

OMC SUPPORTS HEALTHY STUDENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Outpatient Medical Center supports healthy students by offering VFC vaccines. VFC is a program that allows children aged 18 or younger who are uninsured or on Medicaid to receive vaccines at no charge. These vaccines include Influenza, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Hepatitis A & B, Meningitis, Polio, Haemophilus influenza, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningococcal, Pneumococcal, Human Papillomavirus, Varicella, and Rotavirus.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, vaccines can prevent infectious diseases that once killed or harmed many infants, children, and adults. Without vaccines, many children are at risk of becoming seriously ill and suffering long term health effects. Side effects to vaccines are almost always mild and go away within a few days. Serious side effects are very rare, and doctors and clinical staff are trained to respond to them.

In addition to vaccines, OMC also offers sports physicals for a low-cost cash fee. As part of a physical the provider can complete any paperwork needed for a student to participate in sports and athletic programs.

During a physical, a child will have their sight and hearing checked, and review any medications that they are taking. A physical may also include age-appropriate discussions about diseases, substance and alcohol use, and driving safety.

Physicals ensure that a child is suited for playing sports by discussing healthy eating habits, safe exercise practices and how to reduce the risk of injury while playing sports. A physical may also help address barriers to learning in the classroom, by reviewing any cognitive or behavioral concerns, addressing things like anxiety or peer pressure.

OMC is an option for you, because caring for you is what we do! For more information call the nearest OMC Clinic. More information on clinic locations and services can be found at www.outpatientmedical.org or by calling OMC's 24/7 contact center at 888-811-8081. Spanish-speaking patients may call the bilingual hotline at 318-357-9441.



Cutline: Nurse Practitioner Mary Lancaster administers a vaccine to Madison McQuiddy.

(NOTE: For information about this news release, contact Colie Plaster, Public Information Coordinator at info@outpatientmedical.org)