

March 2022



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Paternity Headlines

Virginia Paternity Establishment Program

“Add the Dad”



Quarterly Incentive Awards Congratulations!!



2021 Top Performers:

Bon Secours Memorial Regional: 88.3%

**2021 3rd quarter awardees
(July-Sep)**

Top Performer:

**Inova Loudoun Hospital:
90.1%**

**2021 4th quarter awardees
(Oct-Dec)**

Top Performer:

**Bon Secours Memorial Regional &
Stafford Hospital Center: 88.3%**

Hospitals with an 80% PEP rate or higher

Bon Secours Memorial Regional Medical Center
Bon Secours St Francis Medical Center
Johnston Willis Hospital
Clinch Valley Medical Center
Henrico Doctor's Hospital
Inova Alexandria Hospital
Inova Fair Oaks Hospital
Inova Fairfax Hospital
Inova Loudoun Hospital
Lewis Gale Medical Center
Lewis Gale Hospital-Montgomery
Mary Immaculate Hospital
Sentara Careplex Hospital
Sentara Leigh Hospital
Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital
Sentara RMH Medical Center
Southside Community Hospital
Virginia Hospital Center
Valley Health Winchester Medical Center
Stafford Hospital Center
Twin County Regional Hospital

Hospitals with a 5% point increase or more

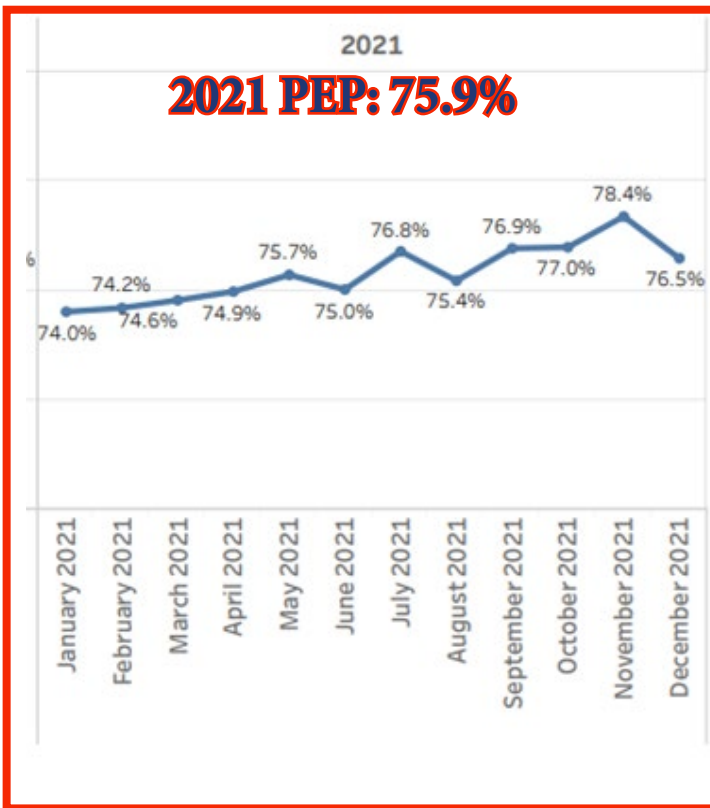
Augusta Health
Ballad Norton Community Hospital
Clinch Valley Medical Center
Fort Belvoir Community Hospital
Inova Fair Oaks Hospital
Inova Loudoun Hospital
Lewis Gale Medical Center
Riverside Shore Hospital
Sentara Careplex Hospital
Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital
Sentara Princess Anne Hospital
Sentara RMH Medical Center
Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center
Southside Community Hospital
Southside Regional Medical Center
SOVAH Martinsville

Hospitals with an 80% PEP rate or higher

Ballad Johnston Memorial Hospital
Bon Secours Mémorial Regional Medical Center
Bon Secours St Francis Medical Center
Carilion New River Valley Medical Center
Johnston Willis Hospital
Inova Alexandria Hospital
Inova Fair Oaks Hospital
Inova Loudoun Hospital
Mary Washington Hospital
Novant Health Systems UVA Culpeper Hospital
Sentara Careplex Hospital
Sentara Leigh Hospital
Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital
Sentara Northern VA Medical Center
Sentara Princess Anne
Sentara RMH Medical Center
Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center
Stafford Hospital Center
Stonesprings Hospital Center
Twin County Regional Hospital
Virginia Hospital Center
Winchester Medical Center

Hospitals with a 5% point increase or more

Ballad Johnston Memorial Hospital
Bon Secours Mémorial Regional Medical Center
Carilion New River Valley Medical Center
Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital
Chesapeake Regional Healthcare
Fauquier Hospital
Novant Health Systems UVA Culpeper Hospital
Sentara Careplex Hospital
Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital
Sentara Norfolk General Hospital
Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center
Stonesprings Hospital Center
Virginia Baptist hospital
Wythe County Community Hospital



Hospital statewide PEP rate increases by 2% points in 2021

Thank you to all of our hospital staff who contributes to the voluntary paternity establishment program. Due to your efforts, the statewide PEP rate increased from 73.8% in 2020 to 75.9% in 2021. A 2% increase is a wonderful accomplishment considering we were able to accomplish this in a pandemic. It shows the dedication you all have to our program and ensuring all children born in VA have a legal father. Our increase in rates is also notable because in several states, PEP rates plummeted because of COVID restrictions. Though establishing paternity with hospital restrictions has been challenging, each of you rose to the occasion and ensured all unmarried parents were assisted with this important process. We look forward to continuing a great working relationship with all 56 of our birthing hospitals. Let's continue to "push the needle" and work to continue the momentum in 2022. VPEP is here to support our hospitals and ensure you are equipped with the tools you need to be successful.

Secure Fax

Thank you all for switching over to our fax system. Below is some feedback to make the process flow better.

1. Only fax or mail your AOPs. We do not need them sent twice.
2. Send AOPs weekly. There are a few hospitals who are sending single AOPs several times a week or faxing single AOPs one by one to us in separate faxes. Sending them in groups is best.
3. On our fax cover sheet, write the number of AOPs you are sending, not the number of pages.
4. Mail AOPs if you are experiencing technical difficulties with sending a fax. Our PO box remains open.

We will contact hospital birth registrars if there is an issue with the faxes we receive. Thanks again for working with us on the secure fax system and please contact us with any questions.

Birth Registrar Annual Certifications

The deadline to complete your annual certifications is May 31, 2022. All birth registrars who administer the voluntary paternity establishment program must take this annual certification. The training is available on our website at www.vapaternity.com/training. Please save and print the generated certificate upon completion and email to your Outreach Coordinator or our office.

Quarterly Meetings

We will host quarterly meetings for our low performing hospitals. Our first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 24th at 11:00am. Your Outreach Coordinator will ensure all invited hospital staff receive the meeting link to access the meeting. We will discuss best practices, strategies for improvement and give program updates to provide additional support.

2021 Hospital Performance Report Cards on the Way...

Report Cards will be issued this Spring and distributed to you, your manager and hospital CEOs/administrators. The report card will detail your hospital's 2021 paternity establishment performance, the number of rejected AOPs received and your ranking statewide and with hospitals of similar size.

Community Partner Spotlights & VPEP Reminders

Eastern Region Community Spotlight:

Resources 757 Expanding Awareness of Voluntary Paternity Establishment

Resources 757, a Greater Hampton area directory, has an online site where helpful resources are easily accessible for people who need housing, food, individual or family support. Resources757.org includes information on organizations helping with GED classes, health care, and as of recently, added the Virginia Paternity Establishment Program to their list of resources.

Operated by For Kids, a click on “Find Resources,” will lead anyone to the hub of resources, which can be categorized to customize a search. They include but are not limited to Food, Homeless Services, Legal Aid, Family Support, Disability, Early Childhood and Maternity, and more. If an unmarried parent would like information on establishing paternity, VPEP can be found under Early Childhood and Maternity.

VPEP’s objectives and contact information being added to resources757.org is helpful in bringing awareness to the voluntary paternity establishment efforts. This is the third online platform where VPEP has been added. The other two platforms are Virginia Physicians for Women and the Norfolk Public Library website.

Resources 757’s partners include Kids Priority One, For Kids, The Planning Council of Hampton Roads, and EVMS Minus 9 to 5. Other resources offered include senior services, trafficking and violence, preschool programs, clothing and household, veteran and military services, mental health and substance abuse, employment training and adult education, inmate and reentry services, and youth development.

Northern Region Community Spotlight: Department of Medical Assistant Services

The Virginia Paternity Establishment Program (VPEP) is a proud community partner to Virginia’s Department of Medical Assistant Services (DMAS). DMAS, through a program called COVER VIRGINIA, connects Virginians to affordable health insurance. They offer programs for children, pregnant women, and adults, including those with disabilities.

More specifically, VPEP works with the FAMIS MOMS program which offers pregnant women affordable health care. FAMIS, or Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan, is Virginia’s health insurance program for children. It makes healthcare affordable for children of families who qualify. FAMIS covers the medical care that Virginia’s children need to stay healthy.

DMAS is based in Richmond but benefits residents throughout the Commonwealth. They have outreach representatives in Northern Virginia, the Eastern Shore and in Southwest Virginia. VPEP is proud to partner with DMAS and appreciates all the work they do.

VPEP Reminders

- New staff hires need to complete annual training within 30 days of hire
- Send copies of AOPs into our office weekly via fax OR mail
- Contact your Outreach Coordinator when you need more educational materials
- Keep your notary status current and contact OVR to update expiration
- Use the resources on our website, www.vapaternity.com
- Keep a reasons “Why Dads Don’t Sign” log

Did You Know VPEP Has a Blog & Social Media?

Establishing Paternity is important! Read our blog to obtain pertinent information regarding paternity establishment at www.vapaternity.com/resources/blog.

Please follow us on our social media platforms and engage with us:



Be sure to ask parents to scan our QR code stickers to view our parent video!