

# VMAC HIGHLIGHTS: January 2024 meeting summary

The Vancouver Medical Advisory Committee (VMAC) is VCH's senior medical administrative body for medical staff in the Vancouver Community of Care, including Vancouver Acute and Vancouver Community.

## Public Health update

- We have had a relatively mild respiratory illness season to date. Indicators for influenza and RSV are going up, but slowly.
- Masking in hospital settings remains in place. Guidelines will be revisited in March.
- The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) does not have any recommendations on RSV vaccine at this time. More information will be available in the spring.

## MAiD update

- The Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) program is shifting from the Quality portfolio to VC Operation due to increasing demands. MAiD continues to be a regional program across VCH.
- VC is exploring new community space for the program as current VA space is not adequate.
- Data shows increased demand for MAiD; a request has been made to increase the team to 15 FTEs to support program. Recruitment will start soon to expand the program.
- Discussion to include MHSU population for accessing MAiD but will need further assessment due to intricacies.

## Medical leaders' breakfasts

These breakfasts are held three times a year. The goal is to bring together leaders from different programs and communities of care to connect and have a diverse discussion.

Facilitated sessions have included topics on psychological health and safety, and common leadership challenges such as managing multiple commitments.

Suggestions for future topics included addressing HHR challenges, moral injury, Indigenous blanket exercise, engaging, mentoring and leading, addressing toxic behaviours, advocating from the government, dyad leadership, and strategizing crisis management.