

FYI Weekly

HEALTH CARE NEWS FOR VIRGINIA'S HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS

You are receiving this e-mail from VHHA because you requested a subscription. Questions and content submissions may be sent to jtwalker@vhha.com.

FEATURED CONTENT

[VHHA in Action](#)

[News Updates](#)

- [U.S. House of Representatives Approves Six-Month Budget Plan as Potential Shutdown Looms](#)
- [VDH Office of Vital Records Streamlines Newborn Birth Certificate Request Process](#)
- [VDH Confirms Measles Case in Northern Virginia, CDC Monitoring U.S. Outbreak](#)
- [Virginia Infection Prevention Training Center Shares Free On-Demand Courses](#)
- [VDH Seeks Survey Responses to Improve Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Awareness](#)

[Events](#)

- [VDH, VCU Health, MAATEC to Host March 18 Webinar on Congenital Syphilis Trends](#)
- [ChartSpan to Host March 19 Webinar on the End of Billing Code G0511](#)
- [VCCRN, VHHA to Host Biotech Networking Event March 27 in Richmond](#)
- [VACEP to Host March 14 Webinar on 'Navigating ECOs and TDOs in Virginia'](#)
- [High-Consequence Infectious Disease Control and Prevention Webinar Set for March 27](#)

[Podcast](#)

- [VHHA Patients Come First Podcast Features HCA Virginia Neurosurgeon, Non-Invasive Brain Tumor Care](#)

[Around the State](#)

VHHA in Action

Each day, VHHA actively works on behalf of its members, their employees, and Virginians to advance the interests of Virginia's hospitals and health care systems. In the past week, here are some developments of interest to Virginia hospitals and health systems:

Registration Now Open for VHHA Emergency Preparedness Summit on April 16

- Registration is now open for the **2025 Virginia Healthcare Emergency Preparedness Summit** being hosted by VHHA and the **VHHA Foundation** on April 16 at The Westin-Richmond.

“Today’s Challenges, Tomorrow’s Impact” is the theme for this in-person event, during which participants can engage with speakers, sponsors, and support organizations from across the Virginia health care community about opportunities to strengthen the Commonwealth’s preparedness for threats to the health care delivery system including severe weather, active aggressor incidents, crisis standards of care, and special pathogens response. Participants will have an opportunity to earn EMT continuing education credits and up to five ACHE qualifying education hours toward initial certification or recertification of the **Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives** (FACHE) designation. Visit this [link](#) to register.

VHHA Hosts Meeting of Board of Directors’ Executive Committee

- The **Executive Committee** of the **VHHA Board of Directors** met this week for a discussion of issues of interest and importance to hospitals and health systems, including state legislative and federal policy issues.

VHHA Hosts Workforce Steering Committee Meeting

- This week, VHHA held a meeting of the **Workforce Steering Committee** that focuses on health care workforce development, recruiting, and retention strategies. Topics covered during the meeting included a presentation on employer engagement opportunities from **Virginia Works**, an Earn While You Learn program update, a summary of workforce development legislative successes from the 2025 **Virginia General Assembly** session, and more. Contact **Sharon Alexander** at salexander@vhha.com for more information about the Committee.

VHHA in the News

- VHHA actively engages with the news media to share public messaging and coordinate member media appearances to showcase the important work done by Virginia hospitals. That work is reflected in recent coverage from the [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#), the [Waynesboro News-Virginian](#), and [WVEC](#).

News Updates

U.S. House of Representatives Approves Six-Month Budget Plan as Potential Shutdown Looms

This week, the Republican-led **U.S. House of Representatives** approved a [continuing resolution](#) to fund the federal government through Sept. 30 and potentially avert a partial government shutdown when currently approved federal funding ends on Friday, March 14. The House-backed measure includes several health-related funding provisions. Through September, the House plan would cancel Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) hospital funding cuts, extend the Medicare Rural Extenders enhanced low-volume adjustment program and the Medicare-dependent hospital program, extend Medicare telehealth waivers and the hospital-at-home program, extend the work geographic practice cost index, and extend add-on payments to support rural, super-rural, and urban ambulance services. Avoiding a shutdown requires the **U.S. Senate** to approve the resolution with at least 60 votes in the chamber.

VDH Office of Vital Records Streamlines Newborn Birth Certificate Request Process

The **Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Office of Vital Records (OVR)** has [streamlined the newborn birth certificate request process so it can be done entirely online](#). Parents of newborn babies in Virginia can request copies of a baby's birth certificates from the comfort of a hospital room or home by notifying the birth hospital of an intent to request copies. Payments can be made through a secure link provided by OVR. Prior to this change, parents completed paper forms in the hospital and paid by check or money order. Hospitals then forwarded the signed forms and payment to OVR. For more information, call (804) 662-6200, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or visit this [link](#).

VDH Confirms Measles Case in Northern Virginia, CDC Monitoring U.S. Outbreak

The **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)** [recently shared](#) that a confirmed case of measles was identified in a passenger returning from international travel at Washington Dulles International Airport. That individual joins a growing list of people across multiple states that have been confirmed positive for measles, a viral condition spread by respiratory means – sneezing or coughing by infected individuals. Symptoms may include fever and a rash that starts on the face at the hairline and spreads to the neck, torso, arms, legs, and feet. A cough, runny nose, or red, itchy eyes might also be present. Symptoms usually begin 7-14 days after exposure but can appear up to 21 days after exposure. Measles is a serious illness that can cause complications that lead to hospitalization and even death. **Virginia State Health Commissioner Dr. Karen Shelton** also shared measles updates and provider recommendations in a recent [letter](#) to clinicians. The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** is monitoring [an outbreak of measles cases](#), which number 222 across 12 jurisdictions – Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York City, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, and Washington – according to a recent count. The CDC has [issued a Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Advisory](#) regarding outbreaks in New Mexico and Texas, which recently [reported](#) a child death that has been attributed to measles. The CDC has identified three outbreaks (defined as three or more related cases) reported in 2025, and 93 percent of cases (207 of 222) are outbreak-associated. For comparison, 16 outbreaks were reported during 2024, and 69 percent of cases (198 of 285) were outbreak-associated. In addition to U.S. outbreaks, the [CDC notes](#) global outbreaks are also occurring.

Virginia Infection Prevention Training Center Shares Free On-Demand Courses

The **Virginia Infection Prevention Training Center (VIPTC)** has released its latest round of free on-demand courses. The newest mini course features five modules on infection prevention and control for dialysis settings and an additional bonus course focused on antibiotic stewardship in hemodialysis facilities. VIPTC courses specifically designed for long-term care settings include four modules: Infection Prevention and Control Strategies in Long-Term Care Parts 1 & 2, Isolation and Enhanced Barrier Precautions in Long-Term Care, and Antimicrobial Stewardship for Long-Term Care Settings. Visit this [link](#) to access courses.

VDH Seeks Survey Responses to Improve Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Awareness

The **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)** is seeking survey responses to improve public health reporting and surveillance of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), which is a condition that affects newborns exposed to opioids or addictive substances in the womb, causing them to experience withdrawal symptoms during their first few days of life. By participating in this brief survey, clinicians will help identify key areas where additional support or resources are needed. This survey will provide valuable insights into the challenges and barriers faced when reporting NAS cases, helping VDH develop better

educational tools to support health care providers across the state. All responses will be used for VDH's evaluation efforts and any data shared will be reported in aggregate to ensure privacy. Survey questions may be sent to **Julie Keeney**, CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellow, at juliana.keeney@vdh.virginia.gov or **Dr. Dane De Silva**, Director of the Division of Population Health Data, at dane.desilva@vdh.virginia.gov. The survey is available through March 28. Access the survey through this [link](#).

Events

VDH, VCU Health, MAATEC to Host March 18 Webinar on Congenital Syphilis Trends

With documented congenital syphilis rates elevated in Virginia and nationwide, the **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)** is partnering with **VCU Health** and the **MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center (MAAETC)** to hold a March 18 (noon-1 p.m.) lunch-and-learn webinar. As part of an MAAETC clinical series, the webinar will cover congenital syphilis trends and the important role providers play in prevention. Register for the webinar [here](#) to learn about best practices, prevention activities, and testing and treatment guidelines. Attendees may earn up to one hour of continuing education (CE) credits in medicine, nursing, or social work.

ChartSpan to Host March 19 Webinar on the End of Billing Code G0511

[ChartSpan](#), a [VHHA Solutions](#) endorsed partner, will host a webinar on March 19 at 1 p.m. to discuss strategies for protecting care management programs and continuing to serve patients after the July 1 end of code G0511. The webinar will assist participants on how to decide between billing codes 99490 and 99439 for Chronic Care Management (CCM) and switching to Advanced Primary Care Management (APCM), as well as ask questions about how the end of G0511 could impact revenue, how CCM and APCM differ, and the new services APCM requires. Register for the webinar [here](#).

VCCRN, VHHA to Host Biotech Networking Event March 27 in Richmond

The **Virginia Coordinated Clinical Research Network (VCCRN)** and VHHA are hosting a "Biotech and Beer" networking event from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on March 27 at VHHA offices in Glen Allen, VA. The event is presented in collaboration with the **VCU Office of the Vice President and Research and Innovation**, **Virginia Bio**, and **Activation Capital**. Register to participate [here](#).

VACEP to Host March 14 Webinar on 'Navigating ECOs and TDOs in Virginia'

The **Virginia College of Emergency Physicians (VACEP)** is hosting a free webinar today (Friday, March 14) at noon to help enhance understanding of legal and practical considerations related to emergency custody orders (ECO) and temporary detention orders (TDO). The session will be led by **Dr. Joran Sequeira**, VACEP President-Elect and **Bon Secours Southside Regional Medical Center** Medical Director, and feature **Jonathan E. Green**, Director of the Department of Magistrate Services at the **Supreme Court of Virginia**. Register for the webinar [here](#).

High-Consequence Infectious Disease Control and Prevention Webinar Set for March 27

The **Emory University Serious Communicable Diseases Program (SCDP)** is hosting a [webinar](#) on March 27 at 11 a.m. on infection prevention and control for high-consequence diseases. The webinar series

provides training to medical professionals responding to special pathogens and other infectious diseases. Register [here](#).

Podcast

VHHA *Patients Come First* Podcast Features HCA Virginia Neurosurgeon, Non-Invasive Brain Tumor Care

This episode of VHHA's *Patients Come First* podcast features **Dr. K. Singh Sahni**, Medical Director of the Neuroscience and the Gamma Knife Center at **Johnston-Willis Hospital**, an **HCA Virginia** facility. Dr. Sahni is a repeat guest who joins us for a conversation about his work, a recent Gamma Knife surgery milestone, and more. Listen to the episode [here](#) and hear past episodes through this [link](#). Podcast episodes are also available through these podcast apps and networks: [Apple Podcast](#), [Amazon Music](#), [Spotify](#), [Pandora](#), [Stitcher](#), [TuneIn](#), [SoundCloud](#), [Blubrry](#), [iHeart Radio](#), [Deezer](#), [Podbay](#), [Overcast](#), [Pocket Casts](#), the [Virginia Audio Collective](#), the [Public Health Podcast Network](#), the [World Podcast Network](#), and the [Family Podcast Network](#). The podcast can also be heard on the radio airwaves – episodes air each Sunday at noon on 100.5 FM, 107.7 FM, 92.7 FM, and 820 AM across Central Virginia and 1650 AM in Hampton Roads, 105.1 FM and 1050 AM in Lynchburg, and Wednesdays at 1 p.m. on 93.9 FM in Richmond. Send questions, comments, feedback, or guest suggestions to pcfpodcast@vhha.com.



Around the State

Augusta Health has named **Leigh Williams**, MHIIM, FHIMSS, FACHDM, CHCIO, as its Vice President and Chief Information Officer (CIO). Williams joined Augusta Health in 2021 and most recently served as Assistant Chief Information Officer. She has held key roles at **UVA Health** and the University of Mississippi Medical Center and serves as an Ambassador for the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes' Foundation. Read more [here](#).



Dr. David B. Reid of **Augusta Health** has been appointed as Editor-in-Chief of the **American Journal of Clinical Hypnosis**. Dr. Reid is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Fellow, and Approved Consultant of the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis. He is an award-winning author of *Hypnosis for Behavioral Health: Professionals Guide for Expanding Your Practice*, and he has published several articles and book chapters on clinical hypnosis.

Sam Gilkeson, Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer at **VHC Health**; **Chernelle N. Hill**, Vice President of Operations at **Sentara Obici Hospital**; **Christopher P. Pierson**, Chief Operating Officer at

Sentara Norfolk General Hospital; **Ross William Snare IV**, Associate Chief of External Affairs for **UVA Health**; and **Andrew (Andy) Spicknall**, President of **Bon Secours Harbour View Hospital**; have been recognized by *Virginia Business* on its inaugural [Forty Under 40 list](#) of exceptional young professionals.

Dr. J. Stephen Jones, President and CEO of **Inova**, and **Dennis Matheis** President and CEO of **Sentara Health**, have been named to the *Virginia Business* 2025 Leadership: The Virginia Power 50 List. See more [here](#).

Mary Washington Healthcare (MWHC) has named **Dr. Christopher Newman**, MD, MBA, as its new President and Chief Executive Officer. Dr. Newman has served as MWHC's Chief Operating Officer and Chief Medical Officer since 2019. Before joining MWHC, he served as the Chief Medical Officer for Penn State Health St. Joseph Regional Health Network and led operations for Penn State Health's Medical Group. He earned his medical degree from Georgetown University and completed his residency in internal medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center. Dr. Newman also earned a master's of business administration degree from the University of Virginia Darden School of Business. Read more [here](#).



Christy Grabus, Chief Nursing Officer of **Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center** has been named among the list of 2025 Influential Women by *Prince William Living*. Each year, the publication invites the public to nominate local women who inspire others through their vision, professional achievements, and charitable contributions. The winners are announced in the March issue of the magazine in honor of Women's History Month. Read more [here](#).

Sovah Health has announced that **Dr. Daniel Oh**, MD, has joined the medical staff and is offering radiation oncology services for patients at **Sovah Cancer Center – Radiation Oncology** and that **Dr. Yolanda Paylor**, MD, has joined the team as a full-time faculty member with the Family Medicine (FM) Residency Program.

Sentara Health has been named a 2024 Health Quality Innovator of the Year, an annual award presented by Health Quality Innovators. This prestigious honor recognizes and celebrates organizations that are using successful, evidence-based approaches to improve healthcare quality and outcomes. Sentara Health was selected as the winner in the population health category for its efforts to improve health equity and expand access to care through its innovative care delivery model known as **Sentara Community Care**. Read more [here](#).

Carilion Clinic has named **Nick Conte** as Chief Governance Officer; **Mike Abbott**, PharmD, as President of **Carilion Medical Center**; **Paul Davenport**, RN, as Senior Vice President; **Tami Frost**, RN, as Senior Vice President and System Chief Nursing Officer; **Dr. Shyam Odeti**, Chief Medical Officer for **Carilion Medical Center** and **Carilion New River Valley Medical Center**; **Luis Richard** as Senior Vice President of Supply Chain; **Wrenn Brendel**, RN, as Vice President of the Department of Emergency Medicine; and **Rhonda Shannon** as Vice President of Carilion Clinic Orthopaedics and Neurosurgery. Read more [here](#).