



For Immediate Release  
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**ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL AND SIU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OFFER  
FREE DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS SCREENINGS**

SPRINGFIELD – Members of the public who are at risk for Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) are invited to participate in a free screening for the disease during Friday afternoons in March at Prairie Heart Institute at St. John's Hospital. Dr. Colleen Moore, Assistant Professor, Division of Vascular Surgery, SIU School of Medicine, will conduct the screenings.

DVT occurs when a blood clot (thrombus) develops in the large veins of the legs or pelvic area. Pain in the legs can be a symptom, although some DVT's may be painless. While the majority of DVT's are not life threatening, blood clots that form in a person's "deep veins" can break free and lead to a potentially fatal condition known as a pulmonary embolism.

DVT can occur in patients who recently underwent surgery, patients who suffer from Congestive Heart Failure or cancer, people who are overweight, sedentary, over the age of 40, smokers, and those with a family history of venous thromboembolism.

Those at risk are encouraged to register for the free screening by calling SIU School of Medicine at 217-545-7133. The screenings are scheduled from 1 – 4 p.m. on March 5, 12, 19 and 26. The screenings will take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Prairie Heart Institute at St. John's Hospital, 619 E. Mason.

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