



## **COVID-19 Clinician Update** **Thursday, May 28, 2020**

**Elective Surgery Resumed Tuesday, May 26**



In accordance with guidelines from the Department of Health, Virtua Health has resumed prior postponed surgeries, procedures, and tests, effective May 26.

To help prepare the community, an email was sent to existing and former patients highlighting the aggressive steps we are taking to reduce risk and ensure a safe environment for everyone. [Click here](#) to see how we are keeping people safe.

As part of our reminder not to delay care, our emergency room medical directors, Drs. Craig Turner, Darren Menditto, Scott Dickson, Michael Filart, Alfred Sacchetti, Charles Nolte and Alan Shubert provided a [video message](#) around seeking care for urgent and life-threatening issues. This was included in the patient email and is being shared widely through various social and media outlets.

We continue to update [our website](#) with details for patients, including how to reschedule an appointment and what to expect at our facilities.

## **Important Reminder About Disposable Stethoscopes**

We are running critically low on disposable stethoscopes and therefore we need to continue to conserve them as we have done throughout this pandemic. We're asking all clinicians to please keep disposable stethoscopes at bedside and clean them after use with a PDI wipe. Upon patient discharge, EVS will include stethoscopes in the terminal clean process. Thank you!

## **Local COVID-19 Testing Site Update**

As test availability has expanded in Burlington, Camden and Gloucester Counties, we continue to update the list of available locations for testing. (View current version at [Digital 411](#) under Testing).

All patients scheduled for a procedure/surgery at Virtua must be tested exactly 3 days prior to their procedure.

Virtua currently offers testing at two sites without an appointment – in Camden and Willingboro. Patients can walk up to be screened for testing at either of these sites. Testing at Virtua's site in Voorhees requires a physician referral. Patients must come alone for testing.

The list posted in [Digital 411](#) includes a wide range of sites, including those sponsored by other health systems in our region.

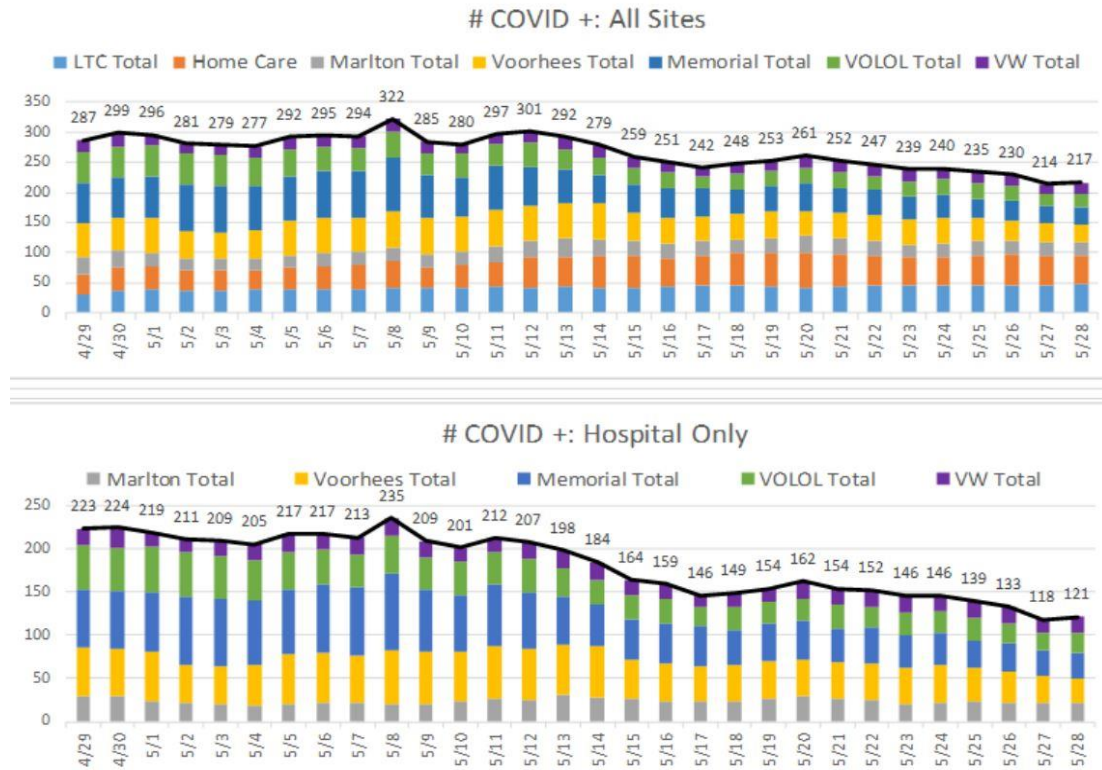
## **VPP/LHSHN Webinar #13 This Evening, May 28 at 6 p.m.**

Please join us tonight at 6 p.m. for the latest update on COVID-19. All VirtuaPhysicianPartners and LHS Health Network Clinically Integrated Physicians, Advanced Practitioners, and Staff are welcome to attend. This will be webinar #13. VirtuaPhysicianPartners' offices are required to attend a certain number of meetings yearly. This meeting counts toward that requirement if you email [awent@virtua.org](mailto:awent@virtua.org): please include the Webinar number (#13) and your practice name in your email. Thank you.

[Join Skype Meeting](#) or phone: [+1-856-762-2962](tel:+1-856-762-2962); Conference ID: 20150

## **By The Numbers**

The following charts reflect the latest figures for Virtua-site cases of COVID-19.



COVID+ graphs now display most recent 30 days, rather than trending back to first patient in March.

Locally, in the tri-county area, there have been a total of 738 deaths, as of 1 p.m. on May 28. The total number of cases are as follows:

- Burlington County 4,476
- Camden County 6,292
- Gloucester County 2,165

## Reminder – Download My-EOP App for COVID-19 Readiness at Your Fingertips

To see how to download and use the My-EOP mobile app, please watch this [video](#) from Paul Sarnese, assistant vice president of Safety, Security and Emergency Management. Access Virtua’s response information, emergency contacts, incident specific action plans, and incident command system directives on your mobile device. It only takes a moment to download the My-EOP mobile app to have this important, easy-

to-access emergency information at your fingertips. Please download the app as soon as possible and routinely check in on it, as it is yet another tool in our readiness arsenal.

## COVID-Positive Remote Patient Monitoring Program

*A reminder for pulmonologists, hospitalists, infectious disease and primary care clinicians:*

The COVID-Positive Remote Patient Monitoring Program will start at Virtua Memorial on Monday, June 1. The program will be rapidly phased into all hospitals going forward, so we invite all *pulmonologists, hospitalists, infectious disease and primary care clinicians* become familiar with the program. Please see program summary on [Digital 411 under Coronavirus Provider Recommendations](#).

## News from NJHA

### Child Vaccination Rate Decreases

- Throughout New Jersey, vaccination rates have declined roughly 40 percent for children under age 2 and by 60 percent for older children, due to parents delaying office visits.

### Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome

- The Department of Health has confirmed 23 cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) in New Jersey. Symptoms include fever, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, red or pink eyes, red cracked lips or red tongue, swollen hands and feet that may also be red, sluggishness or irritability, abdominal pain and an enlarged lymph node on one side of the neck. DOH has provided parent fact sheets in English and Spanish. Early recognition of symptoms is essential.

## Virtua Health Awarded Grant Funding for Coronavirus Response

As a system-wide resource in the Office of Philanthropy, our grant writers work with clinicians, administrators, and senior leadership in identifying, developing, and writing competitive grant proposals that further the mission and strategic priorities of Virtua.

Since early March, Virtua Health has been awarded nearly \$200,000 for several grants in support of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding helps us provide healthy food to vulnerable communities, engage in innovation to help treat patients with COVID-19, and deploy technology to care for patients. Recent philanthropic support has come from: The Philadelphia Foundation, TD Charitable Foundation, Columbia Bank Foundation, 25<sup>th</sup> Century Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation, Richard C. Von Hess Foundation.

If you are interested in seeking grant funding for a program or service at Virtua, please contact the Grants team at [vhf@virtua.org](mailto:vhf@virtua.org).

### Hear from our Voice of Virtua — Christine Carlsen

Human Resources business partner Christine Carlsen talks about the power of communication, listening, emotion, and kindness in helping colleagues during difficult times. Click [here](#) to view the video or cut and paste the following link:

<https://bcove.video/2LSBtLH>

### Taking Control of Stress and Anxiety

During this 2020 mental health month, the reminders to take care of ourselves during stressful times are more relevant than ever. COVID-19 has upended many regular routines and increased decision-making stress. To reduce stress,

try adopting new, temporary routines to reduce decision fatigue. And take time to recognize your efforts and those of your colleagues.

As always, Carebridge is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for individual consultations. Call [800-437-0911](tel:800-437-0911) or participate in [Virtual Stress Check-in Support Groups](#).

For additional wellness resources and support options, click [here](#).

## Resources for Patients

*RealTalk! Women's Health Chats: Here for Women in Our Community*

If you have patients who could benefit from free online sessions on women's health topics, please share the link to register <https://go.virtua.org/RealTalk>.

Next topic:

*Can a Powerful Pelvic Floor Change Your Life? Madge the Vag Gets Answers*

Urogynecologist Dr. Sage Claydon; pelvic floor physical therapist Michelle Peshick, comedienne host Julie Kottakis (aka Madge the Vag).

Thursday, June 4, 7 – 8 p.m.



Virtua Health  
303 Lippincott Drive, Marlton NJ 08053