



VITAL

LIFE SAVING

**VITAL:
THE FUTURE OF SURGERY**

VGH+
UBC hospital
foundation

VITAL is the important work of the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation.

It's the crucial link that makes good health care better, enabling us to build new facilities, invest in new equipment and technologies, better meet patient demand, and take advantage of new treatments and procedures. While the province funds the day-to-day operations of our hospitals and health services, private donations help us accomplish our vision of exemplary care and enable us to act on what we know is possible.

At both Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) & UBC Hospital, we see the future of surgery, and we know what we need to do to get there. We need to improve capacity to respond to the needs of our community. We envision the world's most accomplished surgeons and staff working in an environment designed for today and tomorrow. We envision maximizing technology for the benefit of the patient and equipping our medical professionals to do what they can do best: save and improve lives.

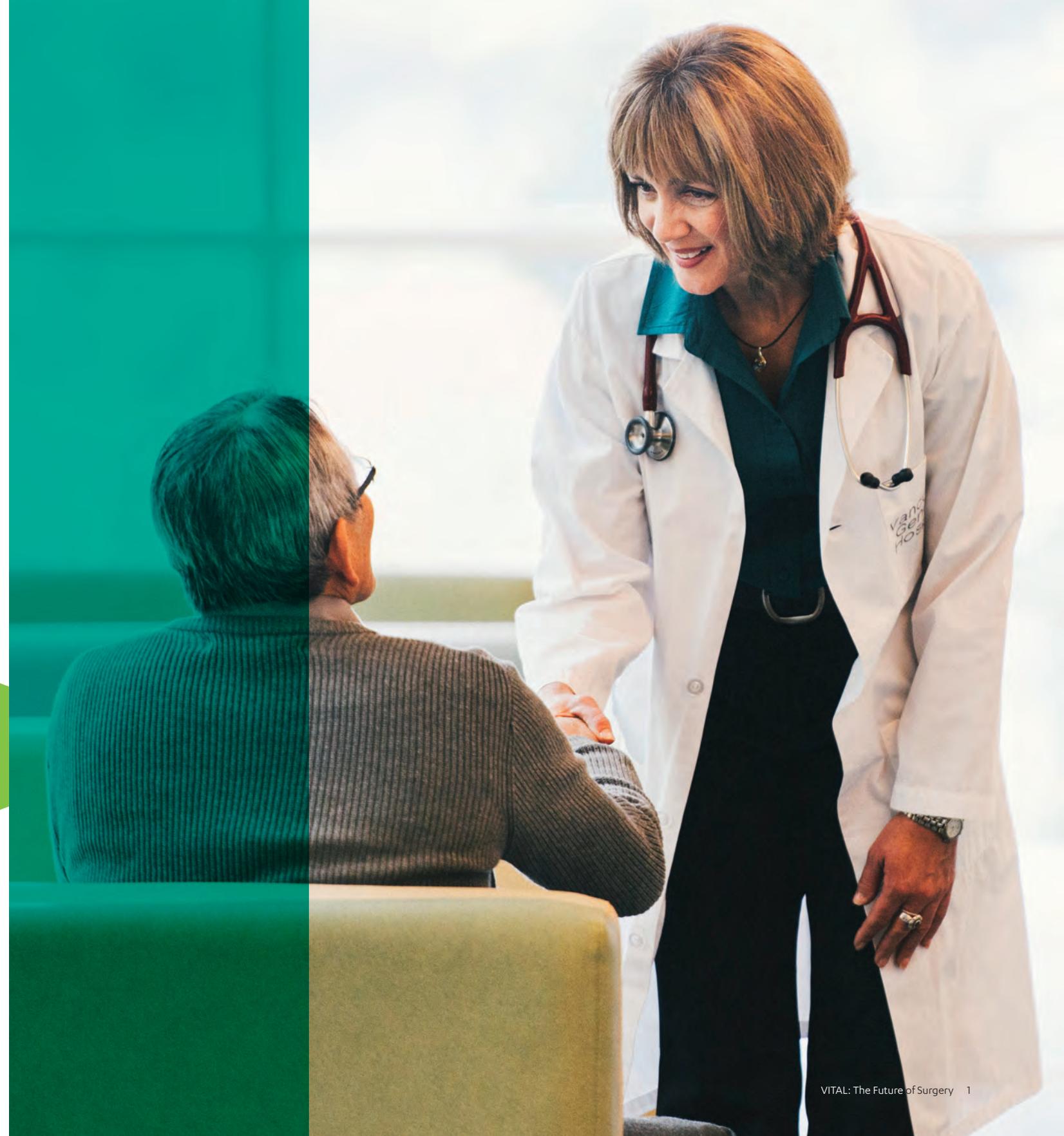
Our vision requires a \$145 million transformation of the facilities at VGH and UBC Hospital. This will optimize our two sites and bring the innovation and technology necessary so that British Columbians will have the very best possible outcomes. And while Vancouver Coastal Health and the provincial government will fund the majority of these costs, we turn to you, our donors and friends, to play an important role in ensuring this future becomes a reality.

To support Vancouver Coastal Health's surgical vision, VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation is seeking \$60 million from you and other donors to secure the Future of Surgery.

Vital begins here and now, with everyday Canadians stepping up as leaders to help us improve patient outcomes and reduce surgical wait times. It begins with you.

So join us in supporting the Future of Surgery and the future of health care in British Columbia.

The most vital part is you.



If you or someone you love needs surgery, you don't want to wait. Or worry. You need immediate, high quality care, followed by a swift and complete recovery.

Together, Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) and UBC Hospital are the cornerstones of surgical excellence in this province. Whether we are dealing with tumours, traumas, or transplants, we're often the only place that can help. We remove the brain tumour, repair the aneurysm and replace the failing kidney. We make sure a young forester gets back on his feet after a logging injury, or a car accident victim receives the complex spinal surgery that will save her life.

But giving patients the care they need takes planning, expertise and investment. And the prospects of aging—in both our population and our facilities—mean a major investment in the health care infrastructure of British Columbia is urgently needed for us to meet the province's evolving health care needs.

To change the future of surgery, we need larger, more technologically advanced operating rooms, allowing for innovation and more efficient operations.

To reduce wait times, we must better unite the services and resources available at our two sites, so that fewer surgeries are rescheduled to accommodate emergency procedures.

To optimize recoveries, we need to invest in perioperative care—the pre-and post-operative beds, diagnostic equipment, technology and a better environment for staff to work—beyond the surgeon and scalpel.

We need your support, to reduce the waiting and the worry, and to improve outcomes for every patient in our care.

Join us.

"It takes a lot of planning to make sure that surgery is available right when you need it. Our hospitals can do this. But not without our help."

— **DAVID ROWNTREE**, Founder and Managing Director, Highland West Capital



VGH AND UBC HOSPITAL: A VITAL RESOURCE FOR B.C.

Michaela, 29, has a tumour on her cervical spine

Omar, 67, collapses at his grandson's concert

Umberto, 69, needs a knee replacement

Sinda, 45, and **Ajit**, 46, survive a float plane crash

John, 62, can't walk more than 100 metres without pain

Wei, 23, wakes up to a red field of vision in her right eye

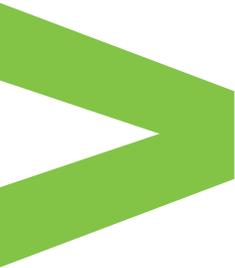
Willie, 44, needs a lung transplant

Richard, 36, is struck by a bus while riding his bike to work

60% of the province's adult trauma cases

30,000 surgeries per year

50% of surgical patients from outside Vancouver



What's vital to Richard? *the province's number one trauma centre*

Richard Gafney

It was just another Thursday for Richard Gafney. After kissing his young son and pregnant wife goodbye, Richard hopped on his bike to get to work in Richmond. Just a few blocks in, he was struck by both a bus and a dump truck. Suffering multiple fractures, severe lower leg trauma and a head injury, Richard was rushed to VGH.

Within hours, vascular surgeon Dr. Anthony Salvian was joined by specialty teams in orthopaedics and plastics to perform complex emergency surgery on Richard. An expanding hematoma in his left leg was cutting the blood supply to his left foot—circulation had to be restored within a three hour window to avoid amputation. With no time for a transfer to radiology, Dr. Salvian proceeded with the surgery under limited guidance from a portable angiography unit, saving Richard's leg through an arterial graft. Richard was lucky, although much work lay ahead, including four months of rehabilitation at G.F. Strong. But three weeks after returning home to his family, Richard stood on his own two legs to hold his newborn baby daughter.



DR. ANTHONY SALVIAN

In a trauma situation, each second and each decision matters. The Future of Surgery includes a new hybrid operating room at VGH to eliminate as many unknowns as possible, putting patients like Richard at the centre of a state-of-the-art operating suite. Here, real-time, high quality medical imaging can be made available to the surgeon at the operating table, eliminating the time and strain of patient transfer to radiology, and enabling immediate intervention and well-informed decision making.

 **VGH is one of two accredited Level 1 trauma centres in the province.**

"It took teams of people to get Richard to this place."
— ADRIENNE GAFNEY



The Future of Surgery strengthens the resources of VGH and UBC Hospital as a single, state-of-the-art, efficient and effective surgical program.

Currently, VGH houses 22 operating rooms that were designed in 1979. While renovations were completed in 1995 and 2007, most of the suites are smaller than what is now generally accepted as standard size. Not only are the rooms crowded with equipment and surgical teams, but significant advances in technology, patient safety and operating room design have yet to be incorporated into our infrastructure.

"This project represents the end of the band-aid solutions."

– ANDREA BISAILLON, Director, Surgical Services

UBC Hospital is an underutilized asset in the Vancouver Coastal Health system. Investments are required to increase its capacity for higher acuity patients and more complex procedures, as well as create a best practice environment for staff. By upgrading its inpatient units and shifting the focus of all emergency and trauma surgeries to VGH, UBC Hospital becomes the dedicated site for scheduled surgeries. Most importantly, it dramatically reduces patient wait times for non-urgent procedures.

The Future of Surgery at VGH:

ONE NEW hybrid operating room, combining the most advanced imaging technology with leading edge surgical facilities.

16 NEW optimally sized, state-of-the-art operating rooms, each featuring a shared sterile core between procedural zones to maximize efficiencies for cleaning instruments and reducing turnover times. In a future phase of development, additional space will be renovated to create a total of **30** operating rooms.

BOOM-MOUNTED equipment to improve traffic flow and reduce clutter.

ADVANCED technology and equipment to support information integration, communications and efficient work activity (e.g. wireless technology, electronic health records, digital X-ray equipment, and video linkages for teaching).

A NEW 40-BED perioperative care unit, combining pre-op and recovery areas for more efficient pre and post operation care.

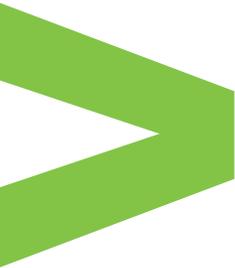
The Future of Surgery at UBC Hospital:

NEW EIGHT-BED High Acuity Unit to support more complex surgical cases and sicker patients.

ENHANCED AND EXPANDED inpatient units designed to meet best practice standards and support patient-centred care.

NEW AND EXPANDED Sleep Disorders Clinic and Lab to improve access to treatment.

NEW and more appropriate Spiritual Care Space for patients and families.



What's vital to Umberto?

getting exactly what he needs, right here at home

Umberto Menghi

Celebrity chef Umberto Menghi didn't accept the news easily. An old skiing injury combined with long hours of standing in kitchens around the world had taken its toll. Umberto needed a knee replacement. He knew it wouldn't come quickly, so he first sought private care in the U.S., consulting with doctors in Arizona and then Seattle. But there, he was told that the very best care was available right here, in his own backyard. So he came to UBC Hospital.

Understandably, a trauma case will be triaged over a knee replacement. But longer wait times are not ideal for non-critical patients. Strengthening the resources of VGH and UBC Hospital's surgical program will relieve the pressure on our system, ensuring patients like Umberto get the care they need, when they need it.

*** Almost half of all surgeries at VGH are unscheduled. Traumas and emergencies consistently extend patient wait times for non-urgent procedures.**

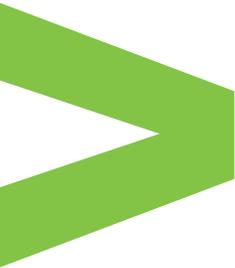


DR. BAS MASRI



"Dr. Bas Masri's name kept coming up in my conversations with experts, friends and family. He is incredibly well respected by his peers. But even beyond Dr. Masri's surgical expertise, the part I remember most was the pre-operative care in the hospital. Before the surgery, the staff put my mind totally at ease, joking with me and making sure I was comfortable. UBC Hospital is absolutely world class."

— UMBERTO MENGHI



What's vital to Michaela? *excellence by design*

Michaela Baer

Imagine being told you would be in surgery for 22½ hours. A rare type of cancer had taken hold of Michaela Baer's cervical spine, requiring a complex web of care that involved the VGH surgical program, specialized cancer treatment, the spine unit and the ICU. Treatment began with chemotherapy to shrink the tumour and was followed by a two day surgery by Dr. Charles Fisher. After a lengthy recovery in the ICU, Dr. Fisher then performed a second surgery on Michaela. Now back to health, Michaela has her own design company, working in the health care sector on hardware and software created to support chronically ill patients at home.



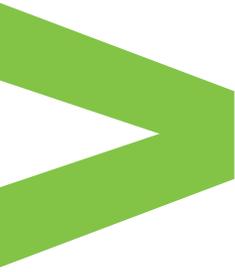
DR. CHARLES FISHER

Our surgical teams are best in class. There's almost nothing we can't handle. Complex cases like Michaela's not only require the deep expertise of a surgeon like Dr. Fisher, but highly specialized equipment and well-defined connections within multiple programs—things that can only be found together in a large hospital system. By standardizing our operating rooms, the Future of Surgery enables these complex surgeries to happen more seamlessly, ensuring patients like Michaela get the care they need, right away.

 **VGH specializes in complex cancer surgeries. More than half of our cancer patients are from outside the Vancouver area.**



"Health care requires both a team approach and highly individualized expertise. This type of surgery is not performed very often and anywhere else in BC. I was so lucky to have Dr. Fisher, an orthopaedic spine surgeon, in my corner." — MICHAELA BAER



What's vital to the Dalagan children? *their father, Willie*

Willie Dalagan

For Samuel (14), Hannah (11), Sarah (8), and their mother Michelle, the team at VGH bridged the gap to a healthy pair of lungs—and a new life—for their father Willie.

In the spring of 2016, Willie was diagnosed with severe idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Admitted to VGH, Willie and his family were advised to prepare for the worst while they waited for a suitable donor. Not content with the status quo, Willie's health care team suggested a calculated risk: a form of life support called extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), which involves circulating the blood outside the body. Normally reserved for dire emergencies, the procedure was starting to be used as a bridge to transplantation, but it had never been tried in British Columbia. Willie's otherwise excellent health made him a perfect candidate—the procedure could keep him alive as his lungs failed. Two weeks later, their risk paid off. A double lung transplant made Willie a medical first in the province and saved the Dalagan family from losing their father.



DR. JOHN YEE

*** Willie Dalagan's health care team numbered up to 60 people. Vancouver General Hospital performs more solid organ transplants than anywhere in British Columbia and is the only site for lung, liver and pancreas transplants in the province.**

"This was our first planned ECMO. It bought us time to find a suitable organ donor."

— DR. ROBERT LEVY, Medical Director of the Lung Transplant Program, British Columbia Transplant Society



The Future of Surgery

THE PAST

In 1976, a hip replacement required a two-week hospital stay, six weeks on crutches and many months of recovery. Plus, you could expect to have your hip redone 10 years later.

A ruptured aorta in the abdomen, caused by an aneurysm, can be deadly. Ten years ago, half of the patients rushed to the OR with a ruptured aorta would not make it out alive. The surgery is very complicated and the surgeons have to make a large incision to cross clamp the artery, essentially sewing it back together by hand.

Tumours of the throat—if able to be removed at all—required a 10-hour procedure followed by tube feeding, two weeks hospitalization and a risk of life-altering side effects, like difficulty swallowing and loss of taste.

THE PRESENT

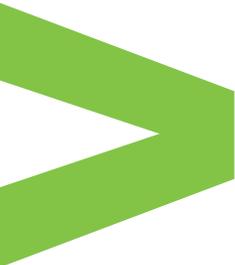
Today, you can go home within two or three days of your hip replacement, walking with a cane. After a few weeks, you can drive yourself to physiotherapy. More importantly, that hip will likely last you over 20 years.

Today, with a hybrid OR such as the one at VGH, surgeons make a small incision in the groin of the patient, put a balloon up the leg to deploy a stent and place a graft on the aorta. With this minimally invasive procedure, surgeons cut the mortality rate by saving the lives of patients suffering from a ruptured aorta.

Today, throat cancer is treated with minimally invasive robotic surgery that doesn't violate the critical muscles required for speech, swallowing and articulation. Patients are discharged within two days and return to full function within a few weeks.

...AND FUTURE

Smaller incisions, more accurate procedures, better outcomes and faster recoveries. This is **the future of surgery.**



What's vital to John? *a team that works together*

John Fleetham

A UBC Hospital physician since 1981 and the husband of a VGH nurse, Fleetham was an active cyclist, golfer, swimmer and skier, when he began to experience increasingly severe back and hip pain in 2013. "I remember going on holiday with my wife, trying to enjoy the streets of Paris while having to stop every 100 yards because of the pain."

Back in Vancouver, imaging revealed a large spinal cyst pressing on a nerve and affecting blood flow. Spinal surgery was performed by Dr. Marcel Dvorak. The morning after, Fleetham was able to walk and eventually returned to his previous level of activity. As time went by, however, the pain returned, this time due to severe arthritis. Fleetham now needed a hip replacement, but he also knew where to turn.



DR. MARCEL DVORAK

*** In 2015, UBC Hospital won the Meritorious Performing Hospital Award for outstanding surgical outcomes from the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP). It was UBC Hospital's second consecutive NSQIP award—and a first for any hospital in Canada.**

The Future of Surgery will support so much more than making the incision. Perioperative care services—providing care for patients before, during and after their surgery—make a marked difference to a patient's personal experience, outcome and recovery time. A new 40-bed perioperative care unit at VGH is an important part of our investment in the future.



"While I wasn't happy to be back up on the operating table, I knew I was in good hands again. But looking back, the doctors weren't the only ones who helped me recover from back-to-back surgeries. There were nurses who helped me through those first few nights and the physiotherapists who made me believe I could get back to my previous level of activity. And after only a few months, I was back on my bike. I am so grateful to VGH and UBC Hospital—the right place, and the right teams, both times."

— JOHN FLEETHAM

By 2031, one in four British Columbians —more than 1.3 million people—will be over the age of 65.

Let's be ready. When trauma patients like Richard can be treated in a hybrid OR, when Michaela is confident in her cancer-free future, and when people like Umberto won't need to wait for their joint replacement.

The future of surgery is immediate, high-quality care followed by a swift and complete recovery. And we can only get there with your help.

Minimally invasive technologies, state-of-the-art operating rooms and a more efficient approach to delivering your health care. It's the Future of Surgery and it's coming to British Columbia.

It's absolutely vital. And so are you.

Join us.

VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation partners with donors like you to deliver British Columbia's best, most specialized care for adults through our five sites and services:

Vancouver General Hospital

The province's number one health care referral centre and the largest and most specialized hospital in Western Canada.

UBC Hospital

Offering specialized treatment for non-life threatening emergencies and surgical care, as well as cardiology, imaging services, extended care, bladder care, brain health, sleep disorders and neurology.

GF Strong Rehab Centre

There for you when life changes in an instant—the province's most comprehensive rehabilitation centre for people with spinal cord or brain injuries.

Vancouver Community Health Services

Providing care for newborns to elders, right in your neighbourhood through health promotion, disease prevention, rehabilitation and palliative care.

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute

One of Canada's top-funded health research institutes for new treatments and cures, including the Vancouver Prostate Centre, Blusson Spinal Cord Centre, the Centre for Hip Health & Mobility and the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health.



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