



## TEXAS ROUNDUP

PROGRAM UPDATES FOR OUR TEXAS DENTISTS  
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### IN THIS ISSUE

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REMINDERS

*Expediting Claims: Please mount your x-rays*

#### OPPORTUNITY SPOTLIGHT

*Apply to Join the Early Childhood Caries Collaborative*

#### PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT:

**Dr. Brett Mueller**

Thank you for all your help. We are truly thankful for having a rep in the valley that can answer our questions...Dr. Martinez would like to thank you so much for helping us get the 20 claims paid. Without you we would not have known we could appeal them online through the portal.

*Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*

Hilda A. Ayala  
Edmundo M. Martinez DDS  
McAllen, TX

### ADMINISTRATIVE REMINDERS

#### Expediting Claims: Please mount your x-rays

Claims received with more than four un-mounted x-rays will be returned for mounting. Please make sure x-rays are of diagnostic quality - properly mounted, dated, marked left and right, and identified with the member's name.

You have two options to submit x-rays to us:

- **Option 1 (preferred):** Electronically, using either the NEA (National Electronic Attachment) or DentaQuest provider web portal
- **Option 2:** Mailing duplicate x-rays with your ADA form



Do you need your x-rays back? You must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want us to return them. X-rays not accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope will be scanned and recycled.





## OPPORTUNITY SPOTLIGHT

### Apply to Join the Early Childhood Caries Collaborative

Pediatric dental practices interested in reducing the prevalence of early childhood caries are invited to participate in Phase III of the DentaQuest Institute's Early Childhood Caries (ECC) Collaborative. A [link to the online team application](#), which must be completed by Friday, July 12, 2013, is available on the [DentaQuest Institute website](#).

By Thursday, August 8, 2013, as many as 40 applicant teams will be selected to join Phase III of the DentaQuest Institute's ECC Breakthrough Series, scheduled to begin later in August 2013.

Phase III will engage teams in a practice-based, clinical quality improvement initiative intended to reduce (a) the recurrence of early childhood caries, (b) the percentage of patients requiring treatment for early childhood caries in an operating room setting, and (c) the percentage of patients complaining of pain from early childhood caries. Using the Breakthrough Series Collaborative model, national and regional faculty will provide training and technical assistance to Phase III teams.

Since 2008, seven practices in six states have successfully reduced the incidence and severity of early childhood caries in their patients through participation in the ECC. Results from five practices participating in Phase II show a 28% decline in new cavitation, a 36% decline in patient referral to the OR, and a 27% decline in patient report of pain.

### PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT: Dr. Brett Mueller

A fifth generation Texan, Brett H. Mueller, DDS, MA, practices pediatric dentistry in San Antonio with his wife, Dr. Cynthia A. Banker. After earning his dental degree at Northwestern University in Chicago in 1969, he joined the army where he practiced general dentistry in Germany for four years. He received training in pediatric dentistry in Kansas City, MO through the army. He left the Army in 1979 as a Lt. Colonel and board-certified pediatric dentist. He subsequently led the undergraduate department of pediatric dentistry at the University of Texas Dental San Antonio. It was here that Dr. Mueller earned a graduate degree and met his wife. They have six children. Their youngest daughter is following in her parents' footsteps, pursuing a degree in dentistry from the UTHSCSA.



Dr. Mueller was inducted into the American College of Dentists last year. He has written over 20 dental articles and three chapters in dental texts. He is a DentaQuest consultant and a member of the 2013 DentaQuest Advisory Committee.

