

Indigenous cultural safety corner

On September 30th, we recognize the [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#). This day is an opportunity to recognize the resilience of Indigenous Peoples. On this day we honour the children who never returned home and the Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities.

September 30th also marks [Orange Shirt Day](#), an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the generational impact of residential schools. Check out [this page](#) for additional learning resources and ways to get involved.

Register for the September 26th Lunch & Learn, "[Engaging with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Path to Support.](#)"

Welcome to HAMAC!



Dr. Dan Kopac

Appointed as Co-Senior Medical Director, Richmond Acute



Emily Holtorf-Ma

HAMAC Project Coordinator

Toxic drug crisis: Substance use and addictions management in acute care facilities

An update to HAMAC was provided by the Medical Director of the VCH Regional Addiction Program on the actions being taken by the BC Ministry of Health and VCH to address the toxic drug crisis. Across BC, work is ongoing in key areas of the policy, including work to expand addiction medicine teams in acute care facilities, improve access to overdose prevention sites and the expansion of the [regional lighthouse clinic](#) to support discharge planning for those not already attached to care.

As part of the work to update clinical protocols, education and training eight new substance use guides have been developed by the BC Centre for on Substance Use in partnership with VCH for use across the health authorities. VCH has also developed an additional guide on benzodiazepine contamination. Next steps will include updates to Cerner powerplans and rollout of new educational resources for nursing and medical staff.

VP Medicine Portfolio Transformation

The HAMAC received an overview on the VP Medicine portfolio transformation plans for the next year. The transformation work focuses on building strong regional departments working in concert with strong communities of care medical staff structures to better engage medical staff and whole health system quality.

The HAMAC welcomes the proposed work, and looks forward to advising, supporting and collaborating with the Medicine and Academic Affairs Department to achieve these shared goals.

VP Quality & Patient Safety Update

The HAMAC received an update on the VP Quality and Patient Safety portfolio including a brief refresh on the Quality and Patient Safety (QPS) team, the upcoming launch of the anti-microbial stewardship app (First Line) in October and Accreditation Canada outstanding ROPs that need to be fulfilled by January 2025.

Fall Immunization Campaign

The Fall immunization campaign will be kicking off in October 2024. All healthcare workers are reminded to [self-report your influenza vaccination status](#).



We are Always Learning

As a member of Vancouver Coastal Health's leadership team, you have free membership to three medical advisory boards that offer a variety of services, thought leadership, and best practices to medical staff and health-care leaders. Please visit [this page](#) for more information on Advisory Board and for registration instructions.