



## Clinician Update

August 7, 2025



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## Oliver Station, Virtua-Supported Innovative Affordable Housing Community With On-Site Health Care, Opens in Camden

Virtua Health and the Michaels Organization held an uplifting grand opening ceremony today for their \$24 million housing and health care community in Camden's Whitman Park neighborhood. The vibrant campus—called Oliver Station—features beautiful, affordable housing for those 55 and over and a 5,200-square-foot primary care office.

Located at 1800 Davis Street, near Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Oliver Station is the first community in South Jersey and the second in the state to benefit from the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency's (NJHMFA) Hospital Partnership Subsidy Program. The program supports the construction of mixed-use communities near hospitals—creating safe, stable housing with convenient access to health care services.

"This trailblazing community will improve the lives of many and set an example for the good that can happen when compassionate, forward-thinking organizations join forces to address societal challenges," said Dennis Pullin, Virtua president and CEO.

[Click to read more on Virtua.org.](#)

## International Spotlight on Virtua in Addressing Cognitive Impairment

As reported in last week's [Clinician Update](#), Virtua is piloting a new digital cognitive screening tool for primary care physicians to help them identify mild cognitive impairment in individuals they see in the office setting. Equally important, the screening tool helps identify individuals with healthy cognitive function and provides a baseline that can be used to track changes over time. This effort is part of a larger clinical pathway for early detection and is now garnering international attention.

### **Collaboratively Supporting Early Detection**

Virtua, in partnership with Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, was selected as one of just 10 U.S. health systems to join the Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative (DAC), a global initiative to prevent Alzheimer's and improve brain health. DAC's Healthcare System Preparedness Program includes more than 70 program sites across 19 countries. Virtua is the only participant in New Jersey.

As part of this work, our health system contributed to the discussion on innovative implementation efforts for early detection of cognitive impairment in primary care at the 2025 Alzheimer's Association International Conference this past week in Toronto. Elyse Perweiler, MA, MPP, RN, professor and co-director of the Rowan-Virtua New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging (NJISA), presented on the cognitive impairment in primary care project plan.

"As an academic health system, our most important work begins here at home, serving individuals and families in our local community. But it's inspiring to see its impact reach the worldwide effort to improve brain health," said geriatrician and NJISA director Kevin Overbeck, DO. "Cognitive impairment often goes undetected until later stages. Our goal is to change that by promoting healthy aging and earlier identification for those we serve."

Virtua has worked in close collaboration with NJISA, a nationally recognized center of excellence within the Rowan -Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, to support early detection programs and receive coaching from Davos experts through the first quarter of 2026. Read more about the collaborative [here](#).

### **Join Virtua at the Walk to End Alzheimer's**

To draw attention to this important public health issue, Virtua is sponsoring the Walk to End Alzheimer's at Cooper River Park. Please join us as we continue to raise awareness and walk in solidarity with those affected by this disease and their families and caregivers. Feel free to spread the word.

**When:** Saturday, Sept. 13, Registration at 8:30 a.m., ceremony at 10 a.m., walk at 10:30 a.m.

**Where:** Cooper River Park, Pennsauken

Registration is free, and no donation is required (though always appreciated). Register today by clicking [here](#).

## Virtua Reverting to Previous Ultrasound Orders in Radiology Compendium

### Note: Go-Live Date Now Set for Aug. 11

Starting this **Monday, Aug. 11**, Virtua will revert to its previous ultrasound orders description process in our radiology compendium, which will once again include laterality detail. As was reported in last week's *Clinician Update*, IT was hoping to have the go-live ready for **Aug. 4**, but an extra week was needed to allow additional time for testing validation.

IT is making this transition to enhance patient safety and to simplify the ordering and performance of these studies. The team believes that returning to the previous format for now will make it easier for everyone involved as Virtua continues to assess its compendium ordering process. Be sure to update your personal preferences to reflect the original compendium orders.

If you encounter any issues or have any concerns regarding this transition, please do not hesitate to reach out to the IT service desk at 856-355-1234. Additionally, IT will have a command center and on-site support available at each hospital during this transition to assist you.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your cooperation.

## Celebrating Virtua's Launch of Doula Services

Virtua hosted an event marking the launch of its [doula services](#) and recognizing the value of doulas in maternity patient care. The event facilitated connections among community doulas and Virtua clinicians, including OB/GYNs, midwives, residents, and nurses. Providers across disciplines shared their insights on the vital role of doulas, reflecting the importance of collaboration in elevating maternal care.

"Doulas provide incredible support to our laboring and new mothers," said Nicole Lamborne, MD, Virtua's VP of clinical operations for women's services. "We are

thrilled to welcome our new doulas and to reinforce Virtua's commitment to facilitating collaboration to ensure equitable, compassionate, and evidence-based care for our patients."

Virtua is the first health system in the region to develop a model of care seamlessly integrating doulas into maternity care by bringing together both employed and community doulas for the benefit of patients and their care teams. Patients may now contact Virtua to help connect them with a certified birth doula who best fits their needs.

Watch on [6 ABC](#).

## Rowan-Virtua Researcher Awarded NIH Grant to Study Magnesium's Role in Heart Health

Shanmughapriya Santhanam, PhD, a researcher at the Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, has received a \$1.925 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to explore how magnesium could stop heart failure.

Santhanam, an associate professor of biomedical sciences, will lead a five-year study investigating how magnesium supports mitochondrial function in heart cells. She and her team aim to uncover how the mineral could unlock new treatments for some of the most challenging diseases of our time.

To learn more, click [here](#) and [here](#).

## We Communicate Thoughtfully

This week, as we continue focusing on the Guiding Principle *WE Communicate Thoughtfully*, our teams across Virtua are watching tips about prioritizing and demonstrating kindness. [Click to view the tip of the week by track.](#)

## What Patients Are Saying About Our Clinicians

Positive feedback continues to come in from our patients. Note the following recent examples and how the patient felt about the experience, and the clinician referenced:

"There are not enough words to explain how thankful I am for Dr. Bowers. He came up with a surgical plan and was so extremely kind during the process. He took his time talking to me." (**Geoffrey Bowers, MD** – Obstetrics and Gynecology)

“He listens, cares, and is very knowledgeable when it comes to treatment and patience with all his patients. I would refer him to anyone I know looking for a doctor who genuinely cares.” (**Christian White, DO** – Psychiatry)

“She always listens intently and provides responses and solutions that I can understand.” (**Paula Preston-Dougherty, APN** – Family Medicine)

“She was very helpful. She listened and provided answers, and helped me feel very much at ease. The entire staff was friendly and helpful.” (**Rose Mary Fair-Covely, DO** – Endocrinology)

“I have been a sleep patient for 20 years and always receive fantastic care and support from Dr. Seelagy and his team.” (**Marc Seelagy, MD** – Pulmonology)

“Truly cares about his patients. Very knowledgeable. Highly recommend.” (**Matthew Gordon, MD** – Pulmonology)

“I have known Dr. Burke for over 30 years. He is caring, patient, and listens to you. He makes you feel like you are his only patient and takes all the time that is needed. The staff is number one.” (**Gary Burke, DO** – Cardiology)

“Everyone here is very kind and cares about you.” (**Joseph Zuniga, MD** – Vascular Surgery)

## Meet Spine Surgeon Dr. James Sanfilippo

Virtua Reconstructive Orthopedics spine surgeon [James Sanfilippo, MD](#), VP of clinical operations, musculoskeletal medicine at Virtua, knew from a young age that he wanted to be a doctor. Inspired by his grandfather, Dr. Sanfilippo made a promise to help people just like him. Dr. Sanfilippo finds joy in his daily interactions with patients and staff and describes a proud moment seeing one of his patients walk again and regain the ability to write. Outside of work, Dr. Sanfilippo enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, and dining out. Most notably, Dr. Sanfilippo is committed to ensuring positive outcomes for his patients and being a lasting presence in their health care journey. [See his new bio video.](#)

## More of Virtua in the News

### Virtua Surgeon Uses New Drug to Find Lung Cancer

Matthew Puc, MD, chief of thoracic surgery, uses a groundbreaking medication called Cytalux that lights up cancer cells, helping him find and remove even

microscopic lung tumors. Watch on [CBS 3](#).

### **Newsweek Features Virtua's HR Chief**

Rhonda Jordan is the subject of a [Newsweek](#) story focusing on her career highlights and philosophies. She has helped Virtua “set itself apart in a competitive health care talent market,” the article noted. Rhonda credits Virtua’s inclusive culture for much of its success. That includes a perfect five-star score in *Newsweek's* ranking of America's Greatest Workplaces 2025.

### **More Press Coverage of New Construction & Renovations at Lourdes**

More media reported this week on Virtua’s \$500 million expansion and renovation project at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital. The improvements include a new, six-story patient care pavilion named for philanthropist Marvin Samson. Read in [Becker's Hospital Review](#), [Healthcare Design](#), and [NJ.com](#).

### **Virtua Executive to Receive Award from Burlington County**

Sarah Fawcett-Lee, SVP and chief philanthropy officer, is among eight women to be honored next month with the 2025 Outstanding Women of Burlington County Award. She will be recognized for leadership of charitable fundraising that supports vital Virtua initiatives, including the Eat Well food-access programs and the Mobile Health and Cancer Screening Unit. Read in [The Trentonian](#).

## **Utilizing *Unite Us* on Epic to Support Community Health-Related Social Needs**

To help address health-related social needs, Virtua is using technology to streamline communication and referrals between community partners. The goal is to make it easier to connect patients to essential services—such as housing, food access, and behavioral health—through the *Unite Us* integration in Epic.

This week, Virtua co-hosted “Connect & Collaborate: Virtua Health and Unite Us,” welcoming community-based partner organizations such as Family Health Initiatives, Burlington Community Action Partnership, CamCare, and many more to Virtua Mount Holly Hospital. There they learned about the worthwhile possibilities as they onboard onto the *Unite Us* platform.

If you or your team would like information or additional training on how Virtua uses the *Unite Us* platform, you can find training modules on the VLS by searching “*Unite Us*” or browsing the [Virtua Health Resource Directory](#).

# Welcome to Virtua!

Hello to the following clinicians who onboarded with Virtua Medical Group this week:

Katherine Dillon, DO (Anesthesia)  
Rachel B. Butrica, CRNA (Anesthesia)  
Tyler Bryant, MD (Anesthesia)  
Chandani Vekaria, MD (Anesthesia)  
Kevin Kurack, MD (Behavioral Health)  
Rosaline Ma, MD (Cardiology)  
William Doyle, FNP (Clinical Decision Unit)  
Justin Chura, MD, MBA, FACS (Gynecologic Oncology)  
Shabbir Hossain, DO (Hospitalists)  
Clara Yu, MSN, CRNP, AGACNP-BC (Interventional Cardiology)  
Rozina Ali, DO (Nephrology)  
Olajide G. Abiola, MD (Neurocritical Care)  
Domenica Caporusso, MPH, RD, LD (Nutrition and Diabetes Care)  
Yvonne O'Donnell, WHNP (OB/GYN)  
Eric Rubin, MD (VP, Clinical Operations, Radiology)  
Jazmine A. Cole, PA-C (Virtua Reconstructive Orthopedics)  
Maureen S. Clinch, DPM (Virtua Reconstructive Orthopedics)  
Sarah E. Stooks, MSN, FNP-C (Urgent Care)

Great to have you on board!



Virtua Health

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