

Clinician Update January 26, 2023

Sign Up for a Practicing Excellence Keynote Address – Just for Clinicians!

Virtua clinicians are invited to attend a keynote presentation from Dr. Stephen Beeson, founder and CEO of Practicing Excellence. Dr. Beeson will visit several Virtua campuses between **Feb. 1 and Feb. 3** to speak with our clinicians and offer his insights on how we can leverage Practicing Excellence to enhance the care experience for our patients, teams, and ourselves.

Hour-long sessions are planned for the Barry D. Brown Health Education Center (HEC) in Voorhees and at four Virtua hospitals. Refreshments will be served at all gatherings.

[Click here to see a list of sessions and to register for the one that best fits your schedule.](#) Do not miss this opportunity to hear and learn directly from one of the industry's leading voices in connecting patient care with a strong sense of purpose.

Virtua Health

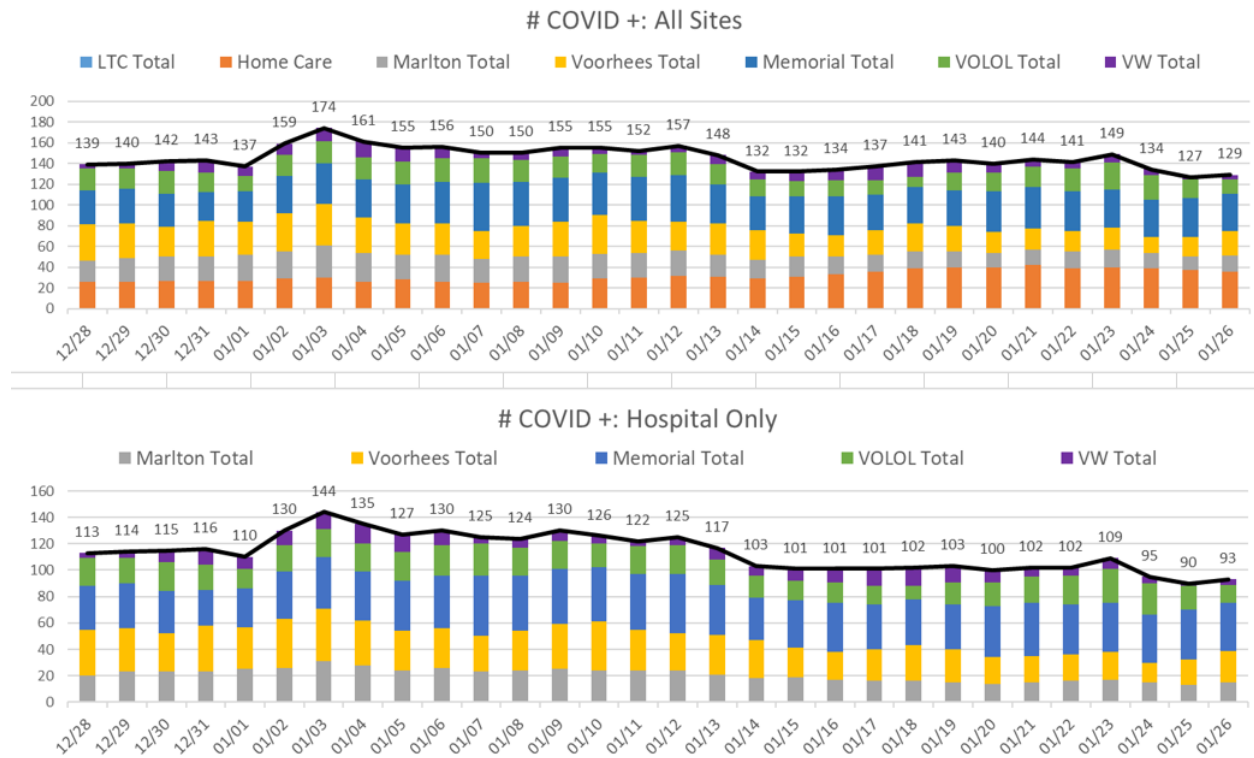
PRACTICING EXCELLENCE **Keynote Sessions for Clinicians**
with Dr. Stephen Beeson

Daytime Sessions		Morning & Evening
Virtua Voorhees Hospital Feb. 1, 11:15 a.m.	Virtua Mount Holly Hospital Feb. 2, 11 a.m.	Barry D. Brown Health Education Center Feb. 1, 7 a.m.
Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Feb. 1, 12:45 p.m.	Virtua Willingboro Hospital Feb. 2, 12:45 p.m.	Feb. 2, 6 p.m.
Virtua Marlton Hospital Feb. 3, 9:30 a.m.		Feb. 3, 7 a.m.

Dr. Stephen Beeson, founder and CEO of Practicing Excellence, is a nationally recognized speaker, physician, and author whose life mission is to coach and develop clinicians to be their best.



COVID-19 Census



Latest COVID-19 Fast Facts

- The rate of transmission in New Jersey was reported today as .79.
- The total number of cases reported as of 3 p.m. today:
 - Atlantic County 69,840
 - Burlington County: 112,375 cases
 - Camden County: 135,881 cases
 - Gloucester County: 68,862 cases
- COVID-associated mortality for Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, and Atlantic counties: 5,071.
- The state’s Vaccination Overview dashboard reported 20,134,982 doses of vaccine have been administered.

Mpox Stats

As of the last weekly posting, the number of probable and confirmed cases of mpox cases in New Jersey: **764**.

Virtua Performs Record Number of Organ Transplants in 2022

It was another record-breaking year for transplant volume. For the second year in a row, the Virtua Advanced Transplant and Organ Health team posted its highest numbers of transplants in the program’s 48-year history. The team performed 82 transplants. The majority were kidney transplants, including six

procedures involving a living donor. Eighteen patients received a liver transplant, and four individuals received two organs (either kidney/pancreas or liver/kidney). In all, this represents 20% greater patient volume than in 2021.

“Our dedicated team knows that each ultimate act of kindness from our donor heroes supports our team’s mission to perform lifesaving transplants,” said Christine Palms, vice president of the Virtua Advanced Transplant and Organ Health service line.

“Having experienced transplant nephrologists and transplant surgeons makes it possible for us to accept organs that other centers might have to decline,” said transplant nephrologist Dr. Anita Mehrotra. “This increases access to transplantation for patients on our list—particularly older patients who may otherwise not get any organ offers.”

“We have a team that shares a common goal, which is to grow the transplant program by increasing accessibility to patients in need and providing personal, high-quality care,” said Dr. Simona Rossi, chief of hepatology.

Congratulations to the entire Virtua Advanced Transplant and Organ Health clinical team, including:

- Transplant nephrologists Dr. Manasa Ujire, (medical director of kidney and pancreas transplant), Dr. Anita Mehrotra, and Dr. Mohammad Hashmi
- Transplant hepatologists Dr. Simona Rossi (chief of hepatology), Dr. Hisham ElGenaidi, Dr. Nyan Latt, Dr. Ashraf Malek, and Dr. Santiago J. Munoz
- Transplant surgeons Dr. John Radomski, Dr. Ely Sebastian (surgical director of liver transplant), Dr. Nasser Youssef (surgical director of kidney and pancreas transplant), and Dr. Ann Thompson

To learn more about organ transplantation here at Virtua, click [here](#). For any questions, reach Christine Palms at cpalms@virtua.org.

Virtua Welcomes 9,000+ New Babies, Recognizes Maternal Health Awareness

For the second consecutive year, Virtua welcomed more than 9,000 new babies to the family. In 2022, Virtua delivered 9,105 babies, just four shy of the record-setting milestone of 2021. Virtua has mother-baby units at three of its five hospitals and also provides a natural birth experience at its freestanding Midwifery Birth & Wellness Center in Voorhees, which opened in late 2021.

“We love being a part of so many families' stories,” said Dr. Nicole Lamborne, vice president of clinical operations for women’s health and a practicing OB/GYN physician. “While we celebrate these big numbers, we keep in mind that every patient, every child is distinct with distinct needs. Our goal is to provide exceptional birth experiences and to keep all of our new mothers and babies safe and healthy.”

Because of its commitment to safe, equitable, and inclusive care experiences, Virtua participates in Maternal Health Awareness Day— this year on Jan. 23—a time dedicated to helping people learn about the maternal mortality crisis in the United States and what can be done to reduce the health risks to women giving birth.

The main causes of maternal death are C-section complications, hypertension, infection, and excessive bleeding during pregnancy, labor, delivery, or postpartum.

This past Monday, colleagues across Virtua Mount Holly, Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes, and Virtua Voorhees hospitals participated in providing awareness around the importance of education and patient communication in reducing health risks.

Click to [learn more about Virtua’s approach to maternal health](#).

Virtua Mount Holly Advances Lung Care with New Robotic System

The team at Virtua Mount Holly Hospital has begun offering a leading-edge option for the detection and treatment of lung cancer. The new Ion robotic-assisted bronchoscopy system can access small, hard-to-reach lesions in the lungs—enabling doctors to catch lung cancer at its earliest, most treatable stages.

“The Ion system enables us to provide more patients with state-of-the-art lung cancer care right here in South Jersey, close to home,” said interventional pulmonologist Mark Weir, MD.

The platform, developed by Intuitive Surgical (makers of the da Vinci robot), enables doctors to reach 80% to 90% of suspicious lung nodules—versus just 60% with traditional, non-robotic bronchoscopy. The technology also reduces the need for more invasive approaches like a needle biopsy through the chest.

The Ion is Virtua’s second robotic bronchoscopy system, following the similar Monarch platform launched 18 months ago at Virtua Marlton Hospital.

“With two bronchoscopy robots, we’re able to offer an integrated cancer-care pathway across our health system,” added thoracic surgeon Matthew Puc, MD, program director for the [Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Cancer Program](#).

Virtua is the only organization statewide to offer both the Ion and Monarch devices. In fact, interventional pulmonologist Syed Riaz, MD, has already performed more than 100 robotic bronchoscopies at Virtua Marlton.

Watch for more details in the coming weeks. To learn more, read [here](#).

Paint the Town Red

In honor of American Heart Month in February, Virtua will paint the town red! We invite all colleagues to wear their favorite shade of red on National Wear Red Day on **Friday, Feb. 3!** We invite you to submit a selfie or team photo by [clicking here](#), and it may be featured in *By Design* and Virtua’s social media channels.

Cardiac Research Today Now Posted to Digital 411

[The January issue](#) in our *Today* series of physician education newsletters features an expanding list of cardiac care trials underway at Virtua. *Cardiac Research Today* details new clinical care options for heart failure (HF) and coronary artery disease (CAD), including pioneering valve and HF treatments, and heart rhythm disorders, as well as research assessing acute coronary syndromes. Throughout the year, Virtua’s staff of research coordinators oversee trials in a range of specialties, working to ensure that as many patients as possible have access to investigative interventions.

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, including [this latest issue](#).

Policy Alert – Virtua Research Investigators

Speaking of research, be aware that if you are a potential or current investigator in a research study that is funded by the Public Health Service (PHS), you must comply with Virtua’s policy on this matter. This [notification letter](#) by Dr. Reg Blaber, EVP and chief clinical officer, alerts investigators to fully understand what is required of the [Virtua Public Health Service \(PHS\) Research Financial Conflict of Interest Policy](#).

This policy is designed to promote objectivity and eliminate bias in research and to ensure compliance with federal guidelines. The term “investigator” refers to any individual, regardless of title or position, who is responsible for the design, conduct, or reporting of PHS-sponsored research, or proposals for such funding.

If you have questions, contact the Office of Research Administration at researchreview@virtua.org.

From the Hello Good Mailbox

Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes cardiac critical care unit is doing all the good they can, at all the times they can. The team reported **zero** central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSIs) in more than 1,000 days! Thank you for keeping our patients safe.

Virtua in the News

- **Virtua Joins National Gun Safety Campaign**—Virtua is involved in a nationwide effort to protect kids from gun violence, now the leading cause of death for children in the U.S. Called "It Doesn't Kill to Ask," the campaign focuses on providing parents, caregivers, and community members with tools to discuss safe gun-storage, as well as help them ask other parents about access to guns in homes their child might visit. Read in [Yahoo Finance](#).
- **Virtua Marketing Expert Tapped for 2023 Health Care Forecast**—Ryan Younger, Virtua’s vice president of marketing, was among 14 health care leaders asked to predict where the industry is headed this year. His projections include addressing financial pressures, using better data to improve the consumer experience, and enhancing colleague well-being. Read in [Integrated Healthcare Executive](#).
- **Orthopedic Surgeon Discusses Jalen Hurts' Health**—Virtua’s Dr. Mark Schwartz weighed in on how Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts looked after the team’s regular-season win against the New York Giants. Listen on [94 WIP](#).

Tomorrow Is International Day of Commemoration

This Friday, Jan. 27 is International Day of Commemoration, remembering Holocaust victims and survivors. The United Nations theme for this year is “Home and Belonging.” To learn more about this day, the ways in which displacement and loss impact one’s understanding of home and belonging, and to find events marking this day, click [here](#).

Pass It Along: WomenHeart at Virtua

If you know a woman living with heart disease, invite her to join our free, fun, and informative group for monthly gatherings. Facilitated by WomenHeart Champions, heart disease survivors trained at the Mayo Clinic's WomenHeart Science and Leadership Symposium, attendees can expect expert-led discussions to help improve heart health and reduce future risks as well as peer support from other women with heart disease. Meetings are held 6:30 to 8 p.m. via Zoom on the second Thursday of each month. This month's guest speaker is Virtua cardiologist Maria Duca, MD. Share [this link](#) to register.