

Clinician Update

Feb. 25, 2020

Caring for COVID “Long-Haulers”: Virtua Survey Seeks Clinician Insight

Virtua is seeking feedback from our clinicians that will help prepare services and resources for patients dealing with lingering COVID-19 symptoms. Our goal is to understand how people with long-term post-COVID-19 symptoms (including those who were never hospitalized) experience the development, course, and resolution of the illness over time.

The short online survey should take no more than five minutes. It will gather your feedback on the frequency at which you are treating patients with lingering COVID-19 symptoms, and what primary medical concerns these patients have so to learn what resources you will need to care for these patients.

Your input is vital and greatly appreciated. To participate, click [here](#).

U.S. News & World Report and Doximity Partner to Assess Best Hospitals

The influential *U.S. News & World Report* Best Hospitals survey is underway, soliciting clinicians' opinions on which hospitals are among the best at providing care for complex or challenging conditions.

Invitations to take the survey were emailed to a randomly selected 10% subset of the eligible physicians who are users of Doximity. All other survey-eligible Doximity users can expect to receive an invitation by the end of this week, Friday, Feb. 26. A random sample of non-users will be surveyed by mail.

A third-party organization will analyze the results, combined with other measures and data sets, to create a specialty-specific expert opinion score for each hospital.

Doximity, the professional network for physicians, is the largest community of health care professionals. Through its close partnership with *U.S. News*, the opportunity to contribute to the hospital survey is enhanced as they solicit select members to complete the survey electronically, targeting all survey-eligible physicians as defined by their board certifications.

Survey-eligible physicians who were Doximity users as of Nov. 1, 2020, can take the survey online.

How to vote: Go to [Doximity.com](https://www.doximity.com) or [the survey page on Doximity.com](#). You may need to click on the *U.S. News* graphic or button, and then simply follow the instructions.

The survey is expected to continue through **March 26**, and reminder emails will be sent to physicians who do not respond initially.

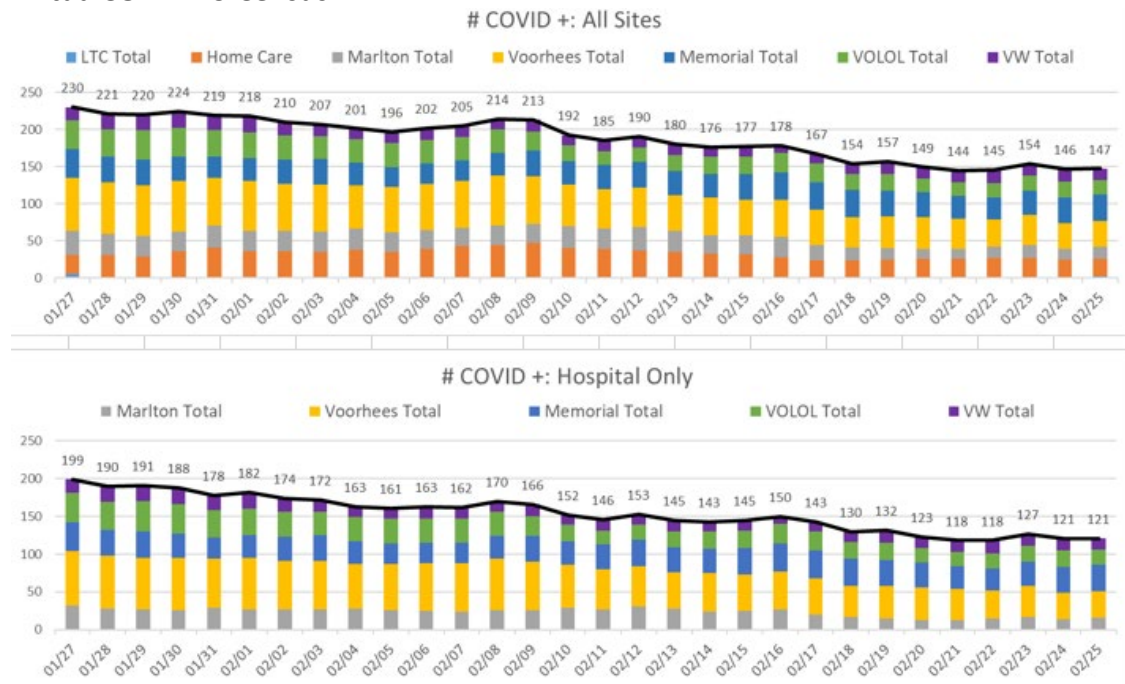
If you were not registered on Doximity by Nov. 1, 2020, you can register now at [doximity.com](https://www.doximity.com) to ensure eligibility to complete next year's survey.

Cures Act Goes Live at Virtua

As planned, Virtua went live with implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act on Tuesday, Feb. 23. In preparation and as part of ongoing education efforts, a webinar was held Tuesday night for Virtua Integrated Network (VIN) and Virtua medical staff members. Copies of the evening's slides and a [link to](#)

[the recording](#) are housed on the [Cures Act Resource link](#) on [Digital 411](#). Further, new documents have been added, including [talking points for non-providers](#) and information meant to assist non-clinical staff in our hospitals, as well as our ambulatory practices. We will continue to communicate on this topic as we refine our efforts to meet requirements. If you have any questions, you can direct them to VirtuaClinician@virtua.org.

Virtua COVID-19 Census



Fast Facts

- The rate of transmission in New Jersey is currently at 0.88.
- Locally, in the tri-county area, there have been a total of 2,254 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 166 fatalities.
- The total number of cases are as follows:
 - Burlington County 30,584
 - Camden County 39,057
 - Gloucester County 20,853

Approaching Positive Milestone — 100,000th Dose

In the next day or so, Virtua is expected to administer its 100,000th dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. And the positive pace will intensify. Vaccine quantities for the Burlington County Mega-Site have grown steadily since its opening.

Virtua began its vaccination campaign in mid-December by establishing a Voorhees-based vaccine clinic for its own front-line employees and other health care workers in the region. In mid-January, Virtua joined forces with the State of New Jersey, Burlington County, and other partners to open the

Burlington County COVID-19 Vaccine Mega-Site in Moorestown — one of six “mega-sites” across the state.

The State of New Jersey has set a goal to vaccinate 70 percent of its adult population — or 4.7 million adults — within six months. Virtua anticipates arriving at 200,000 vaccine doses in about four weeks, less than half the time it took to reach 100,000 doses.

This is all an exciting advance in helping our community get back to living their lives and families.

NJ Department of Health Hosts Town Halls: Vaccine Concerns from Communities of Color

Adapted from Vax Matters, a New Jersey Department of Health Newsletter

Recently, the New Jersey Department of Health hosted virtual town halls led by New Jersey medical professionals to address facts, fears, and myths about COVID-19 vaccines for Black, Caribbean, and Latinx communities.

The town hall for Black and Caribbean communities focused on vaccine safety, hesitancy, and the role of primary care doctors in addressing mistrust. View the [town hall for Black and Caribbean communities](#).

The town hall for Latinx communities focused on issues such as how to encourage the Latinx community to get the vaccine; vaccine interactions with other medications; vaccine side effects; when children will be vaccinated; and what community leaders can do to help encourage vaccination. View the [town hall for Latinx communities](#).

The Spanish-language virtual town hall will take place tomorrow **Friday, Feb. 26**. Register [here](#).

Carebridge Connects — Avoiding Caregiver Burnout

Every month, Virtua’s partner Carebridge offers webinars and resources to uplift your state of mind, encourage your personal growth, and enhance your sense of self.

March’s webinar focuses on avoiding caregiver burnout. Taking care of others can take a major toll on your life, your mood, and your mental and physical health. This session will provide a series of simple steps to reduce your stress and avoid burnout, including relaxation techniques, healthy sleeping habits, healthy coping skills, and building a system of support. Participants will also learn about online resources and the importance of avoiding social isolation for mental and physical health.

Your Carebridge benefit can help you and your loved ones with strategies to manage stress. We invite you to [view the webinar](#) and use access code **Y6EXA**.

Virtua in the News

- **Meet the Volunteers Who Bring Love to Grieving Parents:** Caring South Jersey residents create “angel gowns” for babies lost before or shortly after birth. This *USA Today* story includes moving interviews with **Ann Coyle**, manager of Virtua’s perinatal bereavement program, and a Virtua patient. Read it [here](#).
- **Virtua Guides Community through COVID-19 Vaccine Scheduling:** When Virtua discovered thousands of South Jersey residents had made duplicate vaccine appointments, more than 200 staff members jumped into action. Taking a personal approach, these colleagues called 10,400 people to resolve the issue and provide first-class service. Read this *South Jersey Local News* story [here](#).

- **Take It to Heart:** Heart disease is both common and deadly, but new advances and preventive measures can save lives. Virtua cardiologist **Vivek Sailam, MD**, provides the latest information — including the impact of COVID-19 on the heart — in this *South Jersey Magazine* article. Read it [here](#).

In Case You Missed It — Musicians On Call Performance

Musicians on Call, an organization that delivers the healing power of music to hospital patients, hosted their most recent virtual performance yesterday. Local artists Jack Scott and Ingrid Rosenback played a session exclusively for hospitals in the Philadelphia region, including Virtua. We invite our hospital colleagues to share the link to the 30-minute show, which can be found on YouTube [here](#).

Help Your Community by Giving Blood

We invite you to join Virtua colleagues by helping the American Red Cross maintain a sufficient blood supply. The Red Cross will host several blood drives at various Virtua locations in the days ahead, including:

Wednesday, March 3

Virtua Health & Wellness Center – Berlin, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
303 Lippincott Drive, Marlton, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday, March 5

Virtua William G. Rohrer Fitness Center, 2 to 7 p.m.

Friday, March 19

Virtua Voorhees Hospital, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, March 23

Virtua Health & Wellness Center – Moorestown, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday, March 29

Virtua Memorial Hospital, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday, March 30

Virtua Voorhees Hospital, 2 to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 31

Virtua Health & Wellness Center – Washington Township, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday, April 5

Virtua Memorial Hospital, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Red Cross continues to take additional measures to ensure the safety of its donors and recipients. These include donor temperature screenings, additional screening questions, enhanced disinfecting, and social distancing.

It is quick and easy to sign up for blood drives. Appointments are preferred. Click