

## Clinician Update March 31, 2022

### Virtua Clinician Communications Survey Extended One More Day!

We want to hear from you! We know there are lots of requests for your opinion these days, but we want to be sure we are delivering messaging that's timely and relevant to our Virtua clinicians. Our goal is to always keep you informed—and to do this effectively and efficiently. To make sure we hear from you, we've extended our Communications Survey deadline by another day. The survey (which takes less than 5 minutes) will now close at 5 p.m. tomorrow, **Friday, April 1**. [You can take the survey here.](#)

### Virtua Health Doctors' Day – That's a Wrap!

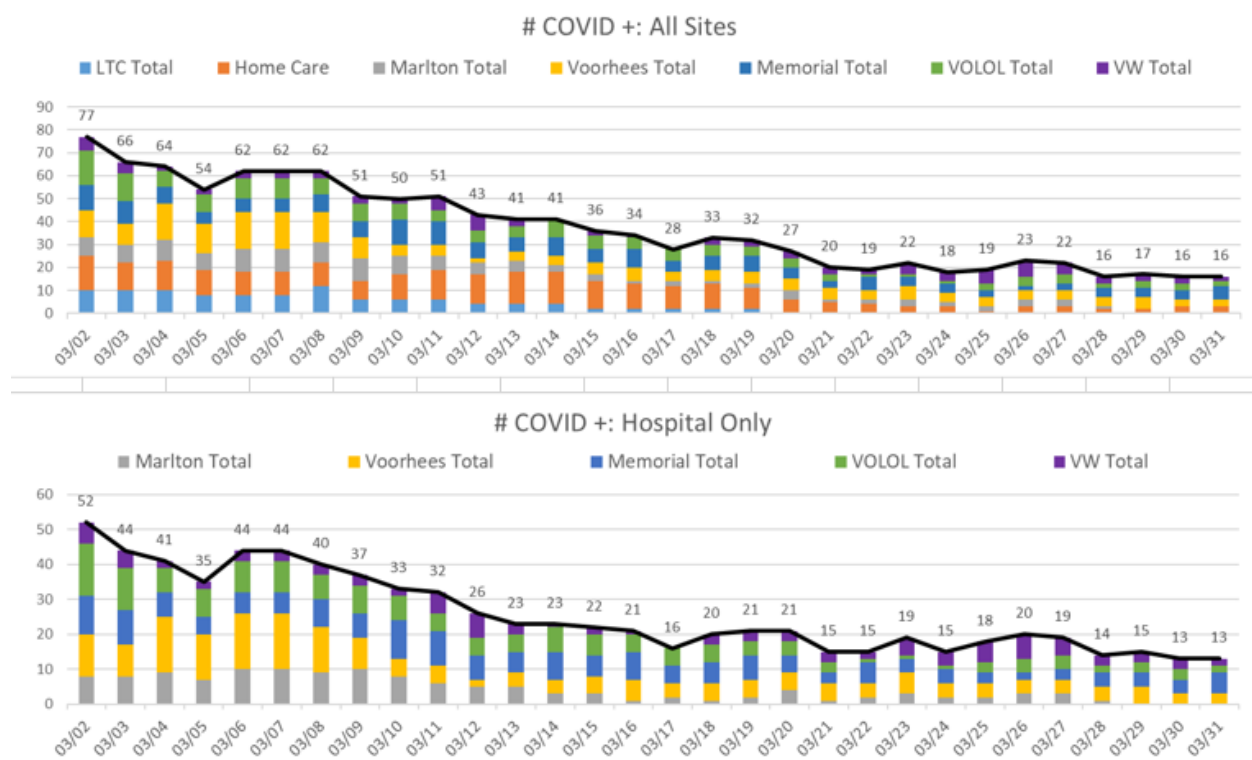
We at Virtua Health are grateful for our doctors' continued commitment to helping our patients and community be well, get well, and stay well. Thank you for being a source of good. As a token of our appreciation, Virtua showcased this [special video](#) that features the children of a few of our doctors. The results were as adorable as you'd expect! You may even see these charming children in a series of print and digital advertisements, such as these:



Although yesterday officially marked Doctors' Day, we celebrate our doctors every day! We invite you to view the video on [facebook.com/virtuahealth](https://facebook.com/virtuahealth) and like, share, and leave comments with your best wishes to our physicians. You can also watch the video at [go.virtua.org/celebration](https://go.virtua.org/celebration) and give a shout-out to colleagues by posting your message. Here are just some of the messages we've received so far:

- To All Virtua Physicians: *Thank you all so much for the good you do each and every day. Keep up the great work!*
- To Dr. Hafeza Shaikh: *You are a very special cardiologist. To you and all doctors out there, I give all of my heartfelt gratitude for helping us get well and stay well!*
- To Dr. Barbara Moront: *Thank you for your encouraging words of kindness and your ever-so-happy spirit and guidance. You are the bright light to our day here at Virtua Urgent Care.*

## COVID-19 Census



### Latest COVID-19 Fast Facts

- The rate of transmission in New Jersey was reported today as 1.01
- The total number of cases reported as of 3 p.m. today:
  - Atlantic County 54,598
  - Burlington County: 83,046 cases
  - Camden County: 103,876 cases
  - Gloucester County: 54,537 cases
- COVID-associated mortality for Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, and Atlantic counties: 4,568.
- The state's Vaccination Overview dashboard reported 17,109,612 doses of vaccine have been administered.

### Proton Therapy Center Update

A new era in cancer care is drawing closer as South Jersey's first proton therapy center continues its journey to completion. The exterior signage is now up and visible from Route 73 as have begun the lengthy process of calibrating the proton beam, which was successfully extracted for the first time just a few weeks ago. There is still much work to be done, but we're on track to open the Penn Medicine | Virtua Proton Therapy Center this fall. For more information, visit [Virtua.org/PennProton](https://Virtua.org/PennProton).

## Cures Act — Suggested Reading

It has now been over a year since the [21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act](#) was implemented. The Act has fundamentally impacted health care, most particularly in how and when patients receive information about their care. It has been instrumental in elevating how language impacts both access to and quality of care. [OpenNotes.org](#), a non-profit organization dedicated to researching the effects of transparent communication, shares a monthly newsletter that spotlights important new research that you may find of interest. We share two of those recommendations here:

- [Negative patient descriptors: documenting racial bias in the electronic health record](#), *Health Affairs*, Sun M, Oliwa T, Peek M, et al.
- [Sharing clinical notes and electronic health records with people affected by mental health conditions: scoping review](#), *Journal of Medical Internet Research Mental Health*, Schwarz J, Barkas, Blease C, et al.

## From the Hello Good Mailbox

The Hello Good Mailbox was full of well wishes for our Virtua physicians on Doctors' Day, but there were also messages from colleagues sharing their good deeds in caring for our community—and those from another country! We invite you to read their heartfelt messages below.

- Virtua colleagues and other regional health care workers went to Guatemala earlier this month on a medical mission trip. There, the team provided vital screenings, services, and health education to people living in remote areas with limited access to care.

Barry Graf, senior vice president of partnerships and business development, said, *"This was a group effort that allowed everyone to lend their skills and abilities in support of people who truly benefit from our presence. It is humbling, gratifying work, and it's a privilege to bring the notion of Here for Good to a different country."*

- Back in the United States, Paul Sarnese, AVP of safety and security, shared a note from Courtney Vega-Mitchell, director of case management at Joint Base McGuire/Fort Dix/Lakehurst (JBMDL): *"It is with our deepest gratitude that we celebrate your team's dedication, hard work, and contributions to 'Operation Allies Welcome' at JBMDL. Currently, there are no refugees at the base, nor will new refugees arrive. With your team's help, we relocated and facilitated the transition of more than 16,000 Afghan refugees to their new lives in the U.S. Your assistance has been crucial in providing the care and compassion desperately needed during this difficult time. Thank you for your efforts."*
- To celebrate the success of "Operation Allies Welcome," as well as moving the needle on patient satisfaction and Google ratings, Virtua leaders enjoyed a night out at a Philadelphia Flyers game. Kit O'Neal, director of emergency services at Virtua Willingboro Hospital, shared: *"Team ER unites with the common goal of community-based philanthropy, mainly focused on our Willingboro neighbors—it is truly authentic and beautiful to watch. Special thanks goes to Kathy Ward, who is the matriarch of Team ER's philanthropic efforts. In fact, she recently spearheaded a donation drive when Russia first invaded Ukraine. The response from the team was overwhelming! A shipping container full of basic supplies was sent to Ukrainians who have been impacted by the war. Kudos to Kathy Ward and Team ER!"*

- Scheduling specialist Denise Van Horn also helped organize a donation drive to support the animals in Ukraine. Denise shared, *“In honor of pets, we here at Virtua Pulmonology – Marlton have raised \$500 to help the animals in Ukraine. We sent our donation to the International Foundation for Animal Welfare.”*

See the good? Share the good with us! Email [hellogood@virtua.org](mailto:hellogood@virtua.org) with stories, letters, and cards about fellow colleagues who are spreading the good in our campuses and the community.

## Upcoming Events

### **Spring Cleaning: Declutter Yourself From the Outside In Thursday, April 7 at 7 p.m.**

Getting life organized can sometimes seem impossible. And no matter how many blogs you read or planners you own, the clutter is real—emotionally exhausting. There’s a strong connection between staying organized and mental health, and our experts are here to talk about it.

Join Virtua psychiatric nurse practitioner Kerry Echavarria and certified professional organizer and productivity coach Deborah Cabral as they provide practical tips for decluttering your home and your mind.

Registration is required to receive the event link to the live online webinar. Share with your friends and don’t forget to bring your questions! [Click to register](#).

### **Women’s Heart Support Group**

**Thursdays, April 14, May 12, June 9, 6:30 to 8 p.m.**

If you know a woman who is concerned about heart disease, let her know about the Women’s Heart Support Group at Virtua, a free, fun, and informative group that gets together for monthly gatherings. What to expect:

- Expert-led discussions to help improve heart health and reduce future risks
- Peer support, information, and encouragement from other women with heart disease
- Discussions facilitated by WomenHeart Champions, heart disease survivors trained at the Mayo Clinic’s WomenHeart Science and Leadership Symposium

[Click to register](#). Questions are welcome. Email [WH-VirtuaHealth@womenheart.org](mailto:WH-VirtuaHealth@womenheart.org) or call 833-894-3278. Click to [view the flyer](#). All meetings take place virtually via Zoom.

### **Cycling for Care**

**Saturday, May 14**

Join “Cycling for Care” to benefit the Cherry Hill Free Clinic. Ride 20, 40, or 60 miles through the farms and low rolling hills of Burlington County. For more information, [view the flyer](#).

### **Cardiology for Primary Care Symposium - Saturday, Sept. 10**

Mark your calendars for the annual Virtua Cardiology for Primary Care Symposium, scheduled to take place on Saturday, Sept. 10. This will be the 12th year Virtua Cardiology has held this event to educate

primary care practitioners, physicians, NPs, and PAs on news and trends in cardiovascular care, while offering to AOA Category 1-A and AMA PRA Category 1 credits™.

The symposium is part of the Rowan series, “Key Essentials for Optimizing Patient Care,” a virtual/hybrid 5-Block CME Series, and is designed specifically to better prepare primary care clinicians for the management of their patients.

This year’s event will be “hybrid,” with a live stream of the program for virtual participation, and simultaneous in-person sessions to be held on the Rowan College at Burlington County campus on Route 38 in Mount Laurel. Stay tuned for details. For more information or questions, email [VirtuaClinician@virtua.org](mailto:VirtuaClinician@virtua.org).