

## Clinician Update

### June 27, 2024

With your busy schedules in mind, we are experimenting with a way to expedite the delivery of this important clinician messaging to you. **If you are interested in an abbreviated audio version of *Clinician Update*, [click here](#).**

### Virtua and Lourdes Celebrate Five Years Two-gether

Virtua and Lourdes Health System joined on July 1, 2019, establishing Virtua as the most deeply rooted and comprehensive academic health system in South Jersey. Two-gether, we are here to serve our community; here to connect people to the care they need; here to help create healthier lives. *Here for Good.*

Happy Anniversary!

### Radiology Services Expand at Virtua Voorhees

Virtua Radiology is growing to better serve our community. The radiology suite on the first floor at the Voorhees Health & Wellness Center is now a [Virtua location](#) in partnership with SJRA, offering 3D mammograms, ultrasounds, breast biopsies, and Dexa scans. The Voorhees location is now one of five Virtua mammography sites, including Cherry Hill, Camden, Mount Holly, and Willingboro.

### Virtua Recognized Nationally for Long-time Commitment to Quality Patient Care in Vascular Testing

Virtua Health has been recognized by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) for 25 years of quality patient care in vascular testing.

IAC evaluates and accredits facilities that provide diagnostic imaging and interventional-based procedures, and is dedicated to improving the quality of patient care provided in private offices, clinics, and hospitals where such services are performed.

IAC launched an [accreditation milestone recognition program](#) in 2024 for facilities achieving a long-time commitment to quality patient care. A select group of facilities have demonstrated this commitment to quality through IAC Vascular Testing, earning continuous accreditation for 20, 25, or 30 years. Virtua Health's vascular testing team was awarded the Silver Award to reflect our 25 years of continuous accreditation.

## Continuing Leadership Excellence in Neuroscience: M. Sean Grady, MD, and Kyle Mueller, MD

After four years serving as the medical director of the Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Neurosciences Program, M. Sean Grady, MD, will be stepping down from that role at the end of June. He will be succeeded by current Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Neurosciences Program neurosurgeon Kyle Mueller, MD.

Under Dr. Grady's leadership, neurosurgical care at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital and the neurosciences program as a whole has flourished. His constant commitment to advancing capabilities and improving patient outcomes has set a standard of excellence that will endure long after his departure.

Dr. Mueller, who has performed complex brain and spine surgery at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes since 2021, will assume the role of medical director. His expertise promises to elevate Virtua's standards and drive transformative progress in patient care and interdisciplinary collaboration. With Dr. Mueller at the helm, the program will continue its dedication to excellence in neurosciences, delivering cutting-edge treatments and compassionate support to the community.

### Advancing the Patient Experience

As we continue our Practicing Excellence journey, we thank you for your ongoing commitment to the Advanced Patient Experience Program. This week, we invite you to focus on the invaluable insights provided for your track in the [Week 12 Guide](#).

### What Patients Are Saying About Our Clinicians

Confidence in care is a common reference among our clinician reviews. Note the following recent examples and how the patient felt about the experience, and the clinician referenced:

"He has helped me turn my life around. I was in sad shape when he first worked with me some 14 years ago. He takes great care with his patients. He's an outstanding physician." (Joseph J. Fallon Jr., MD)

"I've been with her for over five years and have never doubted her medical decisions regarding my care! She is amazing and I always recommend her to my friends and family." (Danielle L. Cooley, DO)

"He is the ultimate professional. Thorough and caring. Meticulous in his observations and compassionate in information and advice. Also, our appointments go very smoothly. Personal and personable. A blessing." (Gerard A. Collins, DPM)

"Everything was handled with professionalism, and I was very satisfied with the respect and courtesy that was shown to me." (Carole J. Rosario, APN)

"He is the epitome of what a great surgeon should be. He listens, explains, and is never in a rush. He performed a difficult surgery on me with perfect results." (Michael Winter, DO)

## Meet Breast Surgeon Elizabeth Revesz, with a Passion for Empowering Patients

When you combine the advanced skills of a highly respected breast surgeon with the artistic aesthetic of an accomplished painter and sculptor, you get the total package in Elizabeth Revesz, MD, lead breast surgeon for the Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Cancer Program. But what she's most passionate about is building long-term relationships with her patients by listening and empowering them to make informed decisions and helping them to thrive. [Click to view this video.](#)

Additionally, Dr. Revesz was recently honored on [NJBIZ's 2024 Health Care Heroes list](#). She was named a "Physician of the Year" for her innovative and inspiring work in breast cancer surgery and patient care. Virtua Health was also a Workplace Wellness Hero honoree.

## Clinicians Featured in Summer *HeartTalk* Magazine

The summer issue of our *HeartTalk* magazine recently arrived in 127,000 households in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester counties. This issue includes articles and testimonials relevant to your patients, including the expanded Hospital at Home program, bioidentical hormone replacement therapy at Exuberan by Virtua, the Zephyr endobronchial valve procedure, cancer support services, colonoscopy prep tips, augmented-reality hip surgery, carpal tunnel syndrome, and cardiac surgery

Special thanks to participating clinicians Hidalberto Curnow, DO; Nishi Pandey, DO; Nermin Lazarus, DO; Troy Randle, DO; Denne Thomas-Patterson, MD; Greg Klingenstein, MD; Nathan Bodin, MD; Eden Payabyab, MD; Maria Duca, MD; Syed Riaz, MD; Diego Ortega, MD; Natalie Conboy, LCSW; and Caroline Kircher, LSW.

Click [here](#) to view a digital version of the magazine. For the growing archive of HeartTalk editions, click [here](#).

## Research Update: New Conflict of Interest Policy Now in Effect

At Virtua, the Human Research Protections Program (HRPP) protects the rights, welfare, and well-being of human subjects involved in research. The HRPP has identified an opportunity to enhance and streamline methods to protect the rights and welfare of human subjects concerning conflict of interest. The former three research Conflict of Interest (COI) policies have been combined into one compact COI policy containing a new research COI form for all Institutional Review Board (IRB) research application procedures. [Click here for the new HRPP COI Policy](#) that went into effect June 1. It is located on Colleague Corner in the Clinical tab, where there is a drop-down for Research.

The IRB review of these forms determines if any financial relationships create conflicts of interest. IRB review ensures that risks to subjects are minimized while maintaining regulatory compliance. These

enhanced methods will address real or apparent conflicts protecting the rights, welfare, and well-being of research participants.

“Processes and procedures for complying with U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as well as the Public Health Service (PHS) regulations maintains that research will be free from bias resulting from any financial conflict of interest from investigators and study personnel,” said Carlotta Rodriguez, Director of the HRPP. “Virtua recognizes the value in research relationships and the productive financial interests in which they create.”

Please note that not all financial interests can create a potential conflict of interest. However, potential financial conflicts of interest must be disclosed to research participants. It is the ethical duty of all research stakeholders to consider conflicts of interest in the design, conduct, and reporting of research.

Again, for the link to the new HRPP COI Policy click [here](#). To learn more about research at Virtua, the roles of the HRPP, IRB, and Research Administration and Operations, click [here](#). For questions or more information, please contact [irb@virtua.org](mailto:irb@virtua.org).

## Virtua in the News

### National Recognition for Virtua Vascular Surgeon

*Newsweek* has named Michael Lieb, DO, to its “America's Best Vascular Surgeons 2024” list. The *Newsweek*/Statista ranking of vascular surgeons is based on a national survey of doctors and medical professionals in the field of vascular surgery.

The list was compiled using physician performance data from Medicare that was gathered by clinical analytics provider CareJourney, as well as an online survey of medical experts, a quality-of-care score from peers of each surgeon, and consideration of their American Board of Surgery certifications. To view the list, click [here](#).

### Experts Offer Safety Tips During Heat Wave

Three Virtua doctors provided important health advice during last week’s dangerously hot weather. Watch Al Sacchetti, MD, emergency medicine physician, on [CBS 3](#). Additionally, he and a Virtua patient appear in this [second CBS 3 story](#). See Ryan Bateman, MD, also in emergency medicine, on [NBC 10](#). And watch Angela Skrzynski, DO, telehealth lead physician, in this extended [WABC](#) interview.

### Former NICU Babies—Now Thriving Kids—Pose for Heartwarming Photos

Grateful families whose newborns were cared for in Virtua Voorhees Hospital's NICU returned to the hospital this week for a fun and meaningful activity. They reunited with NICU team members and had their child’s photo taken for a special display—the “Wall of Hope” outside the unit. This inspiring gallery will be updated this fall with 28 new portraits. Watch the adorable photo session on [6 ABC](#), [Fox 29](#), and [NBC 10](#).

## Expert in Cardiovascular Anesthesiology to Address Echo Considerations for the LVAD Patient, July 9

Join us virtually or in person, as we welcome S. Michael Roberts, DO, FASE, FAOCA, chief of cardiovascular anesthesiology at Penn State Health-Hershey Medical Center, as he discusses:

- Pre-, peri-, and postoperative considerations and management of HeartMate 3 left ventricular assist device (LVAD) patients
- Interpretation of transesophageal and transthoracic echocardiograms
- Hemodynamic management of HeartMate 3 LVAD patients
- Anesthesia considerations

The event will take place **Tuesday, July 9**, from 12 to 1 p.m. in the Physician's Conference Room at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, or [virtually live here on Teams](#).

[Click here for a flyer](#). For more information, contact 856-952-1056 or email Theresa Rowe-Ruffin, director of Heart Failure Services, at [troweruf@virtua.org](mailto:troweruf@virtua.org).

## IDEA – Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity for All

July is [Disability Pride Month](#), an annual celebration of diverse disability communities. Join in continuous learning on the difference between person-first and identity-first language from the [National Institutes of Health](#) and from our [Language of Caring Guide](#).

### **Voices of Resilience - Elevating Mental Health**

July 25, 5 to 7 p.m.

Barry Brown Health Education Center

July is Mental Health Awareness Month. In recognition of promoting awareness of mental health challenges within communities of color, and helping to erase stigma, join the Colleague Communities for an engaging event organized by the Black and African American Colleague Community (BAACC).