

VMAC HIGHLIGHTS: October 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

- New influenza and COVID-19 vaccines have arrived; a universal immunization program is rolling out.
- COVID-19 vaccines are available for everyone over six months old and are recommended for those in vulnerable populations.
- The COVID-19 vaccine is for the new strain KP.2 variant, which is similar to what has been circulating.

VCH/PHC tobacco use cessation initiative

- We have received a mandate from SET to develop a strategy for enhancing commercial tobacco use cessation within VCH/PHC sites and to develop strategies for engagement of the provincial government.
- A draft strategy is being circulated for feedback.

Pediatric least restraint guideline

- Professional Practice is integrating feedback for a VCH/PHC facesheet that is linked to Child Health BC's guideline.
- Next steps include reviewing a draft VCH/PHC guideline.

Vancouver Community leadership update

- Three administrative support roles have been added to support VC's medical leadership team and a contract manager will also be hired.
- Dr. Michael Norbury assumed the role of interim Regional Executive Medical Director, Community Services on October 1.
- Dr. Vandad Yousefi is the interim Senior Medical Director in Vancouver Community.

Vancouver Acute leadership update

- mNPR implementation is well underway and a joint regional implementation committee has been established.
- ECC's elevators are being upgraded; work began in September and is expected to take three to six months.
- BC's first Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Disease Clinic opened at VGH in September.
- VA presented a quality report to the VCH board and received positive feedback.
- VA has hired a perfusionist, with services running as expected for now.

Disclosure communication training course

- Communicating Unexpected Outcomes Disclosure Training provides instruction on how to disclose information in a respectful manner. This includes communicating with patients and families on topics such as inherent risk of investigation or treatments, system failure(s), and provider performance less effective due to barriers.
- Most professional governing bodies require this training as it improves care quality and the patient experience.
- Medical leaders are asked to promote the four-hour training course.
- Goals over the next year include training a minimum of two members from each clinical area in each community of care, training VCH senior leaders and board members, and accredit more trainers to facilitate sessions.