

Clinician Update

October 13, 2022

Proton Therapy Center Holds Festive Preview

A special event on Tuesday celebrated the forthcoming [Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Proton Therapy Center](#)—the first of its kind in South Jersey, and among fewer than 50 worldwide. The state-of-the-art facility on the Virtua Voorhees campus is nearly complete, with an expected opening in early 2023. Virtua colleagues and guests attended the event, which included behind-the-scenes tours of the massive machinery and heartfelt remarks from a local cancer survivor. Leaders of Penn Medicine and Virtua thanked the hundreds of staff who made the center a reality. As a grand finale, a colorful lighting ceremony illuminated the two-story building.

Voorhees resident Deb Harris—who received life-saving treatment for a brain tumor in 2017 at Penn Medicine’s Roberts Proton Therapy Center in Philadelphia—is thrilled to have the new facility in her own community.

“It brings me joy to know that, starting very soon, my South Jersey neighbors will have an easier, more accessible option should they need similar care,” said Harris, who has been cancer-free for five years. “When you’re facing cancer, anything that makes life easier and simpler is a blessing.”

Read more in the [Philadelphia Business Journal](#) and the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#).

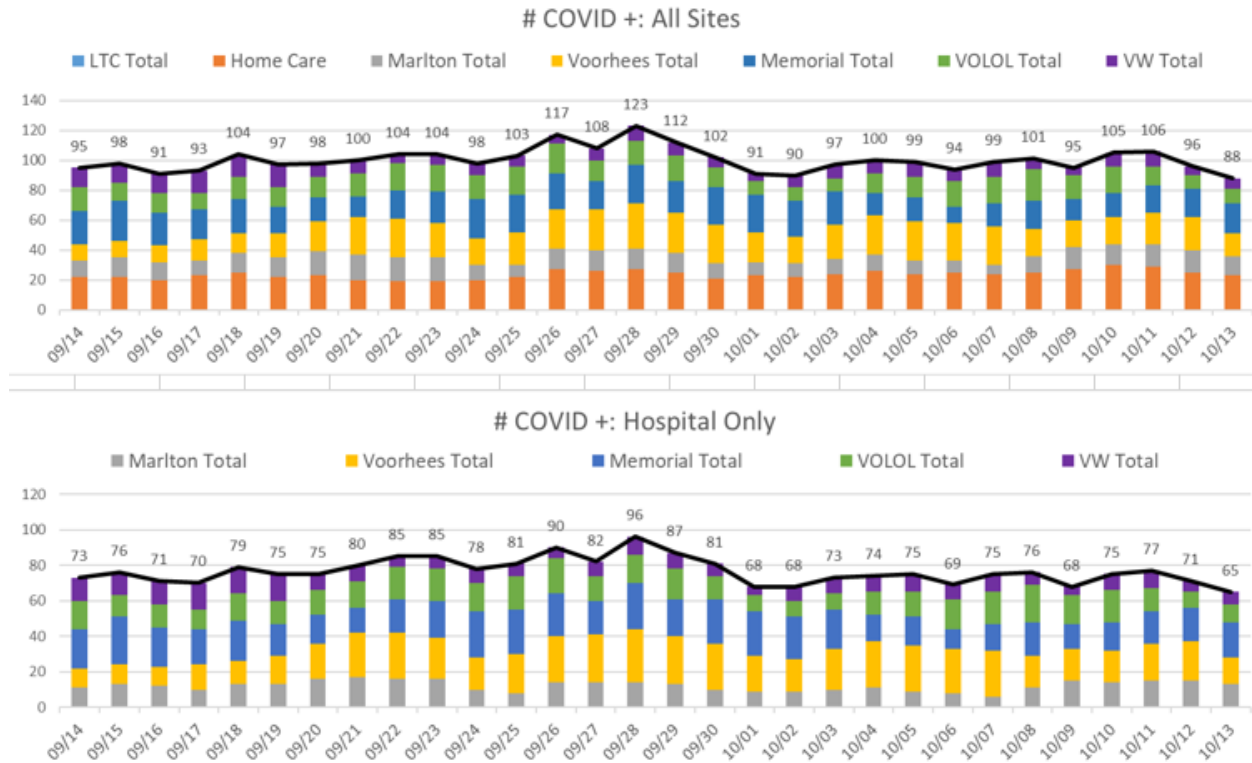
Kindness Magnified

Acts of kindness can change lives—and save lives! We invite you to check out this month’s Wow-WE video, which features a miraculous story about a Mays Landing resident receiving a new kidney from a woman from Texas, colleagues raising funds to support the people of Ukraine, and the opening of Eat Well Colleague Markets across the system.

Additionally, see colleagues out and about at the Virtua Nurse Day celebration, cleaning up a Camden neighborhood, jogging together at Run with the Docs 5K, and more in this [video](#).

Thank you, colleagues, for magnifying kindness!

COVID-19 Census



Latest COVID-19 Fast Facts

- The rate of transmission in New Jersey is currently 0.91.
- The total number of cases reported as of 3 p.m. today:
 - Atlantic County 65,879 cases
 - Burlington County: 104,725 cases
 - Camden County: 126,964 cases
 - Gloucester County: 64,962 cases
- COVID-associated mortality for Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, and Atlantic counties: 4,890.
- The state’s Vaccination Overview dashboard reported 19,085,643 doses of vaccine have been administered.

Monkeypox Stats

The total number of monkeypox cases in New Jersey reported as of today: **729**.

Save the Dates: 2022 Medical Staff Annual Meeting

In keeping with the Bylaws for Virtua’s Medical Staffs, we will be holding annual meetings this month. The bylaws call for the full medical staff to meet at least once during the year, with the “annual meeting” to be held in October. The meetings will provide a look back, as well as a preview for what is ahead. Keep watch of your emails for your invitation and information on the agenda of the meeting.

Here are the dates of the two events:

- **Tuesday, Oct. 18**, at 5 p.m. – Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes and Virtua Willingboro Hospitals' Annual Medical Staff Meeting will take place virtually via Microsoft Teams.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 26**, at 5:30 p.m. – Virtua West Jersey and Virtua Memorial Hospitals (Virtua Voorhees, Marlton, and Mount Holly) Medical Staff Meeting will take place at the Barry D. Brown Health Education Center (HEC) in Voorhees.

Virtua Docs in the News

- **Discussing Structural Heart Disease** — Ibrahim Moussa, DO, FACC, FSCAI, was the featured guest on a recent edition of [Inside Medicine](#) on WWDB-AM Talk 860. Dr. Moussa is the medical director of the Structural Heart Disease Program and specializes in minimally invasive procedures for heart and peripheral vascular disease, including complex and high risk coronary interventions. In this interview, the interventional cardiologist delves into structural heart disease, invasive cardiology, aortic stenosis, and much more. The host of the program, Dr. Joseph J. Fallon, is the chief of endocrinology at Rowan University – School of Osteopathic Medicine. To hear the program, [click here](#).
- **Play Contact Sports? Heed Virtua Doctor's Concussion Safety Tips** — When Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa suffered a concussion in a recent game, Virtua sports medicine expert Eric Requa, MD, spoke out about the dangers of this common type of head injury. The former team physician for the Philadelphia Soul arena football team offered his advice for staying safe when a concussion is suspected. *Read in [CNB News](#).*
- **Run with the Docs 5K Raises Record Amount for Families** — This was the most successful year yet for Virtua's annual Run with the Docs event. The 5K race and one-mile walk recently raised almost \$90,000 for Virtua's Perinatal Bereavement and Palliative Care Program, which provides support and care to families experiencing pregnancy or infant loss. *Read in [Patch](#).*

Annual Mandatory Conflict of Interest Disclosure Available on Virtua Works

Virtua Health colleagues who are supervisor level and above, and all employed health care providers (physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants), are required to complete the annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Attestation by **Monday, Oct. 31**. Conflict of interest is any relationship which is (or appears to be) not in the best interest of Virtua Health and those we serve. This would include any personal business or financial benefit received from any decision or action taken for Virtua Health. Please click [here](#) for the Conflict of Interest policy.

The Conflict of Interest Disclosure Attestation will be available on the home page of Virtua Works beginning **Monday, Oct. 3**. Please click on the Compliance announcement in Virtua Works. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ryan Peoples, compliance manager (856-355-0729) or Raquel Ravelo, corporate compliance auditor, (856-355-0739).

Upcoming Events

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Oct. 16, 8:30 a.m. (walk begins at 9:45 a.m.)

Feel free to join us at Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. The Greater Philadelphia & Southern NJ Walk will take place at Cooper River Park in Pennsauken. The Penn Medicine | Virtua Health Cancer Program is proud to sponsor the American Cancer Society in support of our shared efforts in combatting cancer. At this event, Virtua will host the Survivor Tent and provide Virtua fanny packs and pedometers

for participants. This 3.1-mile walk will take place rain or shine, so please dress accordingly. We cannot wait to see you in your pink gear! For more information, visit MakingStridesWalk.org/GPSNJ.

Virtual COVID-19 Emotional Support Group

Oct. 17, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

COVID-19 can be challenging, both physically and emotionally. If you know someone who is facing ongoing physical and emotional challenges caused by COVID-19, tell them to join Virtua's COVID-19 support group. Peer-led and supported by Virtua social workers, this group offers a safe, compassionate place to share, connect, and have meaningful conversations about your journey. Individuals with "long COVID" are welcome. Click to [view the flyer](#).

Neuroscience Summit

Oct. 20, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Registered nurses, physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, and other inter-professionals are invited to the Neuroscience Summit. This program has been awarded 3.75 Nursing Contact Hours. Click to [view the flyer](#).

Heart Walk Update

The American Heart Association Heart Walk is just over a week away! Virtua is the lead sponsor for the Heart Walk and our very own Dr. Reg Blaber is serving as the chair of the event. In addition to the walk, attendees can learn the lifesaving skill of hands-only CPR, and kids can enjoy coloring and temporary tattoos at the Kid's Zone.

When you [sign up](#), be sure to join one of Virtua's teams and receive a free tee on the day of the event at the Virtua tent. Remember, you can join an existing team or start your own.

When: Saturday, **Oct. 22**, check in at 8:30 a.m. and start walking at 10 a.m.

Where: Riverwinds Community Center, 1000 Riverwinds Drive, West Deptford

Note: Virtua colleagues, family members, friends, and neighbors are welcome to walk as part of our Virtua Health group—be sure to invite one and all!

Fall Education Programming

Electroconvulsive Therapy Today

Nov. 9, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Psychiatric care providers, psychiatrists, APNs, and interprofessional team members are invited to attend. The event will feature speaker Dr. John Case, VP of clinical operations for behavioral health. Virtua Health designates this continuing medical education activity for a maximum of 1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. Click to [view the flyer](#).

Advances in Liver Disease

Nov. 19, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Virtua Health designates this continuing medical education activity for a maximum of 4.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. Speakers include Drs. Santiago Munoz, Simona Rossi, Ashraf Malek, Nyan Latt, Hisham ElGenaidi, and Ann Thompson. There is no fee for this CME for Virtua colleagues. Please register through the Virtua Learning System and search the key words: *Advances in Liver Disease*. Click to [view the flyer](#).

Technology Enabled Care Virtual Conference: Maximizing the Technology Toolkit

Nov. 5, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This free conference is open to all Virtua employees and medical staff. It is geared toward clinicians, providers, allied health roles, IT professionals, and leaders across the organization. The conference's focus is to showcase how technology enabled care has transformed clinical settings across the health care industry. This conference offers two concurrent tracks, Technology and Clinical. Agenda items include Voice-Enabled Technology, Epic's Clinical Pathways, and Cybersecurity. Click to [view the flyer](#).

By Nov. 1: Flu Vaccinations

To date, **5,916** colleagues have received their flu vaccinations. We thank you for your participation in Virtua's mandatory Flu Vaccination Program.

All colleagues should receive their flu shots by 11:59 p.m. on **Tuesday, Nov. 1**. Click on the [Colleague Flu Information button](#) on the VINE to view the following:

- [Colleague flu vaccination schedule](#) at Virtua locations to get their flu shot.
- [Quick reference guide](#) to submit proof of vaccination on Virtua Works if colleagues receive the flu shot at a non-Virtua location (such as a CVS or a VMG primary care practice).
- Reference materials.

Additionally, we encourage you to view [frequently asked questions and answers about flu vaccinations](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and this [flyer](#). Questions are welcome. Email flu@virtua.org or call 856-761-3900, option 2.

Global Diversity Awareness Month Celebrations—Week 2

In October, we observe and celebrate Global Diversity Awareness Month by highlighting, honoring, and learning more about the diverse customs, cultures, and experiences that make up our communities and workforce.

Celebrating Coming Out Day!

Over the past few weeks, several members of the **OUT at Virtua** colleague community have shared personal stories about the coming out experience. Some people referenced the difficulty of having unfamiliar conversations with those they love, not knowing what the response would be. Others described the incredible feeling of relief that came with being honest about their identity.

There were plenty of similarities (laughter, tears, hugs), and yet each person's story was uniquely their own. This National Coming Out Day, which took place on Oct. 11, we applaud those within our workforce who live out and proud, and we send encouragement and support to those who are still discovering their identity and finding their voice. If you would like to receive emails about OUT at Virtua activities and events, please email OUT@virtua.org.

Learn more about Virtua's Colleague Communities!

Meet some of our members and learn why these groups are so important to Virtua and our community. Information sessions will be hosted from noon to 1 p.m.:

Monday, Oct. 17 –Virtua Marlton Hospital

Tuesday, Oct. 18 – Virtua Mount Holly Hospital

Wednesday, Oct. 19 – Virtua Willingboro Hospital

Thursday, Oct. 20 – Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital

Friday, Oct. 21 – Virtua Voorhees Hospital

Thursday, Oct. 27 – Virtua Health & Wellness Center – Camden

You're Invited!

- **Oct. 25, 5 to 6:30 p.m.:** Join the Black and African American Colleague Community and VirtuAsia for “Just How Do You Include Self-Care in Health Care?” Clinical psychologist Dr. Erika Dawkins, discusses compassion fatigue and shares practices and strategies for prioritizing self-care in health care. [Click to register.](#)
- **Oct 27, 4 to 5 p.m.:** All are welcome to attend the session “Becoming an Inclusive Leader.” Inclusive leaders do more than promote team diversity. They have the capacity to manage through uncertainty and enable everyone to bring their talent and authentic selves to fulfill the goals of the organization they serve. [Click to register.](#)

National Medical Librarians Month

When it comes to finding credible health information quickly and efficiently, there are no better partners than medical librarians. They offer access to quality literature and evidence-based data to improve research efforts and patient outcomes. We extend our appreciation to medical librarian Helen-Ann Epstein at Virtua Marlton, Virtua Mount Holly, and Virtua Voorhees, as well as manager of library services Sophia Kim at Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Lourdes School of Nursing, and Virtua Willingboro.