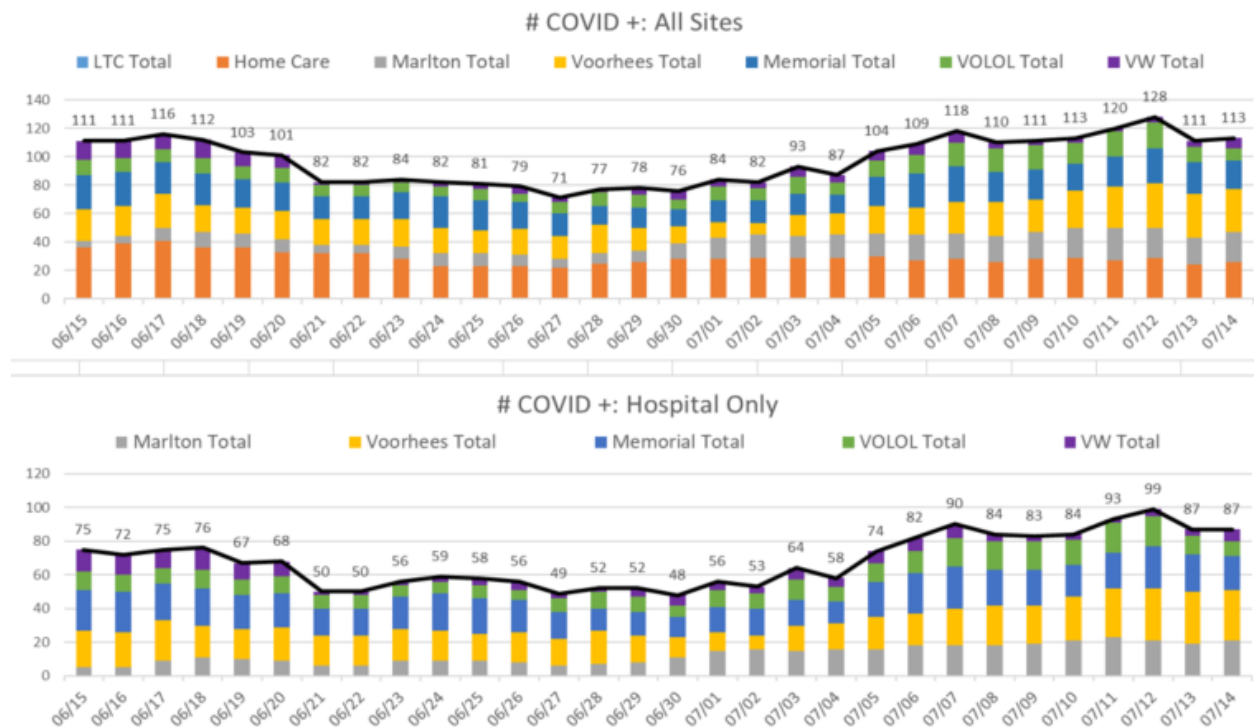


Clinician Update July 14, 2022

Virtua Voorhees Hospital Named a Best U.S. Hospital

Great news! *Money* magazine and the Leapfrog Group collaborated on their first shared ranking of "best hospitals." Virtua Voorhees Hospital made the list of 148 best U.S. hospitals and ranked among the 15 best New Jersey hospitals. Read in [Becker's Hospital Review](#) and [Patch](#).

COVID-19 Census



Latest COVID-19 Fast Facts

- The rate of transmission in New Jersey was reported yesterday as 1.06.
- The total number of cases reported as of 3 p.m. today:
 - Atlantic County 60,931 cases
 - Burlington County: 95,631 cases
 - Camden County: 116,298 cases
 - Gloucester County: 60,091 cases
- COVID-associated mortality for Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, and Atlantic counties: 4,760.
- The state's Vaccination Overview dashboard reported 18,214,991 doses of vaccine have been administered.

BA.5 Variant Rises in State, Nation

Adapted from the NJHA Coronavirus Update

The BA.5 COVID-19 variant has quickly become the predominant COVID variant in New Jersey, representing about 64% of cases. Nationwide, BA.5 accounts for more than 60 percent of cases, according to [CDC data](#).

Public health experts worry that BA.5 is rising as protection from the first rounds of vaccination and booster shots are waning and the public has relaxed on many protective measures such as masking and social distancing. BA.5 is notable in its ability to re-infect people quickly and in its transmissibility.

With infections increasing, [six N.J. counties](#) are now considered at high risk for COVID (Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Monmouth, and Morris). CDC recommendations urge public masking in areas of high risk.

Dr. Martin Topiel, Virtua's chief of infectious diseases, offered his insights on the BA.5 surge in New Jersey to [CBS 3](#).

From the Hello Good Mailbox

Brenda O'Brien, practice manager of the hospitalists at Virtua Voorhees Hospital, shared the good by sending us the following note from a patient's wife. Despite the patient's unfortunate passing, the writer shares her gratitude to the care team at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital.

"My husband was given the greatest treatment with compassion from the emergency department team. Nurses Michele Manheim, Jennifer Cowgill, Maria Anicas, and Tara Fagan, and doctors John Galezniak, Vikram Bathula, and Darius Sholevar helped us through a very difficult situation.

"Dr. John was patient, compassionate, and informative. The nurses cared for my husband as if he was their only patient. Dr. Bathula offered his condolences and provided great comfort that gave me strength.

"The sacredness of the hospital building, in combination with the magnificent staff, gave my family and me comfort and peace in my husband's last hours. This is the type of care that restores my faith in humanity."

We can be a source of good, even in the most difficult times. Email hellogood@virtua.org with stories, letters, and cards about fellow colleagues who are spreading the good in our campuses and the community. They may be featured in an upcoming edition of *Clinician Update*.

Virtua in the News

- **Mega-Site Offers COVID-19 Vaccines to Infants, Toddlers** — The Burlington County COVID-19 Vaccine Mega-Site recently started providing vaccinations to children from 6 months through age 4—a newly authorized group. The Virtua-run clinical team is specially trained to work with these very young patients, noted Phyllis Worrell, Virtua's emergency management coordinator. Read in the [Courier-Post](#) or [Burlington County Times](#).
- **Monkeypox Arrives in Camden County** — Dr. Topiel discussed key facts about monkeypox, including how to avoid contracting it and what symptoms to watch for. Read in [Patch](#) and view on [CBS 3](#).
- **Rhonda Jordan Named Influencer for Diversity and Inclusion** — Rhonda Jordan, Virtua's executive vice president and chief human resources officer, was recently recognized in two

publications. [ROI-NJ](#) named her a 2022 Influencer for Diversity and Inclusion. Additionally, [Becker's Hospital Review](#) tapped her for an article on handling workplace challenges. Rhonda says it's important to help colleagues feel "connected to the work, the community, and one another."

- **Dennis W. Pullin to be Honored by Catholic Charities** — The 18th Catholic Charities' Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony will honor Dennis W. Pullin, FACHE, Virtua's president and CEO. "His dedication to the community has shone through in the many good works Virtua has performed," noted Kevin Hickey, executive director of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden. Read more about the upcoming honor and event in the [Catholic Star Herald](#).

The Best at the Beach

The New Jersey Hospital Association recently held a beachfront celebration recognizing health care leaders "committed to good health in the Garden State." The Best at the Beach event honored the Virtua Eat Well team with the *Healthy New Jersey Award* for expanding food access amid the pandemic. Additionally, David Kindlick, Virtua Health Board of Trustees member and board chair from 2017 to 2021, was recognized with a *Lifetime Achievement Award*. Click to [view the story](#).

And there's more to celebrate! [NBCUniversal announced today](#) that they have awarded a \$30,000 grant to the Virtua Eat Well Mobile Grocery Store to help with our efforts to reduce food insecurity across South Jersey. The 40-foot rolling supermarket aims to improve access to healthy food in underserved communities.

By creating reliable and affordable sources for nutritious food, Virtua intends to create communities of wellness that demonstrate the impact a balanced diet can have on the health of an individual, a family, and entire neighborhoods.



Reminder: Lanterns on the Green: Asian Music and Dance Tuesday, July 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

All colleagues and their friends and family are welcome to join the VirtuAsia Colleague Community for the "Lanterns on the Green: Asian Music and Dance" event at the Perkins Center for the Arts, 395 Kings Highway, Moorestown.

The event will feature performances from the Korean School of Southern New Jersey and the Reaksmeay Sareypheap Khmer Dance Troupe, as well as an origami lantern-making project and light refreshments. Bring a picnic blanket and enjoy the evening!

Note, Perkins has limited parking. Street parking is available along Camden Avenue and Kings Highway.

Thank you for supporting the VirtuAsia Colleague Community, and we hope to see you there!



A Focus on Emotional Well-Being

At Virtua, colleague well-being is a priority. The [WE Thrive](#) page provides resources supporting the six key areas of well-being: physical, emotional, social, financial, spiritual, and intellectual.

This week, we focus on **emotional well-being**.

Prioritizing our well-being requires a balancing act between work life and home life; productivity and relaxation; and socialization and self-care. There is no perfect equation for finding emotional harmony and feeling balanced—it differs from person to person.

Now THAT was a great day!

We encourage you to think of a day when you felt emotionally fulfilled. What happened differently on that day that created the perfect recipe of relaxation, enjoyment, and achievement? Recalling that perfect day gives you the opportunity to be intentional in incorporating that balance into each and every day.

WE Thrive Tip:

Schedule balance. Dedicate a specific time each day to do something that helps you feel balanced. At the end of the week, reflect on how well you aligned your time to feeling balanced and take what you've learned into the following week.

WE Thrive Observance:

July is Minority Mental Health Month. This is a time to shine a spotlight on the ways we experience mental health differently and acknowledge the unique mental health experiences that minority groups may face. We encourage you to be active listeners and serve as advocates for emotional well-being.