

oneVCH COVID-19 Bulletin

May 5, 2022



COVID-19

We See You

While the past two years have been difficult, we want all VCH staff and medical staff to know that every action you’ve taken, big or small, has helped to get us all through this pandemic.

On April 28, VCH held a special town hall where leaders came together to share stories from the last two years, and to recognize staff and medical staff for your incredible contributions over the course of the pandemic. We also shared an important message—we see you.

Over the course of the pandemic, VCH administered over 3 million vaccines across the region, with 93 per cent of eligible people in our region receiving at least one dose, and over 900,000 COVID-19 tests. This is a huge accomplishment and every one of you contributed to this success. We see you, and we thank you.

You can [watch the replay of this town hall on oneVCH](#).

Watch the full video: We See You →

COVID-19 REOC Bulletin

REOC Bulletin updates will now move to oneVCH newsletter

After more than two years of providing important and timely COVID-19 updates through the REOC Bulletin, VCH will transition to sharing any updates through the [oneVCH newsletter](#). These stories will be tagged #COVID19 and prominently featured on a weekly basis.

The Regional Emergency Operation Centre members would like to extend a warm thanks to everyone who contributed to the bulletin and to our dedicated readers.

COVID-19 treatment

Update on Paxlovid prescribing

Physicians across the province continue to prescribe Paxlovid to those who are infected with COVID-19 and are at higher risk of serious outcomes. As drug-drug interactions have been identified with the use of Paxlovid, [please ensure you complete the online Paxlovid Rx form](#). This provides pharmacies with the essential information needed to confirm your patient is eligible, and also ensures the medication is dispensed quickly, so that patients can begin their treatment within the clinical time frame. [For more information: Plan Z \(or ZE\) – nirmatrelvir/ritonavir \(Paxlovid™\)](#).



Surgical renewal

B.C. continues catch up on surgeries postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic

In its second year of delivering on its surgical renewal commitment to patients, B.C. has exceeded its pre-pandemic volume of surgeries.

The surgical renewal commitment is B.C.’s commitment to deliver surgeries that were postponed because of COVID-19, to schedule and deliver surgeries that were not scheduled because of COVID-19, to deliver surgeries fastest to those who need them most, and to change the way surgeries are delivered in B.C.

Read the full news release →

COVID-19

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

Question: What is the current strategy around dealing with potential new COVID-19 variants?

Answer: We are confident in the surveillance system we have in place to recognize new variants and respond in turn. We are fortunate that our provincial health laboratory – the BC Centre for Disease Control – has been doing whole genome sequencing throughout the pandemic, and they distribute a report each week on the variants in circulation. We will continue to do PCR testing to monitor such variants, as well as wastewater surveillance, and we will adjust public health recommendations accordingly.

In addition, we are one of only two provinces which have real-time vaccine effectiveness, and we will continue to measure this against new variants.

The question and answer were generated at the April 20 Medical Staff Forum. The session slides and important links, as well as those from previous forums, will be available on the [VCH Medical Staff Intranet](#).

Medical staff forum

Upcoming medical staff forum to focus on Indigenous health and COVID-19

Join us for a presentation from Dr. Don Wilson, Regional Medical Director for Indigenous Health and first Indigenous member of the Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee (HAMAC), on cultural safety and the latest Indigenous Health initiatives at Vancouver Coastal Health. There will also be a COVID-19 update and live Q&A session.

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

Date and time: June 15, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Topic: Indigenous Health and COVID-19 updates

REGISTER HERE

Submit questions in advance using the registration link, or via email to: darren.piper@vch.ca.

See [VCH Medical Staff Intranet](#) for content from previous medical staff forums.

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.

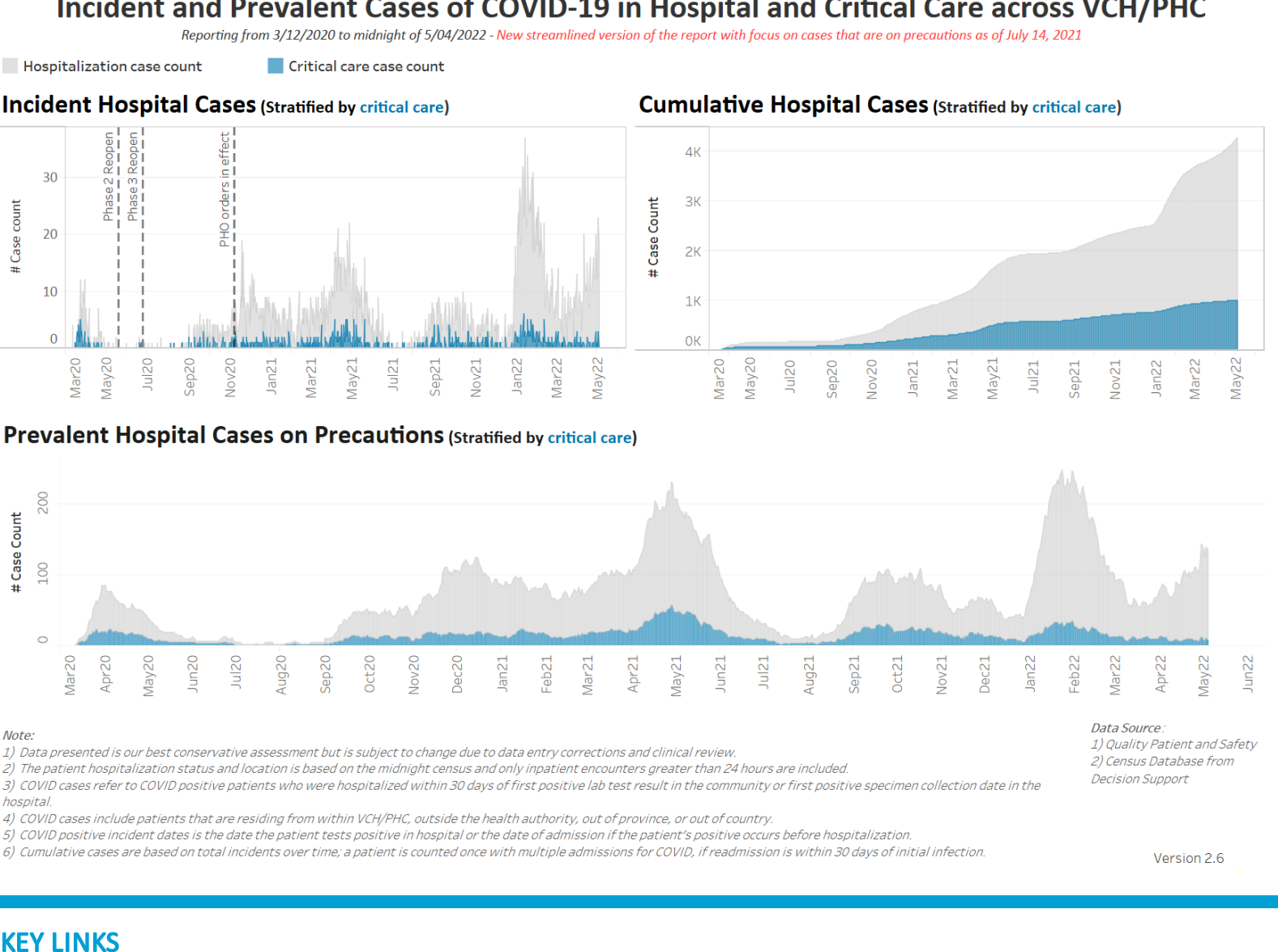
BC COVID-19 Dashboard →

Incident and Prevalent Cases of COVID-19 in Hospital and Critical Care Across VCH/PHC			
Reporting from 3/12/2020 to midnight of 5/04/2022 - <i>New streamlined version of the report with focus on cases that are on precautions as of July 14, 2021</i>			
	New Cases/Incidents Since Yesterday	Today's Total/Prevalent Cases on Precautions	Cumulative Cases
Hospitalized	18	127	4,280
Critical Care (Ventilated)	0 (0)	8 (5)	1,010 (523)
Not in Critical Care	18	119	3,270
COVID-related Readmission within 30 Days of First Onset		3	286
Discharged (Deaths)	15 (0)		4,067 (508)

Note: 1) Data presented is our best conservative assessment but is subject to change due to data entry corrections and clinical review. 2) The patient hospitalization status and location is based on the midnight census and only inpatient encounters greater than 24 hours are included. 3) COVID cases refer to COVID positive patients who were hospitalized within 30 days of first positive lab test result in the community or first positive specimen collection date in the hospital. 4) COVID cases include patients that are residing from within VCH/PHC, outside the health authority, out of province, or out of country. 5) COVID positive incident dates is the date the patient tests positive in hospital or the date of admission if the patient's positive occurs before hospitalization. 6) Cumulative cases are based on total incidents over time, a patient is counted once with multiple admissions for COVID, if readmission is within 30 days of initial infection.

Data Source: 1) Quality Patient and Safety 2) Census Database from Decision Support

Version 2.6



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](#).