

## Clinician Update

Feb. 18, 2021

### **Tuesday, Feb. 23 - Virtua Go-Live with Cures Act Implementation**

Cross-disciplinary teams have been working diligently to meet Virtua's deadline to go live with the first phase of the 21st Century Cures Act. Starting Feb. 23, provider notes will be released into patients' electronic health records via MyChart. These include consultation notes, H&P, and lab narratives. Test results will be released more quickly than before. Pathology, genetics, and all radiology results will be released after 24 hours for inpatients and 48 hours for outpatients. Once a result is final, it will be released between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., seven days a week. This period of time was chosen to avoid patients' receiving MyChart alerts overnight.

This week, we held the first of two webinars to orient clinicians to these changes. The first event, held with VMG, [was recorded and is available here](#). This coming Tuesday, Feb. 23, we will hold a second webinar for VIN and Virtua medical staff clinicians. Here are the details for that event:

#### **Special Cures Act Webinar for VIN & Virtua Medical Staff Members, Tuesday, Feb. 23**

Virtua Health will soon enact important elements of the 21st Century Cures Act. This **Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 6 p.m.**, join Andy Cohen, MD, medical director of Virtua Integrated Network (VIN), Jim Gamble MD, medical director for infomatics, and Karilynn Bayus, assistant general counsel, for a discussion on what the Cures Act will mean for transparency and patient communication. They will review what Virtua clinicians need to know, and will be open to questions to help you become more familiar with the changes to come.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://virtua.zoom.us/j/93880781758?pwd=K05VaWRhU0J4Z05md0dHUDlrV3NaZz09>

Passcode: 590032

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +19294362866,,93880781758# or +13017158592,,93880781758#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 929 436 2866 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 938 8078 1758

As a reminder, we have created a special [Cures Act Resource link](#) on Digital 411. Check back frequently to find additional tip sheets, talking points, and more. You should also know that additional communications have been developed for non-clinical staff should they encounter patient questions, including tip sheets and presentations. Communication also is going out to Virtua patients with MyChart accounts to make them aware of the new offerings.

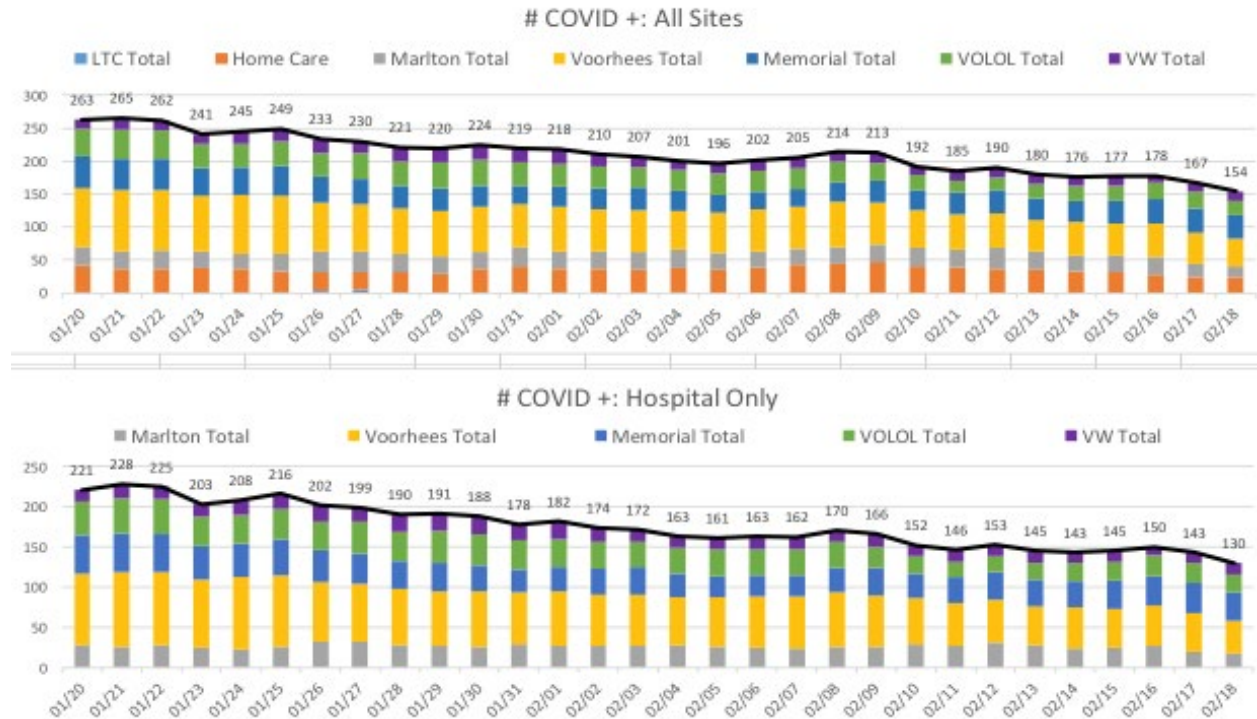
### **Season Two of the *Here for Good* Podcast Now Posted**

It has been over a year since the first episode of the *Here for Good* podcast, hosted by Virtua President & CEO Dennis Pullin. In the first season, Dennis was joined by some impressive guests — Rhodes Scholars, physicians, journalists, and more. Now, in our first episode of season two, we invite you to tune into a discussion with President and CEO of Atrium Health, Eugene A. Woods.

In this episode, Dennis and Gene discuss the responsibilities and opportunities they have as leaders to make a difference in health care. The topics they cover include galvanizing our organizations to embody a mission; having courageous conversations about difficult issues around racial injustice and health disparities; and building trust among their communities to provide education and encouragement around the COVID-19 vaccine.

Listen at [virtua.org/podcast](http://virtua.org/podcast) or find and stream the *Here for Good* podcast on your favorite podcast app.

### Virtua COVID-19 Census



### Fast Facts

- The rate of transmission in New Jersey is currently at 0.91.
- Locally, in the tri-county area, there have been a total of 2,201 confirmed deaths, as of 1 p.m. today. The state also reports “probable” deaths from COVID-19, with figures shared separately on the [state dashboard](#). For the three counties, probable deaths would account for an additional 159 fatalities.
- The total number of cases are as follows:
  - Burlington County 29,928
  - Camden County 38,385
  - Gloucester County 20,444

### New Visitor Guidelines Now in Effect

For the first time since November, general visitation has resumed at all Virtua hospitals. For the health and safety of our community, **visitation is limited to one visitor for each patient**, and it must be the same visitor throughout the patient’s stay. Children under the age of 18 are not permitted to visit.

**General visiting hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.** Visitors should limit visitation to a maximum of 2 hours.

Department-specific exceptions to the visitor guidelines include:

- **Pediatric Patients** - Two parents/guardians can visit pediatric patients 24/7.
- **Surgery or Medical Procedure** - When possible, one visitor may accompany the patient into the facility. The visitor must depart when the patient is taken into the prep area. Please coordinate with the care team in advance.
- **Patient Discharge** - One visitor may enter the facility upon a patient's discharge to receive discharge instructions and caregiver education. Please coordinate with the patient's care team.
- **Patients with Disabilities** - Patients with disabilities, such as sensory impairment or developmental/cognitive disability, may have one visitor at any time.
- **High-Risk Obstetrics** - One support person may accompany patients admitted for induction of labor or scheduled C-section.
- **Labor and Delivery / Mother-Baby** - One support person may accompany a laboring woman; must be same person throughout hospital stay. A doula is considered part of the patient's care team.
- **Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or Special Care Nursery** - Visiting hours are from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. for two approved visitors (mother and care partner).
- **Emergency Department** - One visitor is permitted to be with the patient in the treatment area. Due to the changing needs of the emergency department and to preserve social distancing and privacy, visitation may be modified at any time by the emergency department staff.
- **Hospital Patients in Isolation** - Visitation is not permitted for patients in isolation.

All visitors at Virtua hospitals will have their temperature taken, perform hand hygiene, and complete a screening tool for COVID-19 symptoms upon arrival at our facilities. Additionally, **visitors are required to wear a face mask at all times.** The patient must also wear a mask (if tolerated) while the visitor is in the room.

To view and print the [Visitor Guidelines](#) and [Visitor Information](#) flyers, visit the [Brand Hub](#) on the VINE.

### **Addressing Second Dose Hesitancy**

Anecdotal reports suggest that some people are reluctant to receive the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine due to concerns about common side effects, or even misconceptions about potential risks. Each of us can help address this issue by providing verified information, correcting fallacies, and offering reassurance to our patients and personal contacts.

The articles below describe what to expect, how to prepare, and why **receiving both vaccine doses is essential.** Please share this information and these resources with your patients, colleagues, friends, and family.

#### **For patients and the general public:**

- [What to expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine.](#) This CDC webpage includes links to printable hand-outs in English and Spanish.
- [What are the Side Effects of COVID-19 Vaccines?](#) This reader-friendly article by AARP is also available in [Spanish](#).
- [COVID-19 Vaccines: More Side Effects Reported after 2nd Dose, but Experts Say There's a Reason.](#) This report on Fox5 New York offers both video and text stories.

#### **For health care professionals:**

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy: 10 Tips for Talking with Patients](#). This AMA piece also links to a script for clinicians and staff to help them answer people's vaccine questions.
- [To Overcome Vaccine Hesitancy, We Need a Better Patient Experience](#). This *Harvard Business Review* article offers practical advice.

### **Heart Patient Advises Others to Seek Care Despite Pandemic**

Charlene Walls, a 75-year-old woman from Pennsauken, complained of lightheadedness and dizziness and experienced some falls.

Her cardiologist, Dr. Troy Randle of Virtua Cardiology, equipped her with a heart monitor that indicated she was experiencing heart block. Her decision to seek medical care proved to be lifesaving. Dr. Randle ascertained her need for a pacemaker, which she received at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Camden. Click [here](#) to view Charlene's story.

While this episode took place during a pandemic, she knew she was in good hands. "Dr. Randle saved my life," she said. "The least I can do is try to save someone else's life now." That is why she advises people to seek the care they need without delay. "You need to know that you are not the doctor and that somebody else is going to bless you and make you feel better."

### **Kudos to Emergency Department Team**

Congratulations are in order for members of the Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Emergency Department for their recent achievements:

- Alfred Sacchetti, MD, FACEP, chief of emergency medicine, received the Challenge Coin Award from EM:RAP (Emergency Medicine Reviews and Perspectives) for his Humanitarian Contributions to Emergency Medicine.
- Physician assistant Daniel Pavlik, DMS, PA-C, received his Doctorate of Medical Science from Lincoln Memorial University.
- Physician assistant Jennifer Lance Sikorsky was featured as part of the [Lehigh University Heroes series](#), for her role as a Virtua PA and former member of the rowing team. The series highlights the achievements of Lehigh Athletics alumni who are making a difference in the medical field.