



North Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance
Recipient Services EIS

1985 Umstead Drive – 2501 Mail Service Center - Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2501
Courier Number 56-20-06

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Gary Fuquay, Director
(919) 857-4019

February 23, 2004

Re: Smart Smiles
UNC – School of Public Health Study

Dear County Directors of Social Services:

The UNC School of Public Health will begin an evaluation study of “Smart Smiles”. This collaborative project was designed to prevent tooth decay by involving doctors and nurses in providing a limited set of preventive dental services to young children. Smart Smiles provided a basis for Medicaid’s “Into the Mouths of Babes” program, which now covers these preventive dental services for all Medicaid recipients from birth to age three. Each month, the study personnel will mail letters to caretakers of Medicaid eligible children that are approaching their third birthday.

Letters will be mailed to children in the following counties: Alexander, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga and Yancey. The letter will ask the caretaker to participate in the study and will provide a toll-free number 1-800-DNT-EXAM (1-866-368-3926) to call for more information or they can complete and return the form provided. The letter will also instruct the recipient not to call the Department of Social Services; however, should you receive an inquiry, please refer participants to the toll-free number.

Caretakers that participate in the program will be asked to complete a 30 to 45 minute survey about their child’s teeth and have the child’s teeth examined by a dentist in their community. Participants will be awarded a \$20 gift certificate to Wal-Mart if they comply with the study.

Attached is a copy of the letter and accompanying fact sheet (English and Spanish) that will be mailed.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Sincerely,

Gary Fuquay

GF:cg
Attachments



“Prevention of Tooth Decay in Young Children”

What is the study about?

This study is about the prevention of tooth decay. The University of North Carolina School of Public Health is doing the study. The Oral Health Section in the state health department is helping. Its purpose is to learn if preventive dental services provided by doctors and nurses can help prevent tooth decay in children. Dr. Gary Rozier at the University of North Carolina is the director of the project.

Why my child?

You and your child were selected for this study because your child has Medicaid, is about 3 years old, and lives in one of the following counties: Alexander, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga or Yancey.

What will I be asked to do?

If you take part, you will be asked to complete a paper and pencil survey about your child’s teeth. The questions also ask about your health and how dental problems might affect you and your child. We will mail this questionnaire to your home. It should take between 30 and 45 minutes to answer the questions.

You also will be asked to make an appointment for a dentist to look at your child’s teeth. A dentist working for the study will do the exam. He is a licensed dentist employed by the state health department, but working in your community. This exam will be like a regular dental checkup. We will not do any treatment. Project staff will arrange a time and location for the exam in your community. It will be free. The dentist doing the exam will tell you about your child’s dental health.

Will I be paid?

You will receive a \$20 gift certificate to Wal-Mart if you fill out the questionnaire and we examine your child.

How do I find out more about the study?

To learn more about the study, return the enclosed letter with the requested information. You also can call this number. It is a toll-free number. A person working for the study will call you back.



1-866-368-3926 or (1-866-DNT-EXAM)



“La prevención de las caries dentales en los niños”

¿Sobre qué es el estudio?

Este estudio se trata sobre la prevención de las caries dentales. Se lleva a cabo por parte de la Facultad de Salud Pública de la Universidad de Carolina del Norte. La Oficina de Salud Oral del estado ayudará con el estudio. El propósito es de ver si los servicios dentales preventivos de los médicos y enfermeras pueden ayudar en la prevención de las caries orales en los niños. El director del proyecto es el Dr. Gary Rozier de la Universidad de Carolina del Norte.

¿Porque mi niño?

Se seleccionaron a usted y a su niño para participar en este estudio por el hecho de que su niño recibe el Medicaid, tiene aproximadamente 3 años de edad, y vive en uno de los condados siguientes: Alexander, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga o Yancey.

¿Qué tengo que hacer?

Si decide participar, le pediremos que llene un formulario de papel y lápiz sobre los dientes de su niño. También hay preguntas sobre su salud y como los problemas dentales puedan afectarle a usted y a su niño. Le mandaremos por correo el formulario a su casa. Debe de tomar entre 30 a 45 minutos en contestar todas las preguntas.

También le pediremos que haga una cita para que un dentista le mire a los dientes de su niño. Un odontólogo que trabaja con el estudio le examinará. El odontólogo titulado es un empleado del estado que trabaja en su comunidad. El examen será gratis. El le explicará sobre la salud de los dientes de su niño.

¿Me pagarán?

Usted recibirá un certificado de \$20 para el Wal-Mart si llena el formulario y si nosotros podemos examinar los dientes de su niño.

¿Cómo puedo averiguar más sobre el estudio?

Para aprender más sobre el estudio, devuelva la carta con la información requerida. También puede llamar a este número telefónico gratis.



1-866-368-3926