



Clinician Update

June 12, 2025



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Run With the Docs Goes the Extra Mile for Local Families

The Run With the Docs annual 5K run and 1-mile walk took place on the Virtua Voorhees Hospital campus this past Sunday to support our program for families who have experienced pregnancy and infant loss. More than 1,200 people participated, the largest number in the 11 years of the event. Click [here](#) for pictures on LinkedIn. Watch on [Fox 29](#) and read in [Gloucester City News](#).

For event organizers and OB/GYN physicians Stacy Ann McCrosson, MD, and Kimberly Bridges-White, MD, the event was profoundly moving. "It's always a deeply meaningful day for our families to come together in honor of their angel babies, while also supporting others who have experienced loss," said Dr. McCrosson. "We're incredibly grateful for this year's turnout, and for the colleagues and families who joined us in support of such an important cause."

"We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support that our patients and their families receive from our colleagues at Virtua, all the doctors, nurses, and staff, the running community, and friends and family from all over the tristate area who make it a tradition of kindness to be at this event," said Dr. Bridges-White. "It truly touches the heart."

Since 2015, Run with the Docs has raised more than \$440,000 for Virtua's Perinatal Bereavement and Palliative Care Program. To learn more or make a gift to this impactful fund, [click here](#).

AMA Addresses Issues Important to Doctors at Annual Meeting

At its annual meeting in Chicago, the American Medical Association (AMA) continued to prioritize Medicare payment reform, prior authorization reform, addressing physician burnout, and ensuring the responsible use of AI in healthcare. Click [here](#) for highlights from the 2025 AMA Annual Meeting, or [here](#) for coverage of it in *Modern Healthcare*.

One of AMA's key areas of focus is addressing the issue of physician burnout through various initiatives, including advocacy for policies that support physician well-being. Click [here](#) for AMA's advocacy in action on the topic of physician burnout.

It was a busy week for the organization. Otolaryngologist Bobby Mukkamala, MD, was sworn in as its 180th president. Dr. Mukkamala, who was diagnosed with an 8-cm brain tumor last November, spoke about what he learned about being a physician by being a patient. "There are tremendous gaps in our health care system that require our attention. And it all starts with timely access to care."

Read more [about where Dr. Mukkamala's focus](#) will be during his tenure as the AMA's president.

Practicing Excellence: Championing Safety

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

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, the clinician, and the specialty referenced:

"Dr. Chao has been my gynecologist for 43 years. Not only are her medical skills excellent, but she also takes time to listen and care." (**Christina Chao, MD** – Obstetrics and Gynecology)

"Dr. Cooley listens and truly cares about her patients. I've been with her for years and would not trade her for anything. In my eyes, she is the most caring,

understanding doctor I have ever met. Thank you for all you do.” (**Danielle Cooley, DO** – Family Medicine)

“Dr. Malik is an excellent medical professional. He answers all questions in easy-to-understand language. He demonstrates a genuine interest in my overall medical condition. I trust his judgment and skill with a high level of confidence.” (**Zubair Malik, MD** – Gastroenterology)

“I always feel that prioritized, heard, respected, valued, and unrushed. She remembers our previous discussions, both medical and personal, and asks about both. She doesn't demean or minimize my symptoms, no matter how trivial they may seem. She takes the time to explain and discuss options and what preferences I might have before she suggests the one she thinks might be better. Her collaborative methodology is a much more persuasive way, in my opinion.” (**Jessica Ruiz, APN** – Family Medicine)

“Dr. Puc is a wonderful surgeon. Answers all my questions. Patient, knowledgeable, and kind. I am grateful for him.” (**Matthew Puc, MD** – Thoracic Surgery)

Virtua Surgeons Take on State and National Leadership Roles in Orthopedics

Sean McMillan, DO, sports medicine surgeon at Virtua Reconstructive Orthopedics, has been inducted as the New Jersey Orthopaedic Society (NJOS) president for a two-year term. NJOS is a specialty society for all orthopedic surgeons in New Jersey. At the induction ceremony, Dr. McMillan had the opportunity to nominate (and see ratified) two Virtua surgeons as members-at-large: orthopedic surgeon Jeffrey Murray, DO, and hand surgeon Nathan Bodin, MD.

Dr. McMillan is also currently serving as the national president of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics (AOAO), which has as its mission statement: “To facilitate the education and development of osteopathic orthopedic surgeons to provide the finest musculoskeletal care.”

Dr. Patricia Zahner Recognized for Expertise Treating Urinary Incontinence

Patricia Zahner, MD, urogynecologist at Virtua Female Pelvic Medicine, has achieved recognition as a Bulkamid Center of Excellence provider. Dr. Zahner is

one of only a select number of physicians nationwide to receive this accolade.

The designation recognizes Dr. Zahner for her expertise with Bulkamid, an FDA-approved minimally invasive treatment for stress urinary incontinence. Other factors for the recognition include patient outcomes and commitment to improving the patient experience.

From the *Here for Good* Mailbox: Remembering Dr. Roy Puskas

South Jersey lost a long-time dedicated physician with the passing of Roy Puskas, MD, this past December. Dr. Puskas had shared his talents in plastic and reconstructive surgery with the community for decades at Virtua Mount Holly Hospital.

His colleague, and personal physician, Virtua Mount Holly emergency room physician Roy Alan Shubert, MD, was Practicing Excellence's Clinician Coach of the Year in 2024. Dr. Shubert received that title within days of the passing of Dr. Puskas.

"I have been very fortunate to have some great mentors who taught me the art of medicine and how to connect with both patients and their families, and Dr. Puskas was certainly a big part of that," said Dr. Shubert. "What a great influence he remains. Now, I find myself that mentor, who can coach other colleagues, making me a better physician. In many ways, I think of Dr. Puskas as I continue to dedicate myself to our profession."

The Puskas family thanks everyone for their caring and kind words and deeds over the past months, and "for loving and respecting Roy as much as we do!" They ask if anyone is moved to make a gift in Dr. Puskas' memory, to consider supporting Virtua Health through two areas that the family believes Roy would be passionate about. If you are interested, click [here](#).

More of Virtua in the News

Virtua a Leader in Diabetes & Endocrinology Services

A prominent industry publication has named Virtua among 51 U.S. health systems with "great diabetes and endocrinology programs." The story cites Virtua providers' capabilities to diagnose and treat "a wide range of endocrine and metabolic conditions, ranging from diabetes to hormone and thyroid disorders to cancers." Additionally, Virtua's certified diabetes educators "help

patients manage their health while significantly lowering their risk for long-term complications.”

Read in [*Becker's Hospital Review*](#).

Virtua Executive Recognized as Health Care Leader

Michael Capriotti, MBA, Virtua SVP of advanced care operations and logistics, is among 13 professionals named to *South Jersey Biz's* “Who’s Who in Health Care 2025.” Michael provides strategic oversight for multiple initiatives designed to improve patient access, affordability, and experience. They include Virtua’s Access Center and innovative Enterprise Care Logistics Center. The latter is the high-tech hub that uses real-time data to enhance Virtua’s capacity and improve patient outcomes. It includes Virtua’s Hospital at Home and Care After Discharge programs.

Read in [*South Jersey Biz*](#).

Last Call: Quarterly Cardiology Grand Rounds, June 18

The Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine will host a virtual CME on “Advancements in Renal Denervation: Current Trends and Clinical Trials.” Kintur Sanghvi, MD, chief of interventional cardiology, director of cardiovascular innovation, and medical director of Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes cardiac catheterization laboratory, will be the speaker for this educational event. It will take place on **Wednesday, June 18** from 7 to 8 a.m.

To learn more, click [here](#). To join the meeting on June 18, click [here](#). For more information, contact VirtuaClinician@Virtua.org.

Weight Management Grand Rounds, June 25

The Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine will host a virtual CME on “Approaching the Topic of Weight & Overcoming Barriers to Success in Obesity Treatment.” Bariatric psychologist Michelle Hunt, PsyD, will be the speaker for this educational event. It will take place on **Wednesday, June 25** from 7 to 8 a.m.

To join the meeting on June 25, [click here](#). For more information, contact VirtuaClinician@Virtua.org.

Dr. Devers Brings Care to the Coldest Corners of The Earth

Paul Devers, MD, informatics medical director and family medicine physician, is also Lt. Col. Devers, flight surgeon, and chief of Aerospace Medicine in the New York Air National Guard's 105th Airlift Wing. He recently returned from inside the Arctic Circle after providing medical support to the 109th Airlift Wing. That unit maintains and flies the LC-130, which can land on snow skis in order to provide support near and to both the North and South Poles.

During his 19-day NATO deployment, Dr. Devers provided medical support to fellow service members in an isolated environment. "The clinic was small—just a bed, a desk, and some gear—but the responsibility felt huge," he said. "There, you're the only doctor for hundreds of miles, with limited air medical evacuation, and you have to be ready for anything—and I had to pack three weeks' worth of food!"

While the Arctic conditions were extreme, Dr. Devers found unexpected connections between the mission and his day-to-day work. "The teamwork reminded me of Virtua," he shared. "Every person had a vital role, and we supported each other. The aircraft maintainers had the most personnel; they were the heart-and-soul of the mission and reminded me of our Virtua nurses."

From living in sub-zero weather conditions to being on-call for emergencies, Dr. Devers brought both skill and compassion to a place few ever see—and returned home with a renewed sense of purpose.

Colleague Experience Guide Now Available

Virtua has launched a new [Colleague Experience Guide](#), a comprehensive resource designed to help showcase all the unique offerings that set Virtua apart and contribute to an outstanding colleague experience for over 15,000 colleagues in all roles.

Lighting the Way: Matilda Adams

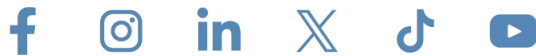
Virtua President & CEO Dennis Pullin sat down with Matilda Adams, director of the Virtua Samson Cancer Center – Moorestown, on the latest edition of *Here for Good: Inside Edition*. A proud "Virtua lifer," she believes every action can positively impact colleagues and patients, especially in guiding patients through darkness and helping them "turn the light on."

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

Send Father's Day Photos

With Father's Day upon us, although we celebrate all colleagues who are fathers, we're specifically seeking those unique family connections where both dad and his child are part of the Virtua team.

Do you and your father both work here? Or are you a Virtua dad with a son or daughter on the Virtua team? We'd love to potentially feature your photos on Virtua's social media channels to celebrate Father's Day! Please share a photo with us at virtuainfo@virtua.org.



Virtua Health

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