

Medical Staff News

Providing updates for dentists, midwives, nurse practitioners and physicians

Fall 2026

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



As we transition into the autumn season, I am grateful for the care, compassion and dedication you bring to patients, families and communities across VCH every day.

At VCH, we strive for better results as one of our core values. Innovation and accreditation can be two sides of the same coin, grounded in continuous learning, quality improvement and better outcomes for patients and communities. This November, Accreditation Canada surveyors will visit qathet, Vancouver Acute and Vancouver Community. This is an opportunity to celebrate our achievements, reflect on areas for continuous improvement and demonstrate our commitment to quality and safe care. Dedicated teams across VCH are working to support medical staff so they feel prepared and confident throughout the process.

That same spirit was evident at our June Medical Leaders Breakfast, hosted at Richmond Hospital for the first time. The thoughtful discussions reinforced an important reminder: we are stronger together when we support one another.

The recent Physician Quality Improvement graduation ceremony is a reminder of what can be achieved when clinicians come together to identify challenges, test new ideas and improve care in sustainable ways. These programs demonstrate how innovation can lead to meaningful change in people's lives.

I also want to welcome the new resident doctors who joined British Columbia in July, many of whom have begun their training at VCH. They represent the next generation of medical staff and leaders who will help advance a culture of learning, continuous improvement and excellence in care.

The future is promising. Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication.

Sincerely,
Dr. Roger Wong

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Celebrating our outstanding oneVCH Awards nominees

We're excited to share that 1,564 medical staff were nominated for a 2026 oneVCH Award. Each nomination reflects the extraordinary care, compassion, teamwork and dedication that help make VCH a great place to work and deliver care. Congratulations to all our [oneVCH Awards nominees](#). A selection committee of staff, medical staff and leaders from throughout VCH is reviewing the nominations and the award recipients will be announced on the oneVCH website in the coming weeks. [Learn more](#).

Dr. Trevor Hurwitz appointed to the Order of Canada



Please join us in congratulating Dr. Trevor Hurwitz on his appointment to the Order of Canada. Considered the founder of neuro psychiatry in British Columbia, he has had a transformative impact on the treatment of complex brain disorders. Along with his dedication to patient advocacy and advising for medico-legal and ethical issues in psychiatry, Dr. Hurwitz created our province's first programs in the discipline, which remain at the forefront nationwide.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

September is Language Equity and Access Month

This month is a time to honour and support the diverse linguistic and communication needs of people across BC. Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing individuals have a constitutional right to effective communication in health-care settings. Health-care providers must request language or communication services that support accessibility when needed to ensure patients receive safe, equitable care. To book spoken or sign language interpreters, intervenors or CART services, visit the new [Communication Access Services site](#). Additional resources and services are also available on the [Provincial Language Services](#) website.

POLICY AND PRACTICE

AI and privacy: Everyone's responsibility

VCH supports the responsible use of approved AI tools to improve productivity and service delivery; however, AI tools can create new privacy risks. Protecting patient (and colleagues') privacy is a shared responsibility and an important part of providing safe, respectful care. If you are considering new technologies, including smart glasses or other wearable devices, contact the [VCH Privacy Office](#) who reviews tools, systems and use cases that collect, use or disclose patient information to ensure privacy considerations are appropriately addressed. For more information and FAQs on Generative AI, smart glasses and other technologies, visit the [Artificial Intelligence & Privacy](#) webpage

B.C. Supreme Court Decision on the Mental Health Act

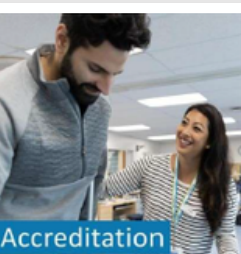
The Province is reviewing a recent B.C. Supreme Court decision related to the Mental Health Act. The Court has suspended its decision for at least six months, and mental health care in B.C. will continue under the current legislation during this time. At VCH, care delivery remains unchanged. Involuntary care is an important part of mental health care systems across the country, and people experiencing mental illness deserve timely, high-quality care that respects their rights, dignity and autonomy while supporting their health and safety.

MAiD portfolio updates

Medical staff are encouraged to review the newly published [MAiD policy](#) and [decision support tool for staff and medical staff](#). The updated policy establishes clearer expectations for clinical roles, processes and accountability across the MAiD pathway, supporting a more standardized approach to care delivery. This includes guidance for Medical Staff around their ability to assess for MAiD. Tools and resources supporting urgency and prioritization are now available, enabling more consistent assessment timelines and decision-making across sites. Visit the [MAiD webpage](#) for more information and resources.

QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY

Accreditation: An opportunity to learn, improve and strengthen care



Continuous quality improvement is an important part of how we deliver safe, high-quality, people-centred care. As part of this work, Accreditation Canada surveyors will be visiting [selected teams](#) at qathet General Hospital, UBC Hospital, Vancouver General Hospital including Diamond Health Care Centre and Vancouver Community sites from Nov. 15 to 20, 2026. For more information, see the [Quick Reference Guide](#).

Medical staff are also invited to [register](#) for the virtual Medical Staff Forum on Oct. 14 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to hear from senior leaders about what to expect and how to prepare.

While only selected teams will be surveyed, accreditation reflects the collective efforts of staff and medical staff throughout VCH. [Learn more](#).

Morbidity and Mortality Rounds toolkit now available

VCH has launched a new suite of Morbidity and Mortality (M&M) Rounds resources, developed by the Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee with input from local medical leaders, to support a standardized, quality-focused approach to case review across VCH. The toolkit includes approved templates, reporting tools, facilitator and presenter resources and guidance based on the Ottawa M&M Model (OM3). These resources support medical education, quality improvement, risk management and multidisciplinary learning while promoting a protected review process and an organization wide culture of shared learning. Learn more and access the toolkit on the [M&M Rounds page](#).

WELLNESS, HEALTH AND SAFETY

Supporting your wellness

This fall, we are highlighting Wellness Wednesdays, a People Wellness monthly series that offers practical strategies to support psychological health and well-being. On Sept. 23 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., the session will explore strategies to reduce digital overload and set healthier technology boundaries. [Register](#) for the session and check out the [Wellness webpage](#) for other wellness, health and safety materials. More resources tailored to medical staff will be added over time and featured in future newsletter editions.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Microsoft Copilot license holders: Share your experience in end-of-trial survey

As VCH's Microsoft Copilot trial approaches its end date, all license holders are being encouraged to share their feedback in a short, five-minute survey. Your input will help inform future decisions about Copilot support, training, and adoption across VCH. Please sign in to your VCH email and look for the message *Action Required: VCH Copilot User Survey* to share your experience by Sept. 18.

Stay connected: New Planetary Health Quarterly Newsletter

The new VCH Planetary Health Quarterly Newsletter highlights sustainability initiatives, upcoming events, learning opportunities, project updates and community features such as Green Tips from a Colleague, as well as book and podcast recommendations. There will also be opportunities to get involved, including photo submissions. [Sign up](#) and help build a more connected, sustainable healthcare community across VCH.

VCH Multi-Source Feedback (MSF)

If you have received an MSF invitation from MedicalQuality@vch.ca as a medical staff participant or [VCHPHCMedicalQuality](#) as an evaluator providing anonymous feedback, you have been invited to participate in the customized VCH Multi-Source Feedback (MSF) process.

Through department-specific surveys, participants receive anonymous feedback from colleagues and co-workers who regularly observe their medical practice. This feedback focuses on the CanMEDS competencies most relevant to their role and scope of practice. The MSF process aims to help medical staff build greater awareness of their strengths and opportunities for growth, identify areas for professional development, and identify resources to support their ongoing learning and improvement.

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