

Clinician Update

November 4, 2021

Virtua Welcomes New VP of Clinical Operations for Cardiovascular Service Line

Today, the following announcement was shared on behalf of Virtua Health's EVP and Chief Operating Officer, Dr. John Matsinger, and EVP and Chief Clinical Officer, Dr. Reginald Blaber:

It is our pleasure to welcome **Chun (Dan) Choi, MD**, as vice president of clinical operations for the cardiovascular service line. We are excited to have Dan join the team as we build a best-in-class cardiovascular center of excellence at Virtua with a tertiary cardiovascular hub at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital. Dan will provide oversight for the Virtua Medical Group's medical and surgical cardiovascular practices, and he will oversee the clinical aspect of the cardiovascular service line for Virtua Health. His arrival is great news for the patients we serve.

As cardiothoracic/transplant surgeon, Dr. Choi joins Virtua from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he was surgical director of the mechanical circulatory support program and associate program director of the cardiothoracic surgery residency program.

Dr. Choi earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Washington. He received his medical degree from New York Medical College, and went on to complete a general surgery residency at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and a cardiothoracic surgery residency at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Choi completed his cardiothoracic transplant and mechanical circulatory support fellowship at the Stanford University School of Medicine. Prior to joining Johns Hopkins, he served as assistant professor of cardiac surgery and director of the Ex-Vivo Heart Perfusion Program at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

Dr. Choi is well published and has served as principal investigator for a number of studies. He is a member of several professional organizations, including the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, the American Medical Association, and Association of American Medical Colleges.

We believe the addition of a physician leader with his experience and vision will help bring Virtua's cardiac service line to a new level of recognition and achievement. We are thrilled to have him become a part of our organization. Please join us in welcoming Dan to the Virtua family.

UPCOMING EVENT: Advances in Cancer Care – A Special Session for VMG & VIN PCPs **CME Opportunity Next Week, Nov. 9**

The Penn Medicine | Virtua Cancer Program will be hosting a program for VMG and VIN Primary Care Physicians on **Tuesday, Nov. 9 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** This is a virtual event and will feature presentations on medical oncology, surgical oncology (specifically thoracic surgery and neurosurgery), as well as radiation oncology with a special focus on proton therapy.

Accreditation Statement: This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Medical Society of New Jersey (MSNJ). Virtua designates this continuing medical education activity for a maximum of 1.0 *AMA PRA Category 1*

Credits™ but a simple [registration is required via this link](#) for the Microsoft Teams webinar. Fill out the form and you will immediately receive a confirmation email and an event link to start the program.

Disclosures: None of the planners or speakers for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, reselling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

Program Speakers include:

- Seth Berk, MD, Program Director, Penn Medicine | Virtua Cancer Program
- Matthew Puc, MD, Chief, Section of Thoracic Surgery, Virtua Health
- M. Sean Grady, MD, Physician Director, Neuroscience Service Line, Penn Medicine
- Catherine Kim, MD, Medical Director, Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Radiation Oncology
- James Metz, MD, Chair, Radiation Oncology, Penn Medicine

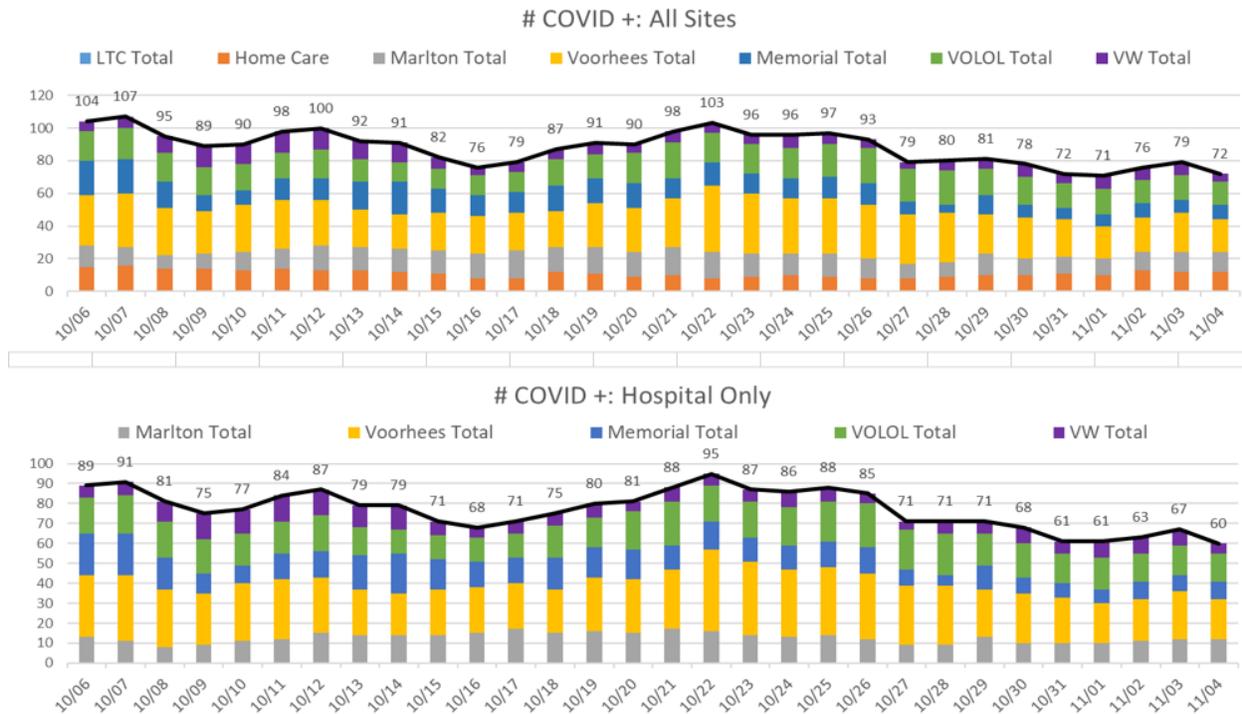
Primary care physicians should have received an email invitation with a link to register. If you have not received the invitation and have interest to attend, or have questions, email VirtuaClinician@virtua.org.

Reminder: Philadelphia Magazine Top Docs Nov. 8 Voting Deadline

If you know a colleague who you'd like to see included in the 2022 Top Doctors issue of *Philadelphia Magazine*, now's your chance to make that happen. Castle Connolly is a third-party entity that manages physician nominations and it is reaching out to all licensed MDs and DOs to submit nominations. Castle Connolly is the source for several "top docs" publications lists, including *Philadelphia Magazine*. Physicians who are vetted and selected as Castle Connolly Top Doctors will get listed on the Castle Connolly website, and may be eligible to appear in this special issue.

- This survey identifies top physicians, rated by their peers.
- **Physicians can vote any time of the year, but voting for the 2022 Top Docs issue of *Philadelphia Magazine* ends Nov. 8, 2021. NOTE: This is a change from an earlier reported deadline of Jan. 1.**
- Physicians wishing to nominate someone can register here: www.castleconnolly.com/nominations.
- Nominating physicians will need to use their personal NPI number, first and last name, email, hospital, specialty and zip code. Use Nomination code "2021." You will then receive a link to the nomination site via email.
- Voting is anonymous but access is granted after entering your information, including NPI number. After you submit, you will receive the nomination code to enter the site to vote. If you forget your NPI, it can be found [here](#).
- Self-nominations are not accepted.
- *Philadelphia Magazine's* Top Docs issue normally comes out in May.

COVID-19 Census



Latest COVID-19 Fast Facts

- At press time, the New Jersey rate of transmission data was still pending for today, but as of Nov. 3, the rate had climbed back up to 1.01.
- The total number of cases as of 3 p.m. are as follows:
 - Burlington County: 46,560 cases
 - Camden County: 59,318 cases
 - Gloucester County: 32,899 cases
- COVID-associated mortality for Camden, Burlington, and Gloucester counties: 2,882.
- The state’s Vaccination Overview dashboard reports 12,612,348 doses of vaccine have been administered.

Scheduling Now Open for Pediatric COVID-19 Clinic

Virtua Health’s will host COVID-19 vaccine clinics for the children and dependents of Virtua colleagues. This follows the endorsement by the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5 to 11; CDC Director Rochelle Walensky authorized the recommendation earlier this week.

Use the link below to schedule an appointment for your child/children ages 5 to 11 on one of the following days:

- Friday, Nov. 5**
- Saturday, Nov. 6**
- Friday, Nov. 12**

Please read the information below and then click this link to schedule an appointment:

<https://webapps.virtua.org/externalforms/covidvaccineforkids.aspx>

Because you are signing up for your child, not yourself, do NOT log in to MyChart. Please select "Continue as a Guest" instead. (Unless your child has his or her own MyChart account.) When filling out patient information, please provide the name, date of birth, and other demographic information of your child, not your own.

Important details to remember:

- The clinic will take place at the Barry D. Brown Health Education Center (HEC) at 106 Carnie Boulevard in Voorhees. **Only first doses will be administered at this location.** Parents and children will go to the new, forthcoming mega-site in Mount Laurel to receive second doses.
- Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, children who receive the vaccine at the HEC on **Nov. 5 or 6** will be scheduled for a second dose the week of **Nov. 29**.
- Parents/guardians are asked to bring documentation that lists the minor's date of birth. The parent/guardian must also be present at the appointment; grandparents, older siblings, babysitters, and so forth are NOT acceptable alternatives.

The HEC clinic operates by appointment only. If there are no available appointments, please do NOT contact the Virtua Access Center. We will share additional vaccination opportunities in future communications. The new mega-site in Mount Laurel will soon have ample appointment availability. For something more immediate, consult the State of New Jersey's vaccine locator: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/finder>.

New Mega-Site Coming to Mount Laurel

To meet the anticipated expansion of COVID-19 vaccine eligibility, the State of New Jersey will open a new vaccine mega-site later this month in partnership with Burlington County, the New Jersey National Guard, and Virtua Health.

The facility will be located in the East Gate Shopping Center off Nixon Road in Mount Laurel, situated between a Home Depot and Party City.

The clinic will provide COVID-19 vaccines to:

- Adults who are not yet vaccinated
- Adults who are eligible for a vaccine booster
- Children, ages 5 to 11

As with the original mega-site in Moorestown, the Virtua website will host online appointment scheduling. We will share further details about this new, convenient vaccine clinic when they become available.

Honoring Our Nurse Practitioners

[National Nurse Practitioner Week will be held Nov. 7 to 13](#), a week set aside to celebrate these exceptional clinicians and the professionalism they provide to patients. At Virtua, there are hundreds of

NPs serving throughout the organization, including primary care providers in practices throughout Virtua Medical Group.

“It is my honor to salute these talented professionals who make such a positive impact in the lives of patients every day,” says Catherine Hughes, MSN, MHA, RN, NEA-BC, senior vice president and chief nursing officer of Virtua Health. “A big thank you to our Nurse Practitioners for your dedication, commitment and support of our patients!”

Tuesday, Nov. 9: VirtuAsia: Unity in Diversity

Join President and CEO Dennis W. Pullin along with members of VirtuAsia on **Tuesday, Nov. 9** at 5 p.m. “VirtuAsia: Unity in Diversity” will include interactive discussions about Asian American and Pacific Islander cultures and their many contributions to our communities.

Join by registering [here](#) or visit the Virtua Learning System and search for “VirtuAsia.”

Thursday, Nov. 11: The Power of WE

Join the Black & African American Colleague Community and the Women of Virtua for their first collaborative community event on **Thursday, Nov. 11** at 5 p.m. “The Power of WE” will feature Judge Victoria Pratt, whose personal story demonstrates her passion for people and respect and inclusion for all.

Join by registering [here](#) or visit the Virtua Learning System. Learn more about Judge Pratt’s message and journey in this [Ted Talk](#).

Learn more about the Black and African American Colleague Community by viewing its video [here](#) and the Women of Virtua by viewing its video [here](#).

We encourage you to stay tuned for more events and programs in 2022.

Together, WE Make a Difference!

Give for Good, Virtua Health’s colleague giving campaign, invites every colleague to make a philanthropic investment in the Virtua program or service that is most meaningful to them.

We are so grateful to the more than 400 colleagues who have already participated. Thank you!

If you are still considering your personal participation, know that your gift has a lasting impact. You can make your gift today through payroll deduction, and you can even donate PTO!

Together, our gifts make a tremendous difference for our patients, each other, and the community we serve.

To learn more and make your gift: click the “Give for Good” button on the VINE or visit GiveToVirtua.org/Colleagues.

Did you know? At Virtua, 100% of your gift goes directly to support the program or service you designate.

Questions are welcome. Please call the Office of Philanthropy at 856-355-0830 or email gratitude@virtua.org.

Get Ready for Some Great “Girl Talk!”

We hope you enjoyed Virtua Health’s *Real Talk! Women’s Health Chats* in the past, and we invite you to join us for our upcoming session:

Listen to Your Gut: Navigating through your Digestive Health Thursday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m.

Bloating. Constipation. IBS. Frequent gurgles. These symptoms, and many others, tend to affect women more often, and we’re here to get to the bottom of it. Join two of Virtua's own, gastroenterologist Dr. Theresa DiSandro and dietitian Christy Davidson, as we talk about improving our digestive health. We'll discuss dietary changes, important screenings, and when it's time to see a specialist. Our experts will share tips to keep your digestive system running smoothly.

This Real Talk! Women’s Health Chat is free. Registration is required to receive the event link to the live online webinar. Don’t forget to bring your questions!

[Register today](#) to join the conversation!

Smoking Cessation Education and Support

Virtua is offering a two-session educational support group for participants to learn about the tobacco addiction process and get tools and support to help them to quit smoking, including free nicotine patches, lozenges, and acupuncture.

Topics will include addiction, stress management, and how to develop a personal plan to quit smoking using resources and support.

This is a free program run by trained tobacco specialists, but registration is required.

Dates: Mondays, Nov. 8 and 15

Time: 5 to 6:30 p.m.

[Register Now](#)