

Clinician Update

March 27, 2025



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Doctors' Day Celebration!

Doctors' Day 2025 is upon us. Officially, the date is March 30, but since it falls on the weekend, we want to share in advance our planned activities for Monday.

"First and foremost, thank you for your dedicated service to your patients and colleagues," said Jennifer Khelil, DO, Virtua's EVP and chief clinical officer.

"While Doctors' Day is but one day a year, we celebrate and recognize your efforts throughout the year. We could not be *Here for Good* if it were not for you. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your service."

So what's the plan?

Virtua's acute care hospitals will hold a buffet lunch celebration at each campus on **Monday, March 31** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is the same date and time across our entire hospital enterprise. In addition, all this week, VMG practices have been celebrating with catered lunches at all of their sites.

"We encourage you to participate and take a few moments to connect with friends," said Dr. Khelil. "Your APPs are welcome to attend to celebrate your day with you."

Click here for our [Doctors' Day landing page](#), and keep an eye out for digital ads and social posts throughout the weekend.

"Thank you for everything you do to serve our community," said Dr. Khelil.

"Wishing you a Happy Doctors' Day 2025."

LAST CALL: *SJ Mag Media* Top Docs Polling

The deadline for voting for *SJ Mag Media*'s Top Doctor issue is **March 31 at 5 p.m.**

- Click [here as a physician](#) to vote.
- Share this [Top Doc Patient Poll](#) with your patients, friends, and family.

To view the physicians who were chosen by their peers and patients as a *SJ Mag Media* 2024 Top Doc, click [here](#).

What Patients Are Saying About Our Clinicians

Confidence in care is a common reference among our clinician reviews. Note the following recent examples and how the patient felt about the experience, and the clinician referenced:

“The staff is great; everyone is concerned and helpful. Dr. Pope is awesome. He is very friendly and caring, knows my medical history, listens, and responds carefully to my questions and input.” **(Alan Pope, MD)**

“Dr. Agunbiade is a true professional and has an incredible understanding of my situation. I would not be here without her.” **(Tolulope Agunbiade, MD)**

“The office is very well run and all of the employees are courteous and care about your well-being, putting you at ease.” **(Jennifer Sepede, DO)**

“Melissa quickly addressed my concerns with a plan to address them. She also quickly followed up on MyChart reacting to my test results and offered additional recommendations.” **(Melissa Capoferri, APN)**

“I was apprehensive when my primary of 18 years retired. She referred me to Dr. Patel, and I could not be happier. I have sent multiple family members to see her. She is so kind and takes her time, never making you feel uncomfortable or rushed.” **(Ria Patel, MD)**

Medical Staff Safety Alert on Opioids for Pain Management

The purpose of this safety alert is to ensure the safety of our patients who are receiving opioids— especially IV opioids, with special consideration for hydromorphone (Dilaudid).

“At Virtua, we care for patients every day who are receiving IV opioids for pain management,” said Christopher Pomrink, DO, VP of medical affairs. “It’s extremely important that we carefully assess each patient’s potential risk for an adverse event.”

“This is the first of what will be a multi-pronged approach to enhance patient safety while ordering, verifying, administering, and monitoring patients who are receiving IV opioids,” said Mitch Gesinger, MSN, RN, CJCP, CPHQ, CPHRM, CPPS, VP of quality, safety, and risk. “We would like you to share it with your teams.”

[Click here for the SBAR Safety Alert.](#)

In addition to this safety alert, there have been other interventions put in place to help us achieve our collective goal:

1. Pharmacy enhanced order functionality to better guide ordering practitioners to alternative dosing.
 - a. Removal of the radio button for 2 mg dosing. 2 mg can still be ordered, it just will not be a radio button as it is currently.
 - b. Removal of the radio button for PRN 1 hour, same as above.
 - c. Added a radio button for 0.25 mg (radio buttons will now be 0.25, 0.5, and 1 versus 0.5, 1, and 2)

Future work will include:

- We will review data to determine additional strategies related to ordering.
- We will review/enhance our monitoring strategies.

For more information, contact Mitch Gesinger at mgesinge@virtua.org.

New Technology Sheds Light on Bladder Cancer

The urology team at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital recently implemented technology to more accurately detect and treat bladder cancer. Virtua is among select health systems in the region using Blue Light Cystoscopy with Cysview®.

Traditional cystoscopy uses white light to view the bladder. Blue light, in combination with an imaging dye called Cysview, makes cancer cells glow bright pink, improving the detection of difficult-to-detect cancer cells so they can be removed.

“We are very excited to offer this amazing technology to Virtua patients. It allows us to detect bladder cancer at an earlier stage,” said Jay Krishnan, DO, urologic

oncologist. “We can identify suspicious tumors and lesions that may otherwise go undetected with the naked eye during cystoscopy, resulting in earlier diagnosis and improved treatment.”

Sharing Valuable Insight on Balancing Teaching & Clinical Duties

Last Friday, the Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine hosted a learning session providing valuable insight for clinicians looking to balance teaching and clinical duties. The presenter was Michele Tartaglia, DO, FACOOG, CS, assistant dean of clinical education at Rowan-Virtua SOM.

“The event provided simple tips to allow clinicians to experience the rewards of teaching without significant disruption to their day-to-day activities,” said Richard Paluzzi, MD, VP of academic affairs and director of medical education, designated institutional official, and clinical professor of medicine at the Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine. “And we are so happy to now be able to share a recording of the event.”

Click [here](#) for the video of the event and related resources including other faculty development videos.

To learn more about teaching or preceptorship, contact Dr. Paluzzi (for graduate medical education, i.e. residents/fellows) at rpaluzzi@virtua.org or Anu Munshi, MD, director of undergraduate medical education, at amunshi@virtua.org.

Practicing Excellence

Stay tuned for a new series to commence in April. Until then, if you missed a tip or two in January or February, take a moment to catch up. Visit the [Practicing Excellence page on the Colleague Corner](#).

Modern Healthcare Best Place to Work Survey

Virtua Health is participating in *Modern Healthcare*'s “Best Places to Work” survey.

On **Friday, March 21**, a random selection of Virtua full-time and part-time colleagues received an email from the Workforce Research Group to complete a brief survey. **Not everyone received the email, which is why it's critical that everyone look for it.** If you were chosen, please allocate 10 minutes to share your honest feedback.

The email was to come from Surveys@WorkforceRG.com and the subject line would have been “Employee Survey - Best Places to Work.” The survey is confidential.

Note: For colleagues who have the 365 version of Microsoft Outlook, this email may be located in your "Other" inbox rather than your "Focused" inbox. Please also check your spam filter. Please do not report this as spam or phishing.

Please do not forward your email invitation to another colleague. Each link is unique and can only be used once. The participation deadline is **Friday, April 4**, but we ask that you complete the survey within the first few days of receiving the link.

Should you have any questions, email virtuainfo@virtua.org.

Virtua in the News

Virtua CEO Recognized on NJBiz ‘Power List’

A statewide business publication has named President and CEO Dennis Pullin to its 2025 Health Care Power List. The magazine cited his leadership of Virtua’s extensive network and his support of health equity, among other priorities. Read Dennis’ profile in [NJBiz](#) and see all the honorees [here](#).

Virtua CIO to Be Honored as a Top N.J. Innovator

Tom Gordon, SVP and chief information officer, will be recognized in May among New Jersey’s *Innovate100*. “These professionals from various sectors are important to New Jersey’s robust economy and strong community,” reported [New Jersey Business Magazine](#).

Upcoming Calendar

Crank the Food Bank 5K Walk/Run, This Saturday

Celebrate National Nutrition Month with Virtua's Clinical Nutrition Team by participating in their 8th Annual 5K Walk/Run on **Saturday, March 29** at Virtua Voorhees Hospital. Bring the kids, baby joggers, and strollers (sorry, no pups!) to this impactful activity that is perfect for all fitness levels. Be sure to bring a food donation to the event to help those we serve! Prizes will be given out for the heaviest food donation.

Crank the Food Bank benefits Virtua's Eat Well Food Access Programs' Colleague Market and Food Farmacy locations. These programs provide free food, essential resources, and nutrition education to hundreds of individuals each year.

For more information or to register, visit <https://bit.ly/CrankTheFoodBank25>.

Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Community Day, May 3

This year, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital turns 75! Come out for our Community Day on Saturday, May 3 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrate our rich history, participate in healthy family-friendly activities, and get a sneak peek of our future as we share plans for our campus transformation.

Mark the date and share the word. For more information and to register [click here](#).

Run With the Docs, June 8

The popular 5K run and 1-mile walk known as [Run with the Docs!](#) will take place on the Virtua Voorhees Hospital campus **Sunday, June 8** to support our programs for families who have experienced [pregnancy and infant loss](#). For more information, including registration details, [click here](#).

For event organizers and OB/GYN physicians Stacy Ann McCrosson, MD, and Kimberly Bridges-White, MD, the event is a great opportunity to get out for a truly meaningful cause. "We are so inspired by the families who show up with their teams each year," Dr. McCrosson said. "We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support these families receive from our colleagues at Virtua, all the doctors, nurses, and staff, the running community, and friends and family from all over the tri-state area who make it a tradition of kindness to be at this event."

"All of us together," said Dr. Bridges-White, "it's how we show we are truly Here for Good. So, we hope everyone feels welcome to be a part of it!"

Click to [view and post the flyer](#).



Virtua Health

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