

oneVCH COVID-19 Bulletin

January 27, 2022

COVID-19



Hockey arena erupts with cheers for VGH Acute Medicine Unit staff

On November 21, 2021, Bhavina Kuber, Nurse Clinician and Silvia Nobrega, Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE) shared a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Representing their teams, the two were honoured as Canucks *Fan Heroes* for their tireless work during the pandemic – before cranking the siren to a cheering crowd ahead of the first-period puck drop.

As members of Vancouver General Hospital's (VGH) Acute Medicine Units (AMUs), Bhavina and Silvia represented over 150 of their colleagues, including: medical staff, nurses, allied health professionals, care aides, unit clerks, and leaders as well as staff from Crothall, Sodexo and Area Supply. The recognition of these units is well deserved as this team has played a pivotal role on the front lines of the pandemic, adapting to a new disease and caring for patients hospitalized with COVID-19.

"Having our units recognized at the Canucks game was so generous and kind," said Silvia. "Over the last two years, AMU team members have worked together to provide care for our community in the midst of a new disease."

[Read the full story here →](#)

COVID-19

Vancouver Coastal Health to close temporary testing site at UBC Life Sciences Centre

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) will close its COVID-19 testing site located at the UBC Life Sciences Centre effective Thursday Jan. 27. This site was established as a temporary testing location on Dec. 24 to support other Vancouver-based sites from late December through to Jan. 2022.

VCH continues to offer a variety of COVID-19 testing options in Vancouver for those who are eligible for testing. Anyone who is eligible to get tested can attend any VCH testing site without an appointment. A list of testing site locations is available on [the BCCDC website](#).

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and are unsure if you are eligible for testing, you are advised to complete [B.C.'s COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#). Those with symptoms such as chest pain or difficulty breathing should contact their health-care provider or visit their local emergency department for immediate medical attention.

VCH appreciates the support and dedication of frontline workers and UBC leadership who rapidly mobilized and maintained this testing site for the past month. VCH remains committed to ensuring those at higher risk of serious illness, or those who live or work in high-risk settings continue to receive low-barrier access to testing services.

Vancouver Coastal Health is responsible for the delivery of \$4.1 billion in community, hospital and long-term care to more than one million people in communities including Richmond, Vancouver, the North Shore, Sunshine Coast, Sea to Sky corridor, Powell River, Bella Bella and Bella Coola. VCH also provides specialized care and services for people throughout B.C., and is the province's hub of health-care education and research.

MEDICAL STAFF (PHYSICIANS, NURSE PRACTITIONERS, MIDWIVES, DENTISTS)

Medical Staff Q&A

Q: Should fully vaccinated people who were infected with Omicron and recovered, delay their booster dose, to provide better coverage?

A: This has come up about COVID-19 in general, and not just Omicron – you can get the booster as soon as you are recovered from the acute COVID-19 illness. There may be some theoretical benefit in waiting for a short period of time, knowing that you'll have some period of protection.

Children who have MIS-C (multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children) must be fully recovered, and must also wait 90 days after their illness, before getting the booster.

The question & answer were generated during the Jan. 19 Medical Staff Forum. If you missed the session, the link to the Jan. 19 Forum video recording will be available on the [Medical Staff COVID-19 intranet](#). (We respectfully request that you do not share the link). The session transcript and slides, as well as those from previous forums, will also be available on the intranet.

oneVCH VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

Did you miss today's oneVCH town hall?

To watch the virtual town hall, please click the link below.

[VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH COVID-19 TOWN HALL UPDATE – JANUARY 27, 2022 11:00 AM WEBCAST](#)

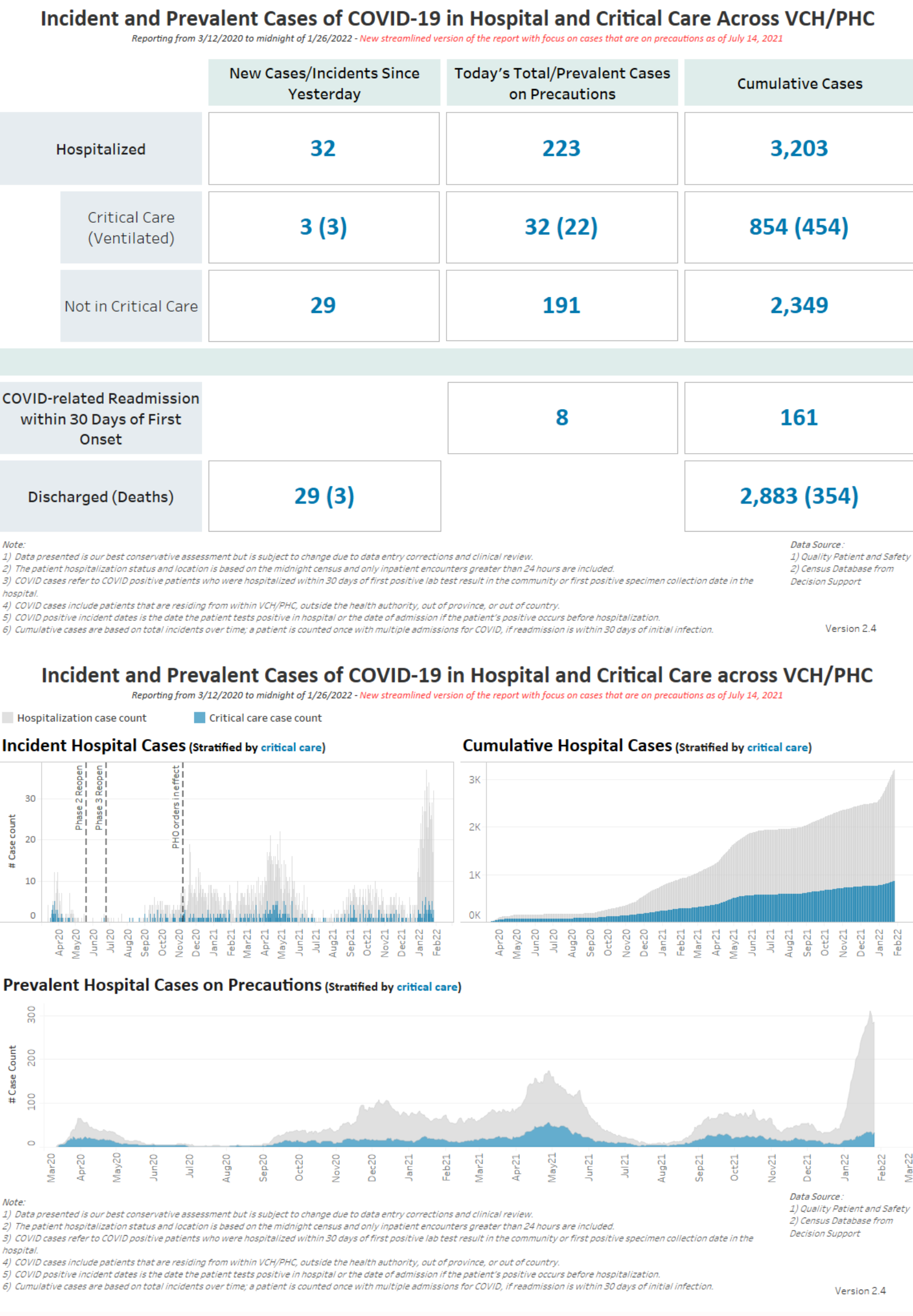
Here are some articles referenced by Dr. Patricia Daly during today's town hall:

- [Nature: The Coronavirus is here to stay — here's what that means](#)
- [BBC: Endemic Covid: Is the pandemic entering its end game?](#)

COVID-19 DATA

COVID-19 data, including for long-term care, assisted living and independent living sites, is available on the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) website, including outbreak and case information.

[BC COVID-19 Dashboard →](#)



KEY LINKS

[Text Alerts: Physician sign up keyword: COVID19](#)

[Text Alerts: Staff sign up keyword: ALERT](#)

[Staff supports during COVID-19](#)

[Medical staff resources during COVID-19](#)

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- [BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- [Wellness Together Canada: Mental Health and Substance Use Support](#)
- [COVID-19 Multilingual Resources](#)
- [LifeWorks Employee and Family Assistance Program Services](#)
- [VCH Virtual Health website](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\) website](#): Staff resources on how to assess, test and treat patients and protect patients and staff.
- [Infection Prevention and Control Policy](#): Ministry of Health
- [VCH Regional Pandemic Outbreak Response Plan](#): VCH Communicable Disease Control website
- [VCH Intranet](#): COVID-19 updates

REGIONAL EOC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES

- [COVID-19 VCH-PHC Regional EOC](#)

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?

[Please click here to submit questions or comments.](#)

REMINDER ABOUT MEDIA

If you receive a media inquiry, please contact our Public Affairs team immediately for support. Our media line is **604-202-2012** or email media@vch.ca.

The bulletins are distributed on Thursdays. Past bulletins are available on the [COVID-19 section of our VCH staff intranet](#).

Vancouver Coastal Health

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