

Delivering the Highest Level of Emergency Care 24/7 in Central Texas

DELL CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER OF CENTRAL TEXAS

UNMATCHED EXPERIENCE, SPECIALIST TEAMS SAVE LIVES IN 46 CENTRAL TEXAS COUNTIES

Cars crash. Storms blow. Kids fall from monkey bars.

That's why high-quality, comprehensive trauma care is a cornerstone of Seton's commitment to meeting the total healthcare needs of the Austin area. **With the only Level I designated trauma centers in Central Texas, Seton delivers — and also advances — care that saves lives and improves the quality of life for severely injured patients.**

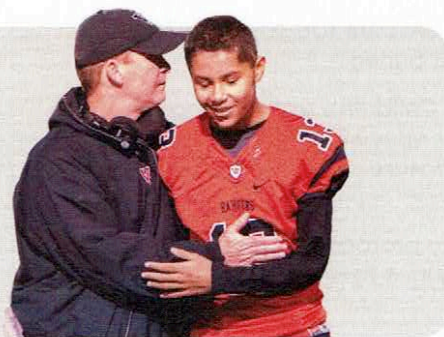
When kids are severely injured, every second matters. So do the experience, precision, and compassion of caregivers. These qualities are embodied in the **Dell Children's Medical Center** trauma services staff. Their promise to the community is to be there to meet every potential need of injured children — to save their lives and improve their quality of life beyond the

hospital doors. Fulfilling that commitment is a team of nine pediatric surgeons, nine pediatric orthopedic surgeons, 15 pediatric anesthesiologists, specially trained nurses, and an array of support staff to address the whole family's physical and emotional needs.

Part of Ascension, the Seton trauma network extends from Dell Children's Medical Center to 46 counties. Accident victims from as far away as San Angelo — 200 miles — are transferred via helicopter.

A pediatric Level I Trauma Center is a medical facility capable of providing specialized care for every aspect of childhood injury — from prevention through rehabilitation.

Teen's parents grateful for "modern day miracle" after boating accident



On a summer family boat ride on Lake Travis, 14-year-old D.J. Richardson tumbled off an inner tube and hit an underwater boulder head on.

Unconscious, D.J. was soon on a STAR Flight helicopter headed for the Level I trauma center at Dell Children's Medical Center. Pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Luke Tomycz looked at the images of D.J.'s skull and spine and was concerned by what he saw: a subdural hematoma and fractured dislocation of two vertebrae of the cervical spine — a broken neck.

"They told us he would likely be a quadriplegic for the rest of his life," said Dale Richardson, D.J.'s dad. D.J. awoke after hours of brain and

spine surgery with no memory of the accident, unable to move his arms and legs.

But the skill of his care team soon became clear. After physical and speech therapy, a year after the accident D.J. not only walks and talks again, he is back to playing sports and plays guard on the JV basketball team at his high school.

"They put him back together. We have our son back," said D.J.'s mom, Marlene Richardson. "It's still hard to comprehend him playing basketball after all he went through. We are so thankful for Dr. Tomycz and all the staff at Dell Children's."

TRAUMA CARE VS. EMERGENCY CARE

An **emergency room** is staffed and equipped to handle most medical emergencies, including **serious conditions like heart attacks, and less immediate ones, like sprains.**

Trauma centers are part of the emergency room system, but focus specifically on **life-threatening medical situations. Serious burns, head injuries, and severe car accidents** are examples of incidents that require a trauma center.

The highest level of care is provided in a Level I trauma center. The decision to treat a medical condition in the ER or trauma center is made by a medical provider. Call 911 and the dispatch professional will assist you.



Learn more at DellChildrens.net

TRAUMA CARE AT DELL CHILDREN'S

"Kids are not just little adults," said Dr. Nilda Garcia, medical director of trauma services at Dell Children's Medical Center.

With smaller, more compact bodies, injuries to children are often complex, affecting multiple systems. Treatment must take into account unique risks for children of varying ages and sizes — from tiny infants to growing teenagers. A multitude of specialized equipment and supplies must always be at the ready, along with a large, diverse team of specialist physicians and specially trained nurses and support staff.

"What people don't realize is that trauma is deceiving. A kid with a head injury may seem okay initially, but if that changes, we have pediatric neurosurgeons immediately available to intervene. It may seem like just a scratch, but it could be so much more," Garcia said.



TREATMENT NOW, PREVENTION FOR THE FUTURE

Compassion and precision are hallmarks of the Dell Children's approach to trauma care. When a child is seriously injured, the whole family suffers. Listening to parents' concerns and insights is a best practice — especially when patients are too young to say what's wrong, where it hurts, or what happened.

When doctors need to look deeper, Dell Children's uses the most advanced equipment, including scanners specially designed for children, because lower radiation exposure can mean better outcomes for children.

"We strictly adhere to pediatric radiology protocols that challenge us to find other ways to 'see' a child's injuries to determine treatment," Garcia said.

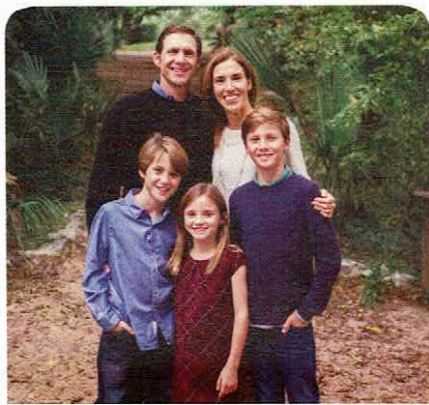
The same uncommon approach applies to common injuries, like broken bones. At Dell Children's, pediatric orthopedic specialists go beyond putting on the cast to understanding how growth plates — and the child's future growth — may be affected. This type of care is one of the reasons Dell Children's pediatric orthopedic care is ranked among the top 50 by *U.S. News & World Report*.

"We love our patients. But we never want to see them again... that is, we don't want to see them hurt again. It's our job to do everything we can to help kids, families, and our whole community prevent injuries. We want them to get well and stay well," Garcia said.

SUPPORTING CHILD SAFETY OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL

Dell Children's team also goes beyond treating the injury presented to address patients' whole life circumstances. Injured in a car wreck? They'll make sure the family has a new, safe car seat before going home. Story doesn't add up? A child abuse specialist intervenes.

The team also goes out into the community to train paramedics in pediatric trauma care and support the Safe Kids Austin coalition, which promotes drowning prevention, gun safety, and car seat safety.



The Wallin family. In August of 2010, two Wallin family children were treated at Dell Children's after a serious boating accident. Ryan had life-threatening head injuries and Davis suffered a broken jaw and broken collar bone. Today, their parents report a full recovery.



Learn more at DellChildrens.net

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UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER BRACKENRIDGE

UNMATCHED EXPERIENCE, SPECIALIST TEAMS SAVE LIVES IN 11 CENTRAL TEXAS COUNTIES

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When people are severely injured, every second matters. So do the experience, precision, and compassion of caregivers. These qualities are embodied in the **University Medical Center Brackenridge** trauma services

staff, and will continue to advance upon moving to the new Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas later this year.

Organized to assemble any specialized complement of physicians, nurses, and support staff within 15 minutes, the **UMC Brackenridge team admits more than 3,000 severely injured patients per year** on average. Because of Seton's investment in trauma care, Central Texans have immediate access to brain, heart, plastic, and reconstructive surgery, as well as microsurgery for the reattachment of limbs and digits.

A Level I Trauma Center is a medical facility capable of providing total care for every aspect of injury — from prevention through rehabilitation.

Morton family has a new outlook on life after car crash.

It happened in a flash. During a rainy drive from Wimberley, the next blind curve would abruptly end the Morton family's trip. A car was coming toward them — sideways — into their lane.

Behind the wheel, Zack Morton had no chance to veer from the impact. He and his precious cargo, wife Regan and young children Blake and Samantha, collided with the other vehicle. Their car careened into the air and landed on a guardrail.

"We were terrified and shocked, but quickly we all made eye contact with each other. We were miraculously all still alive," recalled Zack.

Despite a fractured spine and a broken ankle and finger, Zack, with the help of an "angelic" retired firefighter who was first on the scene, managed to pull the children from the car. Blake suffered a bad neck injury and severe burns from his seatbelt. Both of Samantha's legs were broken just above her knees.

Regan sat trapped in the car with severe abdominal injuries. Smoke filled the air. "At that point I began to feel panicked and intense pain was setting in." Soon first responders and the "jaws of life" freed Regan from the car.

Dripping Springs EMS loaded the family together into one ambulance. Blake and Samantha were taken to Dell Children's Medical Center for top pediatric trauma care. Regan and Zack arrived at University Medical Center Brackenridge, home to the region's only adult Level I trauma center.

"From the time we arrived at the trauma center, our care was really exceptional — quick, expert — everything you would hope it would be," recalled Zack. "Of course no one ever expects to need it, but when you do, there's an assurance that you are getting top quality when you are at a trauma center like Brackenridge."

"This was a really scary and painful time for us, especially since we were separated from our children," Regan said. "While the doctors, nurses, and social workers were attending to us,



they were also keeping us posted on our children's injuries and treatment at Dell Children's."

Regan and Zack were able to go home after a few days. Their first stop was to see the kids. "We have a picture of all of us in wheelchairs. As difficult as that time was, it's my most cherished family photo. We are closer than ever. Our lives have forever changed for the better," Zack said. "Our family can't thank Seton and the medical professionals who watched over us enough."



Learn more at Seton.net/Emergency

LEADERSHIP IN TRAUMA CARE

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Services don't stop with care.

"We provide world-class care to severely injured patients while embracing our broader responsibility to the community and to our profession to help lead the way in making trauma care better," said Dr. Carlos Brown, chief of trauma, UMC Brackenridge.

As a center of excellence for trauma care education and research, Seton's trauma center is on the forefront of developing and applying innovations. The new Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas will be one of the world's most advanced trauma facilities when it opens in May 2017.

"We will continue to educate future doctors and nurses to foster a 'life cycle' of constant improvement in trauma care," Brown said. "This is how we ensure that Seton always will be able to deliver the best possible care to the community we serve."

UNMATCHED EXPERIENCE

UMC Brackenridge, part of the Seton Healthcare Family and Ascension, has held State of Texas designation and American College of Surgeons verification for more than 20 years. In anticipation of becoming the trauma training grounds for a new medical school at a top-tier research university, UMC Brackenridge gained Level I state designation and ACS verification in 2009. That designation is reserved for centers that offer the most comprehensive care, access to key specialties, and a commitment to trauma research and education.

Today, UMC Brackenridge's physician team includes four former military trauma surgeons, who treated thousands of injured soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan, and staffed dozens of mass casualty incidents. No other trauma team in the region offers the extraordinary experience that this "band of brothers" brings to the Austin area.

"There's no better way to drive excellence and improvement in trauma care than to perform a lot of it," Brown said. **"It's our breadth of experience over a long period of time that has built our capability and sets us apart."**



Input from the deeply experienced Seton team is shaping trauma capabilities in the future Dell Seton Medical Center at The University of Texas. Designed for trauma care from the ground up with larger and newly equipped trauma bays, operating suites, and ICU rooms, the new medical center will be equipped to handle more types of trauma situations when it opens in May of 2017.



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