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Dear Colleague:

The MDA Communications Committee is proud to send you the enclosed new materials for the Free First Visit program.

The Free First Visit program has run for several years, with active participation by the majority of Manitoba dentists. Research conducted along with the program has shown that we have been successful, increasing the public and dentists' awareness that a child's first dental visit should take place prior to their first birthday. There remains room and opportunity to spread the message further.



The new materials you have received prominently feature the message **"BABY'S FIRST CHECK UP SHOULD BE DONE BY AGE ONE or within six months of the eruption of the first tooth".**The First Free Visit logo with the message "It's free before three" is included to provide further incentive for parents to accept the recommended care.

Included in the package you have received are Fact Sheets with information for parents of young children and Counter Cards and Window Decals promoting the first visit before age one recommendation and the First Free Visit program. Additional copies of these materials are available at ManitobaDentist.ca or through the Manitoba Dental Association office.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who have participated in the Free First Visit program and contributed to improving the dental health of our young patients. I encourage those who have not taken advantage of the opportunities the program provides to become involved.

Dr. Joel Antel

Chair, MDA Communications Committee