Who We Are

Virginia Mason Medical Center is a nonprofit health care system based in Seattle that serves the Puget Sound Region and the Pacific Northwest. The system includes 336-bed Virginia Mason Hospital; a primary and specialty care group practice of more than 500 physicians; and nine regional medical centers located in Seattle on First Hill, and at University Village, Bainbridge Island, Bellevue, Edmonds, Federal Way, Issaquah, Kirkland and Lynnwood.

Also included are Bailey-Boushay House, the first skilled-nursing and outpatient chronic care management program in the United States designed and built specifically to meet the needs of people with HIV/AIDS; Benaroya Research Institute, which is internationally recognized for autoimmune disease research; and Virginia Mason Institute, which trains health care professionals and others from around the world in the Virginia Mason Production System. We are also affiliated with Virginia Mason Memorial, a 226-bed hospital and nonprofit health care organization serving the Yakima Valley.

Our Vision and Mission

Virginia Mason’s vision is to be the Quality Leader and transform health care. We are committed to providing the best outcomes and patient experiences available anywhere. Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of the patients we serve.

Governance

Virginia Mason is a nonprofit health care provider governed by a board of community volunteers from business, health, community and other sectors. Virginia Mason is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Committees and Advisory Boards

Virginia Mason has a parent board and three advisory boards: the Board of Governors, the Bailey-Boushay House Board and the Virginia Mason Foundation Board.

Our History

Established in 1920, as an 80-bed hospital with six physician offices, Virginia Mason was named after the daughters of James Tate Mason, MD, and John M. Blackford, MD, who co-founded the clinic with radiologist Maurice Dwyer, MD. The founders’ vision was to provide a single place where patients could receive comprehensive medical care for virtually any medical problem or need.

The Perfect Patient Experience

Virginia Mason is in constant pursuit of the perfect patient experience, which is achieved when patients experience high quality, appropriate care combined with extraordinary service.

For that to happen, unnecessary elements, including wait times, non-evidence-based care and added cost, must be removed.

The Virginia Mason Production System (VMPS) is the management method Virginia Mason uses to make measureable improvements in safety, quality, service, team satisfaction and cost. VMPS is used to identify and eliminate waste and inefficiency in the numerous processes that are part of any health care experience.

Recognition and Awards

Virginia Mason recently earned the following honors and distinctions:

Top 1 Percent of Hospitals Nationwide

Virginia Mason was named one of America’s 50 Best™ hospitals by Healthgrades, an online resource for comprehensive information about U.S. physicians and hospitals. With this designation, Virginia Mason ranked among the top 1 percent of U.S. hospitals.

In 2019, Virginia Mason also earned a 5-star rating for treatment of heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, bowel obstruction and sepsis from Healthgrades, ranking it among the top 5 percent nationally for these services.

Hospital Safety Grade of ‘A’

Virginia Mason maintains the distinction as the only hospital in Washington state to receive an “A” in every biannual grading cycle since the program began in 2012.

One of World’s Best Hospitals

Virginia Mason was No. 44 among U.S. hospitals on Newsweek.com’s 2019 World’s Best Hospitals list.

Outstanding Patient Experience for Seventh Straight Year

Virginia Mason received Healthgrades’ 2019 Outstanding Patient Experience Award, placing it among the top 15 percent of hospitals nationwide for the seventh year in a row (2013-2019).

Leader in LGBTQ Health Care

Virginia Mason was designated a Leader in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality in the 2018 and 2019 Healthcare Equality Index.
Focus on Safety
The best clinical outcomes can only be achieved by establishing the safest possible environment to deliver care. Caring for patients safely is the foundation for Virginia Mason’s vision to be the Quality Leader and transform health care. Virginia Mason’s patient safety efforts include making clinical practice changes proven to enhance patient safety, actively involving patients and their families in patient safety efforts and expecting every team member to function as a safety inspector.

Community Benefit
Virginia Mason’s Community Benefit program is a robust body of work that focuses on improving our community’s health status and overall quality of life, reducing health disparities within the community and increasing access to preventive care services. We fulfill our charitable mission through a wide range of community benefit activities, including: charity care; subsidized health services; community health improvement services; health professions education; research; emergency preparedness; and sustainable health care.

Clinical Education Resources
Virginia Mason is an active teaching hospital with the oldest residency program in the state. Each year more than 2,000 medical students apply for about 40 first-year residency positions in Virginia Mason’s six accredited residency programs. Additionally, Virginia Mason’s Continuing Medical Education Department is accredited as one of the best programs in the country. It provides 15 to 20 onsite professional educational opportunities each year.

Featured Programs
Benaroya Research Institute
Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason (BRI) is an international leader in immune system and autoimmune disease research translating discoveries to real-life applications. BRI is one of the few research institutes in the world dedicated to finding causes and eliminating autoimmune diseases, including type 1 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, multiple sclerosis, scleroderma and many others.

Bailey-Boushay House
Bailey-Boushay House (BBH) opened in 1992 and is America’s first skilled nursing facility planned, funded, built and staffed to meet the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. The nationally recognized facility provides care for people living with HIV/AIDS and other complex, life-threatening diseases and promotes health, well-being and functional independence. In 2018, BBH opened a 50-bed, 24-hour emergency shelter to protect homeless clients in our chronic care outpatient program.

Floyd & Delores Jones Cancer Institute
As one of the preeminent cancer care providers in the country, the Floyd & Delores Jones Cancer Institute at Virginia Mason offers the very best in medical care in an environment of hope and healing. Virginia Mason’s team of cancer professionals includes nationally recognized physicians and researchers, offering patients opportunities to participate in leading research trials.

Heart Institute
The Heart Institute at Virginia Mason is a regional cardiac referral center known across the Pacific Northwest for specialized services and excellent clinical outcomes. The Heart Institute is a pioneer in the introduction of innovative surgical techniques, anticoagulation management, cardiovascular risk reduction, diagnostic and interventional cardiology, and more.

Digestive Disease Institute
The Digestive Disease Institute at Virginia Mason is recognized internationally for multidisciplinary care of gastrointestinal (GI) disorders. Virginia Mason providers apply the latest technical advances in the diagnosis and treatment of digestive diseases, drawing patients from all over the world to receive outstanding outcomes in the treatment of pancreatic cancer, GI bleeding, inflammatory bowel disease and other GI disorders.

Urology
The Section of Urology has been an important part of Virginia Mason for more than 80 years. Its board-certified urologists are regionally and nationally recognized for their expertise in kidney and pancreas transplantation, bladder replacement, prostate cancer, incontinence, erectile dysfunction, sexual dysfunction, kidney stones and vasectomy.

Neuroscience Institute
Virginia Mason’s Neuroscience Institute is a leader for neurological care in the Pacific Northwest. The institute is the only facility in the state accredited by the ALS Association. Its innovative model for nonsurgical management of spine disorders has attracted national attention.

Orthopedics and Sports Medicine
Virginia Mason provides a comprehensive array of orthopedic diagnostic and treatment options, including emergency care, joint replacement, rehabilitation, professional athlete-quality sports medicine and the full spectrum of surgical services.

Primary Care
Good health begins with primary care. Choosing the right doctor is an important decision — it can be one of the most valuable relationships of your life. At Virginia Mason we take that privilege very seriously. Our doctors’ integrated approach and electronic medical record system provides safer and more seamless care.

General, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery
Virginia Mason has been recognized as One of America’s 100 Best Hospitals for general surgery for seven consecutive years (2013-2019). In the 2018-2019 rankings, U.S. News and World Report rates the medical center as high performing in aortic valve surgery, heart bypass surgery, colon cancer surgery, hip and knee replacement surgery and lung cancer surgery.

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