

VMAC HIGHLIGHTS: February 2025 meeting summary

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

Vancouver Acute leadership update

- February had a challenging start with more volume and pressure on the Emergency Department. Hospitalists are doing their best to keep up with volume but may be reaching an unsafe point. Other services may expect pushback regarding accepting patients.
- The Ministry of Health's annual mandate letter highlighted access and primary care, administrative costs, continued support for HR needs as well as recruitment and retention.
- The Quality Council is setting priorities in VA.
- The NY Times recognized VA's Epilepsy Team. Also, World's Best Hospitalists 2024 singled out VGH as one of the top hospitals. VGH was also recognized as a top SMART hospitalists globally. Congratulations!

Vancouver Community leadership update

- A Government-Assisted Refugees Clinic opened this month on Victoria Drive. It provides care to documented refugees in VCH.
- MAiD services at St. Paul's Hospital are averaging about 1 person per month.
- We gave an overview of VCH services at a Vancouver Local Governance Liaison meeting.

Administration of eye drops – Delegation for ophthalmic technicians

- The ASAU Ultrasound Clinic at VGH ECC and the DTES Eye Clinic are ambulatory centres that take referrals from community ophthalmologists. They provide service to multiple patients daily. Prior to exams, patients' eyes must be prepared by having specific diagnostic drops instilled.
- Ophthalmic technicians are highly trained, unregulated providers who are best suited to this work but require delegation to perform this restricted activity.
- Both programs have received conditional approval for delegated practice from the VCH Scope of Practice and Regulations Review Committee.
- VMAC offered its endorsement of this delegation of practice.

Public Health update

- Respiratory season started late but is now progressing. There are outbreaks at a few facilities.
- VGH officials met with the Ministry of Health regarding minimum standard services for overdose prevention. We hope to get the go-ahead soon to start prevention sites.

Executive & Medical Staff Talent Acquisition Team updates

- This team was formed in November 2022; its mandate is to expand support for medical staff recruitment.
- Medical staff job postings will be posted on HMBC as well as the VCH Careers website.
- The group is creating targeted recruitment strategies for specific specialties.
- There are new processes on hiring timelines, as well as roles and responsibilities for clinical vacancies.
- While there is no mandate to use this recruitment process, search and selection processes must be equitable and fair.

VA P&T Committee

- The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee has identified an issue with medications dosed outside of non-standard closing times.
- If the dosing schedule is not reviewed carefully, duplicate same-day MAR tasks can occur.
- There does not appear to be a Cerner solution, although this may be feasible with the next update.
- The team will connect with the Digital Health Committee to troubleshoot.