REGRESSION PROCEDURE FOR DEPENDENT VARIABLE X29

STEP 8	VARIABLE X35 REM	OVED RS C(P	QUARE = 0.14863712) = -3.29150745		
	DF	SUM OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARE	F,	PROB>F
REGRESSION ERROR TOTAL	1 6 178 184	44.68272887 255.93348735 300.61621622	7.44712148 1.43782858	5.18	0.0001
	B VALUE	STD ERROR	TYPE II SS	F	PROB>F
INTERCEPT	1.23106943				
X1	0.59440094	Ø.19922649	12.79887908	8.90	0.0032
X16	-Ø.27424612	0.12005504	7.50286759	5.22	0.0235
X21	-0. 29430070	Ø.176Ø9917	4.01582786	2.79	0.0964
X25	0.26809075	0.11407824	7.94081692	5.52	0.0199
X36	0.28365589	Ø.176Ø6218	3 .7 3214559	2.60	0.1089
X4Ø	0.22221171	0.09224795	8.34310130	5.80	0.0170
BOUNDS ON	CONDITION NUMBER	1.370318,	43.32101	nail - illi cam mini am om pan rain inservisii m	보는 1965 and rails along any ages size

NO OTHER VARIABLES MET THE 1.0000 SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO THE MODEL.

	VAR	IABLE	NUMBER	PARTIAL	MODEL	
STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	IN	R**2	R**2	C (P)
_			_			
1	Xl		1	0.0547	Ø.Ø547	5,21278
2	x4Ø		2	0.0229	Ø.Ø776	2.69244
3	X16		3	Ø.Ø272	0.1049	-Ø.67185
4	X25		4	0.0190	Ø.1239	-2.42300
5	X21		5	0.0123	Ø.1362	-2.84590
6	X36		6	Ø.Ø124	Ø.1486	-3.29151
7	X35		7	0.0090	Ø.1576	-3.06104
8		X35	6	0.0090	Ø.1486	-3.29151
		VARIA	BLE			
	STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	된	PROB>F	
	1	X1		10.5896	0.0014	
	2	X4Ø				
				4.5280	Ø.Ø347	
	3	X16		5.5064	0.0200	
	4	X25		3.9125	0.0495	
	5	X21		2.5489	Ø.1121	
	6	X36		2.5957	Ø.1Ø89	
	7	X35		1.8875	Ø.1712	

STEP 18 VARIABLE X20 REMOVED

R SQUARE = 0.35688151 C (P) = 11.49355478

	DF	SUM OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARE	F	PROB>F
REGRESSION ERROR TOTAL	16 169 185	43.56256914 78.50194699 122.06451613	2.72266Ø57 Ø.4645Ø856	5.86	Ø.ØØØ1
	B VALUE	STD ERROR	TYPE II SS	F	PROB>F
INTERCEPT X2 X6 X10 X11 X14 X17 X18 X19 X32 X33 X34 X39 X40 X42 X43 X44	2.52568154 -0.30565297 0.30952642 -0.11708760 0.11907320 0.20375366 -0.17849363 -0.10575877 0.09352584 0.07112195 -0.07907948 -0.09941132 0.28845363 0.21239260 -0.09260074 -0.11477881 0.11949540	0.12939959 0.09276409 0.06230389 0.05126228 0.09994586 0.07967927 0.04986434 0.04997977 0.04597619 0.05430307 0.05430307 0.02640164 0.10843047 0.05679652 0.04256450 0.04984654 0.03844891	2.59170255 5.17165376 1.64053387 2.50625836 1.93052307 2.33103313 2.08951894 1.62655372 1.11156568 0.98508260 6.58572633 3.28732814 6.49574573 2.19850589 2.46290167 4.48671043	5.58 11.13 3.53 5.40 4.16 5.02 4.50 3.50 2.39 2.12 14.18 7.08 13.98 4.73 5.30 9.66	Ø.Ø193 Ø.Ø010 Ø.Ø619 Ø.Ø214 Ø.Ø43Ø Ø.Ø264 Ø.Ø354 Ø.063Ø Ø.1238 Ø.1472 Ø.Ø602 Ø.Ø866 Ø.Ø866 Ø.Ø866 Ø.Ø866 Ø.Ø866 Ø.Ø866 Ø.Ø8663 Ø.Ø866 Ø.Ø86 Ø.Ø866 Ø.
BOUNDS ON CO	NDITION NUMBER	: 1.638793,	320.2751		

NO OTHER VARIABLES MET THE 1.0000 SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO THE MODEL.

SAS 21:07 THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1987 12

	VARI	ABLE	NUMBER	PARTIAL	MODEL	
STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	IN	R**2	R**2	C(P)
1	X34		1	Ø . Ø752	Ø . Ø752	53.0975
2	X6		2	0.0330	0.1082	46.7185
3	X18		3	Ø.Ø311	Ø . 1393	40.8180
4	X4Ø		4	Ø . Ø263	Ø . 1656	36.1212
5	X39		5	Ø.Ø337	Ø.1993	29.5654
6	X32		6	Ø.Ø182	Ø.2174	26,9442
7	X11		7	Ø.Ø197	Ø.2371	23.9344
8	X44		8	Ø.Ø184	Ø.2556	21.2494

PROB>F

VARIABLE STEP ENTERED REMOVED \mathbf{F}

1	X34		14.9663	0.0002
2	х6		6.7633	Ø.Ø1Ø1
3	X18		6.5712	0.0112
4	X4Ø		5. 7143	0.0179
5	X39		7.5653	Ø.Ø066
6	X32		4.1579	0.0429
7	X11		4,5982	0.0334
8	X44		4.3817	Ø.Ø378
9	X19		3.7979	0.0529
1Ø	X42		3,8570	Ø.Ø511
11	X43		3,7914	0.0531
12	X17		2,6230	Ø.1071
13	X1Ø		2,5586	Ø.1115
14	X2		2.6837	0.1032
15	X14		4.0823	0.0449
16	X33		2.1207	Ø.1472
17	X2Ø		1,8788	Ø.1723
18		X2Ø	1.8788	Ø.1723

STEP 12	VARIABLE X15	REMOVED	R SQUARE	= Ø,26926986
			C(P) =	-1.52542833

	DF	SUM OF SQUARES	MEAN SQUARE	F	PROB>F
REGRESSION ERROR TOTAL	10 165 175	Ø.794Ø4Ø11 2.15482353 2.94886364	0.07940401 0.01305954	6.08	Ø.0001
	B VALUE	STD ERROR	TYPE II SS	F	PROB>F
INTERCEPT X10 X12 X14 X17 X19 X21 X22 X27 X32 X33	1.46309007 -0.01604857 0.05956946 -0.04860361 0.03005653 -0.01286708 0.03514425 0.03903205 0.01927602 0.02187860 0.02586670	0.01040170 0.01891524 0.01803058 0.01394430 0.00875356 0.01939082 0.01592052 0.00661827 0.00751943 0.00902142	0.03108796 0.12952431 0.09489545 0.06067534 0.02821747 0.04289869 0.07849749 0.11078299 0.11055970 0.10736426	2.38 9.92 7.27 4.65 2.16 3.28 6.01 8.48 8.47 8.22	0.1248 0.0019 0.0078 0.0326 0.1435 0.0717 0.0153 0.0041 0.0041
BOUNDS ON (CONDITION NUMBER	: 1.780899,	138.281		

NO OTHER VARIABLES MET THE 1.0000 SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL FOR ENTRY INTO THE MODEL.

SUMMARY OF STEPWISE REGRESSION PROCEDURE FOR DEPENDENT VARIABLE X31

STEP	VARI ENTERED	ABLE REMOVED	NUMBER IN	PARTIAL R**2	MODEL R**2	C (P)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	X22 X33 X27 X32 X12 X14 X17 X21 X10 X19 X15		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	0.0860 0.0373 0.0289 0.0213 0.0166 0.0267 0.0191 0.0129 0.0110 0.0996 0.0083	0.0860 0.1233 0.1522 0.1735 0.1900 0.2167 0.2358 0.2487 0.2597 0.2693 0.2776	18.7222 12.9299 8.9057 6.4651 5.0086 1.4469 -0.5383 -1.2313 -1.5288 -1.5254 -1.2535
12		X15	10	Ø . ØØ83	Ø.2693	-1. 5254

VARIABLE STEP ENTERED REMOVED F PROB>F

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	X22 X33 X27 X32 X12 X14 X17		16.3656 7.3694 5.8571 4.4029 3.4767 5.7507 4.1986	0.0001 0.0073 0.0166 0.0373 0.0640 0.0176 0.0420
	VARI	ABLE		
STEP	ENTERED	REMOVED	F	PROB>F
8	X21		2.8687	0.0922
9	X1Ø		2.4689	Ø.118Ø
10	X19		2.1607	Ø.1435
11	X15		1.8800	0.1722
12		X15	1.8800	0.1722

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