



BC WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
& HEALTH CENTRE
*An agency of the Provincial
Health Services Authority*



Mandate

BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre provides comprehensive maternal/fetal/newborn and specialized women's health services that address the needs of women of all ages and backgrounds and their families.

Vision: Improving the odds: better health for all women.

Mission: Lead the way to best practice for women, infants and families.

BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre Dedicated to the health of women, newborns and families

How we serve BC

BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre is the only facility in the province providing a comprehensive range of primary, secondary and tertiary services for women, newborns and their families.

BC Women's is one of Canada's busiest maternity centres. It is a resource for BC women with high-risk pregnancies and is one of the maternity service providers for the Vancouver Coastal health region. In addition, BC Women's offers specialized health services for women of all ages who live in BC, encompassing service delivery and provincial outreach activities. Within each program, BC Women's is committed to maintaining and continuously improving quality and safety for women, newborns, and families.

BC Women's also provides provincial leadership in developing, maintaining and participating in effective networks of partners who share the goal of better health for women and their families.

Before birth and after

Services at BC Women's include:

- All levels of maternity care, including care for women with high-risk pregnancies
- A tertiary/quaternary neonatal intensive care unit
- Prenatal care and prenatal diagnosis and counselling, including ultrasound and amniocentesis
- A medical genetics program addressing genetic diseases and providing counselling before, during and after pregnancy
- Support of physically challenged women during pregnancy and beyond
- Detox and harm reduction programs for substance-using women and their babies
- Midwifery and family practice maternity services for women during pregnancy
- Home care for women with pregnancy complications to help them avoid a long stay in hospital

For women of all ages

BC Women's has many health centre-based and community outreach programs addressing specific health issues of BC women. Programs include:

- On-site and outreach programs for aboriginal women
- Residential and day treatment for women recovering from substance dependency
- A breast health program and a breast screening partnership with the BC Cancer Agency
- A comprehensive abortion and reproductive education (CARE) program providing services for women with unintended pregnancies
- A centre dedicated to the care of women and children with HIV
- An education and support program for women with incontinence
- An osteoporosis program for women and men
- A comprehensive reproductive medicine program for problems such as recurrent pregnancy loss, infertility, early menopause and menstrual irregularities
- A comprehensive reproductive mental health program
- A sexual assault service providing sensitive, individualized care to youth (13 and older) and adults

- Gynaecological day surgery
- The UBC Centre for Reproductive Health addressing infertility problems

Beyond direct care

Women's health needs go beyond hospital care. BC Women's meets this challenge by:

- Contributing to a range of public education activities on topics such as breast health and osteoporosis
- Partnering with aboriginal women to create support for health programs in their communities
- Contributing to policy development, service planning and clinical guidelines in the areas of maternity and specialized women's health

Research and education

BC Women's contributes to the education of future health professionals involved in maternity, newborn and specialized women's health care. The research arm of BC Women's is the Women's Health Research Institute (WHRI), whose mandate is to support research activities to improve the health and health care of women throughout BC. BC Women's and the WHRI also work in collaboration with the Child & Family Research Institute, the UBC Departments of Family Practice, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health located on site.

By the numbers A year at BC Women's*

Patient's Health Authority	Births	Babies in Neonatal Intensive Care**	Day-surgeries	Clinic services
Fraser	1,896	222	1,777	14,104
Interior	43	80	139	1,193
Northern	53	61	35	577
Vancouver Coastal	5,686	273	1,762	25,426
Vancouver Island	48	44	51	640
Other***	32	17	38	1,137
Total	7,758	697	3,802	43,077

*Statistics are for fiscal year 2006/07

**BCW NICU – includes only those babies in the Level 2 and Level 3 Intensive Care Nursery and excludes those in the Level 2 Intermediate Care Nursery

***Other – patients whose health authority is out of province or unknown.



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