



## Clinician Update

May 29, 2025



[Listen](#) to an abbreviated audio version of Clinician Update.



## Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Celebrates Construction Kick-Off & 75th Anniversary

About 200 people attended a moving ceremony yesterday as Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes marked a \$500 million renovation and expansion and the hospital's 75th birthday.

The construction project will include a new, six-story patient care pavilion named in honor of philanthropist Marvin Samson. The Marvin Samson Foundation has pledged \$5 million—the largest gift in Virtua's history—in support of education and workforce development programs at Virtua.

Bishop Joseph Andrew Williams, the newly appointed head of the Diocese of Camden, led a ground-blessing prayer alongside the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, New York (the hospital's founders) and local spiritual leaders representing a spectrum of faith communities.

"The creation of the Marvin Samson Pavilion is a key element of Virtua's ongoing investment in the well-being of this community," said Virtua President and CEO Dennis Pullin. "And equally important, the new pavilion affirms our commitment to providing advanced, accessible care to the region and beyond."

Samson, a Virtua board member and longtime supporter, is also the namesake of the Virtua Samson Cancer Center in Moorestown.

"I was raised to believe that each of us has an obligation to make the world a better place," said Samson, the son of immigrants who faced financial hardships

while growing up. “I am excited that we are expanding Virtua's ability to impact the quality of life for members of this community.”

For more details via media coverage: [\*The Philadelphia Inquirer\*](#), [\*Philadelphia Business Journal\*](#), [\*KYW Newsradio\*](#), [\*NJBiz\*](#), [\*6ABC\*](#), [\*Telemundo62\*](#), [\*Catholic Star Herald\*](#), and [\*Tap Into Camden\*](#).

## Virtua Ranked Top Health Care Brand in NJ, Top 40 in Nation

Virtua has reaffirmed its position as one of the country's best health care brands, according to a new report by Monigle, a leading brand consultancy. Virtua is also the highest-ranked health system brand in New Jersey and the second-highest ranked in both the Philadelphia and New York markets.

“The brands that are most effective, like Virtua, pay attention to what people want and need, and create strong connections with their patients and communities,” said Grant Mason, head of behavioral insights at Monigle.

“Virtua colleagues have dedicated themselves to providing outstanding experiences built on trust for everybody, always,” said Virtua's Chrisie Scott, SVP and chief marketing officer. “That requires a deep commitment to being human-centric and ‘here for good.’”

Read in [\*New Jersey Business Magazine\*](#) and [\*ROI-NJ\*](#).

## Research Update: Thrive Renal Denervation Study

Virtua Research periodically shares trials for your consideration. A brief synopsis of the eligibility criteria is listed below. Physician colleagues are vital to the success of the research program, even when they are not participating as investigators. Kintur Sanghvi, MD, FACC, FSCAI, chief of interventional cardiology, director of cardiovascular innovation, and medical director of the Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital catheterization laboratory, is the principal investigator for this trial.

The **THRIVE** study is a pivotal, prospective, multicenter, 2:1 randomized, double-blind, controlled study comparing **T**herapeutic IntraVascular **R** Ultrasound (**TIVU**STM) **R**enal Denervation versus sham for the adjunctive treatment of hypertension.

The TIVUSTM system ablates the renal sympathetic nerves in the perivascular space using ultrasound energy. The study is intended to demonstrate the adjunctive effectiveness and safety of the TIVUS system in hypertensive subjects while subjects are maintained off of antihypertensive medications for a four-week wash-out period before RDN/sham procedure and two months after the procedure. Two months after the procedure, subjects with uncontrolled hypertension are put back on antihypertensive medication according to a medication escalation protocol. Unblinding will be performed at 6 months. Uncontrolled sham subjects can cross over to the RDN procedure at 6 months. The sham procedure will be minimally invasive to reduce the risk to subjects. All subjects treated with TIVUS will be followed for a maximum of 36 months post-procedure.

A brief synopsis of the eligibility criteria is listed below.

**Inclusion Criteria:**

- Documented history of hypertension
- Previously or currently prescribed antihypertensive therapy

**Exclusion Criteria:**

- The subject has been previously diagnosed with abnormal renal artery anatomy and/or renal anatomy such as single kidney, ectopic or horseshoe kidney, polycystic kidney disease, kidney tumors, or other findings precluding renal denervation therapy as detailed in the angiographic exclusion criteria

The remaining inclusion/exclusion criteria are extensive and can be shared by reaching out to our research team. If you have a patient who meets the criteria above, please contact the Virtua Research team at [research@virtua.org](mailto:research@virtua.org) and a research coordinator will review their eligibility with you.

## **Practicing Excellence: Anticipating Needs**

This week, we continue focusing on the Guiding Principle *WE Care Compassionately*, specifically the simple action of *Anticipating Needs*. [Click to view the tip of the week by track.](#)

## **CME, CE, and Practicing Excellence**

This is a reminder to all clinicians that our journey through Practicing Excellence provides continuing educational credits. Practicing Excellence is accredited

through Joint Accreditation Interprofessional Continuing Education. Through the program, Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Continuing Nursing Education (CNE or CE) credits are available when a skill (collection of tips) is completed.

To claim the credits, simply go to the [Practicing Excellence app](#), accessible on the dashboard in Virtua Colleague Corner. Once there, open the CME/CE tab and all the completed videos are there to claim credit. Note, the field that asks for significant changes will need to be answered, even if just briefly.

“Practicing Excellence’s mission is to help us all thrive through advancing skills of patient connection and team collaboration,” said Jennifer Khelil, DO, EVP and chief clinical officer. “Together as an organization, we are sharing this journey together, inspired and empowered to be our best.”

For more information, 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:

“Dr. Draganescu is exceptionally knowledgeable, professional, kind, and caring. And thorough. Gives my husband and me peace of mind to know she is in our corner. Five stars plus.” **(Mirela Draganescu, MD)**

“I felt she nourished a good rapport with me. She has great bedside manners and is knowledgeable. I felt comfortable and heard.” **(Jacqueline Riedel, DO)**

“Dr. Coren is an exceptional provider. He listens and he shows sympathy, care, and respect. He’s very professional and knowledgeable about his work. The staff are also very kind, professional, and very courteous.” **(Joshua S. Coren, DO)**

“Best doctor I’ve had in over 50 years. She brings back memories of the family doctor who knows your name and treats you like her only patient.” **(Eleana Kriebel, PA)**

“He intently listens, takes time to plan a course of action, and after much thought, discusses your options. Excellent practice!” **(Auguste Turnier, MD)**

## New Colleague Center to Open June 12

Virtua will open its new Virtua Colleague Center on Thursday, June 12, at 100 Brick Road, Marlton. This centralized hub will bring together several vital colleague resources under one roof, enhancing accessibility and streamlining support for our teams. The Colleague Center will house Occupational Health, Employee Health and Safety, and the Career Center.

## **Fracture Prevention Program Continues Successful Pace**

As May is National Osteoporosis Month, Virtua continues to make strides in fracture prevention. Recognizing that less than half of fracture patients receive proper osteoporosis care, about a year ago, Virtua launched the Own the Bone Fragility Fracture Prevention Program at Virtua Voorhees Hospital, with plans to expand. The team recommends bone density testing and discusses treatment plans. With 215 patients enrolled since August 2024 and a 98% compliance rate, Virtua is set to achieve “star performer” status and will be featured in the 2025 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Hospitals Guidebook.

## **More of Virtua in the News**

### **Dr. Nogles Discusses Billy Joel’s Health Scare**

Teryn Nogles, MD, a Virtua neurologist, shared information about normal pressure hydrocephalus. The condition—marked by excess fluid in the brain—has caused famed musician Billy Joel to cancel upcoming concerts. Watch on [CBS 3](#).

In an unrelated story, Dr. Nogles offered hope for future treatment breakthroughs for glioblastoma, a deadly form of brain cancer that recently took the life of Uche Ojeh, husband of “Today” co-host Sheinelle Jones. Watch on [NBC 10](#).

### **Behavioral Health Services Benefit Patients**

Virtua Medical Group has placed behavioral health professionals in its primary care offices—increasing access and reducing the stigma of seeking behavioral health care, according to Sam Weiner, MD, the physician network’s VP and chief medical officer.

“Patients love these services being embedded in their primary care practices,” he said. “It makes them feel like they are being cared for as a whole person.” Read in [HealthLeaders](#).

## CEO Discusses New Era for Health System

Virtua President and CEO Dennis W. Pullin, FACHE, shared his leadership priorities and philosophies with a prominent industry publication. “We need to make sure we deliver compassionate, personalized care,” Dennis said, “and try to make a difference in the lives of people we’re fortunate enough to serve.” Read in [Becker’s Hospital Review](#).

## Marketing VP Offers Insights on Virtua’s Success

Ryan Younger, Virtua’s VP of marketing, discussed how strategic marketing initiatives have helped Virtua attract more patients and engage people in their experiences with the organization. For example, Virtua has assembled a panel of 48,000 consumers who provide feedback on anything brand-related—from their experiences at Virtua to operational issues. Read in [Becker’s Hospital Review](#).

## Look Inside Virtua’s New Eat Well Mobile Grocery Store

Virtua unveiled the first of two new [Eat Well](#) vehicles that will expand our “food as medicine” approach to care. The 40-foot Mobile Grocery Store—along with the Mobile Food Farmacy launching later this summer – will help ensure our neighbors in South Jersey have access to affordable, nutritious food, as well as the resources and nutrition education that form the foundation of a healthy lifestyle.

Watch this [event highlight video](#) to get a first look at our new store on wheels and learn more about the impact of this initiative.

## Thanking Veterans

This special episode of "Here for Good: Inside Edition" shines a light on three colleagues who share their powerful experiences in the armed services and discuss their roles at Virtua.

Jeanette Conrad-McKee shares how her military background shaped her career as a nurse leader. Izabelle Labrador, still actively serving in the New Jersey National Guard, works as a patient experience navigator. And Randy Forte, a full-time paramedic, recounts how his six years as an Army Ranger ignited his passion for emergency medicine.

This episode also explores the We Serve Colleague Community at Virtua and what the powerful phrase “thank you for your service” means to Jeanette, Izabelle, and Randy.

Click to [view the full episode](#).

## Upcoming Happenings

### **This Friday, Relay for Life**

The Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Cancer Program is proud to once again sponsor the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Marlton. Relay teams will light luminaria bags in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Everyone is invited to join.

Friday, May 30, 5 to 10 p.m.

Memorial Sports Complex, 1040 Tuckerton Road, Marlton

For more information, click [here](#).

### **June 5: Real Talk! Women’s Health Chat**

One in four American women experiences a pelvic floor disorder. From urinary incontinence and pelvic prolapse to painful sex, these conditions are unfortunately common. Virtua’s experts will answer questions and get *real* about prevention and treatment.

*Restore Your Pelvic Floor*

June 5 at 7 p.m.

[Register for Free](#)

Panelists:

Alexander Berger, MD, Virtua Female Pelvic Medicine

Erika Poderis, DNP, Virtua Female Pelvic Medicine

Sarah Arena, PT, Virtua Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation

### **June 5-6: Haddon Township Pride Parade and Community Night**

Thursday, June 5 (Parade)

Friday, June 6 (Community Night)

Haddon Square (51 Haddon Avenue, Haddon Township)

To attend and receive an OUT at Virtua t-shirt, click [HTP Sign Up Sheet 2025](#)

For questions, contact [OUT@virtua.org](mailto:OUT@virtua.org)

## June 8: Run With the Docs!

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

## Well-Being Week Returns in Three Weeks

Join us for our third annual, organization-wide Well-Being Celebration. In honor of National Employee Wellness Month, all colleagues are invited to participate in FREE on-site self-care and virtual activities at select locations. For a look at some of the virtual offerings, click [here](#).



Virtua Health

303 Lippincott Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053

You received this email because you are subscribed to Marketing Information from Virtua.

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Digital Services Privacy Statement](#)