

Vancouver Medical Advisory Committee Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Vancouver Medical Advisory Committee (VMAC)?

The VMAC is the senior medical administrative body for all medical staff in the Vancouver community of care, which includes Vancouver Acute and Vancouver Community. VMAC is also a committee of the VCH Health Authority MAC (HAMAC)

2. What is the purpose of the VMAC?

The overall purpose of the VMAC is to provide advice to the Chief Operating Officers, and (through HAMAC) to the CEO and the Board of Directors, on the quality of medical care provided within the facilities in Vancouver that are operated by VCH.

3. What are the responsibilities of the VMAC?

VMAC makes recommendations to the COOs, and to the CEO and the Board (through HAMAC), regarding:

- Quality of care
- Clinical privileges and appointments (e.g. Department and Division Heads)
- Professional and ethical conduct of medical staff
- Discipline of medical staff
- Medical staff resource planning
- Medical education and research
- Appointments of chairs of subcommittees of VMAC, and helps set direction of subcommittees
- Proposed modifications to the Medical Staff Rules

4. Who appoints the VMAC?

VMAC was established by the VCH Board of Directors on the advice of the HAMAC, according to Article 9 of the Medical Staff Bylaws.

5. Who are the members of the VMAC?

VMAC's nonvoting members include the Chairperson, the Past Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, the Senior Medical Directors and the COO's for Vancouver Acute and Vancouver Community. The voting members include the President of the VMDAS, the medical leaders of the Departments and Programs/Sites in Vancouver Acute and Community, and the Professional Practice Leader (Nursing).

6. How are the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the VMAC selected?

The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of VMAC are selected on the recommendation of the members of the committee and are approved by a vote of the committee. They are appointed for a two year term.

7. How often does the VMAC meet?

VMAC meets once per month, on the first Tuesday of the month, and has a minimum of 10 meetings per year.

8. Are there subcommittees of the VMAC?

VMAC has several subcommittees. They are:

- VMAC Executive Committee
- Blood Transfusion Committee
- Credentials Committee
- Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee
- Infection Control Committee
- Nutrition Committee

9. What is the difference between the VMAC and the Medical Staff Association?

The VMAC provides advice to the COOs, and to the CEO and the Board (through HAMAC), pertaining to the quality of care provided in Vancouver Acute and Community sites. The medical leaders on VMAC act on behalf of the best interests of their program/department. The Medical Staff Association promotes its members' involvement in the provision of medical services, and it represents and advocates for their interests. Concerns from individual VMDAS members regarding other members or with VCH leadership can be brought to the attention of the VMDAS Board. The medical staff is represented on VMAC by the president of the VMDAS, who is a voting member of the VMAC.

10. How can physicians have input into the VMAC?

There are several ways for physicians to have input at the VMAC:

- Through the President of the VMDAS
- Through their Department/Program Head, or their Site Director
- By presentation to the VMAC. This can be initiated by contacting the VMAC executive, and requires a discussion and approval by the executive committee. For example, implementing changes to established processes of care delivery may require MAC approval in certain cases.