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- Hematology
- Infectious Diseases
- Medical Oncology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Palliative Care
- Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
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**UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**
**DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE**
Annual Report 2019 | 2020

**Anita Palepu, MD, MPH, FRCPC, MACP**
Professor and Eric W. Hamber Chair Head, UBC Department of Medicine
Head, PHC Department of Medicine

**Contributors**
- Department of Medicine Leadership
- Department of Medicine Administrative Staff
- Division Heads and Administrators
- Program Directors and Managers

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Annual Report 2019-2020
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE HEADS AND DIRECTORS

**Anita Palepu, MD, MPH, FRCPC, MACP**
Professor and Eric W. Hamber Chair
Head, Department of Medicine
University of British Columbia

**Diane Lacaille, MD, MHSc, FRCPC**
Associate Scientific Director, Arthritis Research Canada
Professor, Division of Rheumatology
Associate Head, Academic Affairs
UBC Department of Medicine (*until Sept 2020*)

**Andrea Townson, MD, FRcPC, MScHPed**
Medical Co-Chair, Regional Rehab Program, VCHA
Clinical Professor, Division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Associate Head, Education
UBC Department of Medicine

**Teresa Tsang, MD, FRcPC, FACC, FASE**
Director of Echo Lab, VGH and UBC
Professor, Division of Cardiology
Associate Head, Research
UBC Department of Medicine

**UBC EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DIRECTORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experimental Medicine</th>
<th>Dr. Tricia Tang</th>
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<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Education Program</td>
<td>Dr. J. Mark Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Education Program</td>
<td>Dr. Harpinder Nagi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Research &amp; Scholarship</td>
<td>Dr. Kevin Eva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Faculty Representatives</td>
<td>Dr. Jasmine Grewal</td>
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<td>Dr. Emily Lai (<em>Jul 2020</em>)</td>
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**UBC DIVISION HEADS**

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<tr>
<th>AIDS/Social Medicine</th>
<th>Dr. Richard Harrigan</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allergy &amp; Immunology</td>
<td>Dr. Thomas Kerr (<em>May 2019</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiology</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Schellenberg</td>
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<td>Community Internal Medicine</td>
<td>Dr. Andrew Krahn</td>
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<td>Critical Care Medicine</td>
<td>Dr. Barry Kassen</td>
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<td>Endocrinology</td>
<td>Dr. Najib Ayas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gastroenterology</td>
<td>Dr. Cheryl Holmes (<em>Jul 2020</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Internal Medicine</td>
<td>Dr. Marshall Dahl</td>
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<td>Geriatric Medicine</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Enns</td>
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<td>Hematology</td>
<td>Dr. Anita Palepu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>Dr. Nadia Khan (<em>Sept 2019</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Oncology</td>
<td>Dr. Janet Kow</td>
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<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>Dr. Stephen Nantel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neurology</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Phillips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palliative Care</td>
<td>Dr. Ted Steiner (<em>Jan 2020</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Medicine &amp; Rehabilitation</td>
<td>Dr. Caroline Lohrisch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respiratory Medicine</td>
<td>Dr. Stephen Chia (<em>Sept 2020</em>)</td>
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<td>Rheumatology</td>
<td>Dr. Adeera Levin</td>
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<td>Dr. Jon Stoessl</td>
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<td>Dr. Pippa Hawley</td>
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<td>Dr. Jennifer Yao</td>
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<td>Dr. Christopher Carlsten</td>
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<td>Dr. Kam Shojania</td>
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DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Department of Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia. The Department of Medicine provides excellence in research, teaching and clinical services related to the nature, cause and prevention of adult diseases. We are the largest Department in the Faculty of Medicine with over 1,500 faculty and staff. The Department of Medicine includes 18 divisions with faculty located throughout the province of British Columbia.

The Department of Medicine is committed to ensuring the success of our learners and faculty and to promoting the health of the province of British Columbia. Every day, faculty, staff and learners in the Department of Medicine are working together, transforming health for everyone in communities at home and around the world.

The number of excellent initiatives by Department members is remarkable, particularly during the extraordinary times in 2020, and their successes reflect new collaborations that otherwise would not have been possible. The bonds we have built during these difficult times will carry us through challenges and hardship. Collectively, we will emerge stronger as a department, as a faculty, as a university.

In May 2019, when I presented my vision for the Department of Medicine, I shared my personal leadership vision was gratitude. I am still committed to being the leader who sees the gifts in others that they may not recognize in themselves and help them realize their best selves in the work we do together. The values of transparency, accountability, organizational integrity and inclusiveness underpin the way we move forward. I had hoped to meet more members face-to-face in my first year, especially at the distributed sites. Hopefully, that will become possible in 2021.

We have created the 2019-2020 Annual Report to highlight and celebrate our changes and progress on initiatives. I also want to thank my excellent administrative team for their expertise and the Associate Heads for their professionalism and support during my first year.

I would like to recognize all Department members for their dedication and innovation and know that I am truly grateful for your contributions.

Anita Palepu, MD, MPH, FRCPC, MACP
Professor and Eric W. Hamber Chair
Head, Department of Medicine
University of British Columbia
In September 2019, Dr. Anita Palepu was appointed Head, Department of Medicine, taking over from Drs. Diane Lacaille, Andrea Townson and Teresa Tsang who were acting Co-Heads since 2017.

Dr. Palepu is a Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine. Since September 2015, she has served as Division Head of General Internal Medicine at UBC and Providence Health Care as well as the Physician Program Director for the St. Paul’s Hospital Medicine Program.

As a Scientist at the Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences, Dr. Palepu leads a research program in urban health research with particular interest in vulnerable populations. She is the Vancouver site lead for the MedSafer study, to test if the intervention can improve safe prescribing for elderly hospitalized patients. She has also been an associate editor for the Annals of Internal Medicine since 2010.

Dr. Palepu will provide strategic leadership for more than 120 academic faculty and 800 clinical faculty who are engaged in teaching, service and research across the spectrum from basic biomedical research to health service delivery.

Drs. Lacaille, Townson, and Tsang continue as Associate Heads of Academic Affairs, Education, and Research respectively.

Dr. Diane Lacaille stepped down as Associate Head, Academic Affairs in September 2020 after assuming the role of Scientific Director of Arthritis Research Canada (ARC). Dr. Lacaille will continue in her role as Professor in the Division of Rheumatology and will continue to serve as Chair of the UBC Department of Medicine’s Equity Committee.

Dr. Thomas Kerr was appointed as Interim Head, Division of AIDS/Social Medicine in May 2019 taking over from Dr. Richard Harrigan. Dr. Harrigan will continue in his appointment as Professor in the Division of AIDS/Social Medicine and will continue to hold the Glen Hillson Professorship in Clinical Virology.

Dr. Kerr is a Professor in the Division of AIDS/Social Medicine and an Associate Member of the UBC School of Population and Public Health. He is a Senior Research Scientist and Senior Scientific Advisor with the BC Centre on Substance Use (BCCSU) and also serves on the UBC President’s Senior Appointments Committee. In his interim role, Dr. Kerr will provide leadership to the Division of AIDS/Social Medicine.

Dr. Nadia Khan was appointed as Interim Head, Division of General Internal Medicine in September 2019 taking over from Dr. Anita Palepu who stepped down. Dr. Khan then became Head, Division of General Internal Medicine in November 2020. Dr. Palepu will continue in her appointment as Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine and will continue to serve the Department of Medicine as Head.

Dr. Khan is a Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine and an Associate Member of the UBC School of Population and Public Health. She is a Clinician Scientist in the field of clinical epidemiology and health services research at CHÉOS and UBC, and a specialist in internal medicine with a focus on hypertension and chronic disease management.

In her role, she will provide leadership to the Division of General Internal Medicine.

Dr. Ted Steiner was appointed as Head, Division of Infectious Diseases in January 2020 taking over from Dr. Peter Phillips who stepped down.

Dr. Phillips will continue in his appointment as Clinical Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Steiner is a Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and has been the Associate Head of the UBC and VGH Divisions of Infectious Diseases. He is an Associate Member of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. Dr. Steiner is recognized both nationally and internationally for his research work on immune responses to C. difficile infection (CDI) and the development of cellular therapy for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). He currently holds grants as principal investigator from CIHR and Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada. In his role, Dr. Steiner will provide leadership to the Division of Infectious Diseases.
Dr. Cheryl Holmes was appointed as Head, Division of Critical Care Medicine in July 2020 taking over from Dr. Najib Ayas who stepped down
Dr. Ayas will continue in his appointment as Associate Professor in the Division of Critical Care Medicine.

Dr. Holmes is a Clinical Professor in the Division of Critical Care Medicine. She has practiced medicine for 34 years, first as a full-care family physician and then as an intensivist/critical care physician. She was the Medical Director, Critical Care, at Kelowna General Hospital from 2006 to 2014. She has been the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine since 2017. Previously, she served as Interim Assistant Dean, Curriculum and before that Site Director for the Year 3 Clerkship at the Southern Medical Program in Kelowna. In her role, Dr. Holmes will provide leadership to the Division of Critical Care Medicine.

Dr. Stephen Chia was appointed as Head, Medical Oncology in September 2020 taking over from Dr. Caroline Lohrisch who stepped down
Dr. Lohrisch will continue in his appointment as Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Medical Oncology.

Dr. Chia is a Professor in the Division of Medical Oncology and a staff medical oncologist with the BC Cancer, Vancouver Cancer Centre. Dr. Chia is recognized both nationally and internationally for his research work on breast cancer. He has been actively engaged in teaching and has supervised many medical students and trainees throughout his career. In his role, Dr. Chia will provide leadership to the Division of Medical Oncology.

Dr. Sharlene Gill was appointed Director of the Faculty Mentorship Program in October 2020 taking over from Dr. Diane Lacaille who stepped down
Dr. Lacaille was Director of the Faculty Mentorship Program since 2018. Dr. Lacaille will continue in her appointment as Professor in the Division of Rheumatology.

Dr. Gill is a Professor of Medicine and a medical oncologist specializing in gastrointestinal malignancies at the BCCA. Her areas of clinical expertise are in colorectal, pancreatic, and hepatobiliary cancers. She is actively engaged in education and clinical research and is passionate about mentoring junior faculty and providing guidance to help build successful and rewarding careers.

Dr. Emily Lai was appointed as the Department of Medicine’s Clinical Faculty Representative on the Faculty of Medicine’s Clinical Faculty Advisory Committee in July 2020 taking over from Dr. Jasmine Grewal
Dr. Grewal had been the Department of Medicine’s Clinical Faculty Representative since 2018. Dr. Grewal will continue her appointment as Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Cardiology.

Dr. Lai is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine.
In September 2019, Dr. Anita Palepu was appointed as Head, UBC Department of Medicine, taking over from Drs. Diane Lacaille, Andrea Towson and Teresa Tsang who were acting as Interim Co-Heads for the Department of Medicine since January 2017.

In their acting role, Drs. Lacaille, Townson, and Tsang oversaw one of the largest departments at UBC and continued in their roles as Associate Heads of Academic Affairs, Education and Research, respectively. We extend our gratitude to Drs. Lacaille, Townson, and Tsang for their leadership, service and commitment during the last three years during the headship search.

COVID-19 Response
In March 2020, the University implemented a temporary Remote Work Arrangement for employees who could do so. The UBC Department of Medicine’s Administration Office moved to a completely remote model taking direction from Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, the BC Centre for Disease Control, Ministry of Health and Vancouver Coastal Health. The health and wellbeing of our UBC community remains our first priority.

Department of Medicine Events

Division Reviews
2019 - Division of Geriatric Medicine
2020 - Division of Hematology

Women in Medicine Workshop
2019 - “Leading Change: Good Talk to Engage Others” with guest speaker Dr. Janice Stein
2020 - None due to COVID-19

Annual Faculty & Staff Recognition Awards
Each year, the UBC Department of Medicine honours faculty and staff members who have made significant and meaningful contributions to education, teaching, research, mentorship, and administration.

Our Annual Faculty & Staff Recognition Awards were held as Breakfast Events at the Paetzold Auditorium, VGH on June 6, 2019 and virtually via Zoom on June 4, 2020.

Medicine Grand Rounds
Grand Rounds was successfully transitioned to a virtual format in September 2020 due to COVID-19. Attendance at Grand Rounds has increased substantially as a result.

Data Science and Health
The Department of Medicine has developed a Data Science and Health Experimental Medicine Course as a joint initiative between the Education and Research Offices with support from a Faculty of Medicine Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) grant.

The inaugural Data Science & Health CPD event was held in November 2020 and was extremely successful and well-attended.

Annual Festive Celebration
The Department of Medicine’s Administration Office hosted an afternoon of mingling and cheer for all faculty, staff, trainees, and learners to celebrate the festive season. The 14th annual event was held on December 2, 2019.

Due to COVID-19, in lieu of a holiday reception for faculty and staff in December 2020, the Department of Medicine donated to UBC’s charitable partner, the United Way of the Lower Mainland, and launched a holiday donation drive for department members to support people in need in our local communities.

The UBC Department of Medicine raised over $21K for the United Way.

FINANCE
The Department of Medicine implemented a new Divisional Administration funding formula in an effort to enhance transparency.
HUMAN RESOURCES

Workday
On November 2, 2020, UBC’s Integrated Renewal Program (IRP) officially launched Workday HCM and Finance to transform and modernize our Human Resource and Finance systems and processes and improve accessibility and continuity of work at UBC. Workday replaced HRMS and FMS PeopleSoft systems. Workday Student is anticipated to be completed during the 2023/2024 academic year.

New Department Head
- Dr. Anita Palepu, Eric W. Hamber Chair in Medicine (2019)

New Division Heads
- Dr. Thomas Kerr, Interim Division of AIDS/Social Medicine (2019)
- Dr. Nadia Khan, Division of General Internal Medicine (2020)
- Dr. Cheryl Holmes, Division of Critical Care Medicine (2020)
- Dr. Ted Steiner, Division of Infectious Diseases (2020)
- Dr. Stephen Chia, Division of Medical Oncology (2020)

New Division Administrators
- Julie Sagram, Division of AIDS/Social Medicine (2019)
- Marilyn Robertson, Division of Cardiology (2019)
- Susanna O’Neill (leave coverage), Division of Infectious Diseases (2019)
- Irish Krolikowski (leave coverage), Division of Respiratory Medicine (2020)

New Administration Staff
- Kelsie Atwater, Administrative Assistant to the Head (2019)

New Education Office Staff
- Chenoa Mah, UGME Senior Program Assistant (2019)

New Human Resources Staff
- Ana Sial, HR Assistant (2019)
- Madeline Doig, HR Assistant (2020)
- Lygia Siqueira, HR Assistant (2020)
- Ana Sial (promotion), Faculty Hires & Promotions Manager (2020)

New Research Office Staff
- Yasaman Jalalkamali, Research Assistant (2019)
- Kelly Xu, Experimental Medicine Program Assistant (2019)

Retirements
- Dr. Clifford Chan-Yan, Division of Nephrology (2019)
- Dr. Michael Barnett, Division of Hematology (2019)
- Dr. Gillian Gibson, Division of Neurology (2019)
- Dr. Peter Dodek, Division of Critical Care Medicine (2020)
- Dr. Karin Humphries, Division of Cardiology (2020)
- Dr. Donald Ricci, Division of Cardiology (2020)
- Dr. Bob Schellenberg, Division of Allergy & Immunology (2020)
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE COMMITTEES

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND TENURE COMMITTEE (AARPT)

Chair
• Dr. Diane Lacaille, Professor, DOM Associate Head Academic Affairs (term ended Sept 2020)

Co-Chair
• Dr. Andrea Townson, Clinical Professor, DOM Associate Head Education (term started Oct 2020)

Administrative Support
• Jane Zhang and Ana Sial, Faculty Hires & Promotions Manager

Committee Members (2019)
• Dr. O Benavente, Professor, Neurology
• Dr. W Bowie, Professor, Infectious Diseases
• Dr. M Carruthers, Clinical Associate Professor, Rheumatology (term started Sept 2019)
• Dr. K Chapman, Clinical Associate Professor, Neurology
• Dr. S Chia, Professor, Medical Oncology
• Dr. E Conway, Professor, Hematology
• Dr. A Fung, Clinical Professor, Cardiology
• Dr. H Ezzat, Clinical Associate Professor, Hematology (term ended Sept 2019)
• Dr. J Gill, Professor, Nephrology
• Dr. R Hatala, Professor, General Internal Medicine
• Dr. C Holmes, Clinical Professor, Critical Care
• Dr. S Jaffer, Clinical Professor, Community Internal Medicine (term started Sept 2019)
• Dr. P Keown, Professor, Nephrology
• Dr. V Lima, Associate Professor, AIDS
• Dr. C Lohrisch, Clinical Associate Professor, Medical Oncology
• Dr. S Nantel, Clinical Professor, Hematology (term started Sept 2019)
• Dr. B Paty, Clinical Associate Professor, Endocrinology & Metabolism
• Dr. M Roberts, Clinical Professor, General Internal Medicine
• Dr. K Shannon, Professor, AIDS (term ended Aug 2019)

Committee Members (2020)
• Dr. O Benavente, Professor, Neurology
• Dr. W Bowie, Professor, Infectious Diseases
• Dr. M Carruthers, Clinical Associate Professor, Rheumatology
• Dr. K Chapman, Clinical Associate Professor, Neurology
• Dr. S Chia, Professor, Medical Oncology
• Dr. E Conway, Professor, Hematology
• Dr. C Cuncic, Clinical Associate Professor, General Internal Medicine (term started Sept 2020)
• Dr. A Fung, Clinical Professor, Cardiology
• Dr. J Gill, Professor, Nephrology
• Dr. R Hatala, Professor, General Internal Medicine
• Dr. C Holmes, Clinical Professor, Critical Care
• Dr. S Jaffer, Clinical Professor, Community Internal Medicine
• Dr. P Keown, Professor, Nephrology
• Dr. F Kuchenbauer, Associate Professor, Partner, Hematology (term started Sept 2020)
• Dr. V Lima, Associate Professor, AIDS (term ended Aug 2020)
• Dr. C Lohrisch, Clinical Associate Professor, Medical Oncology (term ended Oct 2020)
• Dr. S Nantel, Clinical Professor, Hematology
• Dr. B Paty, Clinical Associate Professor, Endocrinology & Metabolism
• Dr. K Ramanathan, Clinical Professor, Cardiology (term started Sept 2020)
• Dr. M Roberts, Clinical Professor, General Internal Medicine
• Dr. C Ryerson, Associate Professor, Respiratory Medicine (term started Nov 2020)
• Dr. S Taylor, Clinical Associate Professor, Community Internal Medicine
• Dr. S van Eeden, Professor, Respiratory Medicine (term ended Aug 2020)
• Dr. E Yoshida, Professor, Gastroenterology
This dedicated group of committed Departmental members is charged with facilitating the career advancement of our members while upholding consistent and rigorous standards as set out by UBC. This Committee invested a great deal of thoughtful energy to support the additions and promotions below. As a result, we are very proud of the following:

**NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENTS**
*Start Dates between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019*

**Clinical Instructor**
- Al Efraij, Khalid – Respiratory Medicine
- Alhalabi, Mohammed – Neurology
- Aziz, Mina – Community Internal Medicine
- Biagoni, Bradly – Respiratory Medicine
- Book, Elaine – Neurology
- Cabrita, Tanya – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Casilla, Vanbric – Nephrology
- Chen, Peter – General Internal Medicine
- Cherry, Angus – Community Internal Medicine
- Cheung, Stephen – Cardiology
- Chow, Lawrence – General Internal Medicine
- Cindrich, Kiley – Community Internal Medicine
- Courtice, Sarah – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Dawadi, Sudhakar – Respiratory Medicine
- Dehoney, Cameron – Cardiology
- Desplantie, Olivier – Cardiology
- Dewart, Lauren – Cardiology
- Eddy, Margaret – Community Internal Medicine
- Fung, Xin – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Han, David – Respiratory Medicine
- Harrison, Emily – Palliative Care
- Heidary, Behrouz – Community Internal Medicine
- Hewitt, Nadine – Palliative Care
- Huang, Kun – Rheumatology
- Ickowicz, Sarah – AIDS/Social Medicine
- Janssen, Renee – General Internal Medicine
- Jenkins, Catherine – Geriatric Medicine
- Kambo, Jaspreet – Respiratory Medicine
- Kular, Hasan – Allergy & Immunology
- Leung, Ben – Cardiology
- Lou, Cindy – Palliative Care
- Lyle, Ngan – Infectious Diseases
- Mckenzie, Kari-Jean – Community Internal Medicine
- Moein Vaziri, Faraz – Community Internal Medicine
- Murphy, Shane – Palliative Care
- Natarajan, Arun – Cardiology
- Nouthe Tietchou, Brice – Community Internal Medicine
- Partlow, Eric – Infectious Diseases
- Pascas, Michael – Community Internal Medicine
- Pisani, Serena – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Qamar, Hina – Community Internal Medicine
- Richards, Mikhyla – Hematology
- Rodger, Sheila – Geriatric Medicine
- Rodis, Belinda – Geriatric Medicine
- Sall, Karanvir – Geriatric Medicine
- Saran, Sandeep – Palliative Care
- Sidhu, Navneet – Community Internal Medicine
- Skalska, Ursula – Hematology
- Skotnicki, Arthur – Community Internal Medicine
- Teale, Alastair – Infectious Diseases
- Thompson, Xavier – General Internal Medicine
- Verma, Tony – Cardiology
- Walsh, Charles – Community Internal Medicine
- Walton, Geoffrey (Tom) – AIDS/Social Medicine
- Wierstra, Ben – Critical Care Medicine
- Zentner, Alissa (Ali) – Community Internal Medicine

**Clinical Assistant Professor**
- Apperley, Scott – Respiratory Medicine
- Ayach, Bilal – Cardiology
- Bach, Paxton – AIDS/Social Medicine
- Beadon, Katherine – Neurology
- Belga, Sara – Infectious Diseases
- Bradley, Nori – Critical Care Medicine
- Chan, Barry – General Internal Medicine
- Chen, Shuo – Neurology
- Feige, Richard – Respiratory Medicine
- Funnell, Clark – Neurology
- Gilchrist, Tristen – General Internal Medicine
- Gupta, Kaveri – Infectious Diseases
- Hegedu, Janka – Neurology
- Hemmett, Ioulia (Juliya) – Nephrology
- Hertz, Paul – Community Internal Medicine
- Holtby, Caitlin – Neurology
- Holtz, Kaila – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Kadatz, Matthew – Nephrology
- Kanakos, Michael – Cardiology
• Khan, Razi – Cardiology
• Kohen, Samuel – Critical Care Medicine
• Lam, Morgan – Nephrology
• Luong, Christina – Cardiology
• Mackenzie, Melissa – Neurology
• Mann, Bikaramjit – Critical Care Medicine
• McKnight, Marla – Community Internal Medicine
• Merkeley, Hayley – Hematology
• Mitri, Mino – Palliative Care
• Moosavi, Mandana – Endocrinology & Metabolism
• Parkin, Stephen – Hematology
• Percy, Jennifer – Neurology
• Randhawa, Nikkie – Neurology
• Schabas, Alice – Neurology
• Sikkel, Markus – Cardiology
• Webber, Jordan – Cardiology
• Wenner, Joshua – Cardiology

Clinical Associate Professor
• Barbour, Sean - Nephrology
• Bhan, Virender - Neurology

Assistant Professor, Partner
• Brumme, Chanson – Infectious Diseases
• Deering, Kathleen – AIDS/Social Medicine
• Freeman, Ciara – Medical Oncology

Affiliate Assistant Professor
• Ahmadi, Amir – Cardiology
• Alkeridy, Walid – Geriatric Medicine
• Tsui, Clement – Infectious Diseases

FACULTY PROMOTIONS
Effective July 1, 2019

Clinical Assistant Professor
• Chan, Nathan – Community Internal Medicine
• Chase, Jocelyn – Geriatric Medicine
• Collins, Andrew – Palliative Care
• Colwill, Ann Marie – Rheumatology
• Das, Sharmistha – General Internal Medicine
• Finch, Daygen – Medical Oncology
• Fok, Mark – Geriatric Medicine
• Inkpen, Peter – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

• Janda, Surinder – Respiratory Medicine
• Kwong, Evan – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
• Lee, Mitchell – Community Internal Medicine
• Malhotra, Samir – Respiratory Medicine
• Parmar, Naaz – Geriatric Medicine
• Ren, Jia Jia – Endocrinology & Metabolism
• Scobie, Kathryn – Nephrology
• Stafford, Sara – Endocrinology & Metabolism
• Sun, Muxin (Max) – Rheumatology
• Uh, Mitchell – Rheumatology
• Wong, Michelle – Medicine
• Wong, Patrick – Infectious Diseases

Clinical Associate Professor
• Almehthel, Mohammed – Endocrinology & Metabolism
• Hamour, Abu – Community Internal Medicine
• Kimel, Gilad – General Internal Medicine
• Kur, Jason – Rheumatology
• Voyer, Stephane – General Internal Medicine
• Wright, Alissa – Infectious Diseases

Clinical Professor
• Chan, Albert – Cardiology
• Foltz, Lynda – Hematology
• Henderson, William – Critical Care Medicine
• Jaffer, Shahin – Community Internal Medicine
• Sutherland, Heather – Hematology

Associate Professor
• Field, Thalia - Neurology
• Quan, Brad - Respiratory Medicine

Associate Professor, Partner
• Renouf, Daniel - Medical Oncology

ACADEMIC FACULTY REAPPOINTMENTS
Effective July 1, 2019

Assistant Professor
• Kolind, Shannon - Neurology
### NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

**Start Dates between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020**

#### Clinical Instructor
- Abdulla, Alym – Hematology
- Asaduzzaman, Arundip – Rheumatology
- Aziz, Ahmed – Community Internal Medicine
- Babuk, Angela – Critical Care Medicine
- Bar, Simona – Community Internal Medicine
- Belayneh, Mathieos – Palliative Care
- Bhan, Vineet – Cardiology
- Bhrurji, Gurdev – Community Internal Medicine
- Bond, Alexandra – Community Internal Medicine
- Chan, Derrick – Geriatric Medicine
- Chan, Siu Him – Cardiology
- Chen, Rui – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Courteau, Catheirne – Palliative Care
- Foster, Colleen – Community Internal Medicine
- Fulton, Blair – Respiratory Medicine
- Garfinkle, Michael – Nephrology
- Gosset, Paul – Community Internal Medicine
- Ho, Richard – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Holland, Mary – Infectious Diseases
- Hubert, Matthieu – Palliative Care
- Jain, Akshay – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Kler, Jasmine – Community Internal Medicine
- Krete, Derek – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Lai, Joshua – Neurology
- Lea, Graham – Community Internal Medicine
- Leblanc, Ryan – Infectious Diseases
- Lee, Elizabeth – Nephrology
- Li, Damon – Neurology
- Marek, Caitlyn – Infectious Diseases
- Martyn, Alan – Community Internal Medicine
- Miller, Gary – Critical Care Medicine
- Milne, Kate – Respiratory Medicine
- Murphy, Kyle – Critical Care Medicine
- Pierce, Cameron – Respiratory Medicine
- Ravan, Hossein Sotoudeh – Community Internal Medicine
- Rodrigo, Judith – Hematology
- Roux, Daniel – Community Internal Medicine
- Sandhu, Supna – Endocrinology & Metabolism

#### Clinical Assistant Professor
- Al-Qurashi, Shatha Salem – Medical Oncology
- Brar, Sandeep – Nephrology
- Capes, Sarah – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Chalmers-Nixon, Tara – Gastroenterology
- Chen, Yuanyuan – Gastroenterology
- Darras, Pol – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Dong, Raymond – Cardiology
- Douglas, Josh – Infectious Diseases
- Fok, Daniel – Neurology
- Gill, Justin – Nephrology
- Greiner, Jesse – General Internal Medicine
- Ickowicz, Sarah – AIDS/Social Medicine
- Kim, Euisok – Community Internal Medicine
- Kirkpatrick, Gordon – Respiratory Medicine
- Lam, Ada – Community Internal Medicine
- Law, Tamryn – Cardiology
- Lee, Lauren – Hematology
- Leung, Joseph – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Liu, Angela – Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Min, David – Community Internal Medicine
- Palak, Gurpreet – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Poinen, Kris – Nephrology
- Rajan, Tasleem – Nephrology
- Rizzardo, Aaron – Community Internal Medicine
- Robbins, Sarah – Gastroenterology
- Shariff, Alyssa – General Internal Medicine
- Stoyanova, Valeria – Community Internal Medicine
- Tse, Dominic – Neurology
- Valtuille, Lucas – Cardiology
- Yeung, Darwin – Cardiology
- Zhang, Rui – Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACULTY PROMOTIONS</th>
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<td><strong>Effective July 1, 2020</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Clinical Assistant Professor**
- Baradaran, Nazli - Community Internal Medicine
- Baxter, Simon - Medical Oncology
- Chan, Vicky - Hematology
- Chang, Albert - Gastroenterology
- Chou, Annie - Cardiology
- Harris, Claire - Nephrology
- Ho, Catherine - Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Hui, Philip - Respiratory Medicine
- Kapeluto, Jordanna - Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Kerr, Jasmine - Community Internal Medicine
- Kumar, Ritu - Community Internal Medicine
- Li, Grace - Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- Morley, Erin - General Internal Medicine
- Northcott, Kimberly - Rheumatology
- Nussbaumer, Gary - Nephrology
- Ohata, Brent - Rheumatology
- Pearce, Jonathan - Palliative Care

**Clinical Associate Professor**
- Haljan, Greg - Critical Care Medicine
- Pearce, Stephen - Cardiology
- Tai, Isabella - Gastroenterology
- Carruthers, Robert - Neurology
- Chan, Alex - General Internal Medicine
- Constantine, Maggie - Hematology
- Cook, Wendy - Geriatric Medicine
- Cuncic, Cary - General Internal Medicine
- Elmayergi, Nader - Cardiology
- Gladstone, Peter - Cardiology
- Johnson, Michelle - Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Ksienski, Doran - Medical Oncology
- Kydd, Alison - Rheumatology
- Masuda, Valorie - Palliative Care
- Nijjar, Aman - General Internal Medicine
- Ovakim, Daniel - Critical Care Medicine
- Purkiss, Susan - General Internal Medicine
- Winston, Paul - Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

**Assistant Professor**
- Fairbairn, Nadia - AIDS/Social Medicine
- Laksman, Zachary - Cardiology
- Lan, James - Nephrology
- Kerr, Jasmine - Medical Oncology
- Kolind, Shannon - Neurology

**Affiliate Assistant Professor**
- Gil-Mohapel, Joana - Neurology
- Goldenberg, Shira - AIDS/Social Medicine
- Hayashi, Kanna - AIDS/Social Medicine
- Kaida, Angela - AIDS/Social Medicine
- McNeil, Ryan - AIDS/Social Medicine
- Gil-Mohapel, Joana - Neurology
- Goldenberg, Shira - AIDS/Social Medicine
- Hayashi, Kanna - AIDS/Social Medicine
- Kaida, Angela - AIDS/Social Medicine
- McNeil, Ryan - AIDS/Social Medicine

**Affiliate Professor**
- Keen, Kevin - Respiratory Medicine
- Keen, Kevin - Respiratory Medicine

**Adjunct Professor**
- Cheung, Lawrence - Palliative Care
- Cheung, Lawrence - Palliative Care

**ACADEMIC FACULTY REAPPOINTMENTS**

*Effective July 1, 2020*

**Clinical Professor**
- Lam, Eric - Gastroenterology
- Miller, David - Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Ramanathan, Krishnan - Cardiology
- Song, Kevin - Hematology

**Associate Professor**
- Brunham, Liam - General Internal Medicine
- Kolind, Shannon - Neurology

**Assistant Professor, Partner**
- Gerrie, Alina - Hematology

**Professor, Emeritus**
- Ricci, Donald - Cardiology
- Ricci, Donald - Cardiology
**EQUITY COMMITTEE**

**Chair**
- Dr. Diane Lacaille, DOM Associate Head Academic Affairs (term ended Sept 2020)

**Members**
- Dr. Anita Palepu
- Dr. Graydon Meneilly
- Dr. Andrea Townsend
- Dr. Nadia Khan
- Dr. Heather Leitch
- Dr. Yvette Leung
- Mary Liu, Director of Administration

**Administrative Support**
- Donna Combs, Administrative Coordinator to Department Head

**Reports To**
- Department Head, UBC Department of Medicine
- Associate Head, Academic Affairs, UBC Department of Medicine

**Function**
The Department of Medicine Equity Committee was created in 2009 to support the Department by monitoring and providing advice about matters that address issues of equity in the Department.

- To monitor the Department’s policies and practices in regards to equity issues and advise the Department Head of any practices which are perceived as discriminatory
- To develop equity guidelines for the Department
- To educate senior leadership on equity
- To support and sponsor events and programs designed to foster equity in the Department
- To promote appropriate change by initiating and participating in discussions designed to further equity in the Department
- At this time the primary focus of the Committee is gender equity

The committee meets quarterly.

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Chair**
- Dr. Anita Palepu, DOM Department Head

**Members**
- Associate Heads
- Division Heads
- Educational Program Directors
- Clinical Faculty Representative
- Senior Administration

**Administrative Support**
- Donna Combs, Administrative Coordinator to Department Head
- Kelsie Atwater, Administrative Assistant to Department Head

**Function**
The Department of Medicine is led by a diverse team of senior leaders, who are recognized for their national and international contributions to academic medicine.

Education, Research, and Academic Affairs are the portfolios that drive the Department of Medicine’s strategic vision and mission – and each portfolio is led by one of our three Associate Heads. Each of our 18 divisions is led by an appointed Division Head.

The leadership team meets monthly at the UBC Executive Committee Meeting where members share departmental and university business as well as engaging in strategic planning for the department. The team works together to create goals and objectives that continue to grow and strengthen the UBC Department of Medicine. Meeting minutes are taken and are distributed to all committee members and are filed in the DOM administration office/UBC Archives as an archival record of departmental business.

The committee meets monthly.
MENTORING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Director, Mentoring Program
• Dr. Diane Lacaille, DOM Associate Head Academic Affairs (term ended Oct 2020)
• Dr. Sharlene Gill, Professor, Division of Medical Oncology (term started Nov 2020)

Members
• Dr. John Mancini
• Dr. Anita Palepu
• Dr. Neil Reiner
• Dr. Graydon Meneilly
• Dr. Thomas Kerr
• Dr. Teresa Tsang
• Dr. Andrea Townson

Administrative Support
• Jane Zhang and Ana Sial, Faculty Hires & Promotions Manager

Reports to
• Department Head, UBC Department of Medicine

Function
The Mentoring Advisory Committee has overall responsibility for the Department of Medicine Mentoring Program, which operates within and is complementary to the Faculty of Medicine Mentoring Program. The committee liaises with the Department Executive Committee and the AARPT committee as needed.

The Committee members serve as an advisory group to the Committee chair and assist the chair as requested, in Program development and management. The Chair of the Mentoring Committee works closely with the Department Head to ensure that effective mentoring relationships are established and maintained for every new tenure track and grant tenure track department member from the time of their appointment through to their achievement of tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. The Committee ensures that every mentor-mentee relationship is documented and is functioning satisfactorily, and if not, that a new mentor is appointed. The Department Mentoring Program was established by Norman Wong in January 2005. John Cairns assumed the role of Director in July 2010. The mentoring Committee has worked hard to interpret the findings of the Department Research Task Force, and to implement changes to sustain and strengthen the Mentoring Program. The website has been much improved and made readily accessible. All materials needed to support the mentors and mentees are available on the Department website, and documentation is now possible without the creation, storage or transmission of paper documents.

We endeavour to ensure that a mentor is agreed upon by the date of completion of the recruitment process so that the relationship can begin soon after the commencement of the appointment. Ongoing, regular review and assessment of the Program occurs with the intent to implement change as needed.

Department of Medicine Mentor List
The Department of Medicine would like to acknowledge the following faculty members for their invaluable contributions to this important program in 2019-2020:
• Dr. Adeera Levin – Division of Nephrology, Department of Medicine
• Dr. Agnes Lee – Division of Hematology, Department of Medicine
• Dr. Aly Karsan – Department of Pathology
• Dr. Brian MacVicar – Department of Psychiatry
• Dr. Chris Carlsten – Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Medicine
• Dr. Chris McLeod – School of Population and Public Health
• Dr. David Huntsman – Department of Pathology
• Dr. David Schaeffer – Department of Pathology
• Dr. Ed Conway – Division of Hematology, Department of Medicine
• Dr. Gina Ogilvie – School of Population and Public Health
• Dr. Jane Boxton – School of Population and Public Health
• Dr. Joel Singer – School of Population and Public Health
• Dr. Kim McGrail – School of Population and Public Health
• Dr. Mieke Koehoorn – School of Population and Public Health
• Dr. Rob Holt – Department of Medical Genetics
• Dr. Sandra Jervis Salinger – Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
• Dr. Shaylih Muehlmann – Department of Anthropology
• Dr. Ted Steiner – Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine
• Dr. Vincent Duronio – Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Medicine
POSTGRADUATE RESIDENCY TRAINING COMMITTEE

Chair
- Dr. Mark Roberts, Director Postgraduate Education Program

Program Directors
- Dr. Wendy Cook, APD Curriculum
- Dr. Martha Spencer, APD Evaluation & Assessment
- Dr. Jane McKay, APD PGY4 (January – December 2019)
- Dr. Ritu Kumar, APD PGY4 (December 2019)
- Dr. Nathan Chan, Simulation Lead
- Dr. Shane Arishenkoff, Ultrasound Lead
- Dr. Jim Spence, Assistant Director Vancouver Island
- Dr. Peter Weerasinghe, APD Wellness
- Dr. Tristen Gilchrist, CBME Lead

CTU Directors
- Dr. Shane Arishenkoff
- Dr. Gerald Da Roza
- Dr. Barry Kassen
- Dr. Jasmine Kerr
- Dr. Sharla Olsen
- Dr. Allison Walzak

Subspecialty Representative
- Dr. Jordanna Kapeluto

Associate Head, Education
- Dr. Andrea Townson

Undergraduate Representative
- Dr. Harpinder Nagi

Chief Medical Residents
- Dr. Sean Addison
- Dr. Stephan Saad
- Dr. Wayne Hung
- Dr. Elena Barbir
- Dr. Jesse Tinker
- Dr. Lindsay Porter

Class Representatives
- Dr. Derin Karacabeyli
- Dr. Mitchell Vu
- Dr. Brian Kim
- Dr. Greta Joy
- Dr. Ben Schwartzentruber
- Dr. Nawal Alotaibi
- Dr. Riley Hicks
- Dr. Mark Warwas

Administrative Support
- Kathy Standeven, Senior Education Program Manager
- Laura Moss, Postgrad Program Manager
- Melissa Nightingale, Postgrad Program Coordinator
- Natalie Cheng, Postgrad Senior Program Assistant

Reports to
- Department Head, UBC Department of Medicine
- Faculty of Medicine PGME Office

Function
The Core Internal Medicine Residency Training Program meets monthly to review and plan the educational activities within the Department of Medicine Core Training Program as well as activities and issues as they may relate to 19 Clinical Teaching Units and 65 subspecialty training sites throughout British Columbia.

- To ensure the program meets the goals and specific standards of accreditation of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)
- To provide an opportunity for resident participation in administrative issues as well as providing a forum to present and discuss resident issues as they relate to each year
- Acting as a review committee when dealing with resident issues of a sensitive nature
- To develop, implement and evaluate education and administrative policies relevant to the Core Internal Medicine Training Program
- Interviewing and selection of Chief Medical Residents
- Review and revise educational objectives and evaluations in compliance with CanMEDS roles as developed by the RCPSC

Annual Report 2019-2020
RECRUITMENT AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Chair
• Dr. Diane Lacaille, DOM Associate Head Academic Affairs (term ended Sept 2020)

Members
• Dr. Adeera Levin
• Dr. Andrea Townson
• Dr. Andrew Ignaszewski (2019)
• Dr. Anita Palepu
• Dr. Ed Conway (2020)
• Dr. Graydon Meneilly
• Dr. Jon Stoessl (2019)
• Dr. Mark FitzGerald (2019)
• Dr. Sharlene Gill (2020)
• Dr. Teresa Tsang
• Amanda Grenier, Human Resources Manager

Administrative Support
• Jane Zhang and Ana Sial, Faculty Hires & Promotions Manager

Reports to
• Department Head, UBC Department of Medicine

Function
The Department of Medicine created a Recruitment and Resources Committee to oversee future academic faculty recruitments within the Department and to ensure that the recruitments follow the Department’s strategic recruitment direction, that appropriate resources are available, and that recruitments comply with the University’s equity policies. The Committee also reviews the progress of new recruits at 1 year and 2 years after they have begun their appointments to ensure that the recruits are on track for future success. This has resulted in a more efficient academic faculty recruitment process, and allows better strategic planning for recruitments within the Department. A representative from the Department’s Equity Committee also attends each meeting.
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chair
• Dr. Harpinder Nagi, Program Director

Members
• Dr. Jasjeet Rai, Associate Program Director
• Dr. Andrea Townson, Associate Head Education
• All Discipline Specific Site Lead (DSSL)
  • Dr. Sharmistha Das, VGH
  • Dr. Debbie Rosenbaum, SPH
  • Dr. Erin Blake, RCH
  • Dr. Michael Chapman, SMH
• All site Ambulatory Leads
  • Dr. Aman Nijjar, VGH
  • Dr. Renee Janssen, SPH
  • Dr. Yazdan Mirzanejad, SMH
• Student representatives for Year 3 at each site
  • VFMP: Raymond Cho (2019)/Vanessa Samuel (2020)
  • NMP: Kristin Dawson (2019)/Seamus Hogan (2020)
  • IMP: Sarah Gibbs (2019)/Maya DeVos (2020)
  • SMP: Leah Trippell (2019)/Jaskaran Khinda (2020)
• Student representatives for Year 4 at each site
  • VFMP: Daniel Ho (2019)/Michelle Ng (2020)
  • NMP: Tyler Pfanner (2019)/Kristin Dawson (2020)
  • IMP: Keely Hammond (2019)/Sarah Gibbs (2020)
  • SMP: Sarah Fraser (2019)/Leah Trippell (2020)
• Clerkship Program Administrators
  • Chenoa Mah, Senior Program Assistant, Ambulatory Rotation, SMH (2020)

Reports To
• Department Head, UBC Department of Medicine
• Associate Head, Education, UBC Department of Medicine
• MD Undergraduate Year 3&4 Sub Committee
• Student Promotion Review Board

Function
The Internal Medicine Undergraduate Education Committee (hereafter: “UEC”) is a standing committee responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating the Year 3 Internal Medicine clerkship rotations and Year 4 electives across all four sites: Island Medical Program (IMP), Northern Medical Program (NMP), Southern Medical Program (SMP) and the Vancouver Fraser Medical Program (VFMP).

The Committee is chaired by the Undergraduate Program Director and membership is comprised of associate directors, Discipline Specific site Leads, faculty representatives from each distributed site, students from each year at each distributed site, and several non-voting members including the Head of Medicine and several representatives from each of the distributed sites. The committee meets every 4 to 6 weeks or as required.
Dr. Jason Barton, Division of Neurology
Marianne Koerner Chair in Brain Diseases and Canada Research Chair in Human Vision and Eye Movement
Dr. Barton studies high-level visual processing and the cognitive control of eye movements. His research increases the understanding of the functional and anatomical basis of perceptual dysfunction in neurological disorders and the impact of visual rehabilitation.

Dr. Liam Brunham, Division of General Internal Medicine (starting April 1, 2019)
Canada Research Chair in Precision Cardiovascular Disease Prevention
Dr. Brunham’s research focuses on genetic aspects of cholesterol levels, cardiovascular disease (CVD), and pharmacogenomics. His research uses genomics to identify patients at risk of heart disease, improve their care, and lead to new ways to identify patients at risk for heart disease and to safer and more effective ways to treat and prevent this condition.

Dr. Christopher Carlsten, Division of Respiratory Medicine
AstraZeneca Chair in Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease and Canada Research Chair in Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease
Dr. Carlsten’s research aims to understand the effects of inhaled pollutants on the lungs in order to better prevent and treat lung disease.

Dr. Ed Conway, Division of Hematology
Canada Research Chair in Endothelial Cell Biology
Dr. Conway’s program researches the management of bleeding and immune system disorders. Since inflammation and cancer are often associated with excess blood clotting, Dr. Conway’s research aims to determine the mechanisms in the blood and on the blood vessel wall. This will allow the design of better therapies and preventative strategies to prevent thrombosis.

Dr. Judy Illes, Division of Neurology
Canada Research Chair in Neuroethics
Dr. Illes’ research has made contributions to ethical, social, and policy challenges at the intersection of biomedical ethics and neuroscience, with a specific focus on aging and dementia, addiction and mental health, neuroimaging, stem cells, cross-cultural values, and the commercialization of health care.

Dr. Kate Shannon, Division of AIDS/Social Medicine
Canada Research Chair in Global Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS
Dr. Shannon’s research focuses on evaluating and addressing sexual health and HIV inequities and social justice among marginalized women and gender and sexual minority populations.

Dr. Don Sin, Division of Respiratory Medicine
Canada Research Chair in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
Dr. Sin is developing a simple blood test that can be used in a doctor’s office to predict which chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) patients will have a “lung attack” and which patients will not. He is also working to develop a simple blood test to diagnose lung attacks in their earliest stages. These blood tests will help doctors to treat and prevent full blown lung attacks from taking place so patients can be treated at home and thus reduce the number of patients having to seek emergency care at hospitals.

Dr. A. Jon Stoessl, Division of Neurology
Canada Research Chair in Parkinson’s disease
Dr. Stoessl’s research uses positron emission tomography (PET) to study people at high risk of Parkinson’s disease. He researches susceptibility to future neurodegeneration following minor head trauma and uses PET to determine the benefits of exercise in Parkinson’s disease.

Dr. Helen Tremlett, Division of Neurology
Canada Research Chair in Neuroepidemiology and Multiple Sclerosis
Dr. Tremlett’s research leads a pan-Canadian study into Multiple Sclerosis to improve the health, treatment options and outcomes for people with the degenerative brain and spinal-cord disease.

Dr. Evan Wood, Division of AIDS/Social Medicine
Canada Research Chair in Inner City Medicine
Dr. Wood’s research uses unique approaches to address substantial health and community concerns in low-income neighbourhoods where poverty, mental illness and drug addiction converge for the betterment of society.
ENDOWED CHAIRS

Drs. Andrea Townsend, Division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and Teresa Tsang, Division of Cardiology (until Aug 31, 2019)
Eric W. Hamber Chair in Medicine
As Co-Acting Heads of the Department of Medicine, Drs. Townsend and Tsang provided leadership in academic affairs, education, and research. They have encouraged and developed collaborative relationships with the divisions and programs within the Department of Medicine.

Dr. Anita Palepu, Division of General Internal Medicine (starting Sept 1, 2019)
Eric W. Hamber Chair in Medicine
Dr. Palepu is an outstanding clinician, educator, researcher, mentor and administrator who has been recognized for excellence in each of these areas and is highly regarded by everyone who knows her. She has held a number of leadership and administrative roles and her record of professional service is exemplary. She is well known as an energetic and enthusiastic leader, and she will be a tremendous asset to the Department, the Faculty, and the University as Head of the UBC Department of Medicine.

Dr. Diane Lacaille, Division of Rheumatology
Mary Pack Chair in Arthritis Research
Dr. Lacaille’s research has focused on studying the impact of arthritis on employment, preventing work disability and evaluating the quality and outcome of care for those with rheumatoid arthritis.

Dr. Andrew Krahn, Division of Cardiology
Sauder Family Heart and Stroke Foundation Chair in Cardiology and the Paul Brunes UBC Professorship in Heart Rhythm Disorders
An internationally recognized expert in the management of cardiac arrhythmias, Dr. Krahn’s research includes investigating the genetic causes of arrhythmias, causes of loss of consciousness, and implantable arrhythmia device monitoring.

Dr. Anthony Traboulsee, Division of Neurology
Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada Research Chair
Dr. Traboulsee’s research focuses on clinical trial design, the development of practice guidelines for the use of MRI in the management of MS, establishing advanced MRI imaging outcomes in Multiple Sclerosis, and the treatment of Neuromyelitis Optica.

Dr. Martin McKeown, Division of Neurology
Pacific Parkinson’s Research Institute UBC Chair in Parkinson’s Research
Dr. McKeown’s research investigates ways which assist people with Parkinson’s disease and related disorders. His research looks at novel interventions and treatments for Parkinson’s disease, as well as examining the mechanisms of disease complications and examining compensatory mechanisms in Parkinson’s disease as they may provide novel targets for intervention.

Dr. Kenneth Madden, Division of Geriatric Medicine
Allan M. McGavin Chair in Geriatrics Research
Dr. Madden’s research is to improve preventive health interventions in older adults. His research is looking to discover new ways to prevent falls due to fainting, and to improve overall cardiovascular health in older adults through exercise. His laboratory uses innovative translational techniques designed to shorten the time lag between bench research and “real world” applications.

Dr. Julio Montaner, Division of Infectious Diseases
UBC and St. Paul’s Hospital Foundation Chair in AIDS Research
Dr. Montaner’s current major research interests are harm reduction (including safe injection sites and needle exchange programs), treating hard-to-reach HIV-positive populations, and developing new antiretrovirals. He is also focusing on optimizing HAART (Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy) treatment and authoring further studies on the “Treatment as Prevention” strategy.

Dr. Andrei Krassioukov, Division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Chair in Spinal Cord Rehabilitation Research
Dr. Krassioukov’s research is devoted to helping people with spinal cord injuries maintain their cardiovascular health. His focus is on a condition commonly known as autonomic dysreflexia, a condition familiar to the majority of individuals with spinal cord injuries as well as their caregivers.

Dr. Yu Tian Wang, Division of Neurology
Heart and Stroke Foundation Chair in Stroke Research
Dr. Wang’s research focuses on understanding the molecular mechanisms responsible for regulating the function and intracellular trafficking of neurotransmitter receptors critical for brain functions, such as learning, memory and cognition, and investigating the manner by which these mechanisms may be altered in central nervous disease processes.
PROFESSORSHIPS

Dr. Silke Appel-Cresswell, Division of Neurology  
Pacific Parkinson’s Research Institute Professorship in Parkinson’s Research Endowment  
Dr. Appel-Cresswell’s research focuses on the role of the microbiome in Parkinson’s disease and other brain disorders, care delivery in Parkinson’s as well as coping strategies, resilience and neuropsychiatric features of Parkinson’s. She has established iCAPTURE PD, a large registry for Parkinson’s and related disorders which serves as a resource to understand clinical patterns and clinic-genetic correlations.

Dr. Richard Harrigan, Division of AIDS/Social Medicine  
Glen-Hillson Professorship in Clinical HIV Virology  
Dr. Harrigan’s research has contributed to the understanding of antiviral drug efficacy and resistance, as well as the human and viral parameters that influence HIV disease progression. His laboratory has developed and distributed software for improved automated analysis of HIV drug resistance (“ReCall”), which is now being used worldwide. Dr. Harrigan’s research in these areas has played a key role in enabling the significant improvements in quality and duration of life afforded patients by HAART (Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy).

Dr. Stephan van Eeden, Division of Respiratory Medicine  
Glaxosmithkline Professorship in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder  
Dr. van Eeden’s research program focuses on the mechanisms of lung inflammation, particularly, lung inflammation caused by infection, cigarette smoking, and air pollution. Dr. van Eeden’s research covers a broad range of clinical conditions such as pneumonia, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and acute respiratory distress syndrome.

Dr. John Webb, Division of Cardiology  
McLeod Family Professorship in Valvular Heart Disease  
Dr. Webb performed the first transfemoral and the first transapical transcatheter aortic valve implantation in the world. Dr. Webb also completed the first ever transcatheter mitral valve-in-valve replacement and the first in-human TMVR (transcatheter mitral valve replacement) to be completed with the Neovasc Tiara device.

Dr. Thalia Field, Division of Neurology (starting Jul 1, 2020)  
Sauder Family Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon Professorship in Clinical Stroke Research  
Dr. Field is a stroke neurologist and clinician-researcher with a focus on clinical trials. Her research focus includes process improvement in clinical trials, which includes optimizing strategies for participant recruitment and retention, investigating strategies for efficient use of resources, and selecting outcomes that are of relevance to patients. Her research also investigates the role of technology in meeting these challenges, including the use of telemedicine for remote recruitment and assessment of study participants, and the use of artificial intelligence to enhance efficiency in trials by enriching trial populations, automating components of participant assessments, and helping to identify important patient-centred outcomes.

Dr. Haakon B. Nygaard, Division of Neurology  
Charles E. Fipke Professorship in Alzheimer’s Research  
Dr. Nygaard leads a project to sequence the genomes of centenarians in search for a genetic cause of dementia-free aging. Dr. Nygaard hopes to bridge the gap between basic science and clinical neurology to facilitate novel therapeutic development in Alzheimer’s disease.

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS

Dr. Zackary Laksman, Division of Cardiology (until Jun 30, 2020)  
UBC Dr. Charles Kerr Distinguished Scholar in Cardiovascular Genetics  
Dr. Laksman is conducting research on the genetic basis for diseases of the heart muscle, heart rhythm, and sudden cardiac death with an interest in atrial fibrillation. An element of Dr. Laksman’s work also involves using a stem cell model and growing heart cells in a dish. In doing so, Dr. Laksman can model an individual patient’s specific disease, apply medicines to it, and study the cause of the disease and the effect of treatment.

Dr. Nathaniel Hawkins, Division of Cardiology  
UBC Dr. Charles Kerr Distinguished Scholar in Heart Rhythm Management  
Dr. Hawkins’ research touches on numerous stages of care for heart device patients, such as the development of registries and data systems to more effectively identify patients who could benefit from heart devices. Dr. Hawkins is also investigating outcomes for heart device patients, which could lead to fewer complications and higher survival rates.
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AWARDS & SIGNIFICANT HONOURS

**UBC DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AWARDS**

**Faculty Awards**

**Donald M. Whitelaw Award for Outstanding Grand Rounds Presentation**
- 2019 SPH - Dr. Jake Onrot (General Internal Medicine)
- 2019 VGH - Dr. Howard Lim (Medical Oncology)
- 2020 SPH - Dr. Val Montessori (Infectious Diseases)
- 2020 VGH - Dr. Luke Chen (Hematology)

**Fay R. Dirks Award for Excellence in Teaching**
- 2019 SPH - Dr. Kevin Ong (Cardiology)
- 2019 VGH - Dr. Cary Cuncic (General Internal Medicine)
- 2020 SPH - Dr. Barry Chan (General Internal Medicine)
- 2020 VGH - Dr. Shane Anshenkov (General Internal Medicine)

**PHC Graeme Copland Clinician Teacher Award**
- 2019 SPH - Dr. Kevin Ong (Cardiology)
- 2020 SPH - Dr. Ken Kaila (Cardiology/Critical Care Medicine)

**Martin M. Hoffman Award for Excellence in Research**
- 2019 SPH - Dr. Brad Quon (Respiratory Medicine)
- 2019 VGH - Dr. Helen Tremlett (Neurology)
- 2020 SPH - Dr. Jag Gill (Nephrology)

**PHC St. Paul's Hospital Faculty Research Award**
- 2019 SPH - Dr. Brad Quon (Respiratory Medicine)
- 2020 SPH - Dr. Gordon Francis (Endocrinology)

**UBC Master Teacher Award**
- 2019 SPH - Dr. Barry Kassen (General Internal Medicine)
- 2019 VGH - Dr. Graham Wong (Cardiology)
- 2020 SPH - Dr. Stephane Voyer (General Internal Medicine)
- 2020 VGH - Dr. Thomas Neville (Hematology)

**PHC Howard B. Stein Master Teacher Award**
- 2019 SPH - Dr. Barry Kassen (General Internal Medicine)
- 2020 SPH - Dr. Krishnan Ramanathan (Cardiology)

**Graydon Meneilly Award for Excellence in Mentoring**
- 2020 - Dr. Jon Stoessl (Neurology)

**Staff Awards**

**CUPE 2950 Staff Award of Excellence**
- 2019 - Pattie Chow (Respiratory Medicine)
- 2019 - Marianne Bacani (Neurology)

**Staff Award for Early Career Excellence**
- 2019 - Ginny Mak, Administrative Assistant to the Head, Department of Medicine
- 2020 - Anna Meredith, Research Manager, Department of Medicine

**M&P Staff Award of Excellence**
- 2019 - Yvonne Ng, Division Administrator (Neurology)
- 2020 - Laura Moss, Postgraduate Program Manager, Department of Medicine

**Staff Award of Excellence Non-union Technical Staff**
- 2019 - Marilyn Robertson, Research Manager (Infectious Diseases)

**UBC FACULTY OF MEDICINE AWARDS**

**Academic Gowns**
- 2019
  - Dr. Albert Chan (Cardiology)
  - Dr. Lynda Foltz (Hematology)
  - Dr. William Henderson (Infectious Diseases)
  - Dr. Shahin Jaffer (Community Internal Medicine)
  - Dr. Heather Sutherland (Hematology)
  - Dr. Michael Barnett, Emeriti (Hematology)
  - Dr. Clifford Chan-Yan, Emeriti (Nephrology)
  - Dr. Karin Humphries, Emeriti (Cardiology)
- 2020
  - Dr. Eric Lam (Gastroenterology)
  - Dr. David Miller (Endocrinology & Metabolism)
  - Dr. Krishnan Ramanathan (Cardiology)
  - Dr. Kevin Song (Hematology)
  - Dr. Peter Dodek, Emeriti (Critical Care Medicine)
  - Dr. Donald Ricci, Emeriti (Cardiology)
  - Dr. Robert Schellenberg, Emeriti (Allergy & Immunology)

Annual Report 2019-2020
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<tr>
<th>Award Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award for Distinguished Service to CME/CPD</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Vic Huckell (Cardiology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill and Marilyn Webber Lifetime Achievement</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Keith Walley (Critical Care Medicine)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Faculty Award for Career Excellence in Clinical Teaching</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Kenyon (Community Internal Medicine)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Alison Walzak (Community Internal Medicine)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. Mary Kestler (Infectious Diseases)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distinguished Achievement Award for Career Excellence in Basic Science Research</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. Shannon Kolind (Neurology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in Education</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Tricia Tang (Endocrinology &amp; Metabolism)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distinguished Achievement Award for Overall Excellence Senior Faculty</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. Jonathon Leipsic (Cardiology)</td>
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<td>Distinguished Achievement Award for Service to the University and Community</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. Jon Stoessl (Neurology)</td>
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<td>Distinguished Researcher Award</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. Judy Illes (Neurology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>UBC Excellence in Health Administration Award</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Claire Harris (Nephrology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>UBC Killam Teaching Prize</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. Saul Isserow (Cardiology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>UBC Killam Research Prize</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Andrew Krahn (Cardiology)</td>
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<td>UBC New Faculty Research Award</td>
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<td>Dr. Andrea Krüsi (Social Medicine)</td>
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<td>UBC President's Staff Award for Emerging Leadership</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Laura Moss, Manager, IM Residency Program</td>
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<td>UBC VPRI Supercluster Expansion Award</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. Teresa Tsang (Cardiology)</td>
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<td>EXTERNAL AWARDS AND HONOURS</td>
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<td>AllerGen Michelle Harkness Mentorship Award</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Gurpreet Singhera (Respiratory Medicine)</td>
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<td>ALS Society of BC Dr. Andrew Eisen Leadership Development Award</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Julie Robillard (Neurology)</td>
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<td>Arthritis Research Canada Associate Scientific Director</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Diane Lacaille (Rheumatology)</td>
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<td>Australia and New Zealand Society of Geriatric Medicine International Visiting Professor Medal</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Roger Wong (Geriatric Medicine)</td>
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<td>American Association of Kidney Patients Medal of Excellence</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Dr. John Gill (Nephrology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Joshua B. Cantor Award</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Noah Silverberg (Physical Medicine &amp; Rehabilitation)</td>
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<td>American Journal of Transplantation Outstanding Article Award - Clinical Science Category</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Matthew Kadatz (Nephrology)</td>
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<td>American Society for Clinical Investigation Young Physician Scientist Award</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Liam Brunham (General Internal Medicine)</td>
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<td>American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy International Service Award</td>
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<td>Dr. Robert Enns (Gastroenterology)</td>
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<td>American Spinal Cord Injury Association, Elected President</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. Andrei Krassioukov (Physical Medicine &amp; Rehabilitation)</td>
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<td>BC Cancer Resident’s Mentorship Award</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dr. David Scott (Hematology)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Annual Report 2019-2020

BC Renal Wilma Crockett Award
2019 - Dr. David Landsberg (Nephrology)

BC Support Unit P2P Award
2019 - Dr. Julie Robillard (Neurology)

Bloomberg Canada's Top 40 Under 40
2019 - Dr. Zachary Laksman (Cardiology)
2020 - Dr. Thalia Field (Neurology)

Canada Post Commemorative Stamp
2020 - Dr. Julio Montaner (Infectious Diseases)

Canadian Association for Medical Education Ian Hart Award
2019 - Dr. Kevin Eva (General Internal Medicine)

Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Best Quality Improvement Project Presentation at ASM
2019 - Dr. Evan Kwong (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Dr. Meridith Marks Award
2020 - Dr. Andrei Krassioukov (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Canadian Association of Professors of Medicine Ronald Christie Award
2019 - Dr. Graydon Meneilly (Geriatric Medicine)

Canadian Cancer Trials Group Dr. Elizabeth Eisenhauer Early Drug Development Young Investigator Award
2020 - Dr. Sara Taylor (Medical Oncology)

Canadian Cardiovascular Congress Meeting Chair
2019 - Dr. Ken Gin (Cardiology)

Canadian Cardiovascular Society Achievement Award for COVID-19 Rapid Response Team Lead
2020 - Dr. Andrew Krahn (Cardiology)

Canadian Cardiovascular Society Dr. Harold Segall Award of Merit
2020 - Dr. Andrew Krahn (Cardiology)

Canadian Cardiovascular Society Distinguished Teacher Award
2019 - Dr. Graham Wong (Cardiology)

Canadian Cardiovascular Society Young Investigator Award in Basic Science
2020 winner - Dr. Liam Brunham (General Internal Medicine)
2020 runner-up - Dr. Zachary Laksman (Cardiology)

Canadian Health Informatics Clinical Innovator Award
2020 - Dr. Richard Lester (Infectious Diseases)

Canadian Geriatrics Society Ronald Cape Distinguished Service Award
2019 - Dr. Roger Wong (Geriatric Medicine)

Canadian Liver Foundation 50th Anniversary Recognition Medal
2019 - Dr. Eric Yoshida (Gastroenterology)

Canadian Lung Association Distinguished Ambassador Award
2020 - Dr. Mark FitzGerald (Respiratory Medicine)

Canadian Rheumatology Association Distinguished Investigator Award
2019 - Dr. Diane Lacaille (Rheumatology)

Canadian Society for Psychomotor Learning and Sport Psychology Great Supervisor Award
2019 - Dr. Kathleen Martin-Ginis (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

Canadian Society for Transplantation Clinician Recognition Award
2019 - Dr. Robert Levy (Respiratory Medicine)

Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism Dr. John Dupré Award
2020 - Dr. Davis Sam (Endocrinology & Metabolism)

Canadian Thoracic Society Distinguished Lecturer
2019 - Dr. Mark FitzGerald (Respiratory Medicine)

Canadian Women’s Heart Health Advocacy Award
2020 - Dr. Tara Sedlak (Cardiology)

Clarivate Analytics World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds
2019 - Dr. Joseph Connors (Medical Oncology)
2019 - Dr. John Webb (Cardiology)

Complex Cardiovascular Catheter Therapeutics Global Summit Luminary Award
2019 - Dr. David Wood (Cardiology)

Doctors of BC Terry Fox Medal
2020 - Dr. Stephen Lam (Respiratory Medicine)

Health Employees Association of BC Gold Apple Award for Collaborative Solutions
2020 - Dr. Hussein Kanji (Critical Care Medicine)

Kidney Foundation of Canada Organ Donation and Transplantation Award
2020 - Dr. Jag Gill (Nephrology)
**Lions Club International Medal of Merit**  
2019 - Dr. Roger Wong (Geriatric Medicine)

**Medical Council of Canada Outstanding Achievement Award in the Evaluation of Clinical Competence**  
2019 - Dr. Rose Hatala (General Internal Medicine)

**Medical Staff Association of Children and Women's Hospital Indigenous Health and Outreach Advocate Award**  
2019 - Dr. Neora Pick (Infectious Diseases)

**MSFHR Aubrey J. Tingle Award**  
2019 - Dr. Jerilynn Prior (Endocrinology & Metabolism)

**MSFHR Convening & Collaborating (C2C) Program Award**  
2019 - Dr. Ken Madden (Geriatric Medicine)  
2019 - Drs. Kam Shojania and Diane Lacaille (Rheumatology)  
2019 - Dr. Nicol McPherson (Medical Oncology)  
2019 - Drs. Thalia Field (Neurology), Nat Hawkins (Cardiology), Richard Lester (Infectious Diseases), Don Sin (Respiratory Medicine), and Sean Virani (Cardiology)  
2020 - Dr. Lianping Ti and Rod Knight (AIDS/Social Medicine)

**MSFHR Health Professional Investigator Award**  
2019 - Dr. Christopher Fordyce (Cardiology)  
2019 - Dr. James Johnston (Respiratory Medicine)  
2019 - Dr. Jonathan Loree (Medical Oncology)  
2019 - Dr. Katherine Plewes (Infectious Diseases)  
2019 - Dr. Christopher Ryerson (Respiratory Medicine)  
2019 - Dr. Jacqueline Saw (Cardiology)  
2019 - Dr. David Scott (Hematology)  
2020 - Dr. Alina Gerrie (Hematology)  
2020 - Dr. Gordon Francis (Endocrinology & Metabolism)  
2020 - Dr. John Staples (General Internal Medicine)  
2020 - Dr. Mypinder Sekhon (Critical Care Medicine)

**MSFHR Innovation to Commercialization Award**  
2019 - Dr. Don Sin (Respiratory Medicine)

**MSFHR Reach Awards**  
2019 - Dr. Liam Brunham (General Internal Medicine)  
2020 - Dr. Thalia Field (Neurology)  
2020 - Dr. Janessa Laskin (Medical Oncology)

**MSFHR Research Trainee Award**  
2020 - Dr. Alyson Wong (Respiratory Medicine)

**MSFHR Scholar Award**  
2020 - Dr. Jade Boyd (AIDS/Social Medicine)  
2020 - Dr. Kathleen Deering (AIDS/Social Medicine)

**National Women's Heart Health Award**  
2020 - Dr. Tara Sedlak (Cardiology)

**North American Alliance of Research in Congenital Cardiology President Elect**  
2020 - Dr. Jasmine Grewal (Cardiology)

**Order of Canada Member**  
2020 - Dr. Lynn Beattie (Geriatric Medicine)  
2020 - Dr. Joseph Connors (Medical Oncology)  
2020 - Dr. Roger Wong (Geriatric Medicine)

**Providence Health Care Research Institute Research and Mission Award**  
2019 - Dr. Karin Humphries (Cardiology)  
2020 - Dr. Anita Palepu (General Internal Medicine)

**Provincial Collaboration Award for Facility Engagement Team (RIH)**  
2019 - Dr. Joslyn Conley (Nephrology)

**Queensland Department of Health Minister's Award of Excellence**  
2019 - Dr. Adeera Levin (Nephrology)

**Resident Doctors of British Columbia Dr. Patricia Clugston Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching**  
2020 - Dr. Kaila Holtz (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

**RCPSC Duncan Graham Award**  
2020 - Dr. Roger Wong (Geriatric Medicine)

**Society of Cardiovascular Tomography Gold Award**  
2019 - Dr. Jonathan Leipsic (Cardiology)

**South Island Medical Staff Association Recognition Award**  
2020 - Dr. Paul Winston (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

**Spinal Cord Journal Readers’ Choice Award**  
2019 - Dr. Kathleen Martin-Ginis (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

**University of Alberta Distinguished Lecturer in Rehab Sciences Research**  
2019 - Dr. Janice Eng (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)
University of Ottawa Heart Institute South Asian Heart Health Lectureship
2019 - Dr. Nadia Khan (General Internal Medicine)

University of Ottawa Rising Star Achievement Award
2019 - Dr. Jason Andrade (Cardiology)

VCHRI Investigator Award
2019 - Dr. Mypinder Sekhon (Critical Care Medicine)
2019 - Dr. Michael Berger (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)
2020 - Dr. Rachel Jen (Respiratory Medicine)
2020 - Dr. Matthew Kadatz (Nephrology)

VCHRI Innovation & Translational Research Award
2019 - Dr. Thalia Field (Neurology)
2019 - Dr. Richard Lester (Infectious Diseases)
2020 - Dr. Marc Deyell (Cardiology)
2020 - Dr. Christina Luong (Cardiology)
2020 - Dr. Kenneth Madden (Geriatric Medicine)

VCHRI Patient-Oriented Research Award
2020 - Dr. Michael Berger (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)
2020 - Dr. Thalia Field (Neurology)
2020 - Dr. James Lan (Nephrology)

Vancouver Island Health Authority Gold Award for Evidence into Practice
2020 - Drs. Paul Winston & Michael Berger (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

VMDA Clinical Excellence Award
2019 - Dr. Alissa Wright (Infectious Diseases)
2020 - Dr. Peter Kwan (Endocrinology & Metabolism)

VMDA Larry Collins Award for Committee Service
2019 - Dr. Andrea Townson (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

VMDA Scientific Achievement Award
2019 - Dr. Christopher Carlsten (Respiratory Medicine)
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Medicine
Faculty of Medicine

EDUCATION
OFFICE OF EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

Dr. Andrea Townson, Associate Head, Education

Undergraduate Education Office

- Dr. Harpinder Nagi, Program Director
- Dr. Jasjeet Rai, Associate Program Director

Postgraduate Education Office

- Dr. Mark Roberts, Director Postgraduate Education Program
- Dr. Jim Spence, Assistant Director, Postgraduate Education Program Vancouver Island
- Dr. Peter Weerasinghe, Associate Program Director (Wellness)
- Dr. Martha Spencer, Associate Program Director (Evaluation & Assessment)
- Dr. Ritu Kumar, Associate Program Director (PGY4)
- Dr. Wendy Cook, Associate Program Director (Curriculum)
- Dr. Shane Arishenkoff, Lead Ultrasound Program
- Dr. Nathan Chan, Lead Simulation Program
- Dr. Tristen Gilchrist, Lead, Competency Based Medical Education (2020)

Leadership Changes Undergraduate Education

- Dr. Erin Blake replaced Dr. Dave Shu as DSSL at RCH in April 2019
- Dr. Renee Janssen replaced Dr. Richard Arseneau as IM AMB Site Lead at SPH in May 2020
- Dr. Tristen Gilchrist appointed in new CBME Lead role in January 2020
- Dr. Tristen Gilchrist replaced Dr. Wendy Cook in December 2020 as Associate Program Director, Curriculum

Leadership Changes Postgraduate Education

- Dr. Ritu Kumar replaced Dr. Jane McKay in December 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- First cohort of medical students to complete the renewed curriculum and graduate in 2019
- Undergraduate Medical Program received full accreditation in June 2019 with the next full review planned for the 2023/2024 Academic year
- Competence by Design launched in July 2019 with the incoming PGY1 class
- Postgraduate program underwent a successful Internal Review in June 2019, with high praise for faculty and staff in preparation for Royal College Accreditation in 2020
- Successfully filled all PGY1 CaRMS positions for Canadian and International Medical Graduates in 2019 and 2020
- International Health Elective moved to Butare, Rwanda, and the new elective / partnership was very favourably received by faculty and residents
- Undergraduate Clerkships discontinued as of March 14, 2020 due to COVID-19
In response to the Royal College examinations moving to the PGY3 year, the postgraduate program expanded its OSCE content, and moved the timing of the annual Winter retreat from March to December. PGY1 academic half day curriculum was also expanded significantly to include further simulation training on communication and difficult conversations.

Class of 2021 Year 3 students returned to complete clinical placements on July 6, 2020 and entered their Year 4 on August 31, 2020 and Class of 2022 entered an 8 week Bootcamp/self study period on July 6 and started clinical placements on August 30th to avoid a double cohort and related capacity limitations.

The 16 week break in clinical learning resulted in the need to compress rotations with CTU shortened from 6 weeks to 5 weeks and IM Ambulatory rotations shortened from 2 weeks to 1 week plus a shared week amongst IM, Emergency Medicine, Dermatology and Ophthalmology clinics. Shortened rotations will keep graduation dates unchanged.

Competence by Design entered its second year with the 2020/2021 PGY1 class.

Postgraduate program underwent a successful Royal College Accreditation site visit, with high praise for faculty, staff, and support of resident wellness. The Program was fully accredited with follow-up by regular accreditation review.

Reacted swiftly in response to the onset of the global pandemic in the spring, mobilizing all residents to effectively staff inpatient units.

Transitioned all academic curriculum to online delivery, including Resident Research Day, Boot Camp, OSCEs, Academic Half Day etc.

Faculty Recognition, Support, and Development
- Presented our annual “Honour Roll for Clinical Teaching Excellence Award” to recognize the top ten percent of Undergraduate and Postgraduate teachers for outpatient and inpatient learning experiences (held in person in 2019 and virtually in 2020).
- At 2020 awards ceremony, recognized two leading educators stepping down: Dr. Amanda Hill and Dr. Richard Arseneau.
- Updated the teaching opportunity contact list for all Undergraduate Scheduled Teaching.
- Continued to review the Formal Educational Activities guidelines for Academic Faculty.
- Started the investigation into Revenue Generating Education opportunities with partnering programs at UBC.
- Continued to seek out collaborations for potential course development and supported the new course submission, Experimental Medicine: Data Science & Health created within the Strategic Investment Fund Project: Data Science & Health: Mapping an Education Trajectory.

Scholarship Promotion
- Meetings with partners such as CHES, Faculty Development.
- Regular meetings with DOM Education Scholar to discuss ways to promote educational scholarship (at an individual and Departmental level).
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Internal Medicine Ambulatory Rotations
• Supported the continuing development of the rotation with the creation of a Site Lead working group to share best practices and contribute to the further development of the exam question bank
• Arranged for the last week of each Emergency Medicine rotation to be shared with Internal Medicine, Dermatology and Ophthalmology as part of the Ambulatory block to add back a few more clinics lost with the shortening of the rotations

Curriculum renewal
• Members of the Department of Medicine continued to contribute to this process by creating modified materials and processes reflecting any identified needed curriculum modifications and mapping improvements
• Considered the introduction of a week of dedicated Neurology training into the CTU rotation. After weighing the negative impact on shortening the CTU rotation, the pilot was put on hold

Curriculum response to COVID-19
• Revised Academic Half Day curriculum delivery method and format. All sessions changed to online remote learning and flipped the classroom with most sessions changed to Q&A sessions based on scheduled topics with pre-assigned materials
• Implemented COVID-19 guidelines for patient risk assessment to protect students from exposure on CTU
• Out of Province Electives cancelled for the remainder of the 2020

Accreditation
• Implemented Continuous Quality Improvement changes to address opportunities as identified in preparation for the Accreditation survey focusing primarily on timely completion of student assessments, managing workload and clarity of learning objectives

Continuous Improvement
• Received high ratings from the ESU survey showing significant improvement in the areas of clarity of objectives and expectations as well as workload management

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Competency Based Education
• Attended annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Internal Medicine Program Directors (CAIMPD) in Ottawa, focusing on CBD in terms of final phase of the launch and Accreditation in 2019
• Launch of CBME for the new PGY1 class in July 2019. Successful onboarding of new class onto Entrada platform and orientation to EPAs in Boot Camp. Residents met with academic coaches and the Competence Committee met in the fall to evaluate progress
• In 2020, entered its second year with the PGY1 class of 2020/2021. Reporting functionality in Entrada was expanded to allow improved, targeted tracking of EPAs for ongoing quality improvement and faculty development
• Resident coaching continued to be an integral and well-received aspect of CBME
• Scope of the Competence Committee increased to include PGY1 and 2 classes, and began to meet quarterly for reviews

Curriculum Updates
• Successful delivery of 2 cycles of two week boot camp for incoming PGY1s in July. Resident evaluations were very positive
• Successful delivery of formative OSCEs for all levels of training with strong support and feedback from residents
• In recognition of the Royal College Exams being moved to the PGY3 year, continued with the new Academic Half Day format of PGY1 Didactic Lecture Series, and Senior Resident Breakout Sessions and formalized study groups
• Delivery of virtual boot camp for incoming PGY1s in July 2020
• Successful delivery first virtual formative OSCE for PGY2 class in December 2020
• Continued with the Academic Half Day format of PGY1 Didactic Lecture Series, and Senior Resident Breakout Sessions on Zoom, and formalized study groups. Virtual delivery of communication simulation sessions, rapidly deteriorating patient scenarios, Wellness ice cream rounds and ACP examination successfully rolled out

CaRMS
• Successfully matched all PGY1 positions in Vancouver and Victoria for Canadian and International graduates in 2019 and 2020
• Continued implementation of a “buddy” system for PGY1s to match them up with a senior buddy prior to the start of the academic year
International Health Project
- In 2019, six residents completed rotations in Butare, Rwanda
- In 2020, four residents completed rotations in Butare, Rwanda

Events
- Resident Research Day (virtual in 2020)
- Annual Winter Retreat (virtual in 2020)
- Annual Resident BBQ
- Attended annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Internal Medicine Program Directors (CAIMPD), held virtually in June 2020, focusing on the impacts of the pandemic on residency training

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
Office of Education
Continue to support Faculty development and scholarly opportunities across the divisions. Continue to search for partners to create revenue generating education courses.

Undergraduate Education
Continue to support the implementations of improvements to the curricular map and revised assessment modalities for the renewed Year 3 clerkship and the start-up of the renewed Year 4 clerkship. Continue with the ongoing search for alternatives to improve the current underfunding of the Undergraduate program.

Postgraduate Education
Continue to focus on the successful launch of the Competence By Design and focus on learner safety in the clinical setting in the midst of the pandemic, and continue to improve quality of academic sessions, social connections and wellness within the program in the new, virtual learning environment.
LEADERSHIP
Dr. Tricia Tang continues to steward the Experimental Medicine Program, with administrative support provided by Kelly Xu.

HIGHLIGHTS
• 28 master’s students successfully defended their theses and graduated
• 20 doctoral students successfully defended their theses and graduated
• 32 students published first-author papers
• 4 students made first-author presentation at a conference
• Admitted an indigenous student and nominated them for Aboriginal Graduate Fellowship Bridge Funding 2021
• ExMed Research Expo on October 30, 2019 where Drs. David Scott, Myp Sekhon and Zackary Laksman delivered keynote addresses

A new Experimental Medicine Program Executive Committee was established with 17 representatives from the program. In addition to the establishment of a new Executive Committee, two subcommittees have been formed: the Admissions Subcommittee and the Awards Subcommittee.

EDUCATION
Experimental Medicine had 76 MSc students and 123 PhD students in 2019-2020. 28 MSc students and 20 PhD students graduated in 2020.

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS
• 7 master’s students were offered CIHR CGSM. 1 student received NSERC CGSM. 4 students received four-year doctoral fellowship. 1 student received a Vanier Scholarship
• 11 PhD students were forwarded to Tri-Agency national competition for the next year

PROGRAM RESEARCH
Selected COVID-related research:
ACE-2 expression in the small airway epithelia of smokers and COPD patients: implications for COVID-19,
SARS-CoV-2 receptor ACE2 gene expression and RAAS inhibitors.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
The Experimental Medicine Graduate Program aims to guide students to design and conduct experiments and solve problems in their particular fields. The Experimental Medicine program will keep contributing to Data Science and Health (DASH) Research Cluster led by Dr. Anita Palepu. A new course MEDI 504 that focuses on applications and capabilities of data science in health research will be available in 2021.
OVERVIEW

The Research Office continued its focus on supporting the research activities of our faculty, as well as further strengthening partnerships with affiliated research institutes and centres in the lower mainland, and units across UBC.

The Research Office provided a single point of contact for information on funding opportunities and deadlines, grant development, ethics and compliance, finance, research agreements, statistics support, research mentorship, and medicine rounds for our over 1000 clinical and academic faculty.

- 15% of our faculty members are in the academic track, yet over 60% of our members are actively publishing their research on a yearly basis, demonstrating the prolific contributions of our clinical faculty members towards the research landscape in the department
- Our department members remain recognized leaders in the fields of AIDS, Pulmonary disease, COPD, heart & lung health, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, asthma, aortic valve implantation, arthritis and nephrology
- Department of Medicine members attract about 20% of the total research funding in the Faculty of Medicine, and 10% of the total research funding at UBC

HIGHLIGHTS

- Yasaman Jalalkamali joined the Department as Research Office Assistant in September 2019
- Grand Rounds was successfully changed to a virtual format beginning in September 2020. Attendance at Rounds has increased substantially
- The Research Office coordinated the inaugural Data Science and Health CPD event, which was held on November 3, 2020 and was extremely successful and very well attended
- Dr. Teresa Tsang and Dr. Anna Meredith initiated a study on the impact of remote work on DOM research during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was supported by a Faculty of Medicine Strategic Investment Fund
- The Research Office lead efforts and worked very closely with Faculty, VPRI, our local and federal governments to successfully secure funding to support our researchers and their staff during the COVID-19 pandemic when all non-COVID research was shutdown

EVENTS

- Medicine Research Expo 2019 - October 28, 2019
- Data Science and Health Conference - November 3, 2020
- Data Science and Health Workshop Series (in collaboration with Biomedical Imaging and Artificial Intelligence Cluster): Engineering Perspectives - November 30, 2020
FUNDING

- Department of Medicine faculty consistently attracts almost $80M of funding for 1100 projects each year, with an average of $5M in external salary award funding
- In 2020 our faculty were awarded 28 COVID-19 grants totaling $6.3M

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Number of MSFHR Scholar:

Number of MSFHR HP-I:

Number of VCHRI Investigator Awards:
PUBLICATIONS

- Our Faculty consistently publish over 1400 papers each year in high impact journals, with an average Field-Weighted Citation Impact of 2.7
- The majority of our publications (60%) are in open access journals

<table>
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<th>Publication Metrics</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<td>Outputs in Top Citation Percentiles (top 10%, field-weighted)</td>
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<td>43.8</td>
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<td>Citations per Publication</td>
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Publication Subject Areas:
- Medicine: 60.3%
- Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology: 11.2%
- Immunology and Microbiology: 3.6%
- Social Sciences: 3.1%
- Neuroscience: 4.7%
- Multidisciplinary: 2.2%
- Other: 12.9%
- Nursing: 2.1%

Publications in Medicine Subspecialties:
- Cardiology and Cardiovascular Medicine: 11.7%
- Oncology: 8.8%
- Clinical Neurology: 7.6%
- Pulmonary and Respiratory Medicine: 6.4%
- General Medicine: 6.0%
- Hematology: 4.7%
- Psychiatry and Mental Health: 3.2%
- Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Imaging: 3.0%
- Critical and Intensive Care Medicine: 2.8%
- Medical Pharmacology: 2.8%
- Health Policy: 2.4%
- Medical Physiology: 2.3%
- Other: 24.9%
**DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW**

Dr. Thomas Kerr continues as Head, UBC Division of AIDS/Social Medicine.

The division was renamed in 2020 (from “Division of AIDS”) to better reflect the work done by its members. The Division of Social Medicine comprises individuals with expertise in multiple disciplines related to social determinants of health. Areas of specialization range across substance use and addiction medicine, from gender and sexual health to Indigenous health and safety. Its members’ research is diverse and encompasses social epidemiology, social science, community-based research, clinical trials, program evaluations, and basic science. The division is grateful for the administrative support provided by Julie Sagram.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dr. Kate Shannon received $2M in funding from the Federal Ministry of Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) for a mandate on gender equity research and trauma-informed practice work and held a press conference/launch with community, MP Dr. Hedy Fry, UBC FoM and WAGE
- The national clinical guidelines for treatment of opioid addiction with injectable opioid agonist therapy were published in CMAJ in September 2019, with Dr. Nadia Fairbairn as first author
- Dr. Seonaid Nolan was awarded the Steven Diamond Professorship in Addiction Care Innovation ($2M)
- Dr. Kate Shannon acted as an expert consultant for both UNHCR on migrant and refugee sexual and reproductive health and UN Global Consultation on “Setting 2025 Social Enabler Targets” on gender equity and human rights to meet the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
- Dr. Richard Harrigan and his group generated the first COVID sequence data in Canada, continued to provide all COVID sequencing in BC until August, and were instrumental in creating the improvements to the “ARTIC V3” method, which has led to it now been the basis of over 90% of global COVID sequence data
- Dr. Kate Shannon was invited to be the lead consultant with UNAIDS on developing new social enabler targets for 2030 SDG goals and 2030 Fast Track HIV Response
- Drs. Kate Shannon and Shira Goldberg at the Centre for Gender and Sexual Health Equity (CGSHE) received a $2.5M grant from US-NIH for “Social and Structural STBBI Interventions Among Sex Workers” as a competitive renewal for the AESHA cohort funded by NIH since 2020 (total $7.5M)
- Dr. Kate Shannon was awarded one of the 3 CIHR Sex and Gender Science Chairs across Canada from the Institute of Gender and Health for “Advancing Gender-Transformative Sexual Health Policy and Practice in Canada”
- Dr. Nadia Fairbairn became the inaugural holder of the Philip Owen Professorship in Addiction Medicine, through which she leads a program of research and education in addiction medicine
- Dr. Brittany Bingham was announced as inaugural Director of Indigenous Research of the Centre for Gender and Sexual Health Equity (CGSHE) in 2020

**RESEARCH**

In 2019/2020, members published over 350 peer-reviewed articles and raised over $45 million in research funding. Many publications appeared in high-impact journals (such as Lancet Psychiatry, Journal of Infectious Diseases, and American Journal of Public Health). A large amount of funding was secured, most significantly through US-NIH and CIHR grants. Innovative projects within the division were also initiated or continued this year.
Notable contributions include:

- Division members continued to operate large US NIH-funded prospective cohort studies involving women engaged in sex work, individuals living with HIV, people who inject drugs, and street-involved drug-using youth. Several innovative interventions and related evaluation studies targeting opioid use disorder and opioid overdose were initiated or continued by members, including The Provincial Injectable Opioid Program (Fairbairn); The Slow-release Oral Morphine Initiative (Socias); The Drug Checking Program (Ti); The Evaluation of safer Opioid Prescribing Project (Nolan); OPAC Study (study of addiction medicine care in hospitals; Nolan); OPTIMA Study (RCT of Methadone vs. Suboxone; Socias)

- Dr. Jade Boyd continued to operate multiple studies focused on housing and drug-related harms (funded by CIHR and Vancouver Foundation). Dr. Boyd was awarded $450K from Michael Smith Foundation for “Investigating Women’s Socio-Structural Risk Environment of Overdose”

- Dr. Kathleen Deering received $956K from CIHR for “Longitudinal Impacts of Violence and Stigma on HIV Care Continuum and Broader Health Care Access Among WLWH: The SHAWNA Project” and $450K from Michael Smith Foundation for “A Program of Research on Optimizing Trauma-Informed Practice in Sexual, Reproductive and HIV-related Health Services Among Marginalized Women”

- Dr. Nadia Fairbairn got $852K in CIHR funding for “A Mixed Methods Evaluation of Risk Mitigation Measures to Address the Dual Public Health Crises of COVID-19 and Overdose”. Drs. Nadia Fairbairn and Evan Wood received a large NIH grant for “Mentoring the next generation of addiction clinician scientists while responding to the opioid epidemic” ($1.7M). Drs. Nadia Fairbairn and Seonaid Nolan received $585K from the BC Ministry of Health for “Tablet Injectable Opioid Agonist Therapy Study”

- Drs. Thomas Kerr and Ryan McNeil continued to operate an extensive US NIH-funded program of ethno-epidemiology/qualitative research focused on opioid use

- Dr. Rod Knight continued several CIHR funded projects focused on MSM and men’s sexual lives

- Dr. Andrea Krüsi received a CIHR grant for “Occupational Health, Safety and Labour Rights Among Street and Indoor Sex Workers in the Context of Evolving Laws and Policing: Ethnographic and Qualitative Participatory-Action Research” ($745K) and continued to operate other Vancouver Foundation and CIHR grants to support arts-based research. In 2020, Dr. Krüsi received a UBC CFI JELF ($77K) for a Community Hub for Arts-based Research and Innovation in Knowledge Translation operating of CGSHE’s CFI-funded Gender Research Hub in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside. Dr. Krüsi also received a CIHR bridge grant “Criminalization, public health and incarceration – A participatory and digital story telling project”

- Dr. M-J Milloy received a CIHR grant for the study “Investigating cannabis as harm reduction during a community-wide overdose crisis” ($375K)

- Dr. Seonaid Nolan received a Vancouver Foundation grant for “Achieving Resilience, Stability, and Wellbeing through Peer Programs and Harm Reduction: Strength-Based Research with People Who Use Drugs at Overdose Prevention Society (OPPRA Study)” ($280K)

- Dr. Kate Shannon received a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grant from UBC, “Establishing Innovative Community-Based Clinical Research at the Centre for Gender and Sexual Health Equity”. Dr. Shannon also received $4.5M from CIHR for “Towards Equitable Sexual Health Care in BC: Centering the Voices of Youth and Young Women in Policy and Practice” and $2.5M from CIHR for “Advancing Gender-Transformative Sexual Health”

- Dr. Eugenia Socias received a grant from Indivior for “A pilot study to assess the feasibility, efficacy and safety of extended-release injectable buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorder among individuals at high risk of overdose” ($390K)

- Dr. Lianping Ti received a Vancouver Foundation grant for “An Evaluation of Safer Opioid Prescribing (AESOP): The AESOP Study” ($242K)

EDUCATION
In 2019/2020, members engaged in a range of educational activities spanning undergraduate, graduate and professional levels; clinical and non-clinical work; and teaching and supervision. Members also engaged in various community-based initiatives to increase public awareness of sexual health and substance use issues and made presentations to government audiences to influence public policy.
Faculty member within the Division of AIDS/Social Medicine hosted large cohorts of UBC graduate students and postdoctoral fellows and MD students.

The division continued to expand its MD Undergraduate Elective and FLEX Placements focused on Sexual Health & Gender Medicine (Shannon, Krüsi, Deering, Weidmeyer) and Substance Use (years 1-4) (Kerr, Milloy, Wood, Fairbairn, Socias, Nolan, McNeil, Ti, Boyd, Knight, Fast).

Dr. Mark Hull provided ongoing Infectious Diseases teaching for third year MSI students at St Paul’s and VGH during internal medicine blocks.

Dr. Andrea Krüsi and Dr. Rod Knight are co-teaching a graduate course in qualitative methods.

Dr. Kathleen Deering and Andrea Krüsi co-taught graduate courses in UBC SPPH and both mentored and trained undergraduate FLEX students, graduate and postdoctoral studies in social epidemiology (Deering) and qualitative/ arts-based research (Krüsi) at CGSHE/UBC’s Downtown Eastside office.

Dr. Danya Fast has continued to lead her own applied anthropology curriculum that includes a 5-week intensive field school, a monthly anthropology of addiction reading group, and a monthly writing and representation workshop for undergraduate and graduate students, medical residents, and research fellows.

Drs. Thomas Kerr, Kate Shannon, and Evan Wood continued to provide early faculty mentorship to postdoctoral research fellows and new faculty.

Dr. M-J Milloy organized and hosted “Clearing the Haze: A Community Conversation About Cannabis Use in Canada” at the UBC Learning Exchange in the Downtown Eastside and was a member of the advisory committee for an online UBC CPD course: “Cannabis Education for Health Care Providers”.

Dr. Rod Knight acted as co-convenor for “Side by Side: A Community Summit on Crystal Meth” held in Vancouver.

Dr. Nadia Fairbairn was the advisor for an Indigenous Undergraduate Research Mentorship Program at UBC, served as the director of the International Collaborative Addiction Medicine Research Fellowship Program at the BCCSU (the largest addiction fellowship program in North America), and presented to the House of Commons’ Standing Committee on Health about the “Emergency Situation Facing Canadians in Light of the Second Wave of the COVID-19 Pandemic”.

Members continued to give lectures to undergraduate students and engage in other undergraduate teaching throughout UBC, including in Medicine (CBL), Experimental Medicine, SPPH, and Psychology.

Division members with partner appointments worked with the UBC DOM leadership, Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (G & PS), and the Experimental Medicine Program to acquire supervisory privileges within G & PS.

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Top (L-R): Dr. Kate Shannon and Dr. Nadia Fairbairn, Bottom (L-R) Dr. M-J Milloy and Dr. Evan Wood.
PATIENT CARE
The division is committed to providing, advocating for and developing guidelines for non-biased and evidence-based patient care in the areas of substance use and sexual health. In 2019/2020, members engaged in the following activities:

- Dr. Nolan served as the Medical Director for Providence Health Care’s Addiction Program
- Dr. Hull provided direct HIV and Hepatitis C care at St. Paul’s hospital site and VCH community clinics as well as HIV PrEP care at VCH community clinics (e.g., Health Initiative for Men clinic)
- Drs. Fairbairn and Nolan participated in Providence Health Care’s Addiction Medicine Consult Service and Providence Health Care’s Rapid Access Addiction Clinic
- Dr. Wood clinically assisted in BC’s Licensing, Education, Advocacy and Practice Program
- PHC’s Interdisciplinary Substance Use Division in the PHC Department of Medicine (Nolan, Fairbairn, Wood)
- Drs. Fairbairn, Nolan and Wood continued their work on the creation and release of a provincial guideline for the treatment of alcohol addiction
- Dr. Nolan, over three months, reviewed and evaluated Correctional Services Canada’s operational guidance document for the provision of opioid agonist therapy in federal correctional facilities
- Dr. Fairbairn developed the first national guidelines for injectable opioid agonist treatments, written in collaboration with clinicians, researchers, and people with lived experience in substance use from across the country
- Dr. Krüsi worked with the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network on guidelines for public health on the criminalization of HIV and gender-based violence
- Drs. Deering & Krüsi worked with Oak Tree Clinic/ PHSA on guidelines for STBBIs among incarcerated women in provincial prisons
- The BC Ministry of Health invited CGSHE to sit on BC Sexual Health Advisory Board to develop the first-ever BC Sexual Health Strategy (to be launched in 2021). CGSHE organized and co-convened BC-wide sexual health consultations

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
The Division of Social Medicine looks forward to expanding its reach and increasing its capacity in 2021 to further its mission.

- The division has several new faculty recruits in process, including clinician faculty focused on gender competency and a new Indigenous research faculty recruit focused on sexual and reproductive health
- The division will work with UBC Health to expand substance use disorder education and research
- Members of the division seek to establish a new professorship in addiction care with the support of UBC President Santa Ono and match funding from the Ministry of Health and philanthropic donations
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW
Dr. Bob Schellenberg continues as Head, UBC Division of Allergy and Immunology.

The success of our training program has led to growth in our division since new graduates have a keen interest in the academic mission, wishing to teach and partake in joint learning activities. An advantage we have is that individual allergists in the community can link into our weekly web-based academic half-day and contribute to issues raised in the presentations by fellows and staff. This program is jointly run with the Pediatric Division of Allergy and Immunology and associated programs at Dalhousie, Western and Manitoba Universities. Dr. Donald Stark, our program director, has worked diligently in this endeavor and we also wish to acknowledge the superb administrative support by Nicole Nielsen, whose assistance has been invaluable.

To provide excellence in outpatient clinical teaching, we have been fortunate to have community members who devote their time and expertise. In addition to those in the greater Vancouver area, the members in Victoria now offer rotations for our fellows. All have received excellent evaluations by trainees. These initiatives have led to an increasing number of excellent applicants to our training program. Expansion of our numbers in British Columbia will clearly benefit patients’ access to allergy and immunology.

RESEARCH
The members at SPH have a major interest in management of Primary Immune Deficiency and have initiated a number of research projects as well as interactions with the lay organizations, Canadian Immune Deficiency Patient Organization and the Jeffrey Modell Foundation. A new provincial initiative to improve care for patients with primary immune deficiency (PID) has been undertaken with the Provincial Blood Coordinating Office (PBCO). This involves assessment of provincial data, dissemination of algorithms for diagnosis and management, with the aim to have an integrated data base of PID patients to evaluate appropriate diagnosis, management and health outcome parameters. Divisional members on this committee include Drs. Kingsley Lee, Peter Lee, Hien Reeves, Seung Kim, Donald Stark, and Robert Schellenberg.

We continue to expand the subcutaneous immunoglobulin home-infusion program which provides convenience for patients as well as decreases hospital day care requirements. Additional measures have to undertaken to provide this for secondary immune deficiency and Dr. Schellenberg has been involved with the Division of Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplant Program in establishing this for their patients. Together with Dr. Catherine Biggs, a Pediatric Immunologist at BC Children’s Hospital, and Dr. Persia Pourshahnazari, we are planning a transition clinic at SPH for patients graduating from the pediatric program. Dr. George Wong continues his specific expertise in evaluation of complementary and alternative medicine practices and has presented on potential adverse effects of these preparations at international meetings. Dr. Kanani has ongoing research in assessment of the natural history and quality of life assessments of patients with hereditary angioedema before and after home infusion training. He is also involved in industry-sponsored clinical trials assessing omalizumab therapy optimization and quality of life in patients with chronic spontaneous urticaria.

EDUCATION
An increase in Internal Medicine residents seeking electives in our specialty has been encouraging. In addition, Dermatology residents have routinely done electives in our division. The evaluations of this elective rotation by residents and students have been very good. A new CME program for physicians organized by Dr. Amin Kanani, the Update in Allergy Conference, was very well attended and evaluated. Members of the St. Paul’s staff also present at the St. Paul’s Hospital (SPH) General Practitioner Update Course and have been involved with the St. Paul’s Internal Medicine Update Course.
PATIENT CARE
All members are actively involved in providing clinical consultative services in Allergy and Immunology to the community.

A major initiative at St. Paul’s Hospital is to improve the care of patients with primary immunodeficiency. We have been at the forefront of providing home subcutaneous immunoglobulin therapy (SCIG) as well as maintaining our intravenous immunoglobulin therapy (IVIG) at St. Paul’s Hospital. The Primary Immunodeficiency Transition Clinic led by Drs. Catherine Biggs and Persia Pourshahnazari has not only provided advanced diagnostic tests including exploring the genetic origins of many immune diseases but provides team-based care for patients previously followed at BC Children’s.

Our division has created many clinical programs which are the first of its kind in the country. Drs. Raymond Mak and Juan Ruiz have established the first Perioperative Anaphylaxis Clinic in Canada at Vancouver General Hospital which services the entire province. Dr. Mak also helped establish the MED Safe clinic, a unique interdisciplinary adverse drug reactions clinic with a focus on severe cutaneous adverse reactions. This clinic combines translational research with clinical care. Dr. Mak is also involved in Canada's first dedicated pregnancy penicillin allergy clinic at BC Women's Hospital.

Our entire faculty provides community and hospital care for patients with a wide variety of allergy and immunology conditions. These include: allergic rhinitis, asthma, aspirin/NSAID sensitive asthma (also known as aspirin-exacerbated respiratory disease-AERD), chronic sinusitis, nasal polyps, drug allergy, food allergy, insect sting allergy, atopic dermatitis (eczema), urticaria (hives), angioedema, anaphylaxis, mast cell disorders such as mastocytosis and mast cell activation syndrome, eosinophilic esophagitis, other eosinophilic disorders, hereditary angioedema and immunodeficiency conditions such as common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) and IgA deficiency.

Many members of our faculty are also actively involved in local, national, and international committees dealing with their areas of interest.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
With the successful launch of a training program, developed by Dr. Donald Stark and Dr. Edmond Chan, and with the support of all members of both the adult and pediatric divisions, we continue to innovate and optimize our training modalities. Initially sharing academic half-day activities with the University of Manitoba pediatric and adult divisions via Skype, we have expanded this video-conferencing interaction to include the allergy programs at Dalhousie University and Western University using GoToMeeting. This has been ideal in capturing faculty expertise at the various sites, having invited speakers from different disciplines and having trainees present relevant topics for input by other trainees and faculty. This has also allowed valued input from community allergists and immunologists who attend.

We plan to continue our initiatives in primary and secondary immune deficiency that entail home therapy and establishment of a transition clinic from pediatric to adult patients. Additional work with the Provincial Blood Coordinating Office should improve care of immune deficient patients throughout BC and establish a database for outcome research. Working with the Provincial Blood Coordinating Office, we are establishing protocols and oversight for the appropriate management of both Immune Deficiency and Hereditary Angioedema (IDHA) patients within BC which should be of benefit to patients and care-givers.

We plan to continue initiatives with the Antibiotic Stewardship Program, hopefully duplicating the success achieved at SPH and at other major BC hospitals. Obtaining resources for an Adverse Drug Reaction Clinic and Food Allergy Clinic remain a priority as the needs clearly exist.

Further recruitment of a full-time academic Allergist/Immunologist remains a priority as Division Head, Dr. Bob Schellenberg, retires in December of 2020.
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Dr. Andrew Krahn continues as Head, UBC Division of Cardiology with administrative support from Marilyn Robertson. Dr. Krahn holds the Paul Brunes UBC Professorship in Heart Rhythm Disorders and is the Sauder Family and Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon Chair in Cardiology.

- VGH Head of Cardiology: Dr. Kenneth Gin (2019) and Dr. David Wood (2020)
- SPH Head of Cardiology: Dr. Sean Virani
- Director of Research: Dr. John Mancini
- Education Director: Dr. Graham Wong (until Aug 2019) and Dr. Mustafa Toma (started Sept 2019)
- Director of Undergraduate Medical Education: Dr. Jonathan Tang
- External CME Directors: Dr. Krish Ramanathan and Dr. Matthew Bennett
- Residency Training Director: Dr. Parvathy Nair (until Aug 2019) and Dr. Graham Wong (started Sept 2019)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Successful late breaking CIRCA-DOSE trial featured in the European Heart Rhythm Association Congress news: Dr. Jason Andrade (2019)
- EARLY-AF Late breaking trial & New England Journal of Medicine publication: Dr. Jason Andrade (2020)
- Meeting Chair for Canadian Cardiovascular Congress: Dr. Kenneth Gin (2019)
- Chair of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society Canadian Journal of Cardiology Committee: Dr. Kenneth Gin (2019)
- President, North American Alliance of Research in Congenital Cardiology and Co-Chair of Canadian Pregnancy and Heart Disease Practice Guidelines: Dr. Jasmine Grewal (2019)
- Canadian Cardiovascular Congress Scientific Committee appointment: Dr. Jasmine Grewal (2019)
- President, Canadian Cardiovascular Society: Dr. Andrew Krahn (2019-2020)
- CIHR Foundation Grant Award: $3.9 million for 7 years: Dr. Andrew Krahn (2019)
- Web of Science highest impact researchers over the last decade: Dr. Jonathan Leipsic (2019)
- Canada’s Digital Technology Supercluster Project led by Providence Health Care in Partnership with UBC Cardiology, Dept of Engineering, Clarius Mobile Health, Change Healthcare and Rural Coordination Centre of BC awarded $2.6 million: Dr. Teresa Tsang (2019)
- First in-human procedure of a percutaneous tricuspid valve implantation for regurgitation: Dr. John Webb (2019)
- AHA CLCD Acute Cardiac Care & General Cardiology Care Committee reappointment: Dr. Graham Wong (2019)
- Clinical Director for new Centre for Cardiovascular Innovation (CCI): Dr. David Wood (2019)
- New BC representative on Canadian Society of Echocardiography board: Dr. Michael Tsang (2020)
- PA Woodwards grant for POCUS in BC: Dr. Teresa Tsang (2020)

RESEARCH

The division is home to 30 investigators spanning the breadth of cardiovascular medicine. One of the most critical initiatives in 2019-2020 has been creating a Divisional Research Program directed by Dr. G.B.John Mancini and supported by Dr. Vishaldeep Sidhu as the Research Manager in 2019 and Nicole Carbert in 2020. The primary purpose has been to assist in mentorship components on the successful competition for external funding. As such, the program has orchestrated research competitions for Cardiology Academic Partnership (CAPP) Pilot Projects twice per year that function to enable early-career investigators to begin to understand the timelines required to generate and justify a research idea, to consider budgeting and ethics issues and to
meet rigorous application criteria culminating in formal reviews and critiques. This process mimics the “real world” of grant competition while being undertaken within the division’s supportive mentorship goals. Moreover, the generation of pilot data invariably strengthens external grant submissions and has led to increased success for aspiring individuals. CAPP Pilot Project funding is also available to more seasoned investigators embarking on new ideas. The Research Program also facilitates linkages to statisticians, knowledge translation resources, grant development, budgeting and financial training and support.

**UBC Center for Cardiovascular Innovation (CCI-CIC)**

The division is excited about the formation of a virtual Heart Institute on a provincial level, our next step in expanding our academic footprint. The UBC Center for Cardiovascular Innovation or CCI-CIC, became a Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI) Centre in September 2019.

Launched with the inclusion of 47 cardiovascular co-investigators from across the Province, CCI-CIC investigates 16 major domains within cardiovascular medicine, including arrhythmia, coronary and structural heart disease interventions, surgery, congenital heart disease, pediatrics, heart function, basic science and imaging.

Over the last 18 months, CCI-CIC has evolved to become an inclusive academic cardiovascular research centre that supports a broad range of research, including clinical trials, registries, and facilitates investigator-initiated innovation in BC. In collaboration with existing infrastructure, both virtual and bricks-and-mortar, CCI-CIC aspires to improve the health of all patients with cardiovascular disease provincially, nationally and internationally. In partnership with 16 provincial cardiovascular sub-programs, Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI), Providence Health Care Research Institute (PHCRI), Life Sciences Institute (LSI), Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences (CHÉOS), Centre for Artificial Intelligence Decision-making and Action (CAIDA), UBC School for Biomedical Engineering, and the Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI), CCI-CIC is committed to 5 core pillars that align with the UBC Faculty of Medicine strategic plan: education, translational research, streamline organization structure, strategic provincial and international partnerships, and innovative data management.

Dr. David Wood is the director of the CCI-CIC, while operations are led on a day-to-day basis by Dr. Vishaldeep Sidhu, Director of Research Operations. The CCI-CIC Operations Committee is responsible for the administration (including finances) of CCI-CIC and the coordination of its research activities. It will work in tandem with the CCI-CIC Academic Steering Committee and the CCI-CIC Strategic Advisory Board.

CCI-CIC provides the following services to its members:

- **Grant Facilitation:** Grant Facilitation is provided to the members to develop, improve and submit research proposals for competitive research funding to Canadian and international funding agencies. We offer several services in this area, such as proposal development, methodology, budget and knowledge translation to help researchers submit high-quality grant proposals.
• **Data Management:** Data management services include providing a secure and reliable data platform for data collection and maintenance, management and troubleshooting of databases, generation of case report forms and any technical guidance.

• **Statistical Support and Data Analysis:** Statistical support services include study design/planning, research methodology, data cleanup and analysis, data modelling and interpretation of results.

• **Finance and Contracts:** Finance coordinators work with researchers to monitor and track the finances of their studies and help generate financial reports for external funders. CCI-CIC also specializes in negotiating and preparing contracts and agreements with various stakeholders, including industry, government, contractors, and clinical sites.

The creation of CCI-CIC will build on the UBC Division of Cardiology research successes and help grow the division’s research capacity and opportunities with enhanced autonomy, funding, infrastructure, and collaboration.

**Funding**
Research funding in the Division of Cardiology has increased 40% over the past 5 years. For fiscal 2019-2020 the funding has decreased by about 10% from the previous year as a result of COVID, but this is still 35% higher than 2017-2018.

For the year 2019, research funding in the division climbed to $9.56 M. Funds were obtained through competitive research grants, clinical trials and contracts by the division’s 32 investigators. 47% of the total research funding came from grants, 28% from clinical trials, and 25% from contracts and agreements. In 2020, 40% of the total research funding came from grants, 31% from contracts and agreements and remaining 29% from clinical trials.

**Publications**
The 5-year publication rate for members of Division of Cardiology is 340 publications per year and an average rate of citations is more than 5355 per year, with nearly 17 citations per publication. The division’s publication output is highly impactful, with a 5-year average fieldweighted citation impact of 2.3. This figure indicates that our publications have achieved more than twice the expected impact relative to the world literature in Cardiology. The majority of high-impact publications in the last five years result from international collaborations (58%) by division faculty members.

**EDUCATION**
Faculty members in the Division of Cardiology teach an extensive number of undergraduate students, with more than 1400 hours devoted to sessions in the 2019/2020 academic year. They are part of three medical programs, covering Vancouver Island, the interior of BC, and the Greater Vancouver Regional District. Our teaching faculty have expertise in multiple cardiac sub-specialties, including CAD, pulmonary hypertension, complex ablations, advanced device therapy, geriatric cardiology, cardio-oncology, cardiac obstetrics, heart disease in women, cardiogenetics, angiography, echocardiography, sports cardiology, cardiac rehabilitation, STEMI, cardiac transplantation and atrial fibrillation.

The UBC Division of Cardiology Postgraduate Medical Program is the 2nd largest in Canada and is fully accredited by the Royal College of Canada. There were 18 residents in the 2019-2020 academic year and ten sub-specialty fellows. The program is lead by the Director, Dr. Graham Wong, and kept smoothly running by Senior Program Assistant Annamaria Oliveri. Residents learned through teaching, rounds, journal clubs and skills sessions, following the RCPSC and CanMEDS guidelines. Cardiology fellows had access to training in Electrophysiology, Interventional Cardiology, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Echocardiography, Adult Congenital Heart Failure, Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation. Our resident and fellow groups' high morale are attributed to multiple factors, including an excellent relationship with staff cardiologists, exemplary leadership from the Program Director, superior support from the Program Assistant, and opportunities to socialize outside of the curriculum.
PATIENT CARE
Providence Health (St. Paul's and Mt. St. Joseph's)
The PHC division has now transitioned from implementation to sustainment and spread of CST Cerner in parallel with heightened effort focused on the New St. Paul's Hospital with two transformational projects that will define how cardiac care is provided in British Columbia moving forward.

Other priorities for the division include:
• Refresh of general cardiology services with the recruitment of new physicians and renovation of existing spaces to meet the growing need for ambulatory cardiac care and diagnostic resources
• Expansion and redesign of existing multi-disciplinary quaternary clinics to support increased demand based on population growth and new Provincial hub-spoke infrastructures implemented by Cardiac Service BC, including Adult Congenital Heart Disease, Advanced Heart Failure/Cardiac Transplant and Cardiogenetics
• Heightened focus on strategies to address quality metrics, including access and capacity, related to key services lines, including diagnostic echocardiography, ambulatory rhythm monitoring and remote follow-up of cardiac implantable electronic devices
• Development of new and unique services that leverage existing expertise and address emerging areas of practice in the field of transcatheter heart valve management, complex arrhythmia, heart failure and cardiac diagnostics
• Strengthen collaborations with key stakeholder groups to optimize care delivery through the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond

The division is also actively engaged with the St. Paul’s Foundation to identify priorities for philanthropy that build upon the vision of New St. Paul’s including transformation and innovation in health service delivery.

Vancouver Acute and UBC Hospitals
The division fundraised over 5 million dollars, which enabled the launch of a new cardiodiagnostic centre on the DHCC ground floor, which enabled a ≥20% increase in echo and Holter volumes. Relocated and expanded are the Heart Function, Atrial Fibrillation, Cardio-Oncology, Cardiac Amyloid, Women’s Cardiology and Aortic clinics into new space on the 9th floor. Palliative Cardiology began operations in 2019. A new state-of-the-art EP lab launched in 2019, with the cardiac catheterization labs’ renovation in 2019-2020.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
The division is pleased to have completed the search and placement of both new Hospital Division heads, with Sean Virani (Providence 2019) and David Wood (VCH 2020). Our primary academic focus has been the completion of accreditation (fully approved through 2027 in 2020) and the birthing of CCI. This alignment is a longstanding aspiration for a Cardiovascular Institute (see strategic plan 2016), virtual in nature and Provincial in scope. We have an exciting opportunity to “take it to the next level,” and engagement is high to invest energy into an immense endeavour. CAPP continues to be a backbone for academic support for division members, translating into compelling investment return as investigators mature in their careers. Division members continue to contribute 750K per year to create funds to support the 13 investigators and a team of educators to raise the division’s academic profile.
**DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW**

Dr. Barry Kassen continues as Head, UBC Division of Community Internal Medicine.

The Division of Community Internal Medicine is a large and distributed group that participates in health care delivery throughout the province of British Columbia and education of the future doctors of British Columbia.

Community and Rural Internal Medicine (CRIM) has been an essential part of Internal Medicine’s growth in British Columbia as it has promoted a special fee structure (amount) for internists in the province. As most members are almost entirely dependent on fee for service, this alone has increased the interest and promoted the discipline of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Jenn Grace worked tirelessly to enforce the integrity of complex fee code billing and compiled the master list of eligible general internists in the province. Since 2016, CRIM also added a team of executive officers, who have contributed significantly to its decision making and functioning: Drs. Matt Bernard, Mitch Lee, Kevin McLeod, Anita Palepu, and Jane Wu.

Dr. Michael Kenyon has a leadership role internationally as governor for the American College of Physicians (ACP). In addition, we have division members who are in provincial leadership positions, as well as Dr. Jennifer Grace, who took over as the Executive Medical Director for Geography 1 at Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) as of April 1, 2019.

Dr. Hector Baillie participates in a provincial program with the BC College of Physicians and Surgeons in the capacity of assessment for Internal Medicine specialists in BC.

We have active site leaders for their Internal Medicine groups in various parts of the province:

- Campbell River - Dr. Jennifer Grace
- Comox - Dr. Bruce Hillier
- Lionsgate - Dr. Kevin MacLeod
- Maple Ridge - Dr. Ed Auersperg
- Nanaimo - Dr. Niels Schwarz
- Penticton - Dr. Chad Dyck
- Richmond - Dr. Y.D. Yu
- Salmon Arm - Dr. Callum Reid
- Victoria - Dr. Jim Spence
RESEARCH
Research is being done, primarily as part of clinical trial research.

EDUCATION
The University of British Columbia training program has a four and five-year component, with the five-year program designated as a sub-specialty in General Internal Medicine. Both program streams place significant emphasis on training in the community. Dr. Jane Mackay leads the four-year program, and Dr. Stephane Voyer leads the five-year program. Both of these physicians have and had a presence in the community in the Internal Medicine care delivery.

PATIENT CARE
The Division of Community Internal Medicine is large, distributed, and participates in health care delivery throughout the province of British Columbia and education of the future doctors of British Columbia.

The clinical interests of the group vary. The Community General Internist may provide critical care and specialized care in specific domains (i.e., HIV, Sports Medicine etc.) in palliative care and consultation care to hospitalized and ambulatory patients. The roles encompassed by division members are often dictated by their communities and the distance from other specialties. Internists may provide oncologic care, perform endoscopies and bronchoscopies, and are active in ECHO cardiographic assessment of patients.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
The recognition that community and academic-based physicians are not separate entities is a goal for the future. To that end, support for community-based research and shared research (community and academic sites) is something we strive to work towards.
**DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW**

Head, UBC Division of Critical Care Medicine: Dr. Najib Ayas, and Dr. Cheryl Holmes (started Oct 2020)

The UBC Division of Critical Care Medicine is multi-disciplinary with 53 faculty members and 20 Associate and Joint appointment members. Our members are qualified critical care specialists with Medicine, Surgery, Anesthesiology and Emergency Medicine backgrounds. They participate in patient care throughout the province of British Columbia.

The Critical Care Medicine Members continue to contribute to education, knowledge, research, and clinical care. Our goal is to improve our clinical care, increase research output, and improve our educational efforts (including undergraduate, post-graduate, and CME). Clinical, research, educational, and administrative collaborations among the hospital sites have increased over the past few years and are expected to continue. We will continue to examine and adopt innovative clinical approaches and technologies to improve the care of critically ill patients (e.g., ECMO, echocardiography, ultrasound, computer support/monitoring, checklists, novel methods of cardiac/pulmonary support). In addition, we will explore ways to obtain and support excellent clinical and basic science researchers to expand our research capacity and collaborations.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- In 2020, a state of emergency was declared in our province due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As we reflect on this year, we acknowledge the vast contribution of our division members on the front lines, battling this pandemic in the face of uncertainty, varying degrees of institutional pandemic preparedness and immense personal sacrifice. It is truly remarkable and not surprising that our members rose to this challenge and became the leaders in the fight against COVID-19 on the clinical and research fronts. Under Hussein Kanji’s leadership, the BC Critical Care Network led the way in providing the platform for best evidence in COVID-19 management with publication and regular updating to the Clinical Practice Guidelines. BC is leading the way in COVID-19 clinical research thanks to many of our membership. As the human toll continues, our members soldier on, providing state-of-the-art care compassionate care, one human at a time, as we await the elusive end to this global tragedy.

- In 2019, Vancouver General Hospital was the first Canadian hospital to achieve “gold level status” from the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization for its ECMO program. VGH recently received the prestigious award at the ESLO’s annual meeting in Austin, Texas. “ECMO is game-changing,” says Dr. Hussein Kanji, intensivist and co-director of the ECMO program at VGH. “But it’s the expertise of our entire team that enables us to provide this gold standard of care. 10-years ago, we couldn’t keep people alive long enough to receive a transplant; now patients like Nick are on ECMO for extended periods, increasing their chances of survival.”

*Top row: L to R Tammy Wu, Hussein Kanji, David Nash, Madeleine Plesko, Gordon Finlayson, Dara Davies, George Isac, Eleanor Sese, Allana LeBlanc, Amandeep Sidhu, Victor Uppal
Bottom row: L to R Andrea Davidson, Kim Doucet, Kelly Yuill, Jonathan Triana*
Dr. Gregory Haljan, Head of the Department of Critical Care at Surrey Memorial Hospital and Regional Medical Director for Research for Fraser Health, participated in a call with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. He said, “Our conversation with The Duke and Duchess about our response to the COVID-19 pandemic was wonderful. Their thoughtful questions about our experiences gave us a tremendous sense of pride in what our colleagues, patients and families have worked so hard to achieve under such pressure.”

Drs. Myp Sekhon and Don Griesdale were recognized by the VGH Foundation for the life-saving monitoring device, Brain Bolt

CNN recognized Dr. Myp Sekhon for his research on susceptibility to severe COVID-19

Dr. Steve Reynolds, Medical Director and critical care and infectious diseases specialist, was recognized for launching a first-ever study to collect data from COVID-19 patients on ventilators at Royal Columbian Hospital. He is a 2020 Wall Scholars at the Peter Wall Institute of Advanced Learning

Dr. Walley was featured in: “What it’s like to work in a Vancouver Hospital during a Pandemic”; documenting what it is like to work on the front lines, living separately from family and witnessing the personal human toll at work

Finally, our esteemed Professor, Dr. James Russell, led the way in COVID-19 research with $4M in competitive funding, involving sites around the world

RESEARCH

The Critical Care Medicine Research Program is comprehensive, spanning genetic and molecular biology studies to education, clinical trials, and quality improvement. The basic science research program is based primarily at the UBC Centre for Heart Lung Innovation at St. Paul’s Hospital (HLI). The Critical Care Medicine clinical research program is focused mainly on the intensive care units of St. Paul’s, Royal Columbian, Surrey Memorial, and Vancouver General Hospitals. Active research is ongoing in sepsis genetics, biomarkers of infection, inflammatory markers and cytokines, ARDS, alternative ventilation technologies, immune signalling and sepsis-induced cardiac dysfunction, and diaphragm weakness/pacing. In addition, the ongoing active clinical research areas include epidemiology and outcomes in traumatic illness (including TBI), sepsis, patient safety, COVID-19 and quality improvement.

Dr. Najib Ayas held three new grants in 2020 and 12 ongoing grants as PI or Co-PI in the areas of Hypoxia in Cardiovascular disease, Sleep deprivation and Resident scheduling, Impact of maternal sleep-disordered breathing on fetal/infant outcomes, and epigenetic and inflammatory markers in obstructive sleep apnea. In 2019-2020, he published 54 peer-reviewed journal articles, one book chapter (Respiratory system mechanics and energetics), and six national and international invited presentations. He chaired two national and two international committees and is an Associate Editor of the blue journal (AJRCCM). Dr. Ayas is recognized as the number one sleep apnea expert in Canada. He published 3 COVID-19 Guidance Statements in 2020.

Dr. John Boyd was the recipient of 4 grants in 2019-2020; “Organ Donation after Cardiac Death – Optimizing the Donor”; “Sepsis Outcomes Network to Improve Survival”; “CETP Inhibition as a novel treatment to remove pathogen lipids and improve survival in sepsis”; “Diagnosing the onset of severe COVID-19 disease”. In addition, Dr. Boyd had seven peer-reviewed publications and two abstracts in 2020. He holds three patents.

Dr. Vinay Dhingra received the Doctors of BC Physician Champions of Change Award, Clinical Teaching Award for Critical Care Medicine 2019. He published three peer-reviewed papers, including “End of Life Care 3 wishes,” in the Annals of Internal Medicine in 2019. In addition, he published five peer-reviewed papers in 2020, including “Variation in the Management of Pain, Agitation, and Delirium in Intensive Care Units in British Columbia” in the American Journal of Critical Care.

Dr. Peter Dodek is PI or Co-Investigator on 8 CIHR grants in 2019 and 7 CIHR grants in 2020. He gave six presentations and was the reviewer for two journals. He published ten peer-reviewed papers and is a volunteer advisor and mentor with Critical Care Asia (funded by Wellcome Trust).

Dr. Del Dorscheid leads an active research group investigating the airway epithelium’s role in the genesis of inflammatory airway disease that results from inappropriate injury inflammation repair cycles. Specific projects include the study of IL 13 in airway repair, novel glycoproteins and the glycobiology of repair, and the function of the epithelium as an immune barrier. At present, his main research focus area is to better...
phenotype severe asthma and to develop a biomarker panel to identify which asthmatics will respond to present and future treatments, including the new biologics. Dr. Dorscheid published five peer-reviewed papers in 2019 and 6 peer-reviewed papers in 2020. In addition, he holds two grants: “IgE mediated inflammation generated by the airway epithelium is antigen-independent - a cause of a novel asthma phenotype” and “Expression of HIV receptors on the airway epithelium risk for disease severity.”

Dr. Don Griesdale holds several grants as PI and Co-PI in Neurocritical Care: Spinal Cord Perfusion Pressure Management in Acute Cervical SCI; Cerebral Oximetry to assess Cerebral Autoregulation in Hypoxic Ischemic Brain Injury; and Cerebral Blood Flow Regulation by Nitric Oxide in Health and Aging. He has mentored two undergraduate medical students, 3 Postdoctoral Fellows and was a Graduate Supervisor for a Ph.D. candidate (Dr. Myp Sekhon). He published 16 papers in 2019 and 17 papers in 2020.

Dr. Morad Hameed had five peer-reviewed publications in 2020 including, “The use of computed tomography during the COVID-19 pandemic: Its place in the diagnostic algorithm for acute surgical patients” and “UBC reticulum: A Novel website connecting general surgeons in BC during the COVID-19 crisis.”

Dr. Cheryl Holmes is PI on the Royal College Grant “Exploring the Patient Role in the Learning Environment” and Co-PI on seven grants including, “Recognizing the responsibility of understanding what we mean by “Decolonizing health professional education”: A UBC learner and faculty project in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.” She had five invited presentations and two publications in 2020.

Dr. Rob McDermid is on the ImageTech Steering Committee, a joint SFU/Fraser Health research and innovation hub for neuroimaging and neuromonitoring for facilitating research. He was awarded a CIHR grant, “Unplanned Hospital Readmission following critical illness survival: an investigation of the survivor-family dyad.” He published four peer-reviewed papers in 2019-2020.

Dr. Jim Russell is ranked by Expertscape as # 1 in the world in Septic shock, norepinephrine and vasopressin; # 3 in septic shock and # 4 in sepsis, for the sixth year in a row. He had 19 peer-reviewed publications in 2019 and 10 peer-reviewed publications in 2020 and authored the Septic Shock chapter for Goldman-Cecil Medicine. Dr. Russell is a member of 5 Peer-review Journal Editorial Boards and a reviewer of manuscripts for six journals. In 2020, he launched an international COVID-19 research program called ARBs CORONA, winning $3,795,443 from CIHR for the COVID-19 research program in 2020. The largest CIHR grant ($3,345,541) was 3rd largest in Canada and the largest in BC/UBC in the last CIHR COVID-19 competition.

Dr. Myp Sekhon developed a research program that uses neuromonitoring in patients following a cardiac arrest at risk for hypoxic-ischemic brain injury (HIBI), using techniques learned while on a neurocritical care sabbatical in Cambridge, UK. He published a series of first-in-human studies delineating the cerebrovascular pathophysiology of hypoxic ischemic brain injury after cardiac arrest in humans. The 2020 CIHR Project Scheme competition funds this research. He currently holds four grants and had 21 peer-reviewed publications in 2020.

Dr. David Sweet had five peer-reviewed publications in 2020 and was the successful recipient of 3 grants in 2020. In addition, he gave six invited presentations in 2020 including, “Building a Province Wide Approach to COVID-19 Therapeutics” and the University of Washington 8th Pacific Northwest Sepsis Conference.

Dr. Keith Walley is ranked by expertscape.com as #12 in the world for expertise in sepsis and #11 in the world for expertise in septic shock. He leads a group of investigators at the Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI) in discovering the fundamental role that lipoprotein biology plays in the sequestration and clearance of pathogen lipids in sepsis. He is a leader in using genetics and other ‘omics approaches and large data sets to understand the pathophysiology of sepsis.

EDUCATION

Critical Care Medicine is a two-year subspecialty residency program, with entry from several specialties. In 2019-2020, there were 3 and 5 Critical Care Medicine residents (respectively) training at three major sites. The program launched Competence by Design (CBD) in 2019, and during the 2020 accreditation visit, received a “Fully accredited with regular follow up survey in 8 years” from the Royal College.
Continuing Professional Development
Division members actively contribute to the education of other physicians through presentations at a hospital, provincial, national, and international events, including:

- Organizing and hosting international critical care conferences:
  - Annual Canadian Critical Care Conference
  - World Congress of Intensive and Critical Care 2021
  - Online resources: Internet Book of Critical Care and podcasts
- The Fundamentals of Critical Care Support (FCCS) Course
- The Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) Course

Our members contribute to high-value critical care education across the continuum: medical students, Family Practice and Royal College Residents, Critical Care Fellows, Post-doc Fellows and international trainees.

Dr. Julian Barnbrook is a facilitator and instructor in the Vital Anesthesia Simulation Training (VAST) course, teaching in PG, Whitehorse and Addis Ababa.

As British Columbia's only active Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS), Dr. Nori Bradley contributed significantly to the process for upskilling BC ATLS Instructors the Definitive Surgery for Trauma course, the American College of Surgeons Ultrasound for the General Surgeon Course, and the Advanced Surgical Skills and Exposures for Trauma course

Dr. Vikas Chaubey has developed two major education initiatives in Kelowna: an ICU Ultrasound Elective Rotation for Senior Trainees and an Ultrasound Curriculum for Intensive Care Physicians in Practice. He is serving on the RCPSC Infectious Disease Exam Committee.

Dr. Vinay Dhingra has been leading and instructing the Fundamentals of Critical Care Support (FCCS) Course since 2002.

Dr. Don Griesdale has been a leader in Neurocritical Care, presenting at national and international conferences, pushing the envelope in ECMO after neurologic injury. He served on the Organizing Committee, Canadian Critical Care Conference, February 4 - 7th, 2019. Whistler, BC, Canada.

Dr. Cheryl Holmes collaborates locally to improve student mistreatment and the learning environment. Dr. Holmes leads the MD Undergraduate Program through a successful accreditation and collaborates nationally to improve undergraduate medical education.

Dr. Sean Keenan has contributed to Canadian Blood Services developing teaching modules/electronic books on a few topics, including donation in Medical Assistance in Dying and guidelines for managing brain-dead donors.

Dr. Alasdair Nazerali-Maitland, since completing his Master of Health Education Scholarship, has continued his collaboration with the Department of Family Medicine on sharing key findings, positive/negative attributes about IMG trainees who match to Family Medicine. He created a teaching elective for residents from Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, OB/GYN, Physical Medicine and Rehab and Public Health. He contributes extensively to clinical skills education for the MD Undergraduate program. He developed an Ultrasound Faculty workshop to train the trainers in undergraduate ultrasound.

Dr. Daniel Ovakim created a toxicology curriculum for the Emergency Medicine Training Program and served as the RCPSC: Examination Quality Reviewer for the 2019 Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology Royal College.

Dr. Adam Peets, Site Lead for CCM, chairs the RCPSC Critical Care Competence Committee, part of the Competence by Design initiative that evaluates residents’ milestones during their specialty or subspecialty program training. Dr. Peets was the 2019 recipient of the Award for Academic Half-day Teaching Excellence.

Dr. Juan Ronco leads the International CC Fellowship program at Vancouver General Hospital, hosting up to 2 trainees for 18 months at a time.

Dr. Dave Sweet is a member of the Organizing Committee for the Pacific North West/North Americas Sepsis Conference, the largest stand-alone sepsis conference in the United States.

Dr. Adam Thomas is co-Producer and Podcast Editor of the Internet Book of Critical Care Podcast with over 1.2 million downloads and 101 post-publishing peer-reviewed chapters. Dr. Thomas also teaches at the UBC CME COVID-19 Webinars. He has given five emergency medicine and critical care webinars with over 3000 attendees.

Dr. Christian Turner created the UHNBC Trauma, Resuscitation and Critical Care (UTRACC) elective at the University Hospital of Northern BC. Some of the innovations used to set this elective apart from other learning experiences include:

- Targeted teaching for senior self-directed learners, with encouragement to set a number of their learning objectives; developing goals and deliverables by both staff and learners in advance
- Rural clinical education training including managing critically ill patients with limited resources, navigating video and phone teleconsultation in BC, patient packaging and transport
- Multi-disciplinary preceptor supervision to maximize exposure while in hospital, allowing learners to be on call for Trauma Team Leader (ED and Gen Surg), Acute anaesthesia consultations (anesthesiologist), ICU and HAU consultations (intensivist). Critical care outreach team (ICU nurse-led), and Code Blue (ED). Senior learners will be encouraged to choose the highest yield experiences when multiple options exist, in consultation with the staff Intensivist
- The first round of learners are from the Enhanced Skills program at UBC, but will accept senior residents from any background expecting to manage critically ill patients, focusing on those heading toward rural jobs
**PATIENT CARE**

The Critical Care Services Executive Committee (CCSEC), formerly the CC Working group (CCWG), continues to bring the provincial CC leadership together with a lens of quality, research and service planning with Ministry of Health representation.

The BC Critical Care Network (CCN) is comprised of members of the BC critical care community who are connected to share information and advance the voice of critical care across the province. At virtual meetings, discussion topics include clinical sharing, literature updates, therapeutics advancements, pandemic response, and data for critical care.

Dr. Hussein Kanji chairs the Critical Care Services Executive Committee (CCSEC), a provincial forum to discuss and make recommendations on policy and strategies to improve the acceptability, appropriateness, accessibility, safety, and effectiveness of care for critically ill patients across the province. This group has provided a critical role in the delivery of critical care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. MJ Slabbert participates in an innovative virtual ICU patient care initiative, ROSe, a Telehealth service providing Rural Outreach support in British Columbia. [https://rosetelehealth.com/about-rose/](https://rosetelehealth.com/about-rose/)

Dr. Andrew Wormsbecker is the Lead Clinician for the Royal Columbian Hospital Traumatic Brain Injury QI project. He developed a new Traumatic Brain Injury Protocol incorporating Licox brain tissue oxygen monitoring.

The Hemodynamic Assessment Service at St. Paul's Hospital was developed by Dr. John Boyd and Dr. Demetrios Sirounis in 2012. This service provides point of care hemodynamic assessments to complex patients in the critical care unit (combining waveform analysis, point of care echocardiogram, physical examination) to help the attending guide fluid and vasopressor management.

Dr. Hussein Kanji chairs the Critical Care Services Executive Committee (CCSEC), a provincial forum to discuss and make recommendations on policy and strategies to improve the acceptability, appropriateness, accessibility, safety, and effectiveness of care for critically ill patients across the province. The scope of this committee includes:

- **Quality care**: promoting excellence in critical care through provincial collaboration
- **Quality planning**: leveraging a provincial lens for service and capacity planning
- **Data-driven improvements**: leveraging data and quality metrics to advance quality, policy development, and enabling data-driven decision making
- **Research**: accelerating innovation in critical care by supporting common research proposals
- **Patient experience**: increasing patient and family engagement in the planning and delivery of care
- **Health human resources**: ensuring provincial capacity and training

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**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

- Establish the vision, mission and values for the division
- Expand our membership to be inclusive of the critical care leadership and physicians across the Province of British Columbia
- Strengthen and expand our education mandate
- Create an inclusive and collaborative research hub with a global reach
- Work toward a fully provincial ICU database and improvement network that representatives govern from each health authority and that fully integrate research, education and clinical care
- Complete a significant overhaul of our Division of Critical Care website to improve information exchange both internally and externally
- Partner with other critical care organizations in leadership and delivery of quality clinical care that is inclusive of all communities
- Promote Critical Care as a career that embraces a diverse group including women, Indigenous people and racialized minorities
- Strengthen divisional expertise beyond critical care
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

In his second and third year as Division Head, Dr. Dahl has focused on recruitment and continued collaborations with health authorities. In addition, he developed and introduced a division-wide strategic funding model, which has created a balanced financial portfolio for the division and a sustainable plan for the future. Divisional administrative support is provided by Aleta Allen.

The division has a three-year planning cycle for human resources and financial stability and is on track in these regards. We are grateful for contributions by clinical faculty members to a practice plan to achieve these goals.

Recruitment over the next three years focuses on areas of clinical need supported by research capabilities, in addition to renewal needed for projected retirements or changes in roles.

HIGHLIGHTS

The UBC Division of Endocrinology’s “Teacher of the Year Award,” an annual recognition to a division member (voted by the residents) for their outstanding contributions for teaching, was awarded to Dr. Marshall Dahl in 2019 and Dr. Pol Darras in 2020.

The Division of Endocrinology had several well attended and successful seminars in 2019:
- 17th Annual Live Well with Diabetes Seminar organized by Drs. Breay Paty and Keith Dawson
- 31st Annual Diabetes Directors Seminar organized by the Endocrine Research Society (Drs. Monika Pawlowska and Adam White)
- 18th Annual BC Endocrine Day Conference organized by the Endocrine Research Society (Drs. Monika Pawlowska and Adam White)
- 10th Annual Ted Wilkins Lectureship (from the grateful support of the Martin Hoffman Endowment Fund). This year’s guest speaker was Dr. Maria Cabanillas from the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

After 20 years as Director of the Adult Metabolic Diseases Clinic, Dr. Sandra Sirrs has taken on a new academic role in the division as Director, Health Policy for Rare Diseases

The division recruited two new members to join the SPH Division of Endocrinology group:
- Dr. Angela Liu, who completed training under the joint supervision of Drs. Sabrina Gill and Iliana Lega (Women's College Hospital, Toronto) is researching a study comparing models of care for women with Turner’s Syndrome. Her interest and training in women’s health include primary ovarian insufficiency, PCOS, Turner’s Syndrome, menopause, transgender health, and gestational diabetes. Dr. Liu is a welcome addition to the division at St. Paul’s Hospital
- Dr. Pol Darras, who completed a Fellowship in Lipidology and Cardiovascular Disease Prevention under the supervision of Dr. Gordon Francis, is an active member of the SPH Division, participating in the Prevention Clinic and the Diabetes Clinic. His appointment as the Site Director for SPH Endocrinology makes him responsible for orientating and evaluating the rotating residents through the division

On the Canadian Journal of Diabetes Editorial Board:
- Associate Editor: Dr. Breay Paty
- National Consultant Editor: Dr. Tricia Tang

In place of a Holiday celebration in 2020, the division collected $1600.00 to donate to the Greater Vancouver Foodbank.
RESEARCH
Faculty members continue with ongoing research, including:

• Islet Stem Cell Trials continue under the leadership of Dr. David Thompson Research Group
• Dr. Gordon Francis focus on “NonHDL-cholesterol, macrophage, and lipid-lowering drug influences on smooth muscle foam cell formation, phenotype and fate in atherosclerosis”
• Dr. Tricia Tang and her research team developed the highly successful T1D Trifecta (funded by JDRF, Diabetes Canada, and Omni-Pod), which provides an online intervention support group for people with Type 1 Diabetes providing psychosocial, self-management and peer support which has proven highly successful
• Dr. Jerilynn Prior and her research team continue with a Health Canada contract/grant to enroll 250 women in a single menstrual cycle study to test urine collection during the follicular and luteal/premenstrual phases for environmental contaminant research
• Dr. Ehud Ur continues with research in clinical trials involving Cushings Disease and acromegaly
• Ongoing research at BC Diabetes (Dr. Tom Elliott) expanded to 15 clinical trials involving diabetes care

Dr. Jerilynn Prior is the recipient of the 2019 Aubrey J. Tingle Award. The award is presented by the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research annually to a BC Clinician Scientist whose research had a significant impact on advancing research in his/her field and uptake of this evidence to improve health and the health system in BC and globally.

Physician-Led Quality Improvement projects in the division:

• Dr. Jordanna Kapleuto: Optimizing inpatient and outpatient care for diabetes patients
• Dr. Sabrina Gill: Providing optimal post-fracture care and improve care for patients with fragility fracture and to prevent future fractures
• Dr. Joseph Leung (Medicine and pediatrics): Improving the successful transition rate of adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes from BC Children’s to adult care

EDUCATION
The Division of Endocrinology residency training program (under the leadership of Dr. Jason Kong, Program Director) trained more subspecialty residents than ever before with 2 or 3 provincially funded positions and 1 or 2 clinical research fellows annually. Endocrinology training sites expanded to Royal Columbian and Surrey Memorial Hospitals and community sites, including Kelowna and Victoria.

A number of Endocrinology residents presented posters and oral presentations at the 2019 CSEM Annual Professional Conference and Meeting, and Endocrine Society annual meeting. Due to the pandemic, our residents participated these conferences virtually in 2020. The division is preparing for the Royal College Postgraduate Education Accreditation which is scheduled for the spring of 2020.

Due to the pandemic, the format of our weekly Academic Half Day moved to a virtual zoom format which has been very successful.

The division added two new committees to the structure of the Residency Training Program: Curriculum Improvement Committee and the Competency Committee with attendance from faculty members from both VGH and SPH.

Dr. Abdullah Alqanaei from Kuwait received a scholarship postgraduate trainee doing work in pituitary and bariatric care under the directorship of Drs. Michelle Johnson and Jordanna Kapeluto.

The division held several virtual educational events in 2020 including:

• Research Fest September 11, 2020 organized/facilitated by Drs. Tricia Tang and Jerilynn Prior
• Diabetes Directors Seminar October 23, 2020, organized by Drs. Monika Pawlowska and Adam White
PATIENT CARE

Division members participate in patient care throughout the lower mainland, including Vancouver General Hospital, St. Paul’s Hospital, Royal Columbian Hospital, Richmond Hospital, Victoria General Hospital and Surrey Memorial Hospital.

There are several specialty clinics at VGH and St. Paul’s Hospital which provide specialized learning opportunities for Fellows/residents and medical students:

St. Paul’s Hospital:
- Thyroid Clinic
- Pituitary Clinic
- Reproductive Clinic
- Prevention (Lipid) Clinic
- Metabolic Bone (Osteoporosis) Clinic

Vancouver General Hospital:
- Adult Metabolic Diseases Clinic
- Islet Cell Transplant Clinic
- Diabetes Clinic

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

As part of the division’s mandate, we continue to focus on recruitment and attracting a wider range of current endocrinology trends in diabetes, including:

- Management of type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, and dyslipidemia
- Transition of type 1 diabetes care from adolescent to adult patients
- Gestational diabetes
- Women’s endocrinology health initiative
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW
Dr. Rob Enns continues as Head, UBC Division of Gastroenterology with administrative support from Elaine Grant.

The UBC Division of Gastroenterology consists of the faculty at the two main teaching hospitals, Vancouver Acute (Vancouver General Hospital and UBC Hospital) and Providence Healthcare (St Paul’s Hospital and Mount St Joseph’s Hospital).

The division also has faculty members at the distributed sites, including Richmond General Hospital, Royal Columbian Hospital, Lions Gate Hospital and Surrey Memorial Hospital in the Lower Mainland; the Victoria and Vancouver Island Hospitals, Royal Inland Hospital (Kamloops), Kelowna General Hospital and the University Hospital of the North in Prince George.

The faculty consists of both GFT and Clinical Faculty Association members. Some associate members are located in the distributed sites, as well as associate members who share areas of academic interest in common with the Division of Gastroenterology and are members of other divisions.

- St Paul’s Hospital Division Head: Dr. Rob Enns
- VGH Division Head: Dr. Bill Salh
- GI Training Program Director: Dr. Eric Lam
- CSP Provincial Leads: Dr. Scott Cowie, Dr. Denis Petrunia, Dr. Paul Mullins, Dr. Rob Enns, Dr. Carla Nash, Dr. Jennifer Telford (Provincial Medical Lead)
- IBD Fellowship Program Director: Dr. Brian Bressler
- Transplant Hepatology Fellowship Program Director: Dr. Eric Yoshida (Also established the BC Hepatitis Program)
- Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy Fellowship Co-Directors: Dr. Rob Enns and Dr. Michael Byrne
- Provincial Nutrition Program: Dr. Scott Whittaker and Dr. George Ou
- Motility Director: Dr. Sarvee Moosavi
- Vancouver Community of Care Medical Dental Allied Staff Assoc President: Dr. Eric Yoshida
- VCH Physician Staff Associate President: Dr. Eric Yoshida
- VCH MAC Executive Committee Member: Dr. Eric Yoshida

HIGHLIGHTS
UBC Division of Gastroenterology Fellows’ Awards:
- Lectureship Award: Dr. Hin Hin Ko (2019) and Dr. Vladimir Marquez (2020)
- Dr. Hugh Chaun Mentorship Award: Dr. Fergal Donnellan (2019) and Dr. Rob Enns (2020)
- Dr. Donald M. Carr Memorial Teaching Award: Dr. Ian Gan (2019) and Dr. George Ou (2020)

UBC Division of Gastroenterology led meetings:
- Annual GI Forum (Oct 2019)
- Whistler GI Advances (Jun 2019)
- Liver Forum (Oct 2019)
In 2020, Annual GI Forum and Whistler GI Advances were cancelled due to COVID-19. However, the Liver Review Meeting (Dec 2020) and the BC IBD Forum (Oct 2020) were held virtually.

Colon Cancer Screening Program (CSP)
- Expansion with endoscopic services throughout the Province to meet needs of Program Based Screening for colon cancer based on FIT testing. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, FIT testing and colonoscopy procedures decreased in 2020. However, colonoscopy numbers gradually increased towards the end of 2020
- Roll out of quality initiatives to do with CSP - Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS), endoscopic report cards, Train the Trainer, Skills Enhancement in Endoscopy (SEE). Directives for GRS- regional and goal-orientated for Vancouver Coastal are temporarily suspended due to COVID-19

The IBD Centre of BC is now operational at an independent site in Vancouver. The IBD Centre provides a network of IBD specialists in Victoria, Kelowna, Burnaby, Richmond and Vancouver.

Although major meetings were postponed due to COVID-19, attendance at weekly rounds and Journal Clubs were expanded and saw higher numbers of attendance than in the past.

Recruitment of one academic physician (Dr. Neal Shahidi) who is presently starting in the clinical pathway will switch to the academic pathway in 2021.

RESEARCH

The faculty members of the Division of Gastroenterology are very involved in both clinical and basic science research.

Drs. Salh and Tai are actively involved in basic science research programs supported by national and provincial granting agencies, including CIHR, HSFC, CCFC, and the Canadian Society for Intestinal Research (CSIR).

Dean Dermot Kelleher is involved in translational research and is presently working on a ‘bench to bedside’ model with Dr. Fergal Donnellan and Dr. Rob Enns in the area of Barrett’s esophagus.

Clinical research is strong within the Division of Gastroenterology and is expanding. The specific areas of clinical research include inflammatory bowel disease, therapeutic endoscopy, liver disease, viral and non-viral hepatitis, hepatocellular cancer, liver transplantation, and solid organ transplantation and donation. In addition, there has been a great deal of work done provincially in colonoscopy and quality assurance through Dr. Jennifer Telford and the Colon Cancer Screening Program. The program included direct observation of procedural skills, skill enhancement courses for all endoscopists in colonoscopy, and assessment of various procedures parameters through the CSP database (which has led to multiple publications).

Dr. Rob Enns is the Director of the Gastrointestinal Research Institute located at the Pacific Gastroenterology Associates office site. Dr. Enns is actively involved in investigator-initiated clinical research and has developed outstanding clinical research expertise in capsule endoscopy and therapeutic endoscopy, and is well-published in these areas. As well, Dr. Enns is a co-author of the National Consensus Guidelines for capsule endoscopy. Dr. Eric Lam and Dr. Donnellan are actively engaged in clinical research in the field of endoscopic ultrasound while at the same time developing areas of advanced endoscopic directives such as endoscopic submucosal dissection techniques.

An ESD program has developed with the recruitment of Dr. Neal Shahidi at St Paul’s Hospital. Dr. Brian Bressler/Rosenfeld/Leung have established a clinical research program in inflammatory bowel disease and have secured, developed, and used an IBD Research network and center. Working with Dr. Rosenfeld, Dr. Yvette Leung is interested in IBD as it particularly relates to pregnancy, and these clinics have been developed in a multidisciplinary fashion. Dr. Jennifer Telford is conducting multiple research studies, many of them directed toward the Colon Screening Program. Dr. Gan has a significant interest in chronic pancreatic disease and has forwarded pancreatic development and management clinically through a strong clinical presence that is developing into a research presence in managing these patients.

In addition to the BC Hepatitis Program, the Division of Gastroenterology at Vancouver General Hospital has created a separate Luminal Gastroenterology Clinical Trials Unit under the leadership of Dr. Bill Salh. Dr. Fergal Donnellan’s research interest in various aspects of therapeutic endoscopy. Dr. Michael Byrne is developing Artificial Intelligence applications for GI endoscopy. AI is now being implemented on all new endoscopic instruments. Dr. Saumya Jayakumar, a newly recruited transplant hepatologist, has a research interest in NAFLD/NASH.

It is expected that clinical research will continue to expand at both the main teaching hospitals and is a significant strength of the division.
EDUCATION
The faculty of the UBC Division of Gastroenterology are involved in several specific and specialized clinical academic programs. These include:

- Undergraduate medical education of third and fourth-year medical students
- Postgraduate medical education of medical and surgical residents
- The Gastroenterology Fellowship Training Program received full Royal College accreditation in March 2020
- IBD Fellowship Training Program Director
- Transplant Hepatology Fellowship Training Program
- Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy Fellowship Training Program
- Colon Cancer Screening Program
- Skills Enhancement in Endoscopy (SEE) involves clinical skills enhancement and “train the trainer” courses
- Continuing medical education events and conferences, including monthly journal clubs, the Annual GI Forum, Liver Forum, IBD Mentoring, CSP Education Day and Gastroenterology Advances. Many of these have adjusted to online applications in 2020

PATIENT CARE
Full clinical in-patient and out-patient services are provided at the teaching hospitals and the distributed hospital sites. The main teaching hospitals, Vancouver General Hospital and St. Paul’s Hospital, are provincial quaternary hospitals. They are the main destinations for patient transfers from community hospitals throughout BC and the Yukon Territories via BC Patient Transfer Network and the “Life, Limb or Transplant” policy. Approximately 70 liver transplants were performed in 2019, and 80 liver transplants were performed in 2020.

Specialized therapeutic endoscopy consisting of ERCP, both diagnostic and therapeutic, is offered as a clinical service at the Vancouver General Hospital, St. Paul’s Hospital and Royal Columbian Hospital sites in the lower mainland and the Victoria Hospital Corporation institutions. An ESD program is being developed at SPH, and Barrett’s esophagus management provincially is performed at both VGH and SPH by therapeutic staff. In addition, the Pancreas Center at VGH now has a strong presence with a positive impact on the clinical management of chronic pancreatitis.

The specialized modalities of endoscopic ultrasound and capsule endoscopy are available at St. Paul’s Hospital and Vancouver General Hospital. Endoscopic ultrasound is also available at the BC Cancer Agency Vancouver Clinic and is performed by UBC faculty with cross-appointments. The division is also involved in clinical activity with British Columbia Transplant and the British Columbia Cancer Agency (PHSA).

The BC Hepatitis Program, a partnership of the BC Centre for Disease Control, is actively involved in clinical services related to viral hepatitis, liver disease and hepatocellular cancer. It is located within the Division of Gastroenterology’s block in the Diamond Health Care Centre of the Vancouver Hospital. The St. Paul’s Hospital group, Pacific Gastroenterology Associates, also offers specialized out-patient care in non-transplant liver disease (including outreach clinics), luminal gastroenterology (including education around quality in colonoscopy, endoscopic submucosal dissection clinics and inflammatory bowel disease (now has its own geographical location).

In terms of long-term nutritional support and care, the province’s Home Enteral and Parenteral Program is based at St. Paul’s Hospital under Dr. J. Scott Whittaker and Dr. George Ou, who are the Medical Directors of the Program.

Drs. Jennifer Telford and Rob Enns provide provincial/regional leadership to the Colon Cancer Screen Program.

Provincial quality assessment of endoscopic skills (DOPS) is lead at each hospital under the direction of Dr. Rob Enns, Dr. Michael Byrne, Dr. Fergal Donnellan and Dr. Carla Nash.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
- Expand IBD Center with recruitment and support of academic staff at that site. The IBD Center has physicians that work in multiple hospitals and uses the center for their IBD patients (Lion’s Gate, Richmond, MSJ, St Paul’s, Children’s Hospital)
- Solidify recruitment and academic appointment of therapeutic endoscopy as it relates to luminal Gastroenterology and IBD. One recruit in 2020 and funds are secured for a second academic recruit in 2021
- Expand Motility services and solidify the expertise being offered. The foundation is present, but resources are required
- Hepatobiliary – expand academic portfolio using the clinical footprint to create an academic publishing environment
- Solidify quality in endoscopy as a strategic pillar for the Division of Gastroenterology. This is now well established but continues to need personal and recruitment of new staff to support infrastructure
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Division Head, UBC Division of General Internal Medicine: Dr. Anita Palepu, and Dr. Nadia Khan (started Aug 2019) with UBC administrative support provided by Amy Zhou and Stephanie Borgen. Andrea Toker is the GIM Fellowship Program Administrator.

Additional Division of General Internal Medicine Leadership:
- CTU Director SPH: Dr. Barry Kassen
- CTU Director VGH: Dr. Shane Arishenkoff
- UGME CTU clerkship SPH: Dr. Debbie Rosenbaum
- UGME CTU clerkship VGH: Dr. Sharmistha Das
- UGME Internal Medicine Clerkship Director: Dr. Harp Nagi
- UGME Associate Director, Curriculum (Year 3/4): Dr. Cary Cuncic
- PGME GIM Program Director R4-R5: Dr. Stephane Voyer; Dr. James Tessaro (Jul 2020)
- Competence Committee Chair GIM Fellowship Program R4-5: Dr. Stephane Voyer
- PGME Core Internal Medicine PD: Dr. Mark Roberts
- PGME Associate PD (R4): Dr. Jane McKay, Dr. Ritu Kumar (Dec 2019)
- PGME Associated PD Wellness: Dr. Peter Weerasinghe
- PGME Ultrasound Lead: Dr. Shane Arishenkoff
- SPH Site Division Head: Dr. Anita Palepu (Jan – Aug 2019), Dr. Jane McKay (Sept 2019)
- VGH Site Division Head: Dr. Iain McCormick
- BCWCH Site Division Head: Dr. Wee-Shian Chan
- SPH Ambulatory Education Lead: Dr. Ric Arseneau and Dr. Anna Rahmani
- VGH Ambulatory Education Lead: Drs. Cary Cuncic and Aman Nijjar
- UBC Clinical Educator Fellowship Program Director: Dr. Rose Hatala
- BC Governor for American College of Physicians: Dr. Aman Nijjar
- VGH Medical Director for Quality on Acute Medicine: Dr. Penny Tam
- VGH Physician Facilitator for Interdisciplinary Learning Review: Dr. Penny Tam
- Competency Committee Chair: Dr. Rose Hatala
- Competency by Design Post-Graduate Lead: Dr. Tristen Gilchrist
- Perioperative Medicine Director: Dr. Iain Mackie and Dr. Zach Schwartz

HIGHLIGHTS
- Dr. Anita Palepu was named Head of Medicine, the first woman Head of Medicine at the UBC Department of Medicine in 2019
- Dr. Rose Hatala received the 2019 Medical Council of Canada Outstanding Achievement Award
• Dr. Nadia Khan received the Anand & Saroj Aggarwal South Asian Heart Health Endowed Lectureship, University of Ottawa
• Dr. Nadia Khan received the Top Clinical Paper in Hypertension Award at the American Heart Association
• Drs. Tony Wan and Anna Rahmani hosted a World Thrombosis Day event at St. Paul Hospital and were co-investigators for the CIHR grant funding for the COBRRA trial
• Dr. Liam Brunham was the lead investigator in a Genome BC Study that received a project grant budget of $400K
• Dr. Liam Brunham was the lead investigator in a Canada Foundation for Innovation Study that received a grant budget of $300K
• Dr. Kevin Eva was a co-investigator in a Medical Council of Canada study that received grant funding of $37K
• Dr. Nadia Khan was the lead investigator in a BC Support Unit Study that received grant funding of $200K
• Dr. Nadia Khan was the lead investigator in a Physician Engagement study that received grant funding of $25K
• GIM division led efforts to provide safe care for hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Working with the Emergency Department, the Department of Medicine and the Critical Care Division, the GIM division led the care from the point of entry to hospital admission with our emergency triage team to inpatient COVID-19 care and the post-COVID-19 recovery clinics for patients who survived COVID-19 infections
• Providing the cornerstone of medical care at VGH and SPH – the division leads the Clinical Teaching Unit care teams that provide care to patients in over 200 patient beds, translating to approximately 85,000 patient bed days per year. GIM also provides care for 9000 patient visits in the ambulatory setting in 2020
• Dr. Tristen Gilchrist – new leadership role as the Association Program Director, Curriculum of the Postgraduate Education Program for Department of Medicine

**RESEARCH**

Dr. Liam Brunham presented at:
• UBC General Medicine Research Night on “The role of high density lipoprotein in infection and immunity.”
• Vancouver Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection Conference: “Myocardial Infarction in Young Women.”

Dr. Rose Hatala presented and participated in:
• Serious Illness Conversation Guide Workshop, PHC Medical Staff Co-led with Wallace Robinson
• Enhanced Skills for CTU Attending seminar with Drs. Mark Roberts and Dr. Cary Cuncic at the University Hospital of Northern BC
• Respiratory Rounds on “Coaching and feedback in competency by design” under the GIM training program

Dr. Kevin Eva presented and participated in:
• Encouraging learning from multisource feedback, a presentation delivered to the Clinical Teaching Graduates in Certificate Medical Education Program, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia
• Improvisational theatre: Why facilitating performance improvement through feedback requires going off-script. A Presentation delivered to the Clinical Teaching Graduate Certificate in Medical Education Program, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia
• Recent advances in admissions: What research on interviewing has taught us about the selection and assessment of health professionals. Grand rounds presentation to the University of Queensland Mayne Medical School, Brisbane, Australia
• Validity challenges derived from rater cognition research. Panel discussion at the Research Group in Pursuit of Validity Annual Meeting, Drummondville, Quebec
• Quality Improvement of Multiple Mini-Interviews. Presentation delivered to the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Centre Department of Physician Assistant Studies, Dallas, Texas

Dr. Nadia Khan presented at:
• Key Note Lecture, Resistant Hypertension, Korean Society of Hypertension, Jeju Island, Korea 2019
• Key Note Lecture, Women in Hypertension, Canadian Hypertension Congress, Edmonton, Alberta, 2019
• “Low diastolic pressure and SPRINT trial” interview for Hypertension for the American Heart Association, New Orleans, Louisiana 2019

Dr. Liam Brunham presented at:
• International Atherosclerosis Society High-Density Lipoprotein Workshop: “Role of HDL in Infection and Immunity.”
• Rocky Mountain Internal Medicine Meeting: “What is new in lipids in 2019?”

Annual Report 2019-2020
EDUCATION

The UBC Division of General Internal Medicine provides comprehensive teaching of all medical students at UBC in the inpatient setting when on the Clinical Teaching Unit or in the ambulatory setting at the Rapid Access Specialist Clinic (SPH) and the Internal Medicine Outpatient Clinic (IMOC) at VGH. The Clinical Teaching Units include Vancouver General Hospital, St. Paul’s Hospital, and Royal Columbian Hospital. In addition, other hospitals across BC also participate in teaching undergraduate and graduate medical trainees in General Internal Medicine.

In 2019-2020, 19 division members from General Internal Medicine received an Honor roll award for being among the top teachers in the Department of Medicine and other education awards.

Division members also have education research and leadership roles within the Faculty of Medicine and are vital to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research at UBC.

The GIM R4-5 specialty program implemented Competency Based Medical Education. The division also offers specialized electives in Point of Care Ultrasound, Hypertension, Perioperative Medicine, Thrombosis and Obstetrical Medicine. Furthermore, GIM specialty fellows have at least four community electives with outstanding preceptors across this province as we recognize the need to train GIM specialists for the province.

We have a number of faculty members with expertise in medical education research, including Drs. Rose Hatala and Kevin Eva. Many of our faculty have advanced degrees in medical education and have taken educational leadership roles in UGME and PGME.

PATIENT CARE

The Division of General Internal Medicine provides care to patients for approximately 200 hospital beds at SPH and VGH hospital at the Clinical Teaching Units. General Internal Medicine also runs an ER Triage team seven days per week and Medicine Consultation to non-CTU hospital wards at both hospitals. We also have a non-teaching, Parallel Internal Medicine Service to decant sub-acute patients from the CTU to improve flow. The division has been actively involved in the Medical Operational Excellence Transformation to improve our processes of care and prototype best practices for handover, discharge planning, team care and our admission processes. The CTU is the cornerstone of the hospital’s teaching program that supports and enables other subspecialty and surgical programs to thrive.

The UBC Division of General Internal Medicine led efforts to provide care for hospitalized patients with COVID-19 from our Emergency Triage to inpatient COVID-19 wards and then to COVID-19 recovery clinics for outpatients post-COVID-19 throughout the Province of BC. The division also provided consultative care for persons isolated at a downtown hotel during the pandemic. COVID-19 wards were run by general internists throughout the province, with other Department of Medicine, Emergency Department, and Family Practice groups providing vital assistance.

The Division of General Internal Medicine is primarily responsible for providing care for patients with acute and complex medical issues for over 200 hospital beds (ranging as high as 220-260 beds) at SPH and VGH hospital at the Clinical Teaching Units each year. This is equivalent to the size of entire hospitals in BC and translates to 85,000 or more inpatient days per year at VGH and SPH.

General Internal Medicine also runs an ER Triage team seven days per week and Medicine Consultation to non-CTU hospital wards at both hospitals. We also have a non-teaching, Acute Internal Medicine Service to decant sub-acute patients from the CTU to improve flow. The division also has an inpatient consultation line for Thrombosis Medicine. The division has been actively involved in the Medical Operational Excellence Transformation to improve our processes of care and prototype best practices for handover, discharge planning, team care and our admission processes.
The CTU is the cornerstone of the hospital’s teaching program that supports and enables other subspecialty and surgical programs to thrive.

We also have an active ambulatory GIM program at the Rapid Access Specialist Clinic that provides CTU patient follow-up after discharge, ED referrals and urgent referrals from primary care. These are teaching clinics with medical students and residents focusing on education and learning in the ambulatory setting. In addition, division members actively participate in the GIM RACE (Rapid Access to Consultative Expertise) line and the Hypertension RACE line. The ambulatory program from GIM saw approximately 9000 patients in 2020 at VGH and SPH.

Perioperative Medicine Impact Team
We have six faculty that are part of the Perioperative Medicine IMPCT team: Zach Schwartz (Medical Director), Erin Morley, Erin Sloan, Terence Yung, Iain Mackie, and Stephen Ham that provide comprehensive risk assessment and intra and perioperative management of medical issues in the surgical patient. The IMPCT team is located at VGH hospital and includes a busy inpatient arm seven days per week and outpatient clinic service. In addition, the IMPCT team includes trainees from across the Faculty of Medicine and holds monthly journal clubs.

Point of Care Ultrasound
There are 4-faculty (Shane Arishenkoff, Nathan Chan, Barry Chan, Mark Roberts, Katie Wiskar) that provide consultation to the medical wards and CTU at VGH with point of care ultrasound for diagnosis and therapeutic procedures. This team includes trainees and fellows.

Hypertension (Ambulatory)
Provides comprehensive hypertension specialist care across BC. We have 6-faculty (Nadia Khan, Debbie Rosenbaum, Birinder Mangat, Jesse Bittman, Laura Kuyper, and Karen Tran) who are Hypertension specialists certified by the American Society for Hypertension Board exam. In addition, we have clinics for resistant hypertension at SPH to optimize blood pressure measurement and management for patients whose blood pressure has been challenging to treat. Poorly controlled hypertension is associated with substantial morbidity (renal, cardiac, stroke), acute care use with ED visits and hospital admission for hypertensive emergency and urgency, and premature mortality. We employ motivational interviewing techniques to improve adherence to medications and focus on lifestyle interventions in addition to pharmacologic treatments. We also include 24-hour ambulatory BP measurements at VGH and carotid femoral pulse wave velocity measurements (Dr. Karen Tran). The Hypertension Clinic also includes the Hypertension Research Registry and fellows for specialized training in hypertension.

Thrombosis (Ambulatory)
We have 2-faculty (Anna Rahmani and Tony Wan) at SPH that provide comprehensive care for VTE and the DVT pathway fast-tracking patients from the emergency department. The DVT pathway has been shown to reduce wait times in the ED department. The Thrombosis team also provides inpatient coverage, and the Thrombosis Clinic has expertise with the DOACs, bridging anticoagulation for procedures, DVT and PE management. The clinic also includes research and fellowship training for expertise in thrombosis.

Eating Disorders (Inpatient and Ambulatory)
We have three faculty (Jane McKay, Debbie Rosenbaum and Ric Arseneau) who have expertise in managing the medical complications of the Eating Disorder patients, a tertiary program housed in Mental Health at PHC. It is a provincial resource. These patients are very complicated medically and challenging to manage, particularly their re-feeding and electrolyte and volume management.

Obstetrical Internal Medicine (Inpatient and Ambulatory)
Wee-Shian Chan, Tessa Chaworth-Musters and Karen Tran work at BCWH and the SPH Rapid Access Clinic. They include a fellowship training program and see patients with high-risk pregnancies and medical complications of pregnancy. They also include research in the OBIM program.

Chronic and Complex Disease Clinic (Ambulatory)
BCWH – Drs. Ric Arseneau, Jane McKay, Renee Jansen participate in this multidisciplinary clinic, which has become a highly successful multidisciplinary program under Dr. Arseneau’s leadership.
Palliative Care (Inpatient and Ambulatory)
Gil Kimel attends on the Palliative Care ward at SPH, and Rose Hatala and Lawrence Chow also provide palliative care at VGH. The Palliative Care teams also provide consultation on the Clinical Teaching Units. Gil Kimel is the Division Head for Palliative Care at PHC.

Rural and Remote OUTREACH
There are four faculty who regularly do outreach to underserved communities in northern BC (Hazelton, Bella Coola, Smithers, Terrace) and in Yellowknife, NWT: Stephane Voyer, Marie Pierre Dallaire, and James Tessaro. Dr. MP Dallaire has worked closely with Dr. John Pawlovich (Family Medicine) and Dr. Terri Aldred to build relationships with the many First Nations communities. She and others are using telehealth to communicate and follow up with the patients and the staff in these places. We have a recent GIM graduate, Dr. Denise Jaworsky, who was hired in Terrace (Mills Memorial Hospital). She will continue to collaborate with the group through outreach and provide longitudinal care to these patients.

Bridge Clinic (Refugee Health)
Dr. Stephane Voyer and Dr. Trudy Naismith provide a weekly clinic for this patient population who frequently have undiagnosed and unmanaged medical conditions.

Urban Clinic Outreach
Dr. Debbie Rosenbaum has regular clinics at the Portland Hotel and the Pennsylvania Hotel with family physician Christie Sutherland. That has successfully provided access to specialist care to patients who are hard to reach and provides important learning for the GIM fellows.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
• Continue to provide ongoing care and support to patients with COVID-19 throughout the province
• Contribute to wellness strategies for the Department of Medicine
• Continue to expanding our ambulatory and outreach activities, including vascular medicine and obesity medicine
• Implement Point of Care Ultrasound Curriculum for residents and faculty with increased faculty recruitment at both sites (VGH and SPH)
• Expanding Perioperative Medicine Inpatient service at VGH and SPH with faculty recruitment
• Increasing educational research pilots and programs
• Increasing research capacity among faculty, including QI
• Increase the number of GIM subspecialty trainees (R4-5) to meet the needs of the province
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Dr. Janet Kow continued as Division Head and took on the role of Senior Medical Director Quality and Safety, and Interim VP Pandemic Response at Providence Health Care with administrative support from Becky Nagra.

The Division of Geriatric Medicine has grown significantly since its inception in the 1980s under the leadership of Dr. B. Lynn Beattie. The division currently provides a wide range of clinical services and teaching across all sites in the Lower Mainland. These include active multi-disciplinary and physician-only inpatient geriatric consultation services, inpatient acute care for elders, geriatric ambulatory care and multiple outpatient clinics. Several Geriatricians attend on Clinical Teaching Units, bringing their knowledge of the care of the elderly to trainees during their Internal Medicine rotations and enhancing recruitment opportunities for future Geriatric Medicine fellows.

Geriatricians also provide outreach to communities in the interior and northern regions of the province and provision of Virtual Care.

- The division’s major areas of research emphasize health services research, diabetes, dementia, osteoporosis, falls prevention and cardiovascular disease
- Dr. Roger Wong continues to serve as vice dean, education for the Faculty of Medicine
- As the North American Region Chair, Dr. Ken Madden continued on the Executive of the International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology. In addition, he was successfully renewed as Allan M McGavin Chair in Geriatric Medicine. He continues as the Vice President of the Canadian Geriatrics Society and Editor in Chief of the Canadian Geriatrics Journal
- In October 2019, Dr. Martha Spencer took over as PHC Division Head
- Dr. Deviani Maher became Division Head of Geriatric Medicine at Vancouver Island Health Authority

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Ken Madden became Acting President of the Canadian Geriatric Society
- 3rd Annual UBC Intensive Care of the Elderly CPD course, increasing scope and attendees
- Successful implementation of Competence By Design in Geriatric Medicine Program
- Organized observership of Chinese Physicians from Taiyuan No.2 Hospital, in collaboration with Geriatric Psychiatry, Physiatry and Palliative Care
- Dr. Roger Wong served as a member of the Government of Canada’s Special Task Force on Long-Term Care and COVID-19
- Successful Accreditation of Geriatric Medicine Training Program by the Royal College
- The division experienced ongoing success with Geriatrics CPD, including Virtual Rounds and medical education
- The division provided leadership in COVID-19 response throughout British Columbia

RESEARCH

- In 2019, Dr. Ken Madden completed his Hypertension Study and published five articles, the Ultrasound Sarcopenia Study and presented at the International Association of Gerontology and the Canadian Geriatrics Society Meeting
• Research led by Drs. Madden and Meneilly focuses on mobility and physiological changes of ageing with disease, especially cardiovascular and diabetes. They have fulsome collaboration with UBC and SFU gerontology, engineering and allied health. Dr. Madden was awarded a $75,000 grant from VCHRI to use bedside ultrasound to screen for sarcopenia. Drs. Meneilly and Madden are Co-Principle Investigators for a total of $824,000 in CIHR funding and $97,000 in other funding
• Articles by division members were published in high-impact journals, including Diabetes Care, the Journal of American Geriatrics Journal, and Age and Ageing

EDUCATION
• Drs. Lawrence Lo, Wendy Cook and Martha Spencer were all instrumental in the implementation of Competence by Design in the Geriatric and Internal Medicine programs. Dr. Cook also took a key leadership role in implementing the Core Internal Medicine ‘Boot Camp’, which was exceptionally well received by incoming R1s
• Division members are highly committed to teaching and participate at all levels of the MD Undergraduate program. Year 1 & 2: our grant tenured faculty fully fulfill their pre-clinical teaching with precepting Clinical based learning sessions. Members co-run the lectures on geriatrics and frailty in Year 1 and Cognitive assessment and Dementia week in Year 2. Multiple members run small group teaching in Clinical skills in Year 2, leading sessions on Geriatric interviewing and cognitive assessment
• Many members in Vancouver and the Fraser program do CTU precepting where Year 3 students do their Internal Medicine rotations, including on the Acute care of the Elderly Unit at Vancouver General Hospital. This CTU experience focuses on Seniors Medicine
• In year 4, multiple members supervise students in Geriatric medicine rotations at all sites in Vancouver/Fraser
• A group of 4 Chinese physicians spend one Month in Vancouver observing Geriatric Medicine, Psychiatry, Physiatry and Palliative Care in inpatient, outpatient and hospice areas. They completed a curriculum of didactic lectures by faculty and small group discussions. They will be bringing their learnings back to Taiyuan No.2, a large hospital in Northern China, the first Geriatric Hospital in the region
• The highly successful Care of the Elderly Intensive Course was repeated 2019-2020 and had attendees from across Canada. It remains one of the highest-rated UBC CPD courses
• In 2020, the Postgraduate Residency Program achieved full accreditation by the Royal College

PATIENT CARE
• Acute Care of the Elderly Units opened at St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver and Richmond General Hospital, supported by the leadership and clinical support of division members
• The Personalized Support and Stabilization team launched at Vancouver Coastal Health, focusing on Geriatric patients with medical leadership and support from our division members, especially Dr. Martha Spencer.
• Added new Geriatrician, Dr. Derrick Chan, to Abbotsford area (previously not directly served by Geriatric Medicine)
• Geriatric and Seniors’ Medicine is a highly valued component of all BC Health Authorities’ strategic plan. Senior division members both hold and are active participants in Health Authority planning for Seniors Care.
• In 2020, division members led specific COVID-19 initiatives: Geriatric Medicine Palliative Care consult team (GMPC) implemented for Frail Seniors with COVID-19
• Dr. Jocelyn Chase became the medical lead for Providence Health Care Ethics Service and participated in Provincial discussions re: Resource Allocation
• The division became leaders in Virtual Care for Seniors in BC, particularly in ongoing outreach to Northern and Interior BC
• Richmond Community Health Access Centre opened for Seniors Outpatient Services
• Geriatric services extended to Squamish with previously no direct Geriatrics Access

FUTURE DIRECTIONS
• Partners and leaders in innovative models for Healthy Ageing, in collaboration with UBC and the New St. Paul's Hospital
• Research expanding to incorporating cognition, technology and humanistic medicine
• Dissemination of specialized clinical services in all areas of the Province
• Specifically, the division is committed to developing models of interdisciplinary care in conjunction with other divisions, particularly Oncology, Cardiology, Otolaryngology, and Orthopedics
The Division is led by Dr. Stephen Nantel with administrative support from Barbara Yuen.

The division remains active in clinical care, teaching and research at the major teaching hospitals (VGH and SPH). Division Members support these activities. In addition, several individuals perform essential leadership duties within the Division of Hematology, including Dr. L Foltz (Division of Hematology, SPH), Dr. L Chen (Director, Residency Training Program), Dr. S Narayanan (L/BMT Program 2019), Dr. YA Mourad (L/BMT Program 2020), Dr. G Sreenivasan (Apheresis Program), Dr. A Lee (Thrombosis Program, VGH), Dr. P Yenson (General Hematology Service, VGH), Dr. S Jackson (Adult Hemophilia program, SPH), Dr. H Ezzat (Hemoglobinopathy Program), Dr. H Leitch (Hematology Research Program, SPH), Dr. A Lee (Hematology Research Program). The contributions of these individuals are of great significance to the overall functioning of the UBC Division.

In addition to providing consultative Hematology services at VGH and SPH, the UBC Division of Hematology comprises several highly specialized services providing Tertiary and Quaternary Hematology care for the adults in the Province of BC.

The division continues to provide training in Adult Hematology (2-year RCPSC accredited) to PGY-4 & PGY-5; and fellowship training in Leukemia/BMT (1-2 year non-accredited clinical and research training). Additional fellowship opportunities are available in Thrombosis and Multiple Myeloma.

HIGHLIGHTS
The division received a total of 1.6 million in contracts and research grant funding and 49 peer-reviewed publications, consistently appearing in high-impact journals

First Canadian CAR-T Study:
• A phase I/II study that investigate the Canadian CAR-T product CLIC-1901 for the treatment of patients with Relapsed/Refractory CD19 Positive Hematologic malignancies. With the hard work of PI Dr. Kevin Hay and research staff Hong Li and Laura Gelinas, HRP has exceeded our initial enrollment goal of 10 patients. We have now screened 26 patients and enrolled 17 patients onto the study. Out of the 17 patients enrolled, 13 of them have received the CLIC-1901 treatment

Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML):
• Dr. Florian Kuchenbauer’s phase III trial of Uproleselan, a specific E-selectine antagonist, administered with chemotherapy versus chemotherapy alone in patients with RR AML. We have now enrolled 11 patients in this trial
• Dr. Sanford’s phase II trial of MBG453 in combination with Azacitadine and venetoclax for the treatment of AML in adult patients unfit for chemotherapy

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL):
• Dr. David Sanford’s investigator initiated phase II study using Blinatumomab for treatment of detectable MRD in the first year following HSCT for patients with B-ALL. This is a multi-center study, Dr. Sanford and HRP is the lead coordinating center of a potential 8-9 Canadian centers
Multiple Myeloma (MM):
- Dr. Heather Sutherland’s phase I/II study of GSK2857916 (Belantamab Mafodotin), in combination with Pom and low dose Dex in patient with R/R MM. We exceeded our enrollment goal of 5 patients and enrolled now 11 patients in this study
- Dr. Song’s phase I/II platform study utilizing a master protocol to study GSK2857916 (Belantamab Mafodotin) as monotherapy and in combination with Anti-Cancer Treatment in patients with R/R MM

RESEARCH
The Hematology Research Program (HRP) at VGH is heavily involved in industry-sponsored and a small number of investigator-initiated Clinical Trials. Industry-sponsored trials remain a mainstay of HRP and have been successful financially. Some of the hematologists at SPH have ongoing research programs: myeloproliferative disorders, iron overload management and bleeding disorders. The Centre for Blood Research (CRB) at UBC is affiliated with the UBC Division of Hematology and carries out basic science research in Transfusion science, Hemostasis and Inflammation, infection and wound repair. The Terry Fox Laboratory at BC Cancer Research Centre is active in studying a variety of Hematologic malignancies, stem cell biology.

Hematology Research Program (HRP) Handling COVID-19 Pandemic
Although new studies and enrollment for active studies were put on hold from mid-March to September 2020, active study patients protocol required treatments and visits were carried on by the dedicated HRP staff throughout the pandemic.

COVID-19 Studies
Dr. Agnes Lee awarded the VCHRI COVID-19 Research Grant and started CAVEAT (COVID-19 Associated Venous and Arterial Thromboembolism) Study. This population-based study aims to identify the incidence and risk factors of arterial and venous thromboembolism (AVTE) in patients with COVID-19 who require hospital admission in the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority and Fraser Health Authority.

Dr. Heather Sutherland’s COVID-19 vaccination study in L/BMT patients focuses on effectiveness of immunization in special populations, cancer and post-transplant patients. This population-based study includes solid tumor, lymphoma, myeloma, acute leukemia, allo and auto transplant patients across BC.

EDUCATION
- The division continued to host weekly accredited group learning activities defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- Hematology Semi-Annual Update Series continued (sessions in January and June), featuring local experts providing updates on important developments in the discipline. Sessions are video-linked to other hospital sites in British Columbia
- The division continued to provide visiting electives and postgraduate training opportunities in Hematology as a subspecialty program (Medicine, UBC) to eligible residents in recognized Specialty (Royal College) training programs
- The residents’ hematology rotations occur at Vancouver General Hospital, St. Paul’s Hospital, BC Children’s Hospital, BC Women’s Hospital & Health Centre, BC Cancer Agency: including Vancouver, Surrey, Kelowna, and Victoria site
- Rotations offer residents, fellows, including international trainees, training in hematology, stem cell transplantation, thrombosis, and laboratory research
- 10 general hematology residents, 15 leukemia/BMT fellows in 2019
- 9 general hematology residents, 9 leukemia/BMT fellows in 2020

PATIENT CARE
- The Division of Hematology saw approximately 3,600 new patients
- The Thrombosis Program looked after 13,000 patients with blood-clot-related problems
- There were 530 new referrals to the Leukemia/Bone Marrow Transplant Program of BC. Approximately 250 transplants performed
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW
Division Head, UBC Division of Infectious Diseases: Dr. Peter Phillips, and Dr. Ted Steiner (January 2020)

During the past decade, the ID Division has continued to develop an increasing number of linkages and relationships essential for clinical care, research and education. These have included: BC Transplant, BCCDC, Medical Microbiology, BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, School of Population and Public Health (UBC), Centre for Tuberculosis Research (UBC), BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute (BCHRI); and several geographic medicine sites (Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi, Kenya; Gulu University, Gulu Regional Hospital, Uganda; Rwanda Biomedical Research Centre, and Brasov Children’s Hospital, Romania).

The division has better engaged Infectious Diseases groups at various hospitals, both within and outside Vancouver, in the weekly clinical case conference and weekly Journal Club rounds through teleconferencing. In addition, the ID residency training program, which has 2-3 new positions funded each year, continues to attract over 20 applicants annually from across the country.

The following faculty members provide leadership in their respective disciplines: Dr. Julio Montaner (HIV/AIDS), Dr. Richard Lester (Global Health), Dr. Alissa Wright (Transplant Infectious Diseases), Dr. Victor Leung, Dr. Jennifer Grant, and Dr. Kevin Afra (Antibiotic Stewardship). Finally, Dr. Ted Steiner is the Medical Head of the VCHRI Clinical Research Unit.

HIGHLIGHTS
• Recipients of CIHR Project Grants including:
  - C. difficile: Theodore Steiner
  - Cervical Cancer: Troy Grennan
  - Digital Health: Richard Lester
  - HIV: Troy Grennan, Jeffrey Joy, Viviane Lima, Julio Montaner, David Moore, Melanie Murray, Neora Pick
  - HPV: Troy Grennan
  - Leishmania: Neil Reiner
  - Malaria: Katherine Plewes
  - STDs: Troy Grennan
• Yossef Av-Gay and Horacio Bach, BC Lung Association grant ($50K)
• Jeffrey Joy, Liber Ero Foundation grant ($152K)

RESEARCH
Research programs are diverse and broad-based, including microbial pathogenesis, host defense and AIDS, and a wide range of epidemiological research focused on sexually transmitted, chronic viral hepatitis, and emerging infectious diseases. Clinical and translational research includes antimicrobial stewardship and links to emerging resistant organisms as well as influenza and Clostridium difficile. Research in solid organ and hematologic transplant infections is
emerging. Linkages between the human microbiome and chronic diseases are being established. Digital health, eHealth, mHealth and telemedicine innovation and research in acute and transitional outpatient care have expanded, including cross-faculty collaborations in data science. Global health research includes participation in GeoSentinal surveillance and the usage of mobile devices to support medical practice. For example, specific studies involve using SMS texting to improve outcomes in the management of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in BC, the US, and Africa. Collaborations with external universities, public and private partners and policy bodies are numerous.

Select 2019-2020 Research Projects include:

- **Yossef Av-Gay**: Targeting mycobacterial-host signaling for TB drug development
- **Horacio Bach**: Metabolic pathways of lipases in Mycobacterium avium ssp paratuberculosis
- **Sara Belga**: Epidemiology, Management and Outcome of Non-Tuberculosis Mycobacteria Infections in Transplant Recipients in Europe and America
- **Chanson Brumme**: Development of sensitive and quantitative molecular technologies for SARS-CoV-2 detection
- **Robert Brunham**: Host immune responses to Chlamydia Trachomatis candidate vaccine antigens and their association with clinical correlates of protective immunity in women
- **Troy Grennan**: Accelerating cervical cancer elimination in Canada: ACE-Canada
- **Jeffrey Joy**: Characterizing latent HIV sequences in CD4+ subsets in individuals on long-term cART
- **Richard Lester**: Digital virtual support of cases and contacts to COVID-19: readiness and knowledge sharing for global outbreaks (WelTel PHM)
- **Viviane Lima**: Assessing the Burden of Chronic Comorbidities Focused on the Aging Population Living with HIV in British Columbia
- **Allison Mah**: COVID-19 in hospitalized patients (CATCO)
- **David Moore**: Antiretroviral-based HIV prevention and its impact on sexual risk behaviours and HIV/STIs among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men: engage cohort study
- **Melanie Murray**: Hormones and healthy aging in women with HIV: A study for, with and by community
- **Neora Pick**: Developing a trauma- and violence-informed care intervention for women living with HIV in Canada
- **Katherine Plewes**: Evaluating the renoprotective effect of acetaminophen in pediatric severe falciparum malaria: A randomized controlled trial
- **Natasha Press**: A Multi-centre, Adaptive, Randomized, Open-label, Controlled Clinical Trial of the Safety and Efficacy of Investigational Therapeutics for the Treatment of COVID-19 in Hospitalized Patients
- **Neil Reiner**: Novel Mechanisms of Leishmania Pathogenesis
- **Ted Steiner**: Assessment of T cell responses in IBD and C. difficile infection; industry-sponsored studies of FMT for recurrent C. difficile; basic intestinal immunology

2019 UBC Division of Infectious Diseases Research Day

**EDUCATION**

**Undergraduate Program**
Medical students supervised by division members as part of the FLEX program; frequent participation in CBL tutorials and Clinical Skills by multiple division members. Dr. Mary Kestler, continues as the Undergraduate Education Supervisor for the Division of Infectious Diseases and has led a number of curriculum changes in recent years.

**Postgraduate Program**
The Residency Training Program Director, Dr. Allison Mah and Medical Education Coordinator, Kirstie Lang, have supervised inpatient and outpatient training of 74 Trainees from various UBC medical and surgical programs, in
addition to 12 Trainees from other Canadian medical schools doing elective rotations.

In addition to weekly journal club and also weekly Clinical Case Conference (accessible by video conferencing throughout the province) the other educational activities include once weekly Academic Half-Day for fellows, weekly Tropical Medicine teaching rounds, and twice weekly Combined Structured Teaching (CST) didactic presentations provided by the faculty for residents and students. In 2019-2020 there were 8-9 Infectious Diseases subspecialty residents in the training program.

Graduate Students
Masters and PhD science students are affiliated with healthcare and epidemiology, laboratory medicine, pharmacy, microbiology and immunology and medical genetics.

Courses
Several division members participate in the Tropical and Geographic Medicine Intensive Short Course, which is convened annually by the School of Population and Public Health, UBC. Regular teaching in undergraduate and graduate-level courses by multiple division members.

PATIENT CARE

UBC Infectious Diseases division members and associate members work at hospitals in every Health Authority in BC, typically in consultative practice that involves inpatient and outpatient management.

The division maintains very active inpatient consultation services at VGH and SPH. Transplant Infectious Diseases was initiated as a third parallel clinical service at Vancouver General Hospital in 2016 and has experienced a steady increase in referrals. The program successfully recruited Dr. Sara Belga, who began in July 2019 and completes the current full-time Transplant ID requirements at VGH. The first and second services at VGH manage a wide range of infectious diseases problems involving medical and surgical patients. These include neurosurgery, reconstructive, trauma and spine orthopedics. The VGH group also sees patients requiring daily IV antibiotic infusion through the Emergency Department Fast Track program M-F.

At St. Paul’s Hospital, the three clinical services include general infectious diseases, the Urban Health Acute Care Unit (HIV/AIDS, and infectious diseases among patients with active addiction issues) and the outpatient parenteral antibiotic therapy (OPAT) clinic.

The differing patient populations between Vancouver General Hospital and St. Paul’s Hospital provide a broad experience for trainees. Finally, the antibiotic stewardship programs at St. Paul’s Hospital and Vancouver General Hospital include team members from ID, Medical Microbiology and Pharmacy providing evidence-based and cost-effective use of antimicrobial drugs for inpatients at both sites.

Areas of clinical strength include enteric infections (e.g. C. difficile and fecal microbiota transplant), Transplant Infectious Diseases, Tropical Medicine, and complex reconstructive orthopedic-related infections at VGH. In contrast, HIV/AIDS & opportunistic infections, HCV, injection drug use-related infections, cardiac infections such as endocarditis and cardiac device-related infections, and clinical mycology are the main focus areas at St. Paul’s Hospital.

The division members working in Fraser Health (RCH and SMH primarily) also contribute to educational activities in the division by supervising all levels of trainees. In addition, they see a very high volume of inpatient and outpatient consults, with busy OPAT clinics at several hospital sites.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

• Apply for Workload APP increase for the VGH group to cope with increased consult numbers and reduced trainee numbers, which threatens to compromise the educational experience for trainees

• Expand the clinical research capacity of the division by hiring a research manager to help coordinate ethics, contracts, and payments, and facilitate interdisciplinary research activities

• Establish a seven day/week OPAT at VGH to help facilitate hospital discharges and offload Fast Track patients from the ED

• Improve coordination of educational and clinical activities between VGH/SPH and the community hospitals we serve in Fraser Health, Interior Health, Island Health, and Northern Health
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Division Head, UBC Division of Medical Oncology: Dr. Caroline Lohrisch, and Dr. Stephen Chia (started Sept 2020)

Our members are widely distributed across 6 provincial BC Cancer sites and several community oncology clinics. The residency training is primarily based at the Vancouver Centre, with Dr. Howard Lim as program director. We also host a large group of fellows, many international, a program led by Dr. Cheryl Ho. Medical Oncology took an early lead in transitioning to competency based medical evaluation of learners under the excellent leadership of Dr. Tamara Shenkier at the Royal College level and Dr. Howard Lim at the postgraduate level.

All of our centres recruit patients to clinical trials, both industry and cooperative group, although the majority of academic productivity is centred at the Vancouver Centre.

However notable research strengths in other cancer centres include Dr. Jenny Ko who holds a Michael Smith grant and Dr. Vanessa Bernstein who sits on the CCTG breast executive committee, to name a few. As described below, medical oncology division members are highly engaged in academic activities with high value and volume academic outputs.

HIGHLIGHTS

Members of the Division of Medical Oncology are an ambitious and productive group. They have garnered research awards, high profile publications, and hold leadership positions within education and research consortiums. A few highlights include:

- The Division of Medical Oncology successfully competed for and won a full time UBC Faculty Renewal Position in Gynecologic Medical Oncology arena
- Dr. Kim Chi was appointed as Chief Medical Officer for BC Cancer (June 2019)
- Dr. Stephen Chia and Dr. Sam Aparicio (Pathology) received a $1.2 million private donation from the Conconi Family Foundation to study the clinical utility of ctDNA testing
- Book publications: Dr. Pippa Hawley “Lap of Honour: a no fear guide to living well with dying”
- Drs. Savage, Chia, and Gill were promoted to rank of Professor
- Dr. Barbara Melosky promoted to rank of Clinical Professor
- Dr. Kerry Savage and Dr. Jonathan Loree awarded Outstanding Academic Performance from the Faculty of Medicine
- Dr. Sharlene Gill appointed Director, UBC Department of Medicine Faculty Mentorship Program (Oct 2020)
**RESEARCH**

Our members have and continue to make significant scientific contributions to the advancement of cancer management through research activities.

**Leadership at academic research consortiums and conferences**

**CCTG (Canadian Cancer Trials Group)**
- Breast Disease Site committee co-chair: Dr. Stephen Chia
- Genitourinary Disease Site co-chair: Dr. Kim Chi
- Gastrointestinal Disease Site committee chair: Dr. Sharlene Gill
- CCTG and NCI Taskforce Co-chair for Colon Cancer: Dr. Jonathan Loree
- Pancreatic Cancer disease co-chair: Dr. Daniel Renouf

**Scholarship awards**
- Dr. Nathalie Levasseur was accepted for the EORTC-ESMO-ECCO-AACR Methods in Clinical Cancer Research one week workshop, the Netherlands
- Dr. Nathalie Levasseur awarded a Scholars travel award to attend the 2019 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium based on a highly rated abstract submission
- Dr. Levasseur is part of a team that received a 2020 MSFHR Convening and Collaborating Award “Building a collaborative research agenda for virtual exercise and nutrition supportive cancer care in BC”

**EDUCATION**

Our division members participate actively in education at all levels of the Medical Faculty. The teaching commitment from the centres is outstanding with a large number of faculty participating and receiving excellent evaluations.

A major activity of our group is the development and maintenance of evidence-based guidelines for cancer care across British Columbia. While aimed at providing evidence-based optimal care for British Columbians with cancer, our guidelines and treatment protocols have national and international reach.

**Postgraduate Program**

Our Medical Oncology Residency program, which is run by Dr. Howard Lim, has a continued excellent rating with high interest from residents nationally. Trainees spend the majority of their training time at the Vancouver Centre, with 6 months of elective time that they can use for electives in other centre within and outside BC and to learn and conduct research.

- Dr. Tamara Shenkier served as President of the sub-specialty Education committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons
- Dr. Howard Lim served as the UBC Post Grad CBME Implementation Co-Lead, a big role as we head into competency based medical evaluation of our learners. Dr. Lim also sits on the Post Grad Review Subcommittee

**Continuing leadership education**

- Dr. Caroline Lohrisch and Dr. Jason Hart completed the Physician Leadership Program, UBC Sauder School of Business, January-June 2019
- Dr. Caroline Lohrisch was accepted for the team based Executive Training “EXTRA” Program, offered by the Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement
- Dr. Sharlene Gill was appointed to the Workload Advisory Committee of Doctors of BC
**PATIENT CARE**
Innovations in patient care delivery included the development and implementation of multi-disciplinary clinics for patients with newly diagnosed rectal cancer (surgeon, medical and radiation oncology) and for patients with hormone receptor positive early breast cancer (medical and radiation oncology), streamlining the treatment decision making and planning and reducing wait time for patients to see the necessary specialists involved in their multi-disciplinary care.

**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**
With the Faculty Renewal position in gyne oncology, we plan to recruit a clinician with basic science background who can foster connections between the surgical gynecology group, gyne pathology, and enhance gyne focused early phase clinical trials.

Recent recruitments to the division, including Dr. Nathalie LeVasseur and Dr. Daniel Khalaf will increase research productivity in breast and genitourinary cancer fields, respectively.

The division will continue its leadership roles within the Canadian Clinical Trials Group and continue to promote research and education as key career and academic values among its members.

The Division of Medical Oncology is justly proud of its members’ wide ranging contributions to excellence in medical education, academic research, and improvements in clinical care for patients living with cancer in British Columbia and everywhere.
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Dr. Adeera Levin continues to lead the UBC Division of Nephrology.  
- Program Administrator Education and Training Programs: Tammie Davis  
- Executive Administrator and CME: Pam Sewell

The UBC Division of Nephrology has 71 members, including 26 members located at the Vancouver sites, five emeritus and 40 members located around the province. The two downtown sites are St. Paul’s Hospital and Vancouver General Hospital. In addition, Royal Columbian Hospital, Surrey Memorial, Abbotsford in the Fraser Health Authority, and Interior Health, Northern Health and Vancouver Island Health authorities all participate in divisional activities.

This distributed education model, clinical care and research within the province is unique and offers ever-increasing potential for sustainability and dissemination. Together the faculty provides provincial leadership in research, education, and clinical care within renal medicine. Starting in May of 2020, division meetings became inclusive of all members, made possible by the pandemic and Zoom technology.

The 26 members of the downtown campuses of the division have a strong clinical base and provide integrated and decentralized nephrology care throughout Vancouver Coastal Health, Providence Health Care and surrounding locations, including Richmond, North Vancouver and coastal areas, and as far north as the Yukon Territory. Members have a strong working collaboration with Fraser Health, VIHA, IHA and NHA. In addition, Fraser Health has established strong links with the Internal Medicine program and Division of Nephrology programs to expose residents and medical students to clinicians and teachers.

The division has an essential role in the UBC undergraduate medical curriculum, has a mature nephrology postgraduate training program, and participates in the Department of Medicine’s Experimental Medicine and Clinical Investigator programs. We have had an expanding international and post-doctoral fellowship in home-based therapies, transplantation, dialysis, research and health administration since 2011 (with an average of 4 additional persons per year participating in these fellowships). Research activities encompass laboratory and clinical sciences, focusing on epidemiology and clinical trials, population health, and outcomes/economic investigations in kidney disease and transplantation. Members of the division assume leadership roles in the advancement of nephrology at provincial, national and international levels through their positions in BC Provincial Renal, BC Transplant, the Regional Renal Programs, the Kidney Foundation of Canada, the Canadian Society of Nephrology, the Canadian Society of Transplantation, The Transplantation Society and International Society of Nephrology, as well as American Society of Transplantation.

Administrative support for the program is managed by Pam Sewell (Admin and CME) and Tammie Davis (Postgraduate Education). Strong Partnerships with the BC Provincial Renal Agency have permitted leveraging resources to support province-wide education and research activities to various degrees.

The divisional heads in 2020 at specific sites include Dr. Jacek Jastrzebski at VGH, Dr. Monica Beaulieu at PHC, Dr. Gerald Da Roza at RCH, Dr. John Antonsen at VIHA. The other health authorities (IHA and NHA) do not have divisional heads per se. However, they do have medical directors (Dr. Marie Michaud and Dr. Anurag Singh) who fulfill aspects of the role.
HIGHLIGHTS

• 2019 Barbara Opperman Kidney Health Research Grant: Dr. James Lan $150K
• 2019 EMPA Kidney Grant: Dr. Adeera Levin $2M
• 2019 CIHR Project Grant - Development of a personalized medicine approach to corticosteroid treatment in IgA nephropathy: Dr. Sean Barbour $293K
• 2020 Kidney Foundation of Canada Health Research Grant: Dr. James Lan $120K
• 2020 VCHRI COVID-19 Research Fund: Dr. James Lan $40K
• Chair, MAC Council for Excellence, Providence Health: Dr. Monica Beaulieu
• Vice-chair, Medical Advisory Committee, Providence Health: Dr. Monica Beaulieu
• Director Immunology Laboratory, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine: Dr. James Lan
• Sr Lead Integration Clinical and Academic Networks (PHC): Dr. Adeera Levin
• President Elect, American Society of Transplantation: Dr. John Gill

RESEARCH
The division has a strong and internationally recognized translational research program in both renal disease and transplantation. Members of the division hold over $4 million in research support in 2020, including grants from Genome Canada, Networks of Centres of Excellence, the CIHR, the Kidney Foundation of Canada, and other peer-review agencies as unrestricted industry-supported grants and conventional industry-supported trials. Members of the division generated more than 84 scientific articles and one book chapter in 2020, notably in high to very high impact journals. Key focus areas are health outcomes research, epidemiology, biomarker prediction of clinical events in CKD and transplant populations, resource utilization, and knowledge translation activities.

The UBC Division of Nephrology Research programs integrates members from the VGH and SPH / Providence Health sites and the provincial sites around the province to ensure full participation and collaboration. The division's clinical research activities also include partnerships with research staff at the BC Provincial Renal and HLI, CHEOS, as well as research groups outside of BC, including the Alberta Kidney Disease Network, CORR, Canadian Transplant Clinical Trials Group, Australian Clinical Trials Group, the George Institute for Global Health, and the Oxford Clinical Trials Unit, amongst others. Divisional resources for research leverage existing infrastructures and are situated at different physical locations. Staff includes a Research Manager, Ms. Katy Vela, and several highly qualified Research Coordinators. In addition, the statistical support team has dedicated staff time from BCPRA under the leadership of Ms. Ogjnenka Djurdjev. It includes Lee Er, Alexandra Romann, Dilshani Induruwage and a group of data analysts.

Division members' participation in clinical trials includes international trials in Glomerulonephritis, Chronic Kidney Disease, and Treatment, leading to national and international trials based in Vancouver.

EDUCATION
The UBC Division of Nephrology is a crucial component of the tertiary education program for medicine and related health sciences for the University of British Columbia. Through its active undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate and continuing medical education programs, the division is responsible for the training of medical students, interns, residents, subspecialty residents in nephrology, rotating trainees in general medicine, anesthesia and other relevant disciplines, graduate and doctoral students, and clinical and research fellows. These programs attract trainees from across Canada and from Australia, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The primary undergraduate and graduate training sites are at VGH SPH/Providence Healthcare and Fraser Health Authority, with elective opportunities available in other jurisdictions. In addition, there is increasing exposure to clinical practice in locations outside of the lower mainland.
Province Wide rounds occur at least 2 Fridays per month and feature a diverse set of educational and academic topics, usually presented by a visiting speaker or one of the Vancouver-based nephrology experts. These rounds cover Pathology/ GN, Transplantation, Dialysis and general nephrology topics and are part of the division’s commitment to knowledge translation.

Funding for the educational programs of the division is provided by UBC and in collaboration with the BC Renal. Education in pharmacy and allied health disciplines occurs in the same sites under the auspices of UBC and related professional bodies.

In 2020, divisional program directors included Dr. Suneet Singh (Undergraduate Programs), Dr. Abeed Jamal (Postgraduate Programs), Dr. Adeera Levin (Continuing Medical Education), Dr. Jacek Jastrzebski (Advanced Nephrology Training Program) and Dr. Olwyn Johnston (Transplant Fellowship Program). Dr. Gerald Da Roza has responsibility for educational programs in Internal medicine and Nephrology in FHA. Extended training in Provincial Home Therapies programs has been offered under Dr. Michael Copland and Dr. Suneet Singh (provincial directors of Home Hemodialysis and Peritoneal Dialysis, respectively). Trainees from UK, Australia, and New Zealand were enrolled in the programs.

**PATIENT CARE**

The renal services provided by the Division of Nephrology operate within a broad provincial and regional context with established clinical guidelines, provincial contracts, information systems, central administration and coordination for education and other projects. As a result, the division is afforded the opportunity to be a key contributor to and a beneficiary of provincial policies, projects and experience. British Columbia is widely recognized as at the forefront of renal care delivery, with active programs for the early detection of renal disease in the population, multidisciplinary coordination of care, delivery of dialysis therapy in the community or at home, and novel approaches to renal transplant donation.

The BC Renal coordinates the development and integration of renal services, funding, the establishment of standards and guidelines, and collaborates with each health authority to ensure equal access to care for all patients living with kidney disease. The BC Transplant Society coordinates the funding and oversight of renal and other solid organ transplant services and retrieves cadaveric organs and tissues.

Within this framework, renal care delivery is based on established principles of integrated chronic disease management through a combination of institutional, community and home-based programs. The tertiary care teaching hospitals, the Vancouver General Hospital (VGH), St. Paul’s Hospital (SPH Providence Healthcare) and BC Children’s Hospital (BCCH), collaborate to provide ambulatory chronic renal disease care, in-patient management, plasma exchange (SPH), hospital dialysis and renal transplantation, and home hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis for adult and pediatric patients with renal disease throughout the Vancouver Coastal Health and other geographical jurisdictions. The home hemodialysis program, headed by Dr. Michael Copland, is now one of the largest of its kind in North America. Novel approaches to education and delivery of newer modalities are a focus for the division province-wide. Within BC, 3,500 persons receive dialysis, 2000 persons have received a transplant, and nephrologists follow over 13,000 persons with chronic kidney disease.

**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

The Division of Nephrology, working collaboratively and strategically with BC Renal and BC Transplant, and other divisions (infectious disease, cardiology, endocrinology and Pharmacy, vascular surgery) is continuing to grow its education, research and administrative activities. We are committed to enabling and enhancing a robust infrastructure to support these activities. Ongoing training of fellows in specific content areas (dialysis, transplant, palliative care) and partnerships with methodologists and researchers within and outside UBC, including national and international, permit expanded opportunities for advanced training to develop the depth and breadth of the division.

Formalized succession planning for major education and administrative roles and formalizing the research structure will enhance the functioning of the division. In addition, we are developing sustainable advanced education training positions, investing heavily in human resources for the future. Working with all the facilities around the province, the UBC Division of Nephrology will continue to provide excellent teaching, care, and research collaboratively.

We will continue to advocate for excellent patient care, education for physicians and allied health professionals, and the development of interdisciplinary teams of care providers, well-trained, to ensure the best outcomes for patients. In that context, we also advocate for the ongoing integration of research activities into the fabric of clinical care in both outpatient and inpatient locations to further enable the best outcomes.
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW
Dr. Jon Stoessl continues to lead the UBC Division of Neurology.
- Associate Head, External Clinical Affairs: Dr. Dean Johnston
- Division Administrator: Yvonne Ng
- Administrative Assistant: Fanny Chan
- Director, Residency Program: Dr. Hannah Briemberg (2019) and Dr. Sam Yip (2020)
- Associate Director, Residency Program: Dr. Tychicus Chen
- Residency Program Coordinator: Kitty Pong and Jessica Ye
- Director, Undergraduate Program: Dr. Gordon Robinson

Executive Committee
Drs. Jon Stoessl, Dean Johnston, Alister Prout, Hannah Briemberg, Sam Yip, Philip Teal, Yu Tian Wang, Gordon Robinson, Jeff Beckman, Silke Cresswell, Thalia Field and Jennifer Percy

Alternate Funding Planning Committee
Drs. Jon Stoessl, Oscar Benavente, Doris Doudet, Tony Traboulsee, Philip Teal, Michelle Mezei, Tara Rastin, Neil Cashman and Sara Simpson

There are 18 Academic Faculty (including 3 Canada Research Chairs), 1 partner appointment, 61 Clinical Faculty in VFMP-V, 18 in VFMP-F, 16 in the Southern Medical program, 12 in Island program and 3 in Northern program, as well as 21 Associate, 3 Adjunct, 3 Affiliate Faculty and 9 Emeritus Professors.

The division continues to grow and spans many activities in clinical, research and educational spheres. There were a total of 234 publications in 2019 with research grant funding of over $15.3M. There were a total of 259 publications in 2020 with research grant funding of over $13.1M.

Lectureships
The 2019 and 2020 Dr. Stanley Hashimoto Lectureship were held in February with 2019 guest speaker Dr. Farrah Mateen from Harvard Medical School; with topic “Global Stage: Diseases, Decisions & Deliver.” and 2020 guest speaker Dr. Kiran Thakur from Columbia University “Tackling Acute CNS Infectious and Inflammatory Conditions: Identifying the best approach to turn the mysterious into the treatable.”

The Don Paty Lectureship held on June 12, 2019 during the 10th Resident Research Day with guest speaker Dr. Natalie Jette from Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York “The Importance of patient reported outcomes: Gaps, challenges and approaches that can be applied across neurological conditions.”

The 10th Naveen Deshpande Lectureship was held on Oct 19, 2019 with guest speaker Dr. David S. Zee from John Hopkins University “Wernicke’s Encephalopathy (WE): Noval Eye Movement Abnormalities Pathophysiology and Diagnostic Implications.”

Unfortunately, the Don Paty Lectureship linked to the Resident Research Day (June 2020) and the 10th Naveen Deshpande Lectureship (September 2020) were both cancelled due to COVID-19.
Both palliative care and neurology residents regularly rotate through the ALS clinic. Clinic staff also provide didactic teaching sessions to neurology, palliative care and physiatry residents in their respective academic half days.

Three major scientific programs are being conducted at the ALS Centre. Dr. Briemegg leads clinical research, including participation in a national database registry for ALS patients, collaboration with ALS colleagues across Canada in an MRI biomarker study, and participation in a study examining the impact of communication about ALS on patients and families. Dr. Krieger is supported by grants from CIHR, NSERC and ALS-Canada. His scientific program focuses on the role of critical proteins at the neuromuscular junction of fly models of ALS, with collaboration from Dr. Nick Harden of the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry at SFU. Dr. Cashman is at the UBC Centre for Brain Health. With support from CIHR, CFI, BCKDF, ALS Canada, industry and private donations, Dr. Cashman is conducting basic research on propagated protein misfolding in ALS, defining new targets for effective therapeutics and diagnostics for the disease.

Basic Science

Dr. Steven Pelech’s laboratory has continued to explore the composition and architecture of the signalling networks of regulatory proteins that govern the operations of neurons and other cells. His research particularly focuses on tracking a class of enzymes called protein kinases, which regulate other proteins by switching them on or off by a process known as phosphorylation. Abnormal phosphorylation of certain proteins appears to underlie many diverse neurological diseases, including Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and epilepsy, and kinases have become important targets for pharmaceutical drug development. Highlights of his research activities in 2020 include the development of over 50 phosphosite-specific antibodies for targeting proteins implicated in neurological disorders and their deployment with over 2000 other antibodies in high content antibody microarrays for biomarker discovery (developed in collaboration with Kinexus Bioinformatics). In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, his laboratory also mapped out the most immunogenic parts of the SARS-CoV-2 viral proteins to develop highly sensitive and accurate serological tests for the determination of past infection with this virus. In addition, his team has developed antibodies for tracking the phosphorylation of the nucleocapsid protein of SARS-CoV-2, which appears to be critical for replication of the virus. His group created and launched a new graphic website (www.kinector.ca), which documents over 20,000 known connections between protein kinases and their target proteins, with URL linkages to the previous open-access, online knowledge bases that his lab has produced.

HIGHLIGHTS

• Dr. Thalia Field: 2019 CIHR Spring Research Project Grant Award
• Dr. Helen Tremlett: 2019 CIHR Spring Research Project Grant Award
• Doctoral Exams chairs in 2019: Drs. Silke Cresswell, Doris Doudet, Judy Illes and Lorne Kastrukoff
• Dr. Robin Hsiung: 2020 CIHR Fall Research Project Grant Award
• Dr. Martin McKeown: 2020 CIHR Fall Research Project Grant Award
• Dr. Jason Barton: Reappointed as Tier I Canada Research Chair (2020)
• Dr. Thalia Field: Awarded Sauder Family and Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon Professorship in Clinical Stroke Research (2020)
• Dr. Thalia Field: Nominated for the 37th Annual Women Distinction Award of YWCA in Vancouver (2020)
• Dr. Martin McKeown: Awarded funding for a Collaborative Health Research Project (CHRP) with Dr. Jane Wang (Faculty of Applied Science) from CIHR
• Drs. Haakon Nygaard and Thalia Field participated as Panel Members of the Clinical 2020 Research Trainee competition, Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research
• Dr. Julie Robillard: Awarded AARG (Research Grant Alzheimer’s Association) and the AGE-WELL Core Research Program grants.
• Dr. Helen Tremlett and Dr. Jacque Quandt both received operating grants from the MS Society of Canada
• Dr. Yu Tian Wang: Appointed as Dean, School of Life and Health Sciences, University of Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy Sciences as from October 1, 2020

RESEARCH

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

The ALS Centre at GF Strong is a multidisciplinary clinic providing care to affected patients and their families from throughout BC. Staff in the centre are also involved in teaching residents and fellows and doing clinical and basic research. The ALS Centre is staffed by four neurologist physician-scientists (Drs. Briemegg, Stables, Krieger and Cashman) and a specialized nurse coordinator. The highly trained ALS Team at GF Strong provides social work, physio- and occupational therapy, speech language assessment and therapy, and dietary guidance. In 2019, Drs. Briemegg and Stables were awarded the ALS Advocacy award from the ALS Society of British Columbia. Despite the pandemic, the ALS clinic has been able to continue to provide comprehensive care using a combination of video health visits and in-person visits throughout 2020.

Abnormal phosphorylation of certain proteins appears to underlie many diverse neurological diseases, including Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and epilepsy, and kinases have become important targets for pharmaceutical drug development. Highlights of his research activities in 2020 include the development of over 50 phosphosite-specific antibodies for targeting proteins implicated in neurological disorders and their deployment with over 2000 other antibodies in high content antibody microarrays for biomarker discovery (developed in collaboration with Kinexus Bioinformatics). In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, his laboratory also mapped out the most immunogenic parts of the SARS-CoV-2 viral proteins to develop highly sensitive and accurate serological tests for the determination of past infection with this virus. In addition, his team has developed antibodies for tracking the phosphorylation of the nucleocapsid protein of SARS-CoV-2, which appears to be critical for replication of the virus. His group created and launched a new graphic website (www.kinector.ca), which documents over 20,000 known connections between protein kinases and their target proteins, with URL linkages to the previous open-access, online knowledge bases that his lab has produced.
Dr. Neil Cashman is the Founder and Chief Scientific Officer of ProMIS Neurosciences, which translates his lab’s therapeutics and diagnostics in protein misfolding diseases. Dr. Cashman’s research focuses on elucidating the structure and pathogenicity of proteins that misfold in neurodegeneration. He has developed novel strategies for immunotherapeutic intervention in these diseases, directed explicitly at peptide motifs exposed by protein misfolding but inaccessible in native structures. With Dr. Steven Plotkin of UBC Department of Physics and Astronomy, Dr. Cashman has also identified Aβ oligomer-specific conformational epitopes as safe targets for Alzheimer’s disease immunotherapies that spare monomers and fibrils (ACS Chem Neurosci 2018; Sci Rep 2019). Dr. Cashman’s laboratory program in ALS focuses on propagated misfolding of the proteins SOD1, TDP43, and FUS. His lab has also discovered that TDP43 and FUS pathology induce cross-seeding of SOD1 misfolding (Pokrisshevsky et al., 2020), which then acquires the prion-like in vivo activity to confer on SOD1 misfolding in neighbouring cells, an example of the TDP43/FUS “pathological interactome.” In 2020, Dr. Cashman also received funding for the Digital Supercluster to utilize Surface Plasmon Resonance for serological monitoring or immune response to SARS-CoV2 infection or vaccination.

Dr. Yu Tian Wang’s research focuses on elucidating mechanisms underlying synaptic plasticity in the brain and dysfunctions of these mechanisms in brain disorders. Despite the reduced appointment for taking up the Dean Position in School of Life and Health Sciences at the Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, he has continuously made significant academic and professional contributions through several important research discoveries. In 2020, he had 10 high-profile publications in Nature Communications and Biology Communications.

This excellence has led to his lab’s extremely high success rate in obtaining ongoing research funding from national and international agencies. He has a long-standing research interest in the molecular mechanisms that underlie ischemic insults such as stroke. Through fundamental scientific research, he has discovered several new targets in the signalling cascades that lead to excitotoxic/ischemic neuronal injuries, including a new class of small molecular drugs named as Npams that can specifically and allosterically potentiate NMDA receptors with subtype receptor-specificity. These drugs can thereby protect neurons against ischemic and excitotoxic damages even when administered several hours post-stroke onset. Notably, the patent has been optioned and is currently under preclinical development by Primedicine Inc. Additionally, through one of their spin-off company NoNO Inc. in Toronto, he and colleagues have recently completed one of the largest phase 3 trials for NA-1 (Tat-NR2B9c) as stroke neuroprotectants. The trial results were published in the prestigious journal Lancet by the clinical trial team in Feb. 2020. It is relevant to note that excitotoxicity is thought to be a common pathology associated with many degenerative brain disorders beyond stroke, including neurodegenerative diseases such as AD, PD, and Huntington’s. As such, Dr. Wang’s studies are expected to lead to a greater understanding of these CNS disorders and the development of novel therapeutic interventions for these diseases.

**Neuroethics**

The COVID-19 pandemic posed numerous challenges for Neuroethics Canada, as it did for all research groups, but the team, under the direction of Dr. Illes, overcame them with patience and resilience. Dr. Illes received major new grants, including funding to co-lead the Canadian Brain Research Strategy and another for collaboration with the University of Bonn, Centre for Law of Life Science, to study ethical issues pertaining to intellectual property in neuroscience. Dr. Illes gave major lectures online for NIH, focusing on research with vulnerable populations and expert testimony to UNESCO. She was hosted by the Honorable Joyce Murray to speak on medical aid in dying, held Community Conversation on topics of brain and ethics online with hundreds of registrants, and was a guest lecturer for numerous other public-facing events. Among many other initiatives, Dr. Illes sits on the executive of the International Brain Initiative and the Pan Canadian Neurotechnology Ethics Consortium. She was recalled to service as Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Ethics and the Institute Advisory Board for the Institute of Neuroscience, Mental Health and Addiction at CIHR. She is a member of the Research Leaders Forum of the MSFHR and a Director-at-Large of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

In 2020, Dr. Robillard received an AGE-WELL Core Program grant and an Alzheimer Association International Research Grant to advance the ethical development and implementation of technologies to support brain health in ageing research and care. She also advanced her work on the patient experience of brain health technology in pediatric populations with new support from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research and the BC SUPPORT Unit. She provides leadership on national and international committees, including as Chair of the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications Committee of the Canadian Consortium for Neurodegeneration in Aging, Vice-chair of the Technology and Dementia Committee of the International Society to Advance Alzheimer’s Research and Treatment, and as co-chair of the Ethics Committee of the COVID-19 and Dementia Task Force convened by the Alzheimer Society of Canada. Dr. Robillard also continued her enthusiastic efforts to involve undergraduate students in research and integrate the voices of patient communities at the research table.
Dr. McDonald continues in his role as President of the Canadian Neurosurgical Society and as Co-PI on the NIH grant with Dr. Illes, producing a steady stream of empirical results, publications, and informational resources on neurotechnology, ethics and drug-resistant epilepsy. He has also been appointed the incoming chair of the Ethics Committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Major outreach activities:
- Breakfast with the Honorable Joyce Murray
- National Conversations on Preventive Aging (Canadian Association for Retired Persons)
- Regular Community Conversations on ethics, mental health and neurologic disorders around metro Vancouver and across Canada
- Webinars (AGE-WELL, Alzheimer Society of BC, CCNA)

**Neuro-Ophthalmology Program**
The neuro-ophthalmology program saw the retirement of Duncan Anderson and the addition of Salina Teja to the faculty. Y Rabia (Montréal) and J Zhuo (Queens) completed their fellowships early due to Covid, and J Lafortune (Sherbrooke) and M Thorne (Dalhousie) began theirs in 2020. The clinical training program hosted three residents from Saskatchewan in addition to UBC neurology and ophthalmology residents. Lectures were given in the Vancouver Imaging Review course, the UBC neuropsychiatry series, the Langara Psychology Club, and UBC ophthalmology grand rounds.

While participation at conferences was restricted, our program had 11 publications. The program was awarded the responsibility of hosting the 2022 Frank Walsh meeting in clinical neuro-ophthalmology. Dr. Jason Barton was selected as editor of a volume of the Handbook of Clinical Neurology, to be titled “the neurology of vision.”

**Movement Disorder Program**
The Movement Disorder clinic continued to have a successful year in 2020, with a total of 11,000 patient visits at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health. These included visits to social work, nursing, affiliated physicians in psychiatry and neuropsychiatry, and our own physicians: Drs. Cresswell, MacKenzie, McKeown, Rastin, Squires, Stoessl, Tsui and Valerio.

We were again successful in our designation of an International Centre of Excellence (ICOE) by the US-based Parkinson’s Foundation. We have expanded our Allied Health program to include Occupational Therapy. With Parkinson’s BC, we are exploring expanding our Allied Health involvement to include Speech Language Pathology and PT, OT, and Social Work.

The BC Brain Wellness Program, while for brain diseases as a whole, is being led by Dr. Cresswell, and thus Movement Disorders is well represented in this endeavour. The Movement Disorders Group continues to have an active research program, with grants related to LRRK2 mutation carrier imaging, effects of exercise, Tau imaging, longitudinal monitoring, non-invasive electrical stimulation, and the microbiome.

Physicians from the Movement Disorder group participated in public lectures to the community via Parkinson’s BC and are members of Parkinson’s Canada, both on the Scientific Review Board and Research Policy Committee.

**Multiple Sclerosis Program**
Our activities continued to grow during 2020, and our program continues to be globally recognized as one of the top MS clinical trial and research sites. We continued community engagement, local fundraising and leadership roles in MS Society activities nationally and globally. We have taken leading roles in developing guidelines for COVID vaccine safety for MS patients and care of patients on Disease-Modifying Therapies during the COVID pandemic. We also developed a COVID-19 safety strategy for participants and staff in clinical trials that ensured continued access to essential treatment and safety monitoring. We further facilitated telehealth integration into MS clinic care and continued essential on-site infusion treatments with safety oversight.

The MSMRI imaging lab has been developing an international advanced MRI biobank for researchers within the North American Imaging in MS (NAIMS) consortium to share imaging data and collaborate on technological development. We are the lead site on a new publication that assessed the impact of MS therapy on vaccination (Veloce study). This work is relevant for educating physicians and patients on the potential safety and efficacy of novel vaccines. We also lead a new study for novel treatment (satralizumab) of Neuromyelitis Optica.

The imaging physics groups published papers in top journals on fast myelin water imaging (MWI), the validation of MWI, MWI at 7 Tesla, and MWI in brain development and myelin water atlases for the brain and spinal cord. The teams also released an open-source toolbox for computation of myelin water maps 80 times faster than the original toolbox (<2 minutes vs 1.5 hours) and a toolbox for quantitative susceptibility mapping. Two studies were published linking myelin loss and cognitive impairment in MS. Imaging PIs gave invited talks and chaired sessions and workshops at MS-related imaging meetings.
In the neuroinflammation and genetics groups, publications highlighted immune mediators as drivers of destructive, or conversely, novel neuroprotective and remyelinating pathways in MS families and preclinical models of MS. We developed a novel preclinical model of progressive MS based on genetic risk variants identified in MS families that validate immune mediators as drivers of worsened disease attributed to limited repair potential. Those studies align with published and ongoing efforts to translate our work examining lipids and lipid homeostasis roles in MS immunology and pathology. We have also characterized novel markers of immune reactivity, and tissue damage and MRI correlates for their potential to distinguish people with early demyelinating episodes from those with recurrent or progressive disease.

In the genetics group, family planning in the female MS population is being studied because of the need for a population-based MS-specific pregnancy registry. The study, Canadian Multiple Sclerosis Pregnancy Study (CANPREG-MS), is a bilingual study including Canadian women with MS who are either planning a pregnancy or are pregnant. To date, 225 women have enrolled.

The epidemiology team gave the Don Paty Lecture & opening plenary at the ACTRIMS-ECTRIMS 2020 meeting. The team is involved in the MS Society funded study Paediatric-onset prodromal Multiple Sclerosis: The ProMSpeds Study', a 4-year collaboration between sites in Canada & Sweden. The EDMUS Foundation, France fund another collaboration: 'An international collaboration to increase knowledge about excess mortality in multiple sclerosis (IN-EXCESS-MS),’ a 2-year collaboration between Canada, Denmark and France.

The UBC MS Connect Education program hosted the MS Connect Education Sessions (journal clubs and lectures), attended by ~100 local and national students, researchers, clinicians, fellows and residents. The program also designed and hosted the 2nd UBC Resident MS Review Course. National speakers presented practical reviews of MS specialty topics to prepare for the Royal College certification exam. One hundred five residents across Canada attended. Knowledge translation and community outreach included the virtual MS Walk, where the UBC MS Remyelinators team made up of trainees, clinicians and researchers raised money for the MS Society. Two MS PIs presented at the Women Against MS (WAMS) – MS Society event. In January, we hosted the Neuroscience High School Outreach Program at DMCBH. 125 Prince of Wales secondary school students learned about career paths, had lab tours and spoke with undergrad and graduate students on what university life is like.

**Stroke Program**

The Vancouver Stroke Program is staffed by eight fellowship-trained stroke neurologists. We provide acute stroke care to patients in all health authorities in British Columbia. The inpatient volume is 1,500 patients annually. Acute stroke care has grown significantly due to the introduction of endovascular treatment over the past three years. The annual growth of EVT cases in 2018-2019 was 60%.

We have an active telestroke consultation service delivering care for rural BC. Sechelt and Smithers are the most recently implemented sites. The annual volume of teleconsultations is 1,200 cases.

We now provide a stroke prevention clinic five days a week with an annual volume is 3,500 patients. We aim to see patients with high-risk TIA and minor stroke within 24 to 48 hours.

**EDUCATION**

**Undergraduate Program**

The division is involved in providing instruction to UBC medical students (265). Division members lecture within the didactic calendar on headaches, dementia, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease and neuromuscular disorders.

The Neurosciences Clinical Skills programme provides first and second-year students 18 hours of small-group instruction (6 - 8 students) in learning to perform a neurological examination. The program consists of 32 student groups using 28 neurologists from the division (VGH, UBCH and SPH staff).

Support materials have been developed, and these are disseminated to distant sites as printed and video material. These sessions have been enhanced by recruiting volunteer patients to demonstrate common deficits found on neurological examination.

During the third year, all Vancouver-based students participate in a small-group (2 - 4 students) bedside session. They evaluate a patient with neurological disease, following which a division member provides direct instruction.

Support materials have been developed, and these are disseminated to distant sites as printed and video material. These sessions have been enhanced by recruiting volunteer patients to demonstrate common deficits found on neurological examination.

In-person teaching activities were interrupted in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning September 2020, the second-year clinical skills and third-year bedside teaching recommenced with appropriate precautions.
A 4-week elective/selective is offered in third or fourth year to any UBC medical student. The students participate at either SPH or VGH sites in a primarily inpatient rotation. At VGH, students may be scheduled to Neurology as part of their medical CTU training. In addition, the division accepts students from other Canadian and accredited foreign medical schools for elective study.

The demand for the elective in neurology at VGH continues to be strong. As a result, this has led to a decision to increase the capacity to 6 students for each block and limit international students allowing students from UBC and Canada to participate.

All out-of-province and out-of-country electives were cancelled beginning March 2020. Electives for UBC medical students have continued with 3-6 students scheduled for each block on the VGH Neurosciences Unit.

The division actively supports the Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN), an undergraduate student-led group administered by the American Academy of Neurology. An annual career night for undergraduate students interested in neuroscience and other activities occurs throughout the year.

Faculty members associated with the division provide clinical teaching in the Vancouver Island, Southern Okanagan and Prince George programs.

**Postgraduate Program**

In Neurology, the Postgraduate Residency Program had 28 residents in 2019 and 31 residents in 2020 in various levels of training from PGY1 to PGY5.

In the first two years of the program, the residents rotate through various subspecialties such as Internal Medicine, ICU, Emergency, Neurosurgery, Pain Medicine and Psychiatry, and participating in their first Neurology rotations. The years PGY3-5 are identified as core Neurology training years. Residents acquire their inpatient training at Vancouver General Hospital and St. Paul’s Hospital. Many outpatient specialty clinics are provided at UBC Hospital. The residents also do at least one community outpatient rotation during their training. Throughout their training, the residents are actively involved in various research projects.

The division holds an Annual Neurology Resident Research Day in June, where neurology residents and graduate/post-graduate neuroscience students present their work. As of July 2020, our program has transitioned to the Competence By Design (CBD) curriculum in accordance with the Royal College standards. The CBD curriculum is divided into four sections (Transition to Discipline, Foundations, Core and Transition to Practice).

Dr. Hannah Briemberg has stepped down as Residency Program Director after nine years of service. Dr. Samuel Yip was appointed as the new Program Director of the residency program in July. In 2020 we also appointed a new associate program director, Dr. Tychicus Chen, who joined the program in November. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the program had to cancel many in-person functions, for example, the Annual Neurology Resident Research Day. The program adapted and quickly transitioned to online learning and events, including a Virtual Resident Welcome event in October and highly attended weekly virtual Grand Rounds.

Three residents graduated from the program in 2019, and six residents graduated in 2020; all of them are pursuing fellowship training. Dr. Sohail Al Shimemari is doing fellowship training in movement disorder at the University of Toronto. Dr. Joshua Lai is doing a fellowship in headache and neuromuscular at UBC, and Dr. Christopher Uy is doing an MS fellowship here at UBC and Oxford. Dr. Andrew Mattar is currently at GF Strong, Dr. Aleksandra Ivanovic is with Richmond Hospital, Dr. Damon Li is at St. Paul’s Hospital, and Dr. Marianne Schwarz is doing a locum in Vancouver. Dr. Lily Zhou is pursuing stroke fellowship training at Stanford and UBC, and Dr. Laura Gill is pursuing an epilepsy fellowship in Calgary.

**Residents’ Accomplishments**

- Dr. Alyson Plecash: Ludmila and Henry Zeldowica Award 2019
- Dr. Christopher Uy (R5): Friedman Award for Scholars in Health, UBC
- Dr. Jason Randhawa (R4): ANN Neurologist –In-Training Clinical Ethics Elective (NITCEE) Award
- Dr. Andrew Mattar: 2019 AAN Resident Scholarship and 2019 Resident Research Day Most Outstanding Presentation Award
- Dr. Michelle Chiu: 2019 Resident Research Day Most Outstanding Presentation Award
- Dr. Damon Li: Dr. Stephen Clarke Neurology Resident Travel Award 2019
- Dr. Lily Zhou: Ludmila and Henry Zeldowics Award, 2019 Resident Research Day Most Outstanding Presentation Award, and AAN2019 Alliance Awards resident research award
- Dr. Laura Gill: Canadian League Against Epilepsy (CLAE) 2020 Epilepsy Post-Graduate Training Fellowship Award
- Dr. Alyson Plecash: Dr. Stephen Clarke Neurology Resident Travel Award 2020
- Dr. John Gorman and Dr. Nicole Ng passed their EEG exam
2019 Forefronts in Neurology

In 2019, a planning committee under the directorship of Dr. Virginia Devonshire and Dr. Michelle Mezei undertook the exciting opportunity to resurrect Forefronts in Neurology which was initially developed and annually run under the directorship of Dr. Gordon Robinson for 22 years. Forefronts in Neurology is an educational event directed to practicing Neurologists in British Columbia. On September 27-29, 2019, this two-day accredited educational event brought together 110 neurologists and residents from across British Columbia. Like in the past, this meeting focused on evidence-based reviews, new trends and controversial topics in Neurology presented by BC leaders in the Neurology field.

Objectives included:
- Discussing new advances in the fields of stroke, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, migraine, neuromuscular disorders, movement disorders and dementia
- Recognizing treatable, adult-onset metabolic disorders
- Discussing the ethical implications of the high cost of new therapeutic agents
- Recognizing and treating refractory status epilepticus, and be aware of recent recognized autoimmune cases of epilepsy
- Describing an approach to autoimmune peripheral nervous system disorders
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Dr. Pippa Hawley remains Head of the UBC Division of Palliative Care. This group is an Interdepartmental Division of the UBC Departments of Medicine, Family Practice, and Pediatrics.

Dr. Anoo Tamber served as the Residency Program Director for YAC, while Dr. Julia Ridley served as the Residency Program Director for Royal College subspecialty. Kathryn Inman continues as Division Administrative Assistant and Residency Program Administrator for the UBC Division of Palliative Care. Chloe Yeh provides Administrative support for the division.

2019-2020 were years of continued increased workload, with an ongoing rise in requests for clinical rotations and other educational experiences at the undergrad, postgrad and CME levels. This continues to present significant challenges for the division, as these additional trainees do not come with funding for administrative support work. However, we continue to benefit from the one-day-a-week admin assistance of Chloe Yeh, who was particularly helpful in organizing the educational events.

COVID-19 made 2020 a challenging year, but the division members responded very well to stressful changes which severely constrained their ability to deliver quality palliative care services. At the pandemic’s start, the division held weekly teleconferenced meetings to share their experiences and strategize around pandemic resource-sharing.

Despite the considerable challenges of 2020, out of adversity can come opportunities, and we have had some notable successes borne of adaptation, some of which we will keep post-pandemic. For example, the rapidly acquired skills necessary to virtually connect with patients and families will be helpful post-pandemic in increasing access to specialist palliative care for people in remote and rural areas.

Public awareness of the possibility of dying during the pandemic has led to many Advance Care Planning and goals of care discussions, including those without serious illnesses. This should make having serious illness conversations easier in the future. Health care professionals have also had to practice these communication skills out of necessity, and this should translate into improved confidence in having these discussions post-pandemic.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The division’s Annual Master Class theme for 2019 was “Better Together” and was presented in partnership with the Victoria Hospice Society for the third time a whole day. It was hosted from the Paetzold Auditorium at VGH on October 7th. Over 430 health care professionals from multiple disciplines registered from over 30 sites in BC and the Yukon, and multiple sites in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario. Additional people participated without registration at the remote sites on the day. Attendees very highly evaluated the event
- Our annual Hsu Hsieh Foundation Visiting Speaker for 2019 was Dr. Teneille Goften from London, Ontario. Dr. Goften presented in Vancouver to a large audience of palliative care professionals and the public on “Palliative Care in Neurodegenerative Diseases”; to Neurology Grand Rounds at VGH and did a joint academic half day with the neurology and palliative care residents. The event was in partnership with the Division of Neurology at UBC
- The division welcomed our third 2-year Palliative Medicine Royal College Subspecialty Residency Program: Vincent Fruci, from Anesthesia
- The division is funded for 4 Years of Added Competence residents per year. We can also take several residents from other programs sponsored by their host program for a year of training and the shorter duration Enhanced Skills trainees. The number of residents has therefore grown significantly
The Undergraduate Medical Program graduated its second cohort of students who received the new curriculum. We identified some issues with loss of content due to having uncoordinated revisions made by others without acknowledging the effect on the themes. Some gaps will need to be filled. The FLEX Legacy Project continues with the medical students and has had more 4th years than previous years. The impact of this unique project on both students and patients has been phenomenal.

UBC developed the first COVID-specific palliative care guideline in Canada, widely disseminated through the division’s website, and formed the basis for other subsequent Canadian guidelines. Other novel resources were generated by division members and made available through the website, working in partnership with the BC Centre for Palliative Care and the health authorities. Several members of the division participated in provincial and national webinars on how to care for patients dying from COVID-19, and multidisciplinary tools for Advance Care Planning were developed and nationally recognized.

RESEARCH
Members of the division continue to pursue various research projects with funding through the health authorities with support from various sources.

- Dr. Andrew Collins continues his grant-supported research into electronic legacy work, a palliative care art program, and the White Rock program-wide legacy program
- Dr. Pippa Hawley has wound up three grant-funded clinical trials. The results are either published, in-press, or undergoing final analysis at the time of writing. The multicentre clinical trial on medicinal cannabis extracts for cancer-related symptoms has progressed through multiple levels of regulatory approval
- Dr. Neil Hilliard is completing his study on the Integration of the Palliative Approach to Care into Acute Care in Fraser Health
- Dr. Douglas McGregor is completing a study of access to care for vulnerable populations in Victoria but including collaboration with colleagues at study sites elsewhere in the province
- Dr. Gil Kimel is pursuing an MBA in Health Services

EDUCATION

Undergraduate Program
UBC’s capacity for undergraduate inpatient palliative care electives is still inadequate to meet the demand; however, there is a possibility of expanding into VGH PCU. The new undergraduate curriculum continues to evolve, but some elements of the palliative care content have been lost. Students encounter palliative care content from their third weekly case in the first year, and interest in palliative care has, as a result, increased enormously.

Palliative Care Online Learning Tool for Medical Students
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent cancellation of medical student elective experiences in palliative care, the division developed an online learning tool. The goal was to support student’s ongoing learning and skill development in basic palliative care in line with the competencies outlined in the nationally developed Educating Future Physicians in Palliative and End-of-life Care (EFPPEC) project. The learning tool consists of:

- A list of resources (guidelines, online modules, podcasts) covering important palliative care topics, including an introduction to the palliative approach to care, symptom management, and advance care planning/goals of care discussions
- A series of multiple-choice questions and cases based on the EFPPEC competencies

Palliative Care contribution to MEDD 431 Bootcamp for the class of 2022
Building on the palliative care online learning tool, the division reached out to the UGME Associate Director of Curriculum for Years 3 and 4 to further identify opportunities to engage medical students in their palliative care knowledge development. As a result, we were invited to participate in the new virtual ‘Bootcamp’ for the incoming Year 3 students who could not start clinical placements in the first 2.5 months of their clinical year. Three 1.5-hour virtual sessions were allotted for palliative care: Part 1 - Re-introduction to palliative care, Part 2 - Difficult Discussions, Part 3 - Symptom Management and Questions/Cases structured around the learning tool, delivered by clinical faculty. All sessions were voluntary for students. The sessions were well attended with excellent feedback.

FLEX’ Creating a Legacy’ Project
The division offers the Creating a Legacy Palliative Care Project, which can be completed as a portion of a medical student’s more extensive FLEX curriculum. This project provides a unique experience where students help patients create a legacy document (e.g., a video).
Past participants (both patient and students) have reflected on the great value of the project. Students submit a reflective essay on their experience at the end of the project. In 2020 we worked with multiple students, including our first from the Island Medical Program. All regional programs have now had students participate.

New Medical Student Interest Group for Palliative Care
Medical Student Interest Groups are a valuable resource for medical students, particularly those in Years 1 and 2, to explore different areas of medicine and connect with senior students, residents, and physicians. All physicians require the ability to provide basic palliative care to their patients, yet there is still relatively little time dedicated in the undergraduate curriculum to palliative care. Creating a student interest group is an important opportunity for an early introduction to palliative care for students. The first UBC Medical Student Interest Group in Palliative Care was approved in November 2020. The group has received funding from UBC MSAC as well as the Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians.

The shift to virtual platforms for undergraduate medical education for COVID-19 has opened the door to the possibility of interdisciplinary learning, which historically has been restricted due to a lack of sufficient physical space. The Schools of Social Work and Nursing have expressed interest in such sessions in collaboration with the Division of Palliative Care. An initial session on using the Serious Illness Conversation Guide is proposed, in partnership with the BC Centre for Palliative Care, with potential additional seminars to follow on “Assessment of Suffering,” “Making a Treatment Plan,” and “Death, Dying and Bereavement.”

Postgraduate Program
Having graduated the program’s first resident in June 2019, our subspecialty residency program passed accreditation in March 2020. We have established a competency committee, and transition to competency-based education is expected in 2023. The program has expanded slightly and now includes up to two residents per year. We’re excited to have strong residents from various backgrounds, including anesthesia, oncology and internal medicine. The program aims to continue innovating, learning, and growing with support from our exceptional clinical faculty. Several division members have applied for eligibility to sit the RCPSC Subspecialty Examination via the practice-eligible route, and we are proud to report a 100% success rate in this. As a result, we now have 10 Royal College Palliative Medicine Subspecialists in BC. Six are from a CCFP background, one from anesthesia, one GIIM, and two are our program graduates, both with an IM background. This is the first-ever Royal College recognition of Family Medicine being a primary specialty, a long fought for and hard-won historic achievement.

We also continue to offer year-long residency electives for selected trainees from subspecialty residencies, including GIM, Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics so far. In addition, in 2021, we will be starting to provide shorter opportunities of up to 3 months for practicing specialists interested in providing palliative care to underserved populations, similar to the Family Practice Enhanced Skills program. The Koerner-Owen Endowment Fund will support specialists participating in this new program.

Continuing Medical Education
The division’s annual CME day for 2020 differed from our usual clinically directed meeting; this time focused on “A Systems Approach to Palliative Care.” It took place over a full day in October via webinar, and the UBC CPD office assisted us. The meeting was attended by 201 individuals, mainly from BC, but participants from other provinces were also in attendance.

Though most participants were palliative care physicians, it was also attended by family physicians, other specialists, residents, nurses, and members of other allied health disciplines, including medical administration. We made a special effort to include the rural and remote perspectives into this year’s program. We were pleased that at least 20% of participants practiced in an exclusively rural setting, with another 16% in a mixed rural/urban setting. Evaluations of the event were very positive, and the webinar format was a great success. We plan to incorporate the webinar format into future annual meetings when we are no longer required to be physically distant.
PATIENT CARE

Members of the division are increasingly challenged to provide high-quality palliative care in a time of increasing patient numbers. Still, they have developed reasonably healthy working relationships with providers of Medical Assistance in Dying. This has not been easy, and there was significant demand for education about MAiD around the time of and initially after legalization. The clear separation for palliative care from MAiD is now well-understood, and teaching about MAiD can now be delivered by a group of those who provide it. As a result, palliative Care educators can concentrate on teaching assessment and management of suffering. Several primary care initiatives have been identified where the “Palliative Approach to Care” is being implemented. Division members continue to engage with these groups where health Authorities and the Ministry of Health are willing to collaborate.

As was the case for many other clinical services, the pandemic profoundly impacted specialist palliative care. The VGH palliative care unit was moved to GF Strong to make way for a COVID-19 ward, which prevented access to necessary acute care services for seriously ill patients. It was eventually moved back to VGH but in an inappropriate location with half the beds and only shared rooms. The St Paul’s PCU had to move to a different floor, with a disruption in services that required some adaptation. Other PCUs were closed at various times, either to make way for the expected hordes of COVID-19 patients that didn’t materialize or for other reasons, such as a fire or COVID-19 outbreaks in other parts of the hospital. The lack of PCU beds made the hospital consult services extremely stressed, as complex care had to be provided on general wards where the staff were not trained in basic palliative care skills. Also, many patients approaching end-of-life either couldn’t get a PCU bed or chose to stay at home because of visitor restrictions. Many also declined to allow home hospice services to come into their homes for fear of catching COVID-19, even when there were nurses available. Home Hospice services were not adequately provided with Personal Protective Equipment until well into the pandemic, and there were severe staffing shortages. This led to a high burden of care falling on families and many emergency admissions, and difficult deaths that would normally have been avoided.

At the end of 2020, many hospital palliative care teams are still very challenged, and home hospice services are severely constrained in many parts of the province.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The division would like to become more involved with palliative care research and is actively seeking support through the UBC Foundation, possibly for a Chair in Palliative Medicine.

We hope to refine the undergraduate curriculum palliative care components now that the first cohort is in its final year, and the curriculum can be evaluated. We also have more and more difficulty meeting requests for education from other programs. Therefore, we will be working hard in the next few years to develop more teaching opportunities, for example, in-home hospice programs and residential care, where there is sufficient expertise.

Finally, succession planning is an issue as the Head of the division is now in her 6th year in the position, and the Division Administrator & Program Assistant are considering retirement. Therefore, it is crucial to have an orderly handover with the new holders of these positions to maintain the tremendous achievements we have made over the last five years.
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW
The Division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation is led by Dr. Jennifer Yao with administrative support from Maria Canvin.

The division continues to grow across the province, with the majority being clinical faculty.

The division has two subcommittees and a 5-year residency training program:

- **CPD committee** - led by Dr. Gosia Sudol. The goals are to review all division CPD activities and develop strategies to improve quality and participation from all members.

- **DRAC (Division Research and Advisory Committee)** - led by Dr. Hugh Anton (2019) and Dr. Andrea Townson (2020). This committee has nine members to provide peer review of division research projects and offer mentorship to division members with emerging research interests.

- **Residency training program** – Dr. Eric Hui is the Program Director. The Royal College has fully accredited the program.

The Division of PM&R is functioning well. Our members have a wide variety of specialized skills and knowledge, and they are actively practicing in a wide variety of settings. Regular academic division events have successfully transferred to an online format and are very well attended. In addition, attendance at virtual rounds and journal clubs has been higher than before the pandemic, as many members not in the lower mainland can sign in and participate. We are also taking advantage of the virtual format, with invited speakers from outside Vancouver and BC participating in our rounds.

We are grateful to our division members for their professionalism and commitment to excellent care. In addition, everyone was supportive and willing to contribute in their own way as we navigated the uncertainties throughout 2019 and 2020.

HIGHLIGHTS
- Members of the division organized and hosted the inaugural CANOSC (Canadian Advances in Neuro-Orthopedics for Spasticity Congress) event at UBC on April 5-6, 2019. This was founded and chaired by Drs. Rajiv Reebye and Paul Winston, and supported by the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (CAPMR). The congress consisted of an international panel of experts from across different disciplines (PM&R, plastic surgery, orthopedics, anesthesia) with a focus on cutting edge management of spasticity. This was a very successful event with more than 130 paid attendees.

- The CANOSC event originally scheduled for April 24-25, 2020 had to be cancelled due to the pandemic, but the organizers, Drs. Rajiv Reebye and Dr. Paul Winston, pivoted quickly to offer online learning webinars with the support of the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (CAPMR). Several division members were presenters and shared their tips on topics, such as how to perform effective physical examinations virtually and how best to triage spasticity patients for in-person assessments.

- Dr. Andrei Krassioukov organized the 5th International Autonomic Symposium at the Blusson SCI Centre on February 13, 2019. This is a recurring event that brings together clinicians and researchers to share their knowledge and work on recovery after spinal cord injury. Dr. Krassioukov is a world renowned clinician and researcher in the field of autonomic dysfunction after SCI.

- Dr. Noah Silverberg was awarded the Fall 2019 CIHR Project Grant for his project: Mobilizing early management of mental health complications after mild traumatic brain injury.

- Dr. Krassioukov and Dr. Stacy Elliott were co-authors on the new Clinical Practice Guideline on Evaluation and Management of Autonomic Dysreflexia and Other Autonomic Dysfunctions: Preventing the Highs and Lows. This practice guideline, released in November 2020, is published by the Paralyzed Veterans of America and serves as the international gold standard for clinical practice in spinal cord rehabilitation.
The Annual Division of PM&R awards dinner was held on June 21, 2019. The event had to be cancelled in 2020, but we were able to recognize the achievements of our members virtually at our June 24, 2020 division meeting. The award recipients for 2019-2020 are:

**Theo van Rijn Award for Contributions to the Division**
Dr. Hugh Anton (2019) and Dr. Anita Fan (2020)

**Duncan Murray Award for Excellence in Resident Teaching**
Dr. Aaron Chan (2019) and Dr. Nicola Hahn (2020)

**Resident Educator Award for Contributions in Teaching Fellow Residents**
Dr. Richard Ho (2019) and Dr. Geoff Frost (2020)

**Kiran van Rijn Centenary Scholarship Award and Resident Educator Award**
Dr. Jordan Farag (2019)

**Best Resident Research Presentation at Rehab Research Day**
Dr. Alvin Ip (2019)

**Best Province Wide Rounds Presentation**
Dr. Alvin Ip (2019) and Dr. Derry Dance (2020)

**Maureen MacNeil Award for Recognition of Non-physiatrist who Contributed Significantly to PM&R Resident Training**
Ms. Maria Canvin (2019) and Ms. Erin Schmidt (2020)

**RESEARCH**

In 2019, the Division of PM&R’s 10th annual Rehab Research Day took place on May 8th, 2019, chaired by Dr. Hugh Anton. The event featured oral and poster presentations of research from several rehabilitation disciplines. PM&R division members and residents were able to present their research and compete for awards.

With the COVID-19 pandemic, much of our usual research activities paused and shifted to virtual formats. As a result, the annual Rehab Research Day was cancelled in 2020, but we are now preparing for a virtual Rehab Research Day in 2021.

Despite the challenges of 2020, division members continue to be productive in research. Our academic faculty, Drs. Martin Ginis and Krassioukov are highly productive. This activity was partly spurred on by the urgency during the pandemic to have evidence-based practical approaches to physiatry practice. For the past several years, the division has been nurturing collaborations with other disciplines, both local and abroad. In addition, there has been an increase in research and publication activity from our clinical faculty, particularly in the area of spasticity management. The Division Research Advisory Committee (DRAC), led by Dr. Andrea Townson, has expanded to incorporate physiatrists from Providence Health Care and those from the island. In response to increasing faculty involvement in research, there will be a review of the Terms of Reference for this committee in 2021 to see how it can better support faculty, especially those in clinical practice, to conduct and publish their work. Several members of this committee are also members of the Rehab Research Group at UBC. There are excellent interdisciplinary research collaborations between the two groups.

**EDUCATION**

The division successfully trained a PM&R fellow from France (June - Nov 2019) who had a special interest in neuro-rehabilitation. The funding was provided by the fellow’s home program and was the first of possible future exchanges of interested trainees.

**Postgraduate program**

Dr. Eric Hui, postgraduate program director, presented at the annual division retreat in November 2019. The focus was on faculty development in feedback skills and gaining familiarity with implementing the Competency by Design curriculum in July 2020.

The division was delighted to have three senior residents in 2019 and two senior residents in 2020 in PM&R successfully challenge their Royal College Certification examination in PM&R in spring of 2019 and September 2020, respectively.

In addition, our postgraduate program matched two excellent candidates in both the 2019 and 2020 CaRMS matches.

In 2020, all academic group learning activities pivoted to a virtual format. A virtual format has allowed greater participation from members from other parts of BC to teach our residents. In addition, in the fall of 2020, we successfully had sufficient safety plans implemented to allow for some in-person learning during academic half days. In-person training is crucial to the learning of physical examination skills.

We successfully launched Competency by Design in July 2020 with our two new residents. The program has progressed well with no significant concerns from faculty or learners. Dr. Mark Crossman chairs the competency committee and meets regularly to assess resident progress.

**Undergraduate program**

Our division members are active in teaching and organizing parts of the undergraduate curriculum at UBC. The division continues to host many medical students, both local and visiting, for electives in PM&R. In 2019, the division hosted 27 students (16 local and 11 visiting).

In 2020, the division hosted many medical students from UBC, especially now that out-of-province electives were no longer possible due to pandemic concerns. Dr. Grace Li, our undergraduate coordinator, continues to oversee the medical student
elective schedules and has received very positive feedback from students regarding their experiences with our division.

**CPD activities**

Dr. Malgorzata Sudol (division CPD lead) headed a committee of division members to review and brainstorm how to improve CPD activities. In 2019, they surveyed the membership on perceived CPD needs and provided resources to division members to create engaging presentations. They also planned for a new division academic half-day in 2020 to make it easier for members outside of the lower mainland to participate.

In 2020, our CPD committee successfully carried out monthly province-wide rounds and journal club using a virtual (Zoom) format. The division would like to organize a larger virtual symposium, but this event will be postponed until early 2021.

In the fall of 2020, we were able to host a two-part series on headache management by Dr. Corrie Graboski in Victoria. The series was very well attended online and received positive feedback. As a result, Dr. Graboski is now working with the Specialty Committee in PM&R and physiatry program directors across Canada to develop a headache curriculum with collaboration from neurology.

All CPD evaluations have also gone online with Qualtrics and have been made more efficient. Going virtual has made it easier for members outside of the lower mainland to participate, and we have noticed a significant increase in the participation of members from around the province.

**PATIENT CARE**

The division has continued to provide a wide breadth of scope and specialized rehabilitation care to patients in BC. Our membership is expanding in both urban academic and community settings. Our members are present on rehab units in every health authority. Northern Health, which is mostly served by outreach physiatry clinics, is seeking to hire a permanent physiatrist and actively looking for physiatry leadership. Our members deliver clinical services in inpatient, outpatient, consultative and private office settings. Several members have resumed outreach clinics to Whitehorse and other parts of Northern Health.

The division has many members with subspecialized areas of expertise, including:

- Electrodiagnostic medicine
- Sport and Exercise medicine
- Pain Medicine
- Spinal Cord Injury rehabilitation
- Brain Injury and Stroke rehabilitation
- Critical care rehabilitation
- Spasticity management
- Amputee rehabilitation

These services have continued to function with appropriate adaptations for infection control procedures in accordance with public health orders.

In 2020, several division members in Vancouver have stepped up to the call to assist our internal medicine colleagues on COVID-19 units at Vancouver General Hospital. Many PM&R division members were ready and willing to step in to help on acute rehab units as needed in case of sudden illness or absences of regular staff.

**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Members of the Division of PM&R are engaged and passionate about their work. There is significant momentum in spasticity research within the division, and this will undoubtedly continue and be supported to the best of the division's abilities.

2019-2020 have been highly challenging years in many aspects. However, the Division of PM&R has come together as a group more than ever before, and we are confident that this will carry us forward in 2021 with greater strength and cohesion. More members are applying for promotions and progressing through the clinical faculty ranks. Our faculty are well engaged with regular division activities and connected via social media.

One of the challenges that continues to face the division centers around finding a financial model that would help the division advance its academic mandate. As funding supports from the Department of Medicine was substantially reduced over the last year, we have to engage our membership further on having a funding model that will be equitable and acceptable.

We all recognize the importance of education, research, and administrative leadership and their roles in a healthy academic community. Therefore, there is willingness and goodwill to work together on these issues in the coming years.
RESPIRATORY MEDICINE

THE DIVISION AT A GLANCE

DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

The UBC Division of Respiratory Medicine is primarily located at the major teaching hospitals affiliated with the UBC Faculty of Medicine. The major activities are focused at Vancouver General Hospital, St. Paul’s Hospital and UBC Hospital. In addition, reflecting the distributed medical school, there are now a significant number of community respirologists distributed throughout the province, affiliated formally as either full or associate members of the Division. Dr. Carlsten is the Head of the UBC Respiratory Division. Dr. Johnston is the head of the VGH Respiratory Division. Dr. Chris Ryerson is the Head of Providence Health Care Respiratory Division, which includes SPH. The UBC Respiratory Division participates in a multi-site framework focusing on education, clinical care and research across the province.

Recognition of our prominence and success is furthered with ongoing recognition of lung and heart being one of five priority areas in the Faculty of Medicine strategic directions. Lung-related research remains a priority in UBC’s capital campaign.

Gagan Basi and Irish Krolikowski provide excellent administrative support for the division and the routine day-to-day activities of the division and provide administrative support for the Post Graduate training program. Julianna Shipanoff, based at VGH, provides additional support, and Deb Howe provides administrative support for SPH divisional activities. Given the expanded level of activity within the division and ongoing delegation of administrative duties from the Department of Medicine to the divisional level further administrative support will be required.

HIGHLIGHTS

• Dr. James Johnston – Recipient of the Michael Smith Foundation Health Professional Investigator (HPI) award of $450K
• Dr. Bradley Quon – Recipient of the 2019 Raja Abboud Award – UBC Division of Respiratory Medicine
• Dr. Najib Ayas – UBC FOM Strategic Innovation Fund ($90K, with Carlsten and others, partnered by NIH TopMed (Trans-Omics for Precision Medicine) Genetic, Epigenetic and Metabolomic Basis of Obstructive Sleep Apnea Subtypes
• Dr. Chris Carlsten – Recipient of MSFHR grant ($225K) for Post-COVID-19 respiratory outcomes research (co-PIs Drs. Ryerson and Johnston; co-Is Drs. Shah and Wong)
• Dr. James Johnston – Recipient of CIHR grant ($417K) for “Modeling to inform TB Elimination in Canada”
• Dr. Janice Leung – Recipient of CIHR ($1.5M) for the CANUCK Study (Canadian Users of Cannabis Smoke Study, with Drs. Sin and Tan
• Dr. Kate Milne – UBC Respiratory Division Academic Enhancement Fund Transition to Faculty Award
• Dr. Renelle Myers – CCS/CIHR ($150K) and VCHRI ($30K) grants for detecting COVID-19 via VOC in breath (featured on the CBC News) and setting up the first clinical research breathomics lab in Canada
• Dr. Chris Ryerson – Recipient of Boehringer-Ingelheim support for interstitial lung disease research ($2.2M), UBC Faculty of Medicine Strategic Investment Fund ($300K with Carlsten and Johnston as co-PIs)
• Dr. Don Sin – Recipient of the following grants: YVR/Westjet ($392K) and Genome BC ($125K) for COVID-19 research
• Dr. Alyson Wong – UBC Respiratory Division Academic Enhancement Fund Transition to Faculty Award
RESEARCH
The UBC division has an international reputation for excellence in research, spanning the 4 CIHR Pillars, from state-of-the-art basic research to population health. A conservative estimate of dollars generated for lung-related research within the division for principal investigators in competitive grant funding was 10 million dollars in 2019 and 7.8 million dollars in 2020. Peer-reviewed publications again totalled over 300 papers for 2019 and 160 papers for 2020.

SPH and the associated Centre for Heart Lung Innovation continue to provide strong leadership in basic, translational, and clinical research with a particular focus on COPD, cystic fibrosis, and ILD. Research leaders at SPH include Dr. Don Sin, Director of the HLI and renowned COPD expert. Other prominent investigators with active clinical/translational research programs include Drs. Stephan vanEeden (COPD, animal models of air pollution), Del Dorscheid (asthma), Janice Leung (HIV-related lung disease), Brad Quon (cystic fibrosis), Alyson Wong (interstitial lung disease), and Chris Ryerson (interstitial lung disease). Drs. Scott Apperley and Tawimas Shaipanich conduct research in interventional pulmonology. Additional division members based at SPH and focused on basic and translational science include Maen Obeidat, Scott Tebbutt, Andrew Sandford and Denise Daley. They are focused on identifying biomarkers and understanding genetic determinants of chronic lung disease.

Strong basic, translational, and clinical research also occurs at VGH and the associated Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute, with strong leadership from Dr. Chris Carlsten (occupational and environmental lung disease; cross-appointed to HLI) and a particular emphasis on clinical trials and epidemiologic research focusing on sleep-disordered breathing (Drs. Ayas, Fleetham, Ryan), interstitial lung disease (Dr. Nasreen Khalil, whose program spans basic to clinical science), airways diseases (Drs. Jeremy Road and Mark FitzGerald), and tuberculosis (Drs. Johnston and Cook).

Additional division members based at VGH and focused on basic and translational science include Dr. Chris Miller (nitric oxide to treat lung infections) and Dr. Vincent Duronio (aberrant cell signalling in lung disease). In addition, 2019 saw the official inauguration of the Legacy for Airway Health (LAH), a major initiative directed by Dr. Carlsten, which is VGH-based but designed to serve the broad community in research and integrated knowledge translation surrounding prevention and care of airways disease. LAH is flourishing in 2020, with three new LAH-affiliated faculty hires imminent.

EDUCATION
Undergraduate Program
Dr. Eve-Lea Beaudoin (VGH) and Dr. Janice Leung (SPH) coordinate undergraduate elective programs for medical students. They also support the residents rotating through respiratory medicine (e.g. Internal Medicine, Anesthesia), both internal and external. Dr. Richard Cohen has responsibility for the PBL pulmonary block and brings specialty expertise in education to this role and his specialty training in Respiratory Medicine.

Postgraduate Program
Dr. Victoria J Cook has been the Program Director for the Respiratory Medicine postgraduate training program since January 2016. The program underwent accreditation from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in March 2020. The program’s official status is confirmed as an “Accredited program with follow-up by regular accreditation review,” with an internal review mid-cycle, anywhere from 3-6 years from now.

The program has worked closely with UBC, the Royal College and other Respiratory training programs to prepare for the implementation of Competence by Design. CBD go-live was initially scheduled for July 1st, 2020, but was delayed due to COVID-19. The training program has supported a “soft-launch” of CBD amidst other adaptations in response to the pandemic. The training program typically accepts 3-4 new trainees each academic year. There are currently six respiratory trainees in the program (3 CaRMS slots per year).
Continuing Medical Education

Divisional members contribute extensively to professional development on a provincial, national and international level. The scope of these contributions is too extensive to list but reflects the major productivity of the division in terms of research activity as outlined below. It also reflects the significant contributions members have continued to make in national and international guideline development in many clinical and therapeutic areas. One of the major divisional CME activities is the UBC Respiratory Medicine Annual Update chaired by Dr. Ryerson, co-sponsored by the BC Lung Association and held in Vancouver in the spring.

In addition to the UBC Update, the UBC Lung Health and Research and Policy Day are held annually. This meeting provides a platform for showcasing the broad research programs across the Centre for Lung Health and its many affiliates. There are also a number of other local conferences and educational opportunities regularly scheduled in Vancouver (e.g. The Union – North American Region TB conference held in February on odd years).

Dr. Frank Ryan serves on the RCPSC Fellowship Examination Committee. Dr. Cook is on the CRC NSRFS Steering Committee.

PATIENT CARE

The UBC Division of Respiratory Medicine provides tertiary and quaternary respiratory subspecialty services in a distributed model with regional and provincial services in pulmonary transplantation, pulmonary hypertension, chronic home ventilation program, occupational lung diseases and tuberculosis based at VGH. Other specialty clinics at VGH include COPD, asthma, interstitial lung disease, lung cancer and pleural diseases, including interventional bronchoscopy. The Provincial Cystic Fibrosis program is based at SPH, where there is also specialty expertise in pulmonary complications of HIV with links to the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV. In addition, SPH has specialty clinics for difficult asthma, pulmonary complications of scleroderma, interstitial lung diseases and COPD. Finally, UBC Hospital is the site for the regional program in sleep-disordered breathing.

Both major sites (VGH and SPH) provide comprehensive state of the art management across the continuum of care from ambulatory to acute, managing a broad range of respiratory diseases. In addition, there is a respiratory consultation service provided to UBC Hospital, Mount St. Joseph’s Hospital, GF Strong and George Pearson Hospitals. Both major sites continue to develop ambulatory care related resources with the Respiratory Ambulatory Unit at VGH, expanded pulmonary rehabilitation capacity at both major hospitals, as well as the innovative extension of care into the community best exemplified by an excellent program based at SPH with links to community rehabilitation. There are continued efforts to create better models of chronic disease management with COPD and asthma clinics continuing to evolve based on multi-disciplinary models of care. Both major sites conduct regular Morbidity and Mortality (M+M) Rounds and have been proactive in including fellows and trainees in this process. The latter involvement has facilitated quality assurance projects. Fellow attendance at M+M rounds is expected, particularly on service rotations at locations where M+M is held.

The division is fortunate to have many community-based respirologists, many of whom are graduates of our training program and not only provide excellent clinical care but are vital to the success of the distributed medical school. In addition, they have facilitated projects for quality improvement and the introduction of newer technologies such as endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS).

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The division has developed expertise in research and clinical medicine in all the main subspecialties of respiratory medicine and is recognized as a center of excellence internationally. These accomplishments have set our path, and the division hopes to continue developing and recruiting the next generation of investigators and clinicians in order to maintain this excellence.

COVID-19 has created challenges administratively, in research, in education, and clinical care. However, the division has demonstrated laudable teamwork and leadership to weather this and has received significant kudos from the local to the international community for its early establishment of a post-COVID respiratory clinic.
DIVISIONAL OVERVIEW

Dr. Kam Shojania remains Head of the UBC, St Paul’s Hospital, and Vancouver General Hospital Division of Rheumatology and the Medical Director of the Mary Pack Arthritis Centre.

Dr. Shahin Jamal (2019) and Dr. Raheem B. Kherani (2020) served as the Adult Rheumatology Program Director for the division providing excellent leadership for the academic and clinical portions of the training program. In 2019, Dr. Jamal guided the July 2019 CBME launch and organized several well-attended workshops, both in Vancouver and in distributed sites in the Okanagan and Vancouver Island, to introduce faculty to CBME and the new assessment program, and ensured our program was ready for launch.

Dr. Diane Lacaille became the new Scientific Director of Arthritis Research Canada in 2020, and Dr. John Esdaile continues as Scientific Director Emeritus.

Tracey Ernst continues as Rheumatology Program Manager and Division Manager for UBC, St. Paul’s, and VGH Divisions of Rheumatology. In her role as Program Manager, she assisted preparations for the July 2019 CBME launch. In addition, she wrote and published a CBME and EPA handbook for Rheumatology residents and faculty and shared her templates and work with programs across UBC and Rheumatology programs across Canada.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 64 division faculty (including Adjunct Members & 3 Emeritus)
- Three residents graduated from the Rheumatology subspecialty training program in 2019 and 2020
- The annual UBC Rheumatology Divisional Awards, which were awarded in 2019-2020 as follows:
  - Award for Innovation: Dr. Ken Blocka (2019) and Dr. Kun Huang and Dr. Fergus To (2020)
  - Award for Teaching: Dr. Natasha Dehghan (2019) and Dr. Brent Ohata (2020)
  - Award for Advocacy: Dr. Jason Kur (2019) and Dr. Stephanie Ensworth and Dr. Tommy Gershman (2020)

RESEARCH

At the Canadian Rheumatology Association Annual Meeting, Diane Lacaille received the 2019 Canadian Rheumatology Association Distinguished Investigator Award. The award is the top award for science from the organization and acknowledged her contributions to closing the treatment gap for people with rheumatoid arthritis and her unique project to prevent work disability from occurring in people with inflammatory arthritis.

Diane Lacaille is a Co-Investigator on a 3-year $1.5 M Grant from Employment and Social Development Canada - Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities – Working with Employers. The grant title is “Harnessing talent: alliance for recruiting and retaining Canadians with disabilities.” The Principal Investigator is Marc White of the Work Wellness and Disability Prevention Institute.

Antonio Aviña and John Esdaile are Co-principal investigators on a five-year $707,625 Canadian Institutes of Health Research grant entitled “Risk of retinal toxicity in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis on long-term hydroxychloroquine therapy.” Co-Investigators on the project include Hyon Choi, Linda Li, Kam Shojania, Diane Lacaille, Hui Xie, David Maberley, Mahyar Etminan and Martin Dawes.
Antonio Aviña, along with Co-Investigators John Esdaile, Diane Lacaille and Kam Shojania, has been awarded a 1-year $20,000 Planning Grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for his project “Towards improving screening of retinal toxicity of hydroxychloroquine inpatients with systemic lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis.”

Arthritis Research Canada (Drs. Esdaile, Lacaille, Cibere, Avina), and Clinical Investigators (Drs. Carruthers, Jamal, Chan) are involved in world-class and novel arthritis research in the following areas: osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic autoimmune rheumatic diseases, ankylosing spondylitis, vasculitis, gout, health behaviours and exercise, technology to support arthritis care, preventing complications from inflammatory disease, immunology, arthritis in indigenous peoples, biosimilars and quality of care.

ARC researchers were also able to pivot to include COVID-19 related research initiatives quickly in 2020.

Visit arthritisresearch.ca for a full list of research projects, collaborations and grants.

EDUCATION
Program Director, Dr. Shahin Jamal, is actively engaged in the Rheumatology Training Program, and in 2019 did a stellar job guiding us through our July 1 CBME launch. The two-year Rheumatology Subspecialty Program is fully accredited by the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Canada. It continues to be the second-largest clinical rheumatology training centre in Canada. In 2019-2020, we had six Ministry of Health-funded residents and one Visa-funded resident in our program. We are proud that many of our division members remain actively engaged in high-quality teaching, ambulatory care and research, at Vancouver Acute, St. Paul’s Hospital, Arthritis Research Canada, and in community practices throughout the Lower Mainland and in the Okanagan. In addition, our enthusiastic teaching faculty actively engaged in the new CBME learning environment, participating in educational workshops run by our program director, and encouraging our residents in the new feedback modality.

In 2020, Dr. Jamal stepped down from the role of Program Director and Dr. Raheem B. Kherani was selected by the Search Committee as the new Program Director, effective July 1, 2020.

We provide high-demand elective and mandatory rotations in Rheumatology to residents in Internal Medicine and other specialties from UBC and out-of-province universities. As a result, we welcomed 100 residents in 2019 and 90 residents in 2020. The rheumatology elective rotations were delivered at our hospital teaching sites, including St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver General Hospital, Royal Columbian Hospital, and Royal Jubilee Hospital and private practices in Metro Vancouver, Vancouver Island, and the Okanagan.

The division revised the annual weeklong “Crash Course for New Rheumatology Fellows” to a virtual format to accommodate the challenges of 2020. We revised the course to operate for three full days versus five, and thanks to the hard work of Dr. Shahin Jamal and resident Leah Ellingwood, we were able to offer a virtual National OSCE at the end of the course. This course continues to be the only course of its extent in Canada. It provides new rheumatology residents with a solid background in the basic skills required in rheumatology’s academic and clinical practice. One advantage to its virtual nature was that a record-breaking 36 residents joined us from across Canada in 2020, including UBC Adult and Paediatric Rheumatology residents, for the Course and the OSCE combined.

Dr. Rhonda Shuckett remains in charge of the Rheumatology Undergraduate Committee and co-chairs the musculoskeletal undergraduate block.

PATIENT CARE
The Mary Pack Arthritis Program is a provincial program administered through the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. Services and programs include: advanced therapeutic clinics, quaternary rheumatic disease clinics, a young adult transition program, vasculitis clinic, pregnancy in rheumatology clinic, and an advanced therapeutics clinic with infusion services for biologic medications.

The Mary Pack program coordinates the travel of 18 division faculty to 22 remote locations in British Columbia for the Rheumatology Travelling Consultation Service. This program provides education, consultation, and treatment services to communities with populations of 5,000 that do not have a rheumatologist accessible within two hours driving time and numerous isolated First Nations communities. Telehealth initiatives to small communities continue to grow. The Mary Pack program also provides physiotherapy, occupational therapy, access to social workers and vocational, and a full spectrum of educational workshops for patients. Funding of physician services for the Mary Pack Program is through the Ministry of Health APP program.