VCOM students are eligible to receive primary care health services through arrangements with Palmetto Proactive Healthcare (PPHC).

Visits for physician services and osteopathic manipulative therapy (OMT) require a co-pay of $20.00 per patient per visit which will include all in-office labs.

Expenses for services such as send out lab tests, immunizations, procedures, EKGS, x-rays, etc are not covered by Student Health. You will be responsible for any additional services and fees. PPHC has offered a discount to VCOM students for these services. In general, procedures/imaging will be offered at 50% off posted charges and labs at $20 per lab. An itemized receipt will be provided upon request to submit to the student’s insurance provider to apply towards the deductible.

VCOM is not the purchaser or provider of these health care services and therefore carries no decision making or liability for the services provided.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I make an appointment to see a physician?
Appointments can be made by calling Palmetto Proactive Healthcare. The number is 864-641-7229. At the time of making an appointment, please identify yourself as a VCOM student. Walk-in appointments are also available as needed.

When is Palmetto Proactive Healthcare open?
The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00AM until 5:00PM. Saturday and after hours access will be available by appointment.

Where is PPHC located?
PPHC is located less than 5 miles from VCOM on John B White Blvd. across from Outback Steakhouse. The address is 1703 John B. White Sr. Blvd. Unit A, Spartanburg, SC 29301.

When can I expect to be seen?
For non-urgent services such as routine physicals, PPHC will schedule the next available time that meets the needs of the patient. For urgent services, PPHC will work student patients into the current day’s schedule at the first available opportunity. Also, Saturday and after hours access will be available by appointment.

Which physician will I see?
Information about each physician is available at www.palmettoproactive.com. Drs. McCarthy and Aya-ay are the full time physicians at PPHC and are in the office most days. Dr. Bertolami is currently part time and available by appointment for women’s health and OMT.

Should I bring anything with me to my appointment?
Please bring your VCOM ID Card at the time of service. Also bring any other pertinent records or list of current medications to your appointment.

What else should I know?
PPHC is a complete family medical office with on-site x-rays and basic labs. Urgent care for injuries (lacerations, fractures, sprains, etc) is available as well as procedures (biopsy, excision, cyst aspiration, etc). PPHC is different from most medical offices in that they do not contract with third party payers (insurance companies) and are therefore able to spend more time with direct patient care, offer less expensive care, and post their prices. Please see the reverse side for full information about the practice.
At Palmetto Proactive Healthcare, we reunite the physician and patient in a proactive partnership, allowing us to deliver quality medical care.

We do not contract with outside parties that may influence the outcome of your healthcare. As a result, we dedicate our efforts to your care. This means shorter wait times and longer visits. We strive to keep the cost of medical care affordable and known to our patients upfront. Most of our fees can be viewed online or at our clinic.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**“How do you keep our prices low and transparent?”**
It is a long and complicated story using insurance industry words like charges, CPT codes, reimbursement, etc. If you are not interested in all of the complexities, just know that we can set fair prices for everyone by not contracting with insurance companies. We basically remove the middle man and keep costs and communications between the doctor and the patient, as it should be. Once again, we believe that everyone should have catastrophic coverage.

**“Is Palmetto Proactive Healthcare a concierge practice?”**
No. We are a private medical practice that offers quality medical care at lower costs with clear, upfront pricing. There are no annual fees for our services.

**“Do you perform minor surgical procedures?”**
Yes. We perform most skin procedures such as biopsies, laceration repairs, abscess drainage, ingrown toenail removal and much more. If the condition requires more care than can be provided at our office, we will refer you appropriately to a dermatologist or plastic surgeon.

**“Do you manage chronic pain?”**
No. Chronic pain is a very common and understandably frustrating medical problem. It is best treated by specialists who are trained specifically in this area of medicine. We do not treat chronic pain but are more than happy to help arrange a referral to a pain management specialist. We do manage acute injuries, aches and pains.

**Sample of Prices**

- Office Visit - $50
- X-Ray - $60
- Strep Throat Test - $20
- Flu Test - $25
- Urine Test - $20
- Pregnancy Test - $20
- Mono Test - $20
- Blood Count - $25
- Laceration Repair - $150-200
- Casting - $60
- Skin Biopsy - $150
- Drain Abscess/Boil - $150
- EKG - $50
- Metabolic Panel - $25
- Thyroid Test - $25
- PPD (Tuberculosis Test) - $30