

Medical Staff News

Providing updates for dentists, midwives, nurse practitioners and physicians

Spring 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF MEDICINE AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



Every day, I see the care, compassion and dedication you bring to the people and communities we serve, and I am grateful for the difference you make.

Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to connect with many of you and I continue to be impressed by your ingenuity and drive to find solutions in moments that matter most. Several recent forums, including the oneVCH Awards, have been moments to celebrate your achievements. It's been gratifying to see how our shared work is fulfilling VCH visions of healthy lives in healthy communities.

One recent example of that vision in action is how we are strengthening patients' access to their health information through the new patient portal. AccessMyHealth helps patients and families stay connected to their care teams and view key information from their health records.

By reducing barriers to information, it supports informed decision-making and allows patients and families to play a more active role in their care or the care of their loved ones.

Progress takes partnership across teams, organizations and health-care systems. We are committed to working collaboratively as we build health human resource capacity across VCH, including how we support medical staff throughout their professional journeys.

We are also taking important steps to strengthen quality and safety across the organization. Earlier this year, a new integrated leadership model was introduced within the Quality and Safety portfolio. In partnership with Lorraine Blackburn, Vice President, Professional Practice, Chief Nursing and Allied Health Officer, I look forward to refreshing our strategy, governance and approach to this important work. Dr. Matthew Kwok has led the way on it over the last two years, and I want to express my deep appreciation to him for his commitment to quality and safety.

Spring is a time of renewal and hope and as we move through it, I look forward to continuing our work together to build a healthier future for our patients, families and communities.

Sincerely,
Dr. Roger Wong

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Recognizing long service milestones

Congratulations to our medical staff who have reached long service milestones! Your many meaningful contributions make VCH a great place to work and deliver care. This year, we celebrate 602 medical staff representing 9,505 combined years of service. View the [full list of recipients](#) (medical staff, staff and volunteers), and consider congratulating your colleagues, sharing reflections on [oneVCH](#) (comments section) or recognizing a colleague by giving them a [virtual high-five](#). Recognition resources, including thank you cards, posters, certificates, digital milestone badges are available on [resource page](#).

LEADERSHIP

Accountability: What your medical leaders have been working on

At the February 2026 Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee (HAMAC) meeting, members were presented reports from the Regional Department Heads of Midwifery and Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. In addition, the Chief Medical Information Officer along with the Director of Clinical Informatics provided an update on the AccessMyHealth patient portal, citing that early patient feedback has been positive. [Read more](#).

Regional Medicine Program sun set and new Regional Stroke Program

VCH is transitioning its regional program structure to better align with emerging priorities. As of March 31, 2026, the Regional Medicine Program will be sun set, with its work continuing under other programs. In response to the growing need for focused stroke care, the Regional Stroke Steering Committee will be changed to a standalone Regional Stroke Program. This new program will provide dedicated leadership and support regional planning in stroke care. It will also strengthen collaboration across acute, rehabilitation and community services and programs to ensure seamless stroke care for patients.

POLICY AND PRACTICE

Non-Beneficial Interventions in Care policy and decision support tool for medical staff

The [Non-Beneficial Interventions in Care initiative](#) was created to address the growing number of requests for interventions that are not expected to provide therapeutic benefit and/or may cause harm. These situations can cause moral distress for teams, emotional distress for clients, substitute decision-makers and/or their support people and strain the health-care system. The [NBIC policy](#) sets the principles and expectations for navigating non-beneficial interventions in care while the [NBIC decision support tool \(DST\)](#) provides a practical, step-by-step guide on how to apply the principles.

VCH Appropriate Use of Generative AI policy

Generative AI (GenAI) is an innovative technology that uses large volumes of existing data to create text, images and other content based on user prompts. While GenAI offers exciting opportunities to enhance efficiency and creativity in health care, it must be used responsibly.

To support staff and medical staff, VCH has introduced a new [Appropriate Use of GenAI policy](#). This policy ensures that staff and medical staff use GenAI in ways that are beneficial, ethical and legally compliant. Check out the [Dos and don'ts](#) for a quick overview and the [Copilot Chat FAQ](#) for Microsoft Copilot-specific information.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Advancing imaging improves diagnosis and outcomes

A new photon-counting CT scanner in Vancouver General Hospital's Emergency Department delivers faster, ultra-precise imaging that speeds diagnosis and treatment for stroke, trauma, cardiovascular disease and cancer. This improves outcomes by reducing treatment delays, lowering radiation exposure and minimizing follow-up scans, benefiting thousands of patients annually. The new CT scanner is expected to be one of the busiest in Western Canada as it replaces its predecessor that completed almost 30,000 scans every year. [Learn more](#).

New person-centered model of long-term care coming to VCH

VCH is introducing Small Care Homes, a new evidence-based, person-centred long-term care model designed to support the region's aging population. Located in renovated residential houses, these licensed homes will accommodate up to 10 residents, offering private rooms and shared living spaces in a familiar, home-like setting. With the first three homes opening this spring, the initiative aims to create 200 new beds by 2029 in partnership with BC Housing. Small Care Homes provide 24-hour care, personalized activities and consistent care teams, and they are well suited for seniors requiring individualized or memory care.

New product information: Nasal bridle



A nasal bridle is a device that reduces the risk of unintentional or patient-initiated dislodgement of nasogastric feeding tubes. The AMT Nasal Bridle is available in multiple sizes and may remain in place continually for up to 30 days. By improving tube stability, nasal bridles help reduce clinical complications and decrease costs associated with repeated nasogastric tube dislodgement. A provider's order is required for insertion, and trained staff in designated areas perform the procedure.

Please connect with your unit educator or the Professional Practice team for support.

WELLNESS

Foundations of Anti-Racism: Accredited virtual series for medical staff

Deepen your understanding of anti-racism principles and learn practical ways to apply them in clinical practice and the workplace. [Foundations of Anti-Racism](#) topics include race, racism, microaggressions, bias, and how racism affects staff and patient outcomes. Participants will develop strategies to support an anti-racist environment at VCH. Medical staff are eligible to claim up to 13.0 CPD credits upon full program completion. Note that medical staff registrations will be prioritized.

Questions? Check out the [FAQs](#) or email Equity@vch.ca.

New Provincial Violence Prevention e-learning curriculum

Feedback from recent wellness and work experience surveys highlighted that workplace violence is a key concern. In response, an updated [Provincial Violence Prevention e-learning Curriculum \(PVPC\)](#) was co-developed by Doctors of BC, the Ministry of Health, Health Authorities and SWITCH BC. The 1.5-hour e-learning integrates cultural safety and humility, equity, diversity and inclusion as well as trauma-informed practice principles that use realistic scenarios and shared frameworks to better support staff across the province. All medical staff are encouraged to refresh their knowledge through the updated curriculum. [Learn more and check out the FAQ](#).

Supporting childcare access for staff and medical staff



Developing childcare solutions by reducing barriers for staff and medical staff supports delivery of quality care, builds a great place to work and helps attract and retain a talented, diverse workforce. Expanding on last year's partnerships with childcare centres to offer priority access at four locations in Vancouver and Richmond, VCH now offers staff and medical staff priority access to summer camps in Richmond and North Vancouver. Additional partnerships are underway with childcare centres throughout the VCH region. [Learn more and register](#) and reach out to childcare@vch.ca for any questions.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Help shape stronger sustainability solutions across VCH in five minutes!

VCH is working hard to advance our planetary health initiatives and we need your valuable insights to help inform future priorities and actions. Share your thoughts and experiences around climate change and environmental sustainability in [this five-minute GreenCare survey](#) by April 2.

Your voices are critical to strengthen planetary health initiatives across our organization so we want to hear from you! (All survey responses are anonymous. Email is only required to be included in the prize draw.)

Make your voices heard: Medical Staff and Health Authority Partner Survey

Facility Engagement (FE), an initiative of the Specialist Services Committee, has launched an anonymous survey to measure overall FE outcomes which will support ongoing learning and improvement opportunities. This is a separate survey from Doctors of BC's annual Health Authority Engagement Survey conducted in the fall. Complete [this 10-minute Facility Engagement survey](#) by March 18. Questions? Check out the [FAQ](#) or email engagement@doctorsofbc.ca.

Updated Clinical Guidelines for Liver Transplantation

BC Transplant has recently updated the [Clinical Guidelines for Liver Transplantation](#). The updated guidelines provide clinical guidance to clinicians involved in the continuum of transplant care. This includes supplemental clinical guidelines in patients who use alcohol.

The VCH medical staff newsletter shares timely and relevant information including upcoming events and opportunities, innovative projects led by medical staff and organizational news and updates. Let us know about what you want to read about at MedicalStaff@vch.ca