## **UAMS News Bureau**

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## UAMS to Offer Free Physical Therapy Screening Oct. 27 at Northwest Arkansas Mall in Fayetteville

FAYETTEVILLE — The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) is hosting a physical therapy screening event on Oct. 27 in Fayetteville aimed at helping individuals of all ages regain their mobility, reduce pain and enhance their overall wellness.

Faculty and students from the UAMS Department of Physical Therapy on the UAMS Northwest Regional Campus will offer a variety of free screenings from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fayetteville's Northwest Arkansas Mall in the space formerly occupied by the Raquel's Room store. The closest access is the entrance located on the northeast side of the mall, near Dillard's.

Held in recognition of Physical Therapy Month, the event is for all ages, and organizers emphasized that kids can benefit from postural screenings.

"We understand the importance of maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle," said Nadia Marconi, Ph.D., PT, an assistant professor in the department, which is part of the UAMS College of Health Professions. "Our physical therapy screening event is designed to offer the community an opportunity to learn about the benefits of physical therapy, receive personalized screening and gain valuable insights into their physical health. Whether you are recovering from an injury, managing a chronic condition, or simply looking to optimize your movement, this event is for you."

The free screenings include:

- Blood pressure screening
- Postural screening, which can help identify postural deviations that might cause neck and back pain. This is particularly important in children because their stage of development allows physical therapy interventions to be more effective.

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- Balance screening, which helps identify individuals at higher risk for falls. This is particularly important in older adults.
- Pelvic PT education to educate adults about incontinence and how it can be effectively treated with physical therapy.
- Gait (walking) technology, which is used to evaluate how people walk and treat walking deviations.

"We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to live a pain-free and active life," Marconi said. "This screening event is a chance for the community to take the first step towards improved mobility and overall wellness. We look forward to meeting and helping people of all ages and activity levels."

The UAMS Northwest Regional Campus includes 356 medical, pharmacy, nursing and health professions students, 76 medical and pharmacy residents, and two sports medicine fellows. The campus has 13 clinics including internal and family medicine, a student-led clinic, orthopaedics and sports medicine, behavioral health/psychiatry, geriatrics, genetics counseling, transplant follow-up, and physical, occupational and speech therapy. Faculty conduct research to reduce health disparities.

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; a hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. UAMS has 3,275 students, 890 medical residents and fellows, and five dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 12,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), YouTube or Instagram.

