



Clinician Update

July 3, 2025



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Virtua Launches Hospice Service Line

Earlier this week, Virtua hosted an intimate event to mark the official launch of its new hospice service line. This follows the introduction of palliative care earlier in the year.

"As South Jersey's largest and most comprehensive health system, we have been intentional in building a service portfolio that supports people through every phase of life," said John Matsinger, DO, executive vice president and chief operating officer. "Offering hospice care aligns directly with Virtua's brand promise—to be the trusted choice in health and wellness; to listen and connect at every touchpoint as true partners for what matters most."

Look to next week's *Clinician Update* for additional details.

A Special Delivery for a Shared Birthday

July 1 marked the 75th anniversary of the first patient treated at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, and now the birth date of a very special patient.

Thaysnara, a mom-to-be with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, was ready to welcome her baby. Her pregnancy was carefully managed through Virtua's maternal risk program, which coordinates care and delivery for pregnant patients with high-risk medical conditions, including diabetes and cardiac disease.

Under the guidance of Shailen Shah, MD, lead clinician at Virtua Maternal Fetal Medicine, Thaysnara's delivery was carefully planned through interdisciplinary

meetings and with careful consideration of her cardiac history. The surgical team included Harsha Sharma, MD, OB/GYN and Danielle Wright, MD, OB/GYN, with Rhondalyn McLean, MD, cardiologist and AVP of clinical operations for VMG, and Eden Payabyab, MD, cardiothoracic surgeon, on standby, prepared for any cardiac considerations.

Throughout the delivery, Thaysnara, whose primary language is Brazilian Portuguese, communicated effectively with the medical team using a CyraCom interpreter. At 10:02 a.m., her baby girl, Isabella, arrived safely through a scheduled C-section. This successful delivery added a joyful note to the hospital's significant anniversary, which is further heightened because July 1 also marks the sixth year of Virtua and Lourdes coming Two-gether. Lots to celebrate!

Supporting Our Patients With Liver Disease & Substance Use Disorders

As many as 75% of liver transplants are a result of alcohol-induced hepatitis. That is why the liver care providers at Virtua Advanced Transplant & Organ Health have partnered with our Medication for Addiction Treatment (MAT) program to provide our community with treatment options that directly combat the urge to drink alcohol.

“Virtua’s MAT program uses medication paired with behavioral therapy to help patients recover from substance use disorder. The program is particularly beneficial for patients with liver disease due to alcohol, as both our programs take a harm-reduction approach to care,” said addiction medicine specialist Lynda M. Bascelli, MD. “We recognize that alcohol use disorder is a disease that should be managed just as any other disease, without judgment.”

“This program positively impacts our patients and our communities,” said transplant hepatologist Hisham ElGenaidi, MD. “Not only does it help transplant patients to qualify for a transplant and have a successful transplant surgery by helping protect the health of the donor organ, it also helps those with liver disease to avoid the need for transplant in the first place.”

Virtua’s plan is to grow these much-needed services via the region’s first-of-its-kind collaboration to address the full spectrum of physical and addiction-related needs in our communities.

To learn more about organ health services (liver, kidney, and pancreas) at Virtua, click [here](#). For more information on drug and alcohol addiction treatment

at Virtua, click [here](#).

Everyone, Always...Vigilant

As we approach the anniversary of last year's [CrowdStrike outage](#), Virtua reminds us the importance of cybersecurity.

Virtua was among the thousands of organizations across the world impacted by the CrowdStrike outage last July. Some reports estimate that 8.5 million computers crashed during the incident, requiring airlines, banks, health systems, and other industries to enact rapid-response crisis mitigation.

Here at Virtua, our teams acted as soon as the problem arose. A multidisciplinary virtual command center was established, and IT staff deployed to all of Virtua's major campuses. As our IT division sought and applied technical solutions, other teams ensured patient care and access continued with minimal disruption—all while prioritizing HRO and a safety-first mindset.

"I've always believed that we can accomplish anything as a team at Virtua," said Tom Gordon, SVP and chief information officer. "We proved it in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we proved it that week. During a period of uncertainty, we acted with purpose and speed to support our staff and our patients."

It's paramount for Virtua to be able to respond to such an emergency. That said, Gordon prefers that such an emergency not happen in the first place. He reminds everyone, always, to be vigilant when it comes to cybersecurity. "In our line of work, the lives of our community are at stake. Know and trust that behind the scenes, we are extensively monitoring and proactively preparing for the next emergency we hope never happens. But be aware of the security measures at your fingertips, even with a simple email. When in doubt, report it and reach out to IT."

Practicing Excellence: We Care Compassionately

We've concluded the Practicing Excellence tips under the Guiding Principle WE Care Compassionately. This week, we're providing an opportunity to review any valuable insights you might have missed in this series. Please click to [view all the guides under WE Care Compassionately](#).

Next week, we will start our second Guiding Principles series. WE Communicate Thoughtfully, with a custom video from a Virtua leader.

Here is a powerful reflection from a clinician who shared how she demonstrates Caring Compassionately in her daily work.

"Having spent 30 years as a nurse and nearly two decades as a nurse practitioner, I believe we mustn't dwell on the negative. Even with chronic illness or setbacks, there's always something to be grateful for, a sliver of joy to be found. My goal is to help patients discover that gratitude, reframe their challenges, and celebrate every small victory. By sharing my own humanity, I connect with them on a deeper level, showing them I'm on a similar journey of overcoming and growth." — **Charmane Dixon-Murriell, APN**, lead nurse practitioner, Virtua Primary Care – Cinnaminson

What Patients Are Saying About Our Clinicians

Positive feedback continues to come in from our patients, and that includes a review directed toward Charmane:

"Excellent communication skills, efficient, effective, reliable, honest, and professional care." (**Charmane Dixon-Murriell, APN** – Family Medicine)

"He saved my life. I recommend him to anyone!" (**Nihit M. Shah, MD** – Gastroenterology)

"He saved my life. He's the best doctor I know, and I've been a nurse for 45 years." (**Timothy Morris, DO** – Interventional Cardiology)

"How often does someone write a review for a doctor? They aren't like a restaurant or a contractor. But I feel that it's necessary for me to stand on a soapbox and tell others what a wonderful, competent, and caring health care provider Dr. Gabler is. I have been his patient for approximately 15 years and feel so lucky to have him looking out for me. I honestly feel that he is giving me advice and care that he would give to a family member. He is a true gift to his patients." (**Scott Gabler, MD** – Cardiology)

"Dr. T is one of the most thorough doctors I've ever had when it comes to explaining details about my care." (**Srikanth Thiruvarudsothy, MD** – Nephrology)

"Dr. Brolis always takes his time with me, listens to what I have to talk about, and never rushes me out. Awesome doctor." (**Nils V. Brolis, DO** – Family Medicine)

“Everyone at this office is wonderful. I have been going there for many years. I like seeing Cortney. She listens and is very easy to talk to. (**Cortney S. Griffin, APN** – Family Medicine)

Virtua in the News

Bob Segin Named a Top CFO

An industry publication has named Bob Segin, EVP and chief financial officer, among 189 hospital and health system “CFOs to Know” for 2025. Over his four decades of leadership at Virtua, Bob has advanced the organization’s growth, financial strength, and community outreach. Read in [*Becker’s Hospital Review*](#).

Happy Birthday, America!

Virtua extends warm wishes for a safe and enjoyable Independence Day to you and your loved ones.



Virtua Health

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