

Clinician Update

April 21, 2022

COVID-19 Therapy Update: Appropriate Referral Webinar May 3

As COVID-19 treatment options continue to improve and evolve (and cases tick up), it is important to know about the latest protocols so you may make appropriate referral for therapy. Virtua clinicians are invited to a brief presentation by Virtua Infection Control Officer Martin Topiel, MD, FSHEA, who will present on new oral medications now available and that may be a better option for most people. He will also discuss the use of Evusheld, developed specifically for immunocompromised patients as a preventative treatment. Join us **May 3, 2022 at 6 p.m.** via webinar. No pre-registration required. We will send meeting reminders, [but you may also join the meeting here.](#)

April is Donate Life Month

In Case You Missed It: Dennis Pullin's Opinion Piece about Organ Donation

106,000. That's the number of people who are waiting for an organ transplant in the United States. While most people favor organ donation, only about half are actually registered to donate. And fewer still, as little as 1%, end up eligible for their organs to be donated.

Registering to become an organ donor in New Jersey is easy. You can do it when you renew your driver's license online or in person through the [New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission](#). In fact, when President and CEO **Dennis W. Pullin** went to the DMV to renew his driver's license, he took a moment to reflect upon how this routine task was actually a significant, consequential opportunity to save lives. As a result, Dennis penned an opinion piece to rouse support for organ donation. He wrote, "I personally find comfort in knowing that as a future organ donor I could, in a way, live on and keep doing good through others. Every donor can save, on average, eight lives and enhance 70 or so more. What an incredible final act of generosity and love for others."

Read his opinion piece [here](#).

If you agree to be a donor, you could shorten the time a friend, family member, or colleague spends on the waiting list. You can provide the greatest gift of all—a second chance for a full life. Click to learn more about the [transplant program](#) at Virtua Advanced Transplant & Organ Health.

Organ Health Today Now Posted to Digital 411

In addition to Dennis' Op-Ed, and in time for Donate Life Month, Virtua has produced the latest issue of its *Today* series of physician newsletters. [Organ Health Today](#) details the latest from Virtua's Advanced Transplant & Organ Health service as they deliver a full continuum of care, across every stage of kidney, liver, and pancreas disease. The service aligns Virtua's existing transplant, nephrology, and hepatology programs to provide optimally coordinated organ care for patients. The issue also features an exciting capability within our network: autotransplant to restore kidney function.

Remember that our library of publications has a home base on Digital 411, found under "[Additional Resources/Clinician Publications](#)." There, you can find archived copies of Clinician Update, as well as a growing resource of the Today series.

Here for Good T-Shirts in Support of Ukraine

Throughout the past few months, Virtua Health colleagues have expressed their desire to support the people of Ukraine in a variety of ways. To help channel that spirit of giving and kindness, Virtua has created a special, limited-time t-shirt with the message "Here for good." written in the colors of the Ukrainian flag.

The shirt is now available for pre-order, and proceeds will support reputable relief organizations on the frontlines of this conflict. One such not-for-profit will be the World Central Kitchen, an organization that provides meals in response to humanitarian crises and, like Virtua, appreciates the critical role of accessible, nutritious food.

Details to note:

- Shirts will be delivered to six Virtua campuses, which helps to reduce shipping costs. Please indicate your preferred pick-up location when placing your order.
- All shirts, regardless of size, cost \$20. Of that, \$9 will offset the material/production costs, and the remaining \$11 will be collected and donated by Virtua Foundation.

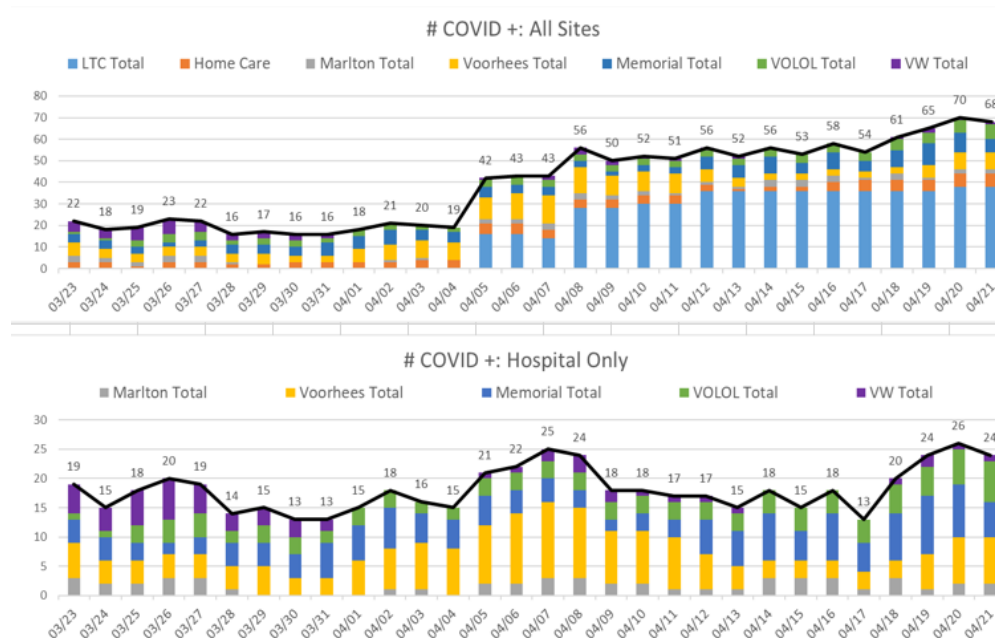
Please [click here](#) to visit the Virtua Logo Shop and place your order. A v-neck version of the shirt will be added to the Logo Shop shortly; please check back soon if you do not see that option listed.

Virtua Health Recognizes Earth Day

Each year on **April 22**, more than a billion people celebrate Earth Day to protect the planet. Our world is an amazing place, but it needs our help to thrive. Help grow the movement and make the Earth a happier, healthier place to live.

Three easy ways to take care of our planet are to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Visit epa.gov/recycle to learn how saving money, energy, and natural resources can help the environment.

COVID-19 Census



Latest COVID-19 Fast Facts

- The latest rate of transmission in New Jersey was reported Tuesday as 1.24.
- The total number of cases reported as of 3 p.m. today:
 - Atlantic County 55,043
 - Burlington County: 84,341 cases
 - Camden County: 105,090 cases
 - Gloucester County: 54,981 cases
- COVID-associated mortality for Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, and Atlantic counties: 4,593.
- The state's Vaccination Overview dashboard reported 17,424,023 doses of vaccine have been administered.

Education: Beyond the Basics—Best Practices for Starting and Continuing Advanced Care Planning Conversations

Last month, Virtua and Samaritan hosted an event that discussed effective strategies for continued advanced care planning conversations. In case you missed the virtual event, click to [view the discussion](#).

We Invite You to Complete the Following Surveys

- Click to take the [Best Places to Work survey](#) by **Friday, May 6** and help us receive this important recognition for the Sweet 16th time!
- Click to [nominate a SJ Magazine Top Doc](#) by **Friday, May 13**. If you are a physician, [click here](#) and include your license number. The results will be posted in the magazine's September 2022 issue.
- Click to [nominate a South Jersey Magazine Top Physician](#). (Despite similar names, this is a different publication than the one above.) Each person can vote one time per day through **Tuesday, May 17**. The results will be published in the fall.

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week - April 24 to 30

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week is an annual celebration of medical laboratory professionals and pathologists who play a vital role in serving our patients.

“Medical technologists, medical lab technicians, and phlebotomists are always busy providing vital information that is ever so critical in the diagnosis of our patients,” said Ahmed Salahuddin, AVP of laboratory. “They are champions of blood bank, chemistry, hematology, histology, microbiology, and phlebotomy, all fortified with a tireless dedication to detail. I thank these colleagues for their steadfast professionalism.”

Whether hospital-based or outpatient (Virtua has 22 outpatient labs), Virtua labs collect, process, and analyze over 5 million specimens per year.

Ever wonder what the overall lab process looks like? Click [here](#) to see footage of all the amazing visuals. And click [here](#) to learn more about lab services at Virtua.

Health Information Professionals Week - April 18 to 22

Health information is human information. Health information represents many things to different people, but it means something to everyone. Your health information is your story—it is sensitive, nuanced, and complex.

[Health Information Professionals Week](#) is the perfect time to acknowledge our colleagues and teams who have responded with grace and achieved triumphs amid the challenges facing health information professionals during the pandemic.

This week, we encourage you to celebrate and thank our colleagues who ensure our patients' health stories remain accurate, accessible, and protected.

Five Stars for Virtua Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation – Cherry Hill

Experience is everything! Our teams are taking every opportunity to get to know each patient and deliver the individualized, compassionate care Virtua is known for. Today, we share a personalized five-star review written by Cheryl L. on behalf of her husband, a patient at Virtua Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation – Cherry Hill on Springdale Road:

Physical therapy with Sheri has been an amazing positive experience for my husband, who has Parkinson's disease. Sheri is a skilled, knowledgeable therapist who exudes a cheerful, happy demeanor as she works with Ken. He is doing much better as a result of working with Sheri.

She is always encouraging, never negative. Her assistant Josh is kind and efficient. What impresses me most about Sheri is that she actually walks Ken out to the car, even in freezing, miserable weather, so he can practice lifting his leg to get into the car. Overall, our experience at Virtua has been superlative.

Since the start of year, Virtua has received more than 1,000 five-star reviews with many mentions of kind, caring professionalism. We love to celebrate colleagues when they exceed expectations and online reviews help us do just that. Consider highlighting the good work your teams do by posting positive reviews for your location in break rooms or colleague-exclusive areas.

Run with the Docs 5K Run and 1-Mile Walk - Sunday, June 12

Lace up those sneakers again for [Run with the Docs](#). Virtua Voorhees Hospital is the scene of this popular 5K run and 1-mile walk—all to support our programs for families who have experienced [pregnancy and infant loss](#). For event organizers and OB/GYN physicians Drs. Stacy McCrosson and Kimberly Bridges-White, the event is a great opportunity to get out for a truly meaningful cause. For more information, click [here](#).