

## Clinician Update

### March 14, 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](#).**

### Coming Soon: Epic Hyperdrive Platform

Epic has changed its basic platform technology, moving from Hyperspace to a web-based platform called Hyperdrive. All Epic customers, including Virtua, must transition to the new Hyperdrive platform to take advantage of continued improvements and upgrades in upcoming Epic versions. In preparation for this change, Virtua I.T. is in the process of updating our current Epic system, as well as any impacted applications and/or systems currently integrated with Epic. We are excited about the benefits this transition provides to the organization. It streamlines development, enables advanced capabilities, and allows for intuitive, optimized, and improved workflow efficiencies in new Epic versions.

For most users, we anticipate the impact of this transition will be a new modern look and feel. Workflows and documentation will be completed in much the same manner as they were before.

The move to Epic Hyperdrive started rolling out to various areas and departments earlier this month. The Epic Hyperdrive transition will be completed no later than the beginning of May 2024.

So far in our journey, we have transitioned Clinical Tracker Boards to Epic Hyperdrive and within the next two weeks, we will go live with pilot Super Users, targeted workstations in cardiology, radiology, and Camden's dental center. In addition, Virtua Primary Care - Voorhees at 2225 Evesham Road (Tatem Brown), will be a pilot practice.

The I.T. enterprise clinical's instructional design, training, and support team created a video that highlights many of the upcoming changes. Click to [download and view the video](#). Please note that you must be signed in to the Virtua network to download the video.

### Impressive Research Taking Place at Virtua

The Virtua Office of Research Administration is amidst a busy 2024 calendar year of critical care research taking place at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes and Virtua Mount Holly hospitals.

"Virtua's long-lasting commitment to research continues to grow and, as it does, so does our reputation for meticulous management of research studies regardless of their number, scope or complexity," said Emilio Mazza, MD, PhD, medical director of the ICUs at Virtua Mount Holly and Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes hospitals.

Dr. Mazza is partnering in a collaboration alongside Kingsly E. Yin, PhD, associate professor, Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience at Rowan-Virtua School of Medicine. "In this ever-changing and highly

technical field, the scientific knowledge we gain today translates into improved care for patients tomorrow,” said Dr. Yin. “We have a team that are considered experts, a team with excellent qualifications and experience in the research industry.”

Translational sepsis research is being conducted at Virtua Mount Holly while acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) research is being conducted at the tertiary care center at Virtua Mount Holly and soon at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes.

Virtua’s critical care research also includes an important trial that studies the effects of bone marrow mesenchymal stem cell derived extracellular vesicles in hospitalized patients with moderate to severe ARDS. Another important ARDS trial is studying sub-phenotypes of ARDS and acute hypoxic respiratory failure using biomarker subtyping (SPARC trial).

To learn more about research being conducted at Virtua, contact [research@virtua.org](mailto:research@virtua.org).

## **Important Notice on Continuing Medical Education (CME) for Physicians**

### **How to receive AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**

Physicians who attend designated courses or regular scheduled series that have been approved by Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, and accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians, may receive credit if they:

- Participate in educational activities.
- Complete the end of program survey AND claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity within seven days of the educational activity.

Upon completion of the activity, a hyperlink and/or QR code should be shared with all learners. Once the end of the program survey is complete, the physician will receive an electronic certificate to the email address listed. If the physician does NOT complete the survey, they are unable to claim the credit and NO credits can be awarded. Backdating of certificates is strictly prohibited as that violates the regulations of continuing medical education.

### **A change in track participation for CME**

Many CME activities use meeting requests through Microsoft Teams to invite participants to join their events. Attendance lists are downloaded from Microsoft Teams and have previously been reconciled in the Virtua Learning System (VLS) after the event, mostly by administrative assistants. This act would show completed meetings on individual transcripts. In efforts to use resources more efficiently, this process is going to stop. The act of reconciling attendance records in VLS is no longer needed for CME. Any internal tracking that occurs should continue at the department level.

Processes that have been put in place to capture attendance for programs do not have to change as there are physicians who participate in CME events yet choose not to claim credit. Virtua Health’s CE Team will use the report generated at the end of the year from our survey vendor and will capture

completed surveys in our numbers that are reported to ACCME. Courses where the VLS is used for registration will get reconciled.

A physician's Certificate of Completion, automatically received after taking a survey, will be proof of credit hours earned and should be kept by the physician for future credit hour reference.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email [CME-CNE@virtua.org](mailto:CME-CNE@virtua.org).

## **Last Call: Quarterly Cardiology Grand Rounds Wednesday, March 20**

Join us for the next Quarterly Cardiology Grand Rounds to be held virtually on Wednesday, March 20, 7 to 8 a.m. Virtua cardiothoracic surgeon Eden Payabyab, MD, will discuss the diagnosis and management of thoracic aortic diseases, surveillance of aortopathies, and indications for surgical intervention.

Objectives:

1. Diagnose aortic aneurysms and provide medical management
2. Describe the proper surveillance of aortopathies
3. Identify the criteria for surgical intervention

The target audience is physicians and the interprofessional teams. To register for this online event, click [here](#). For continuing medical education accreditation information, and to learn more about the event, click to [view the flyer](#).

## ***Heart Rhythm Review* Features Updates and Advances in Electrophysiology**

We are pleased to share with you a new publication, [Heart Rhythm Review](#), an update on advances in electrophysiology (EP). We invite you to read and to share it with your colleagues.

The inaugural edition includes what is new in EP at Virtua, as well as articles on rechargeable defibrillators with CCM therapy, the latest on atrial appendage closure procedures, the new guidelines for atrial fibrillation, and much more.

Virtua's Heart Rhythm Specialists includes lead clinician Darius Sholevar, MD; Evan Blank, MD; Aatish Garg, MD; Heath Saltzman, MD; Sivaraman Yegya-Raman, MD; Elizabeth Tiffany-Ellis, NP; and Jennifer Pietranik, NP. Jennifer Garron is the team's practice director.

"The Electrophysiology team here at Virtua provides outstanding care for heart rhythm disorders with a focus on advancing care with excellent patient satisfaction in an inclusive and efficient manner," said Dr. Sholevar. "We stand ready to assist for consults and second opinions. You can find all our team members' cell phones and contact information, as well as our locations in [Heart Rhythm Review](#)."

For patient scheduling, call the Virtua Heart Rhythm Specialists appointment line at 856-470-9053 (then press 1). Or, in EPIC, select “Ambulatory Referral to Electrophysiology.”

[Click here for Heart Rhythm Review.](#)

## 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:

“This doctor in my opinion is exceptional. He is professional but friendly, made me feel comfortable and relaxed. He took the time to answer all my questions and did not give the impression that he was hurrying. His staff are also welcoming and accommodating.” (Joseph Maccarone, MD)

“Great physician who listens, and in my opinion, uses a collaborate care model that makes you feel included in the decisions about your health care.” (Kelli Daniels, MD)

“She is a very caring, knowledgeable professional. She took her time to explain all my problems and assisted in getting me what I needed to have continued medical care. I highly recommend her.” (Lyudmila Schowgurow, APN)

“He was very knowledgeable and thorough with my evaluation and provided excellent feedback and guidance. Recommend without hesitation.” (Scott Sharets, MD)

“Professional and knowledgeable. The doctor comes highly recommended. He is personable and explained everything I needed to know.” (Jeffrey Emrich, DO)

## Virtua Is “All In” on Excellence

Our continuing journey with Practicing Excellence demonstrates our shared commitment to cultivate a culture of excellence and deliver a personalized experience for everybody always. As we look forward to the spring, we are excited to introduce a new learning program designed to build upon the foundations laid by Practicing Excellence. Details about this new program will be shared soon, and we encourage everyone to stay engaged and anticipate what's to come.

In the meantime, let's keep the momentum of *All in on Excellence* going. Whether by revisiting a favorite tip from the program or completing any remaining sections, there's always room to grow and improve.

[Explore the tips](#) in Practicing Excellence's [All in on Excellence library](#).

## It Is National Safety Awareness Week

National Patient Safety Awareness Week (March 10 to 16) is dedicated to advancing health care safety for patients and colleagues. Everybody always has a role to play in advancing safety in our health care system. Thank you to all teams as we follow the measures for prevention and evidence-based practice.

Your voice is welcomed and expected. Without your voice, advances in patient and colleague safety are not possible.

## Beware of New Phishing Scam TOAD

Virtua I.T. is raising awareness of a rising phishing scam known as TOAD. This new threat involves phishing emails purporting to be from reputable companies such as Microsoft, Norton, PayPal, and McAfee, claiming fake transactions or billing details. These emails, sometimes accompanied by a PDF invoice, prompt recipients to call a fraudulent customer service number for cancellations or refunds. The aim is to steal account credentials or trick victims into downloading harmful software under the guise of problem-solving or gaining remote access to devices. The latest variant of this scam targets the HULU+ Bundle.

Stay cautious of unsolicited emails pretending to be support notices or account alerts, which can lead to the installation of malicious software.

If you suspect you've engaged with a phishing email or mistakenly clicked on something suspicious, promptly use the Report Phish icon and contact [securityawareness@virtua.org](mailto:securityawareness@virtua.org) for assistance. Phishing attempts can be sophisticated, and we are here to support you. Maintaining vigilance and awareness of phishing tactics is crucial for our collective cybersecurity. Thank you for your continued efforts to enhance security awareness and adherence to best practices at Virtua!

## Virtua in the News

### Virtua Executive Named a Leading Woman in Business

Stephanie Fendrick, EVP and chief strategy officer, is one of New Jersey's top female business leaders, according to a statewide magazine. She "leads the formulation, development and advancement of Virtua Health's growth and transformation strategy across multiple service lines and for the entire health system," noted [ROI-NJ](#).

### How A.I. Can Improve Lives

Virtua experts and others discussed how artificial intelligence can enable positive changes. Tom Gordon, SVP and chief information officer, and Tarun Kapoor, MD, SVP and chief digital transformation officer, explained how AI is already benefitting Virtua patients and providers. "Virtua Health exemplifies incorporating AI in a humanistic way," noted [South Jersey Magazine](#).

### Health System Execs Help Define a 'Smart Hospital'

Dr. Kapoor is also among 30 health system leaders who are advising the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives on its new "smart hospital" maturity model (a framework for measurement). The model, a collaboration with digital health company care.ai, will define what

constitutes a "smart hospital" as health systems progress on their digital transformations and adopt artificial intelligence. Read in [Becker's Hospital Review](#).

### **'Skin of Color' Underrepresented in AI Programs in Dermatology**

The use of artificial intelligence in dermatology faces challenges when applied to people of color. This is partly due to their lack of representation in datasets, according to research published in the *International Journal of Dermatology* by Rebecca Florent, a medical student from Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, and colleagues. Read in [HealthDay](#).

### **Virtua Nurse Recognized Among New Jersey's Best**

The New Jersey State Nurses Association will honor 19 nurses for outstanding professional career accomplishments at its Divas and Dons Gala next month. Among the awardees is Susan Politsky, director of professional development and nursing research. Read in [New Jersey Business Magazine](#) and [NJ Spotlight News](#).

### **Virtua Resident Awarded for Poster Presentation on Kidney Disease**

Sumit Rajpara, DO, has been awarded second place for his poster presentation, "Optimal Blood Pressure Control for the Progression of Diabetic Kidney Disease" at the Annual Convention and Scientific Seminars hosted by American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP). Dr. Rajpara's outstanding work has led to an invitation for him to present his research in person at the ACOFP's upcoming national meeting. Dr. Rajpara is a resident at Virtua and member of the Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine's Ambulatory Clinics Program.

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

Join us in commemorating Neurodiversity Celebration Week, from **March 13 to 19**. This global observance was created to challenge stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. Created by Siena Castellon, in 2018, changing the narrative to focus on strengths and talents was important in creating a more inclusive and equitable space for those who are neurodivergent. To learn more, click [Neurodiversity Celebration Week \(neurodiversityweek.com\)](https://neurodiversityweek.com)

On **March 14**, the world recognizes International Day to Combat Islamophobia. Created by the United Nations General Assembly in 2021, the resolution emphasized the need for ongoing awareness around the impacts of violence and hate towards those of Muslim identity or Islamic faith. The promotion of peace and extending the right to practice one's faith is recognized with much importance, creating an inclusive and welcoming environment. To learn more, click: [International Day to Combat Islamophobia | United Nations](#)

Also, Happy St. Patrick's Day to those celebrating – commemorating the feast day of St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland. This holiday is celebrated worldwide, and especially in the US. To learn more, click: [St. Patrick's Day March 17, 2024: History, Celebration Ideas, Pots of Gold, and more! \(nationaltoday.com\)](#).