

BC Centre
for
Excellence
in **HIV/AIDS**

University of British Columbia
Enhanced Skills
Program
in HIV/AIDS

3-month
Postgraduate
Training
Program



BRITISH COLUMBIA
CENTRE *for* EXCELLENCE
in HIV/AIDS



BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS: UBC Enhanced Skills Program in HIV/AIDS (PGY3)

In collaboration with the Enhanced Skills Program (PGY3) in the Department of Family Practice at the University of British Columbia, the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS (BC-CfE) Clinical Education and Training Program is pleased to offer a 3-month postgraduate training program.

This program supports the professional growth and development of family physicians wishing to expand the scope of their primary care practice and to achieve competence in providing optimal care for patients with HIV/AIDS.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The primary purpose of this comprehensive program is to enhance the provision of HIV care to patients in BC by training primary care physicians that work in limiting settings.

The resident will be attending the John Ruedy Clinic (JRC) at St Paul's Hospital. The JRC provides comprehensive primary and specialist care to HIV positive patients with an interdisciplinary approach. The resident will also have the opportunity to attend other clinical sites, encompassing inpatient care and other HIV specialty clinics in Vancouver (e.g. Urban Health Infection Unit ward and Oak Tree Clinic). Participation in a variety of medical education events, including HIV Care Rounds, Journal Clubs, and other lectures and CPD events is encouraged.

PROGRAM AND APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

It is required that all candidates satisfy the following criteria:

1. CCFP certification, or

2. Eligibility for CCFP certification (current or expected to be obtained within the Enhanced Skills (ES) residency year); that is, a resident in their final year of FM residency, or a physician who is practice-eligible to sit the CFPC certification examination during the ES residency year.

Applications will be considered and approved in the following priority order according to training time and training spots available:

1. Licensed physicians practicing in British Columbia for a minimum of 6 months seeking to develop enhanced skills to meet an identified community need.
2. Physicians straight from a UBC residency program with an interest in a particular area of enhanced skills where there is a clear and urgent identified need with or without links to a specific community.
3. Out-of-province requests (Please note: The postgraduate programs of the Department of Family Medicine do not accept Visa trainees)

For application materials, please see the main [Enhanced Skills Program Admissions](#) page.

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

3 months (12 weeks) – Full Time

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the program, the R3 resident will be able to assess HIV positive patients and initiate antiretroviral therapy, monitor and identify patients with treatment failures and toxicities, assess HIV-related co-morbidities, and provide a comprehensive care plan to HIV positive patients. The specific learning outcomes of this training program are:

- To provide knowledge and experience in the diagnosis, management, and treatment of HIV-positive patients.
- To provide knowledge on the management of treatment failures and toxicities.
- To provide knowledge on the management of HIV related co-morbidities and opportunistic infections.
- To provide knowledge on issues related to the management of HIV infected women.
- To provide knowledge on issues related to the management of HIV infected marginalized individuals (e.g. persons with substance use and psychiatric disorders).

- To establish a working relationship and ongoing support with the BC-CfE and other community organizations.
- To become an advocate to promote healthy living in HIV positive people.
- To identify mechanisms to continue medical education in the HIV field.

Upon selection, the applicant will meet with the Director of Clinical Education at the BC-CfE (Dr. Silvia Guillemi) to review their learning objectives and rotation schedule.

CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES

All participants of the program will foster all competencies in family medicine, as set out by the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Upon the completion of the UBC Enhanced Skills HIV/AIDS Program, the resident will acquire the following competencies in each of the following domains.

Medical Expert

Apply knowledge of the clinical and biomedical sciences relevant to HIV Medicine.

- Demonstrate understanding of the laboratory tests used in the diagnosis of HIV and for the management of HIV infected patients.
- Perform a focused history and physical exam in patients presenting with new or chronic HIV infection.
- To be able to interpret results of HIV viral load, resistance testing and other specific HIV related testing.
- Be able to initiate antiretroviral (ARV) therapy in acute or chronic HIV infection and select the most appropriate medications in each case.
- Be able to identify and manage common adverse effects of ARV therapy.
- Identify patients with treatment failures and recommend the most appropriate management.
- Provide primary care and apply current recommendations for health promotion, including vaccinations, cancer screening, cardiovascular risk assessment, smoking session, etc.
- Identify opportunistic infections and AIDS related conditions (prevention/prophylaxis and management).
- Take a complete sexual health history and screen for pertinent sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and manage and provide counseling for STIs appropriately.

- Identify the complex relationships between HIV, stigma, psychosocial factors, mental health and addiction.
- Demonstrate understanding of issues related to the health of HIV positive women.

Communicator

- Develop effective communication skills, including verbal and written and culturally respectful use of language.
- Engage on a sensitivity communication with the patient's family and/or other main social supports, and encourage their involvement in shared decision making when appropriate.
- Sensitively manage the communication of patient information regarding HIV status, and demonstrate understanding of the consent requirements for communication with third party agents.
- Develop an understanding of cultural and gender sensitivities of HIV infected individuals (e.g. LBTGQ, aboriginals, and new immigrants).

Collaborator

- Demonstrate an understanding of the roles and specific expertise of infectious disease and other specialists in the care of the HIV positive patient.
- Consult with other professionals in a timely manner, when needed for optimal care of the HIV positive patient.
- Actively involve appropriate members of a patient's health care team, including allied health workers, in the assessment, planning, and provision of care.
- Collaborate with community agencies, when appropriate, to optimize patient care.

Manager

- Help patients understand how to access ARV therapy in BC.
- Demonstrate fiscally responsible allocation of provincial government resources in support of HIV positive patients care.

Health Advocate

- Identify and inform patients of available specialized resources and community supports in BC.
- Provide access to community resources including access to HIV peer navigators.
- Advocate for unbiased and sensitive care of HIV positive patients by all healthcare professionals.

Scholar

- Keep up-to-date on advancements in HIV care by participating in local, national and international educational events.
- Appropriately apply evidence-based approaches and knowledge of the current HIV literature to inform clinical decision-making.

Professional

- Appropriately respond to ethical issues arising in the care of the HIV positive patient.
- Be respectful of the personal/professional boundaries with patients, residents, and faculty.
- Demonstrate insight into his/her limitations and appropriately refer patients for consultation.

SAMPLE OF CLINICAL ACTIVITIES

Successful applicants will participate in the primary care of HIV-positive patients attending the JRC under the direction of an HIV experienced physician. We recommend that residents allocate approximately 50% of their time in the primary care clinic. For the rest of the time, they will participate in the specialty clinics as described below.

Successful applicants will be able to choose rotations in various specialist clinics, subject to their availability at the time.

All residents will have a general evaluation half way through the program, and upon completion of the program.

Specialist Clinics

- **Antiretroviral (ARV) Therapies Clinic**
Dr. Silvia Guillemi, Dr. Mark Hull and Dr. Julio Montaner – Patients attending these clinics are assessed for issues related to the ARV initiation, switches and management of treatment toxicities and failures.
- **HIV/Hepatitis C Co-Infection Clinic**
Dr. Mark Hull – These clinics are focused on the management and treatment of patients co-infected with HIV and Hepatitis C and B.

- **Infectious Diseases and Opportunistic Infection Clinic**
Dr. Natasha Press – Patients presenting with opportunistic infections or other infectious diseases are seen by this ID physician.
- **Endocrinology**
Dr. Greg Bondy – Dr. Bondy has a special interest in the management of dyslipidemias and other metabolic conditions frequently found in HIV infected patients.
- **Dermatology**
Dr. Aaron Wong – Dr. Wong’s specialized clinic caters to the unique and specific dermatologic needs of the HIV population.
- **Nephrology**
Dr. Ron Werb – Dr. Werb provides consultations for HIV patients affected with kidney related problems.
- **Addiction Medicine**
Residents can attend the Rapid Access Addiction Clinic (RAAC) located at St. Paul’s Hospital, which specializes on addiction medicine and pain management.
- **Outpatient Pharmacy**
The BC-CfE’s Outpatient Pharmacy provides expert antiretroviral counselling, reviews potential side effects of the medications, and addresses important issues related to adherence to the treatment and drug interactions.
- **Anal Dysplasia Clinic (ADC)**
Physicians at the ADC provide consultations and access to anal colposcopy exam, biopsy, and potential treatment for HIV-positive patients previously screened for anal dysplasia related to HPV infection.
- **Health Initiative for Men (HiM) Clinic**
Residents can attend HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) clinics located at the HiM clinic on Davie Street. The HiM clinic specializes on HIV testing, prevention, and counselling.
- **Urban Health Infection Unit (UHIU) ward**
The UHIU ward at St Paul’s Hospital provides specialized training in the management of addiction and HIV related conditions such as opportunistic infections and other severe illnesses that are frequently present in people with AIDS. We recommend that residents spend 1 to 2 weeks in this rotation.

- **Oak Tree Clinic (BC Women's Hospital)**
This clinic provides specialized, inter-professional HIV care for women across the lifespan, including reproductive health, pregnancy, menopause and beyond in a safe environment. BC Women's Hospital has a provincial mandate to act as a resource for women and health care providers across BC. We recommend that residents spend 2 weeks in this rotation.
- **Clinics in the Downtown Eastside (Vancouver Native Health, DCHC, Pender Clinic)**
Visits to these clinics could be arranged upon request. These clinics are often attended by hard-to-reach and marginalized patients.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

There are a variety of weekly and bi-weekly teaching rounds on HIV-related topics offered by the BC-CfE Clinical Education program. All residents are encouraged to present in one of BC-CfE Journal Clubs.

The educational events include the following:

- HIV Care Rounds
- Journal Club
- Forefront Lectures
- HIV/ARV updates (biannual)
- Other CPD events

Please contact education@cfenet.ubc.ca for more information.

Residents will also be encouraged to attend the local symposiums and National or International HIV/AIDS related conferences, if they occur during their program.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Dr. Tina Webber

Program Director, R3 Enhanced Skills Program, UBC

E-mail: tina.webber@ubc.ca

Lindsay Gowland

Program Coordinator, R3 Enhanced Skills Program, UBC

E-mail: lindsay.gowland@familymed.ubc.ca

Telephone: 604-822-0869
Fax: 604-822-6950

Dr. Silvia Guillemi

Director of Clinical Education, BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS
Program Director, R3 Enhanced Skills Program in HIV/AIDS, UBC
E-mail: sguillemi@cfenet.ubc.ca

Karah Koleszar

Clinical Education Program Coordinator, BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS
E-mail: kkoleszar@cfenet.ubc.ca
Telephone: 604-682-2344 ext 66877

TO APPLY: PROSPECTIVE 2020-2021 RESIDENTS

Applications open: **July 1st, 2019**

[Apply Online](#)

If the application deadline has passed, please contact the [Enhanced Skills Program office](#) as there may still be training time available.