

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Vaccines for Children Offered March 18th in Trenton**

**Curtis-** Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department will be offering the Vaccines for Children program at Trenton Community Building from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Clinics are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month.

This is a perfect opportunity for you to bring your upcoming Kindergarten, 7<sup>th</sup> grade and college students for their required school immunizations or to get students caught up on their shots. Please schedule an appointment by calling 308-345-4223. Walk-ins are welcome.

“We look forward to working with Shelly Wills, Hitchcock County school nurse to make sure students have their required shots for school,” states Melissa Propp, Public Health Nurse and VFC Clinic coordinator for SWNPHD. A parent or guardian is required to attend the clinic with their child. If a parent is unable to attend, please contact SWNPHD for a proxy permission form.

“Vaccines for Children” is a program that provides immunizations to eligible children, 18 years old and younger. Eligibility is defined as those who are Medicaid eligible, uninsured, underinsured (health insurance does not provide coverage for childhood immunizations), and/or American Indian or Alaska Natives.

SWNPHD also provides **adult immunizations**, such as shingles, whooping cough, tetanus and flu shots. We can bill Medicare (pneumonia & flu shots only), Midlands Choice and Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance.

Kindergarten students will need: DTap (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis), IPV (Polio) MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) and VAR (Chickenpox).

7<sup>th</sup> Grade students will need: TDap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis), Optional: HPV (Human Papillomavirus), MCV4 (Meningococcal) and if they have not had their second VAR (chickenpox) that will also be required.

College freshmen requirements vary by institution but typically require: TDap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis), IPV (Polio), MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella), MCV4 (Meningococcal) and VAR (Chickenpox). Please confirm with your college on your required vaccines.

“If parents are planning to be in McCook, they can schedule their student shots during office hours of Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:00 p.m. by calling 308-345-4223,” explains Propp. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, one block north of Arby’s.

Immunizations are one of the most effective and cost efficient ways to prevent disease. For every dollar spent on immunizations, it saves as much as \$29.00 in direct and indirect health costs.

More information on immunizations is available at [www.swhealth.ne.gov](http://www.swhealth.ne.gov) and you can follow us on Facebook or Twitter. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

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