

oneVCH COVID-19 Bulletin

February 10, 2022



Best employer VCH recognized as one of B.C.'s Top 100 Employers for 2022

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) has been recognized as a B.C. Top Employer by Mediacorp Canada Inc. in their [Top 100 Employers 2022 list](#). This special designation recognizes British Columbia employers that are industry leaders in being exceptional places to work.

This announcement follows the Forbes announcement made last month and MediaCorp's announcement on Canada's Top Employers made late last year.

[Read the full story →](#)

Health-care worker vaccinations

Update on vaccination requirement for health professionals

In follow up to the notice given to health professionals in October 2021, the Provincial Health Officer is finalizing, in consultation with all health professional colleges, an order that requires all regulated health professionals to be vaccinated by March 24, 2022, to work in their occupation in British Columbia.

The purpose of this Provincial Health Officer order is to protect patients from being infected with SARS-CoV-2 virus by unvaccinated health professionals, as well as to minimize the number of people being hospitalized or dying because of the virus. This order will ensure patients have confidence they are protected in all health-care settings and will align with the existing requirements for health-care workers working in long-term, acute and community care.

The order provides the colleges the tools they need to collect information about the vaccination status of their registrants and to communicate to registrants who have not confirmed their vaccination status that they may not provide health services. Colleges must then follow up and investigate any instances where health professionals continue to provide health services not in compliance with the order.

Under the order, regulated health professionals who are vaccinated with one dose before March 24, 2022, may continue to work as long as they receive a second dose 28 to 35 days after their first dose.

[Read the full news release →](#)

IMITS

Reminder: planned system-wide outage on Feb. 13

On Sunday, Feb. 13 from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 14, the [network will be down at all health authority sites across the province](#). This planned Code Grey is required to upgrade equipment in four key data centres that support clinical systems across the province.

All staff, clinicians and physicians across the province's health organizations working from 7 p.m. on Feb. 13 to 6 a.m. on Feb. 14 will be impacted.

During this time, all clinical and corporate applications and systems will be unavailable. Please visit [PHSA's POD](#) (network access required) for a more detailed list of affected applications.

All impacted areas will be instructed to use their downtime procedures and refrain from using their workstations for the duration of the upgrade, unless directed otherwise by their leaders. By using downtime procedures, the impacts to patient-care systems can be better managed. Following the upgrade, staff will not experience changes to how systems function.

More information will be shared in advance of the outage. If you have any concerns, please speak with your unit or medical leader.



COVID-19 vaccines for children Facebook live Q&A with Dr. Meena Dawar - Feb. 11

Join Dr. Meena Dawar, VCH Medical Health Officer, for a Facebook live event on Feb. 11 at 1 p.m. to learn about COVID-19 vaccinations for children aged 5-11.

[FACEBOOK LIVE](#)

COVID-19

Q&A for medical staff (physicians, nurse practitioners, midwives & dentists)

Question: How effective are Moderna and Pfizer vaccines/boosters against the omicron variant? Is Moderna more readily available?

Answer: The two mRNA vaccines and boosters are effective; for most people it doesn't make too much difference whether they have a Moderna or Pfizer booster. The Moderna booster is generally being used as a half dose, although for some groups, it is suggested that a full dose of the Moderna booster may be slightly more effective in terms of the immune response – individuals older than 70, individuals with significant immune suppression and people living in long-term care. It is a small potential improvement on something that's already going to be effective.

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

oneVCH virtual medical staff forum

Upcoming oneVCH virtual medical staff forum - Feb. 16

An update on long-COVID and COVID-19 Q&A

Date: Feb. 16, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. – Virtual Medical Staff Forum (physicians, midwives, nurse practitioners, dentists).

Join us for a presentation from Dr. Zachary Schwartz, Medical Director, Post-COVID-19 Recovery Clinic, VGH on long-COVID, as well as a COVID-19 update and live Q&A session.

Panelists: Dr. Chad Kim Sing (host), Dr. Ross Brown, Dr. Patricia Daly, Vivian Eliopoulos, Dr. Zachary Schwartz and Dr. Titus Wong

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Submit questions in advance using the [Zoom registration link](#), or via email to: Darren.niger@vch.ca.

See [VCH Medical Staff Intranet](#) for previous medical staff forum recordings, slides, and important links.

oneVCH virtual town hall

Did you miss today's oneVCH town hall?

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

[VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH COVID-19 TOWN HALL UPDATE – FEBRUARY 10, 2022 11:00 AM WEBCAST](#)

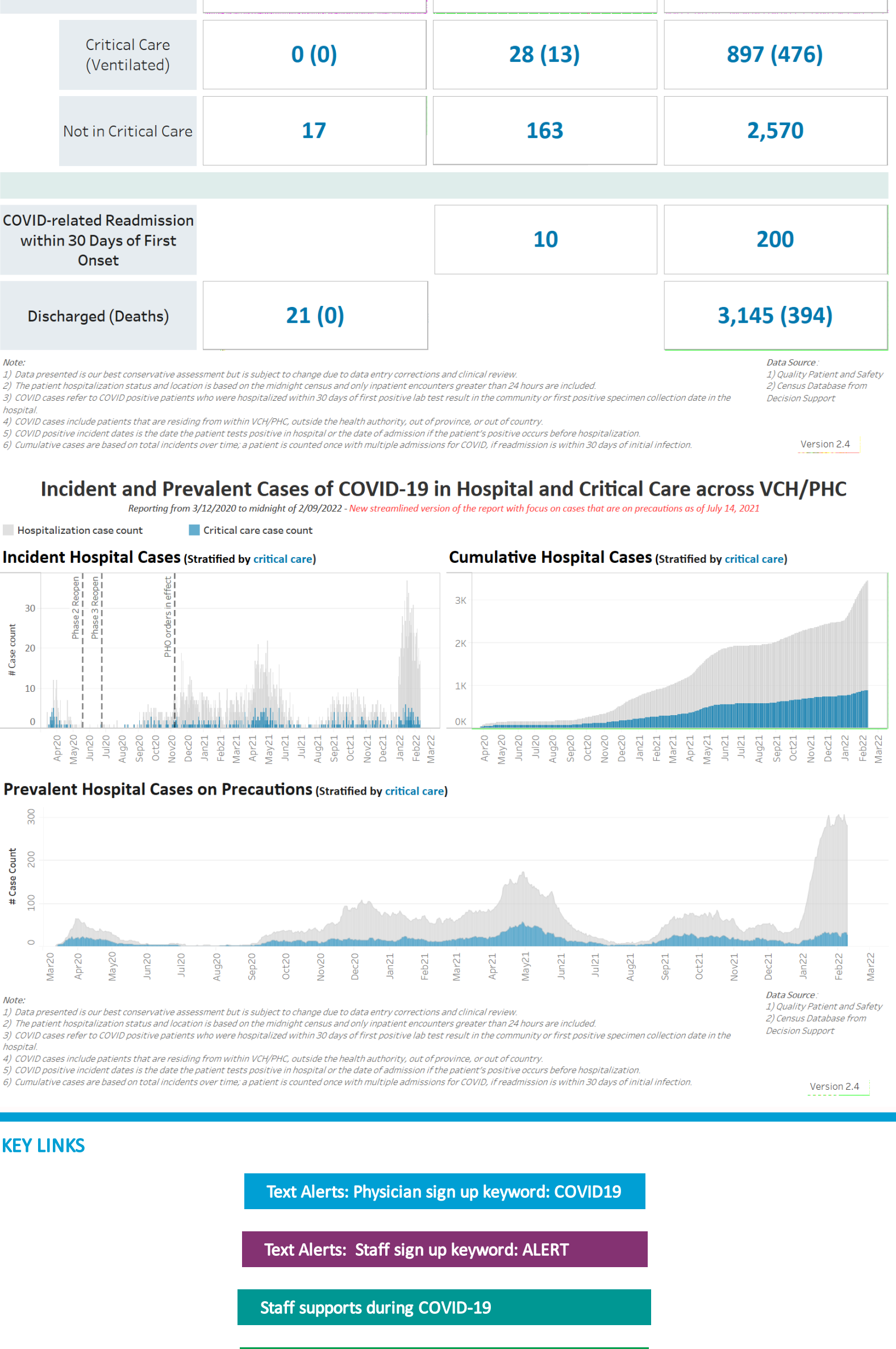
Here is the LearningHub module Dr. Patricia Daly referenced during today's town hall:

- [Resisting Stigma on Substance Use and the Downtown Eastside](#)

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 \(IPC\) 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 | **one VCH**



Copyright © 2021 Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. All rights reserved.