TEXAS
Health and Human Services

Texas Department of State Health Services

BCBSTX Bidirectional Interface Implementation

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas

Health Data Exchange Team

BlueCross BlueShield of Texas

Purpose

- **Faster -** Higher frequency of immunization data
- **More reliable data –** Data received in industry standard HL7 version
- **Automated** – no manual intervention of data

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Value - A Win for All Stakeholders

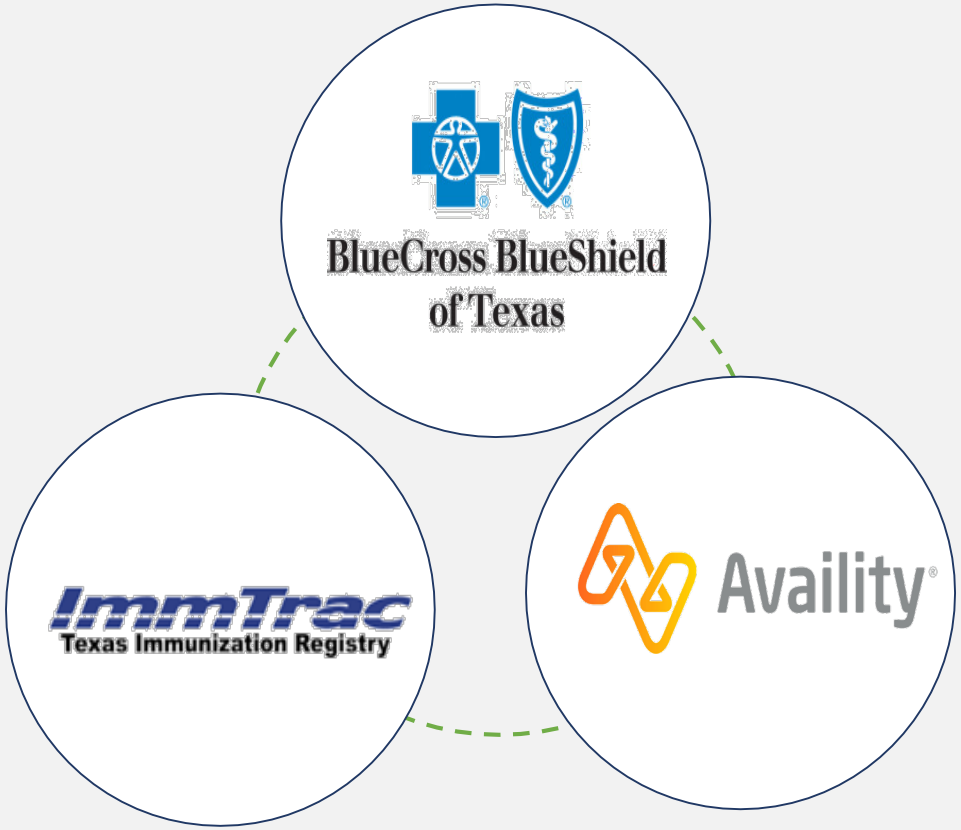
Members/Clients - Improved access to data informs health care management efforts and strategic decisions

Patients - Enhanced data sharing helps make the healthcare system work more efficiently and cost-effective for patients

Providers - Expanding and improving data exchange capabilities will better support providers operationally and in their delivery of care to patients

BCBSTX - Improved access to clinical data helps us monitor network performance, care quality, health costs, and care coordination programs for members

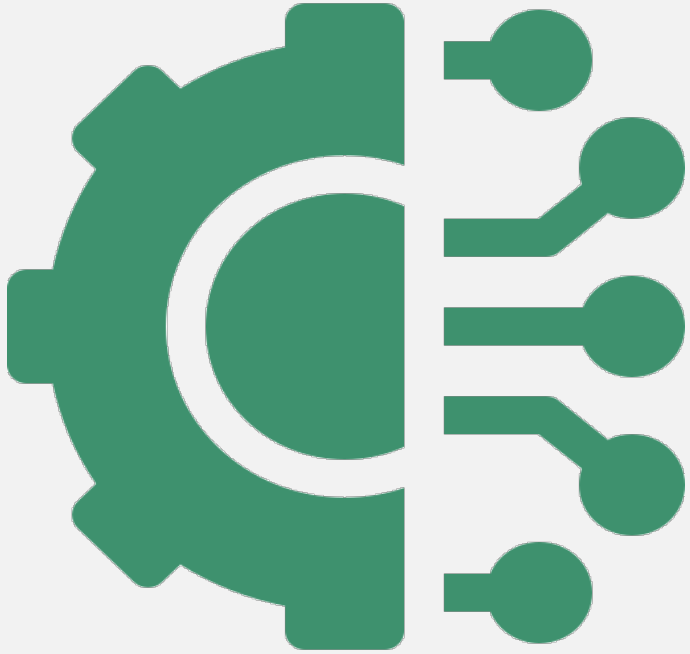
Partnership



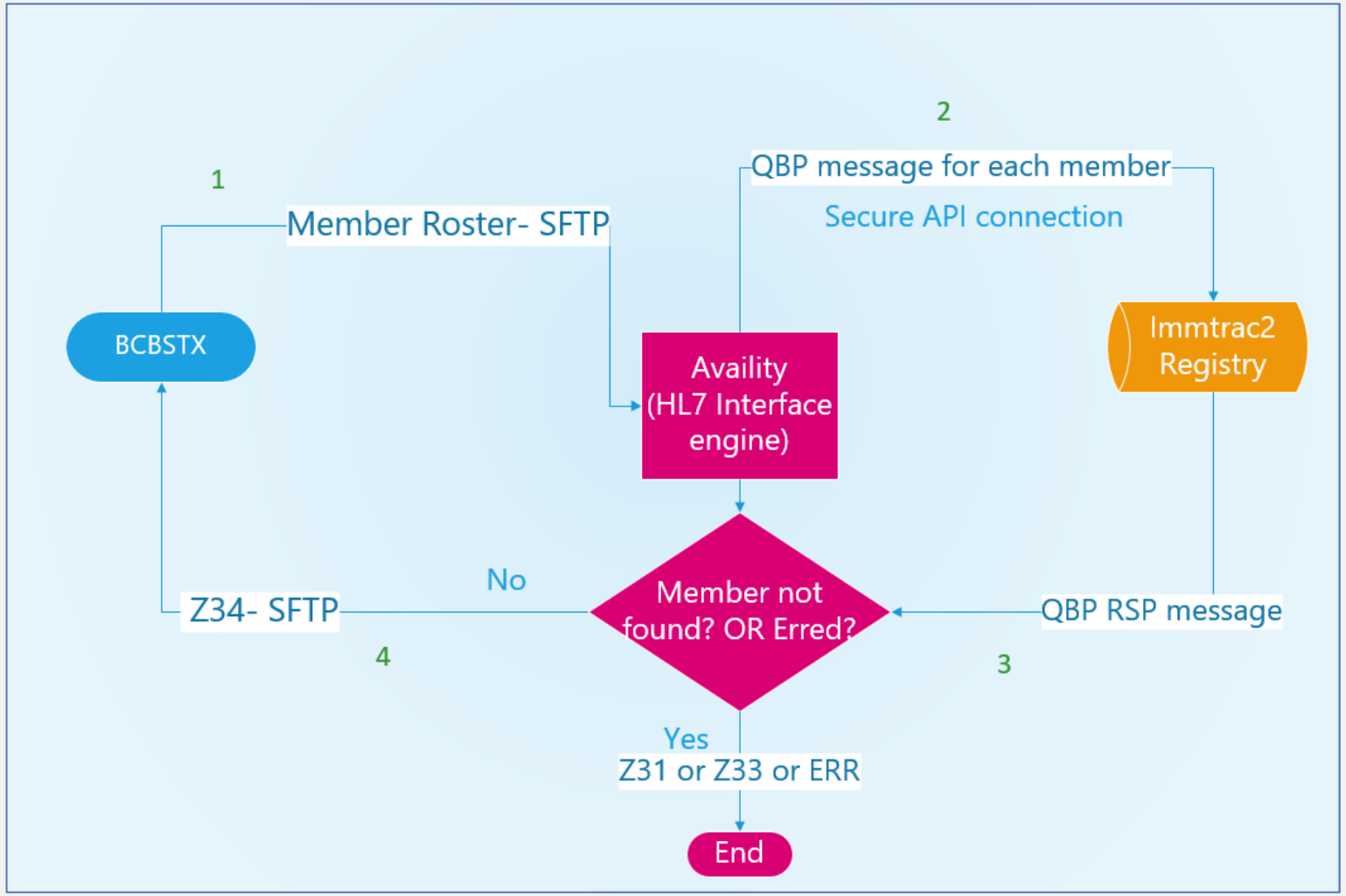
Direct Connections

Availity, through its clinical gateway, sends clinical data to health plans to support better member outcomes via direct connections with:

- Immunization Registries
- Health Systems
- Laboratories
- Health Information Exchanges



Data Flow Process



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Required Resources

BCBSTX

- Project Manager
- Business Analyst/Data Analyst
- QA Resources
- Product owner
- Business Stakeholders
- Data Engineers

Availity

- HL7 Interface developers
- Application Architect
- Clinical Connectivity Product Owner

Timeline

Delivery	DEC'20	JAN'21	FEB'21	MAR'21	APR'21
Member Roster	Decisions		*Sample File for TX*		
Availity	Planning/Build/Testing			*Production TX Immunization File(s) Provided to BCBSTX*	
BCBSTX Ingestion Dev	Development/ Test				
E2E & UAT & Regression Testing	*TX E2E Files from Availity*		Testing		
Go-Live Activities				Deploy & verification	

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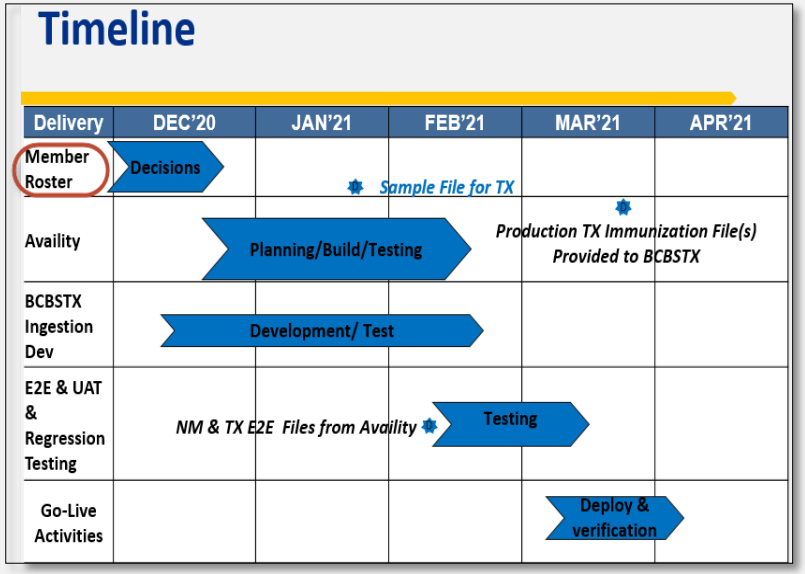
Timeline – Membership Generation

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas:

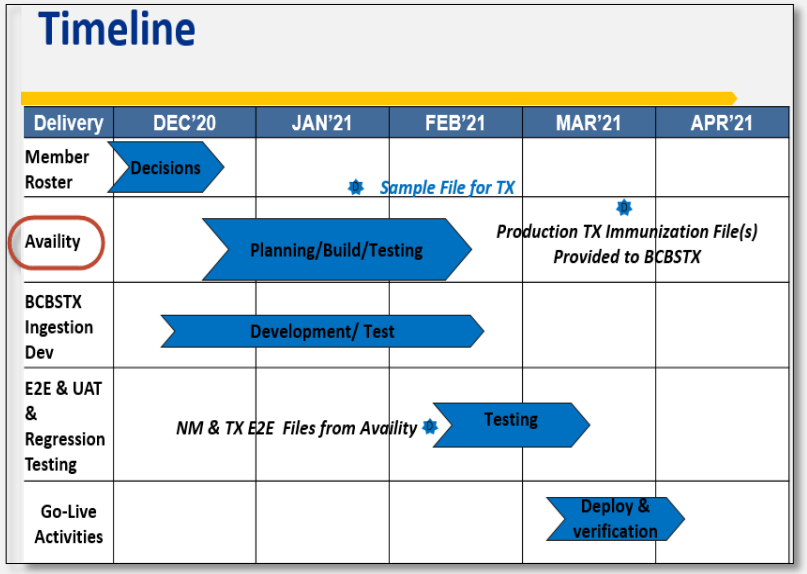
- Reviewed the ImmTrac2 Implementation Guide
- Created a membership roster
- Shared membership roster with Availity



Timeline – Establishing Connectivity

Availity

- Established a connection with ImmTrac2 test environment.
- Completed testing with scenarios and test patient information provided by Immtrac2.



Testing Scenarios Overview

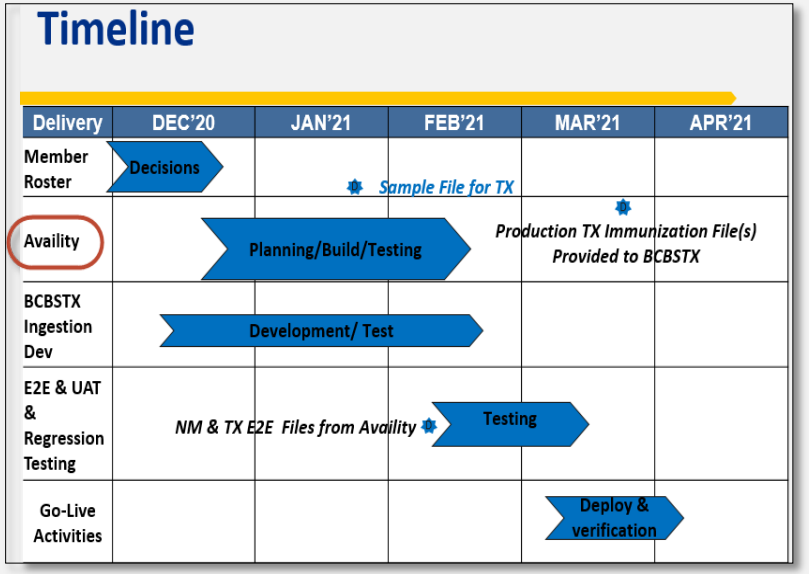
Bi-directional testing is performed in phases and is required before connectivity in production environment:

- **Phase 1:** Connectivity test to the ImmTrac2 Training Web Service
- **Phase 2:** Perform query tests - immunization history request.
  - Query for a child
  - Query for an adult
  - Query for a patient not in the registry
  - Query for a patient which returns multiple patients
- **Phase 3:** Connectivity test to the ImmTrac2 Production Web Service

Timeline - Membership Generation

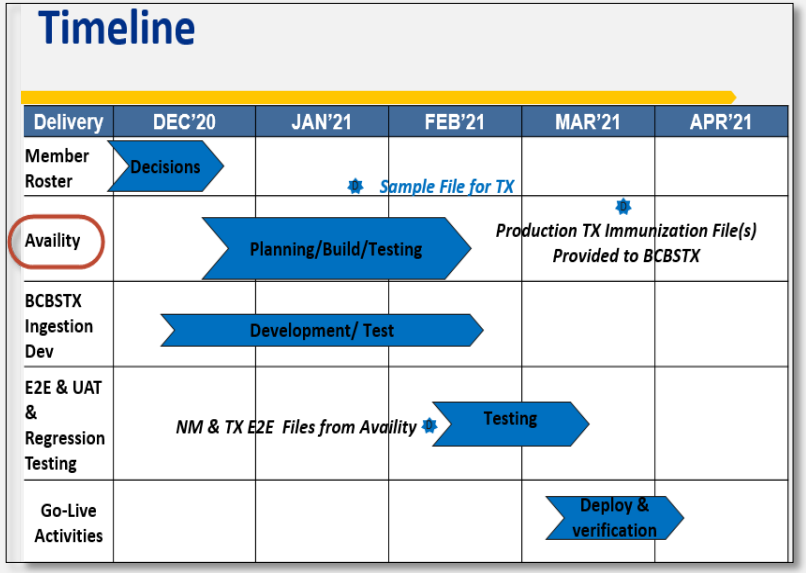
Availity

- Queried the Texas State Immunization Registry using small files through QBP messages to check load capacity of the state's systems.
- Tested the capacity of the ImmTrac system, querying more members



Timeline - Immunization Data Returned

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas received only all exact* matches Z34 VXU responses compiled in one file from Availity after all the member data has been queried



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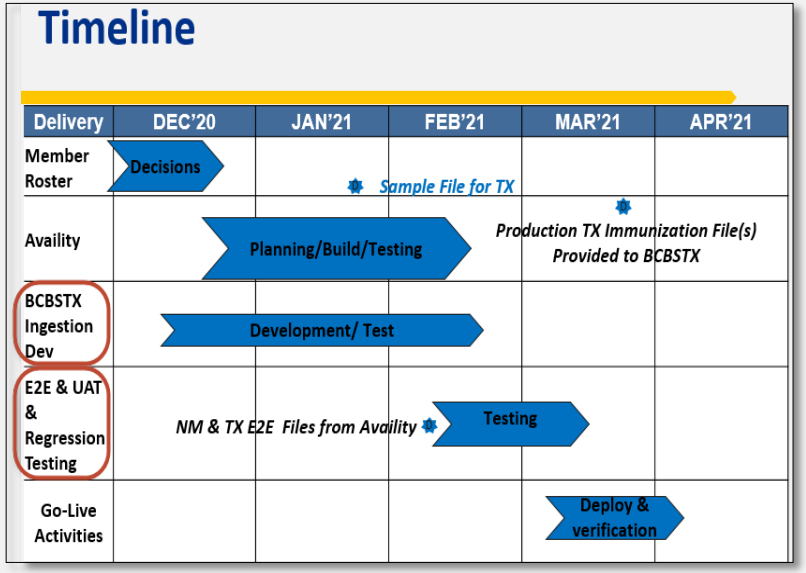
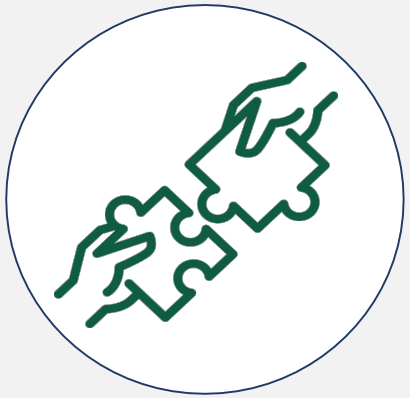
* Exact matches are set when the RCP-2 segment is set to a value of '1' to avoid violating PHI rules

Timeline - Internal Development & Testing

- Development for data ingestion and consumption
- End-to-End (E2E) testing and User Acceptance Testing (UAT) data verification

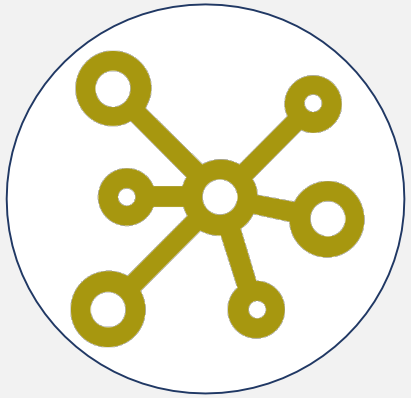


Key Takeaways



PARTNERSHIP

Partnering with stakeholders for roster generation



SCALE

Multiple threads to decrease processing times

PRIVACY

Avoid receiving multiple matches to respect HIPAA policies

TX State Registry and Availity

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Thank You!

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas

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