

**a place of mind**



**Pediatric Emergency Medicine**  
**Fellowship Program**

British Columbia's Children's Hospital  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

**Mission:** To train leaders in Pediatric Emergency Medicine\_ensuring that children and youth receive the best possible pediatric emergency medical care.

**Introduction:**

The UBC Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship program has been in place since July 1992, and was accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in January 2002, February 2007 and Mar 2014. Our program provides a supportive, enriching and diverse learning environment where trainees are allowed to learn and grow to their utmost potential. We aim to attract and develop highly motivated, intelligent and exceptional fellows who will become leaders in the field of Pediatric Emergency Medicine.

The majority of the program takes place in the Emergency Department of British Columbia's Children's Hospital the province's only acute care pediatric hospital. It is affiliated with The University of British Columbia. The hospital has 92 beds. It is officially recognized as a level one-trauma center for pediatric patients in British Columbia. The Emergency Department has 43,000 annual visits.

**Requirements for the Pediatric Emergency Fellowship Program:**

**Canadian medical graduates** must have completed either 3 years of general pediatrics or 4 years of adult emergency medicine residency training recognized by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in order to begin training in the program.

**International medical graduates** must have completed their general pediatric or emergency medicine training and certification in their home country in order to apply to the program. Please note that only those

All applicants must have taken the Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) course and Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) courses prior to commencing the fellowship.

**Program Description:**

The pediatric emergency medicine (PEM) fellowship program is a two-year program meeting the criteria for RCPSC certification in Pediatric Emergency Medicine. All fellows with RCPSC certification in Pediatrics or Emergency Medicine who successfully complete the program will be eligible to sit the RCPSC certifying exam in Pediatric emergency medicine. All fellows who successfully complete the fellowship will receive a certificate of completion from the University of British Columbia. An option for a third year of fellowship may be available for interested candidates who wish to pursue a specific area of interest in Pediatric Emergency Medicine and/or pursue American Board of Pediatrics certification in PEM.

**Description of the program:**

The goal of the BC Children's Hospital PEM Fellowship Program is to train individuals to function at a leadership level in an academic Pediatric Emergency Department. Responsibilities are graduated in keeping with the individual's progress and are divided into four areas:

- 1) Clinical Care
- 2) Research
- 3) Teaching
- 4) Administration

A typical outline of the program is appended. Each Fellow's schedule is individualized to meet their training needs. The main structure however is designed to meet the requirements for Royal College certification in Pediatric Emergency Medicine.

**Clinical Care:** You will spend an average of six months a year in the Pediatric Emergency and will be required to gradually assume increasing responsibilities. An attending physician will supervise your activities on site 24 hours a day. The rest of your training will be on subspecialty rotations aimed at increasing knowledge and procedural skills in key pediatric emergency medicine specific areas: orthopedics, plastic surgery, toxicology, transport medicine etc.

While functioning in the emergency department, it is expected that you take a senior role in treatment of the most difficult cases arriving in the emergency department, and a supervisory and teaching role in reviewing cases with the medical students and other residents.

By the second year it is anticipated that you will be able to take a leadership role in the emergency department by assuming full responsibility for its smooth functioning: essentially, you will take on the role of the attending staff.

Given the high volume of activity in the department we can guarantee that you will have the opportunity to receive exposure to a large number of acutely ill medical and surgical patients. The acute care aspect of patient care is supplemented by the clinical time spent in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. In addition to the rotations mentioned above, you will have additional opportunities to complete rotations in adult trauma, adult emergency medicine, anesthesia, as well as plenty of elective time to pursue rotations locally or abroad.

**Education and Teaching:** As a Fellow you will be able to participate in a large number of educational activities both as a learner and as an educator. The educational activities of the department include:

- Weekly protected teaching fellow academic half day including journal club, interesting cases, mortality review, core curriculum, research, administration, quality improvement, radiology rounds, joint ICU rounds and trauma rounds
- Weekly pediatric simulation sessions including a comprehensive pediatric resuscitation/simulation curriculum designed to expose fellows to the wide range of potential resuscitation cases
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support Course – Instructor’s Course
- Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS)
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine Conference – hosted yearly in April
- Novel education in Research Design course (NERD block)
- Supervision of trainees in the Emergency Department

The full time attending staff in the emergency department is responsible for the teaching of the Pediatric Emergency Fellows. It will quickly be seen, however, that all the resources in the hospital as well as the UBC Department of Emergency medicine are enlisted to help with the fellow teaching goals. We are fortunate in having a full complement of backup subspecialty teams, and we are proud to have several leaders in the various fields of acute care medicine.

**Research:** Scholarly activity is a compulsory part of our program. Under the leadership of the Research Director, you will be required to complete a scholarly project of your choice within the fellowship program. Scholarly projects may include research, development of a clinical guideline or protocol, an education project or a quality improvement initiative. Fellows will be taught critical appraisal skills and research methodology through the NERD course, a novel course offered in collaboration with the Department of Emergency medicine. Fellows also have access to research funding and statistical support through the onsite Child and Family Research Institute. This project must be presented internally at the Research Day of the Dept of Pediatrics or Dept of Emergency Medicine. Fellows are strongly encouraged to present their finished projects at a national meeting and/or to submit a paper for publication.

**Administration:** To be successful, the Emergency Medicine physician must have administration skills and be well organized. The administrative program involves rotational responsibility for administrative activities in the emergency department. At some time during the Fellowship, you will be appointed the role of Chief Fellow. During this time, you will take responsibility for the fellow's ER roster and for organizing fellow core teaching rounds.

**Space and Resources:** Office space (with a computer, printer and Internet connection) is available in the PED, to be shared amongst the Fellows.. There is also a work area/conference room equipped with a computer, printer and Internet connection adjacent to the PED. An up to date collection of pediatric emergency medicine textbooks has been purchased for the fellow's library. A LCD projector and a laptop computer are available for presentations. Secretarial support is available through the PEM program assistant for hospital related tasks.

**A few words about our faculty:** The department currently has fifteen full time faculty. We are an enthusiastic group dedicated to the goal of promoting pediatric emergency medicine locally, nationally and internationally. We serve on multiple hospital committees, UBC committees, and a variety of regional, national and international committees. Our work includes: planning for emergency medical services in the city and province, committees of the Canadian Pediatric Society and the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians, committees of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the leadership in the BC medical association. It is hoped that this staff background will allow us to pass on these various experiences to all our fellows.

**About British Columbia's Children's Hospital:** As the province's only acute-care, pediatric hospital, B.C.'s Children's Hospital is the child health referral centre for British Columbia and the Yukon Territory, dealing with a wide range of medical and mental health issues.

Responsible for the health and well being of children between the ages of birth and 17 years, B.C.'s Children's Hospital receives over 150,000 patient visits a year, 65% of whom come from outside of Vancouver. The BCCH Emergency Department handles 43,000 visits per year. To accommodate over 100,000 ambulatory outpatient visits each year, BCCH opened the new Ambulatory Care Centre in 2002. A new acute care building is currently under construction with a planned opening in 2017.

**The University of British Columbia and the Faculty of Medicine:** The first class of UBC medical students entered in 1950 and graduated in 1954. The UBC Faculty of Medicine currently has 440 full-time faculty, 50 part-time faculty and 2070 clinical faculty, appointed in seventeen Departments and two Schools. Our faculties are recipients of many awards for excellence in teaching, as well as numerous national and international research awards. In fulfillment of our mission, we strive for excellence in education and research.

**Summary:** We believe that we can provide an excellent opportunity for the energetic physician who wishes to become a leader in pediatric emergency medicine. The resources are available and waiting for the keen trainee. If you would like to discuss this opportunity further, we would be pleased to hear from you. Thank you for showing an interest in Pediatric Emergency Medicine and our Program.

**Please direct initial inquiries to:**

**Dr. Vikram (Vik) Sabhaney**  
Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship Program Director  
E-mail: [vsabhaney@cw.bc.ca](mailto:vsabhaney@cw.bc.ca)

## Sample Schedule

### Pediatric Emergency Medicine – Sample Year 1 (each block of 4 weeks)

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Anesthesia
- NERD block (Research)
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Plastic surgery
- Elective\*
- Adult ER
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Orthopedics
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine

### Pediatric Emergency Medicine – Sample Year 2 (each block of 4 weeks)

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pre-Hospital Care (half block of 2 weeks)
- Pediatric Radiology (half block of 2 weeks)
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Elective\*
- Toxicology
- Pediatric Critical care
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Elective\*
- Adult Trauma
- Research
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine

\* Possible electives include: Child protection, Pediatric radiology, additional PEM training at another centre, international health experiences, ENT, simulation, Sports Medicine. Other experiences can be arranged with approval of the Program Director

## **HISTORY OF SUBSPECIALTY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Year Started</b>
Dr. M. Colbourne	1992
Dr. C. Davies	1992
Dr. M.Al Omar	1998
Dr. N.Dehghani	1999
Dr. S. Al Tamimi	2000
Dr. F. Al Hammad	2001
Dr. S. Khangura	2002
Dr. M. Al Hajooj	2002
Dr. Zoe Leatherbarrow	2002
Dr. A. Yousif	2003
Dr. M. Clarke	2003
Dr. Lisa Dyke	2004
Dr. Mohammed Al Othman	2004
Dr. Mohammed Abu Aish	2004
Dr. Quynh Doan	2006
Dr. Jonathan Guilfoyle	2006
Dr. Caroline Ouellet	2007
Dr. Allan Shefrin	2007
Dr. Lina Al-bakri	2007
Dr. Adam Bretholz	2007
Dr. Rini Jain	2008
Dr. Jeff Bishop	2008
Dr. Abdullah AlQahtani	2008
Dr. Michael Pierse	2009
Dr. Fayez Al Harthi	2009
Dr. Jennifer Graham	2009
Dr. Maher Nahari	2010
Dr. Gene Ong	2010
Dr. Dayna Bell	2010
Dr. Jasmine Allaire	2010
Dr. Vik Sabhaney	2011
Dr. Hazem Al Hazmi	2011
Dr. Melissa Chan	2012
Dr. Elissa Mapelli	2012
Dr. Genevieve Ernst	2013
Dr. Roaa AlNassir	2014
Dr. Kate Fathi	2014
Dr. Pavan Judge	2014
Dr. Badri Narayan	2014

## About Vancouver

Although Vancouver is a relative newcomer among North America's major cities, its history goes back for centuries. Archeological evidence shows that the original inhabitants of the area were the Coast Salish First Nations, who arrived around 500 B.C., and whose culture and language survive to this day. British Naval Captain George Vancouver explored the area in 1792, and after establishing a vibrant and prosperous settlement, a city was incorporated in his name in 1886.

Today, Greater Vancouver has a total population of 1.8 million, making it the third largest urban area in Canada. Vancouver is Canada's major Pacific port, and home to a variety of industries: lumber, paper, shipbuilding, food processing, and metal products. Vancouver is also a major centre for film and television production, and is quickly developing a presence in such diverse high-technology fields as computer software and fuel cells. The University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University are the two Universities in Greater Vancouver.

Vancouver is renowned throughout the world for its astonishing natural setting. The Coast Mountains overlook the city, which is surrounded on three sides by Burrard Inlet, English Bay, and the Fraser River. Vancouver's climate is among the mildest in Canada, ranging from 3°C in January to 22°C in July. Average precipitation is 1,219 mm, most of which occurs during the winter months. The mild weather makes Vancouver one of the few places in the world where one can go golfing and skiing during the same day. Vancouver is consistently ranked one of the top three most liveable cities in the world.

As Canada's Gateway to the Pacific, Vancouver has developed an eclectic mix of cultures over the past few decades. Vancouver's international outlook helped the city stage a World's Fair in 1986, and the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Vancouver has a tremendous variety of shops and restaurants, as well as such popular attractions as Stanley Park, the Granville Island Market, and the Vancouver Art Gallery. The city's calendar of events is packed with exciting cultural and sporting highlights: The Celebration of Light Fireworks, The Vancouver Film Festival, The Dragon Boat Festival, Lunar New Year, The Pacific National Exhibition, the Vancouver Indy, and the Cloverdale Rodeo are just samples of what Vancouverites look forward to.

Vancouver is a relatively easy city to get around in, thanks to the compact size dictated by its natural barriers, and its extensive transit system. Buses run frequently in the City, with easy connections to and from B.C.'s Children's Hospital. The Skytrain connects Vancouver to the neighboring cities of Burnaby, New Westminster, Surrey, and Coquitlam. The Seabus provides a scenic 15-minute trip from Downtown Vancouver to the North Shore across Burrard Inlet. Those who explore beyond Greater Vancouver find it is also an easy city to get out of. B.C. Ferries operates vehicle and passenger routes to Victoria, the Gulf Islands, and the Sunshine Coast. World-class skiing at Whistler is only two hours from Vancouver via the Sea-to-Sky Highway.

More information about Vancouver can be found at: <http://www.tourism-vancouver.org>

## APPLICATION PROCESS

**This application process applies to INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS ONLY. All Canadian residents or Canadian citizens training in the USA please check the CaRMS website ([www.carms.ca](http://www.carms.ca)) for application and match details (different deadlines apply).**

The deadline for application for the PEM Fellowship is **March 31** of the year prior to the starting date (typically July 1<sup>st</sup>). Please note that we cannot guarantee funding for International Medical Graduates – international applicants will be evaluated yearly for potential funding on a case by case basis. We will gladly accept applications from international trainees that have their own funding.

### **Application Materials:**

The following are required:

1. A one-page personal statement which gives us a sense of who you are and why a career in Pediatric Emergency Medicine would suit you.
2. Three letters of reference: These letters should be confidential, and addressed to:

#### **Rhea Ignacio**

PEM Program Assistant  
Division of Emergency Medicine  
K4- 159 - 4480 Oak Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6H 3V4

One letter must be from your residency program director and one must be from someone who knows your emergency department work well.

3. A transcript of academic courses in medical school and/or Dean's letter of reference.
4. Documents certifying the applicant's degree(s) if not indicated on the academic transcript.
5. Photocopies of certificates held (i.e. LMCC's, USMLE, National Board, PALS, ATLS, ACLS) and/or copies of statements of results.
6. Recent passport size photographs (3) signed/identified on back.
7. Brief curriculum vitae (please include 2 copies - one for us and one for the Dean's office).
8. Proof of English proficiency:

All physicians practicing medicine in British Columbia must be able to speak, read and write English fluently. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC requires proof of English proficiency from all applicants. Candidates are considered to have met the proficiency requirements if:

- a) the language of instruction at medical school was English, and
- b) the primary language of patient care was English, and
- c) the first and native language of the country where the candidate was trained is English



All candidates who do not meet these criteria must submit proof of English proficiency satisfactory to the College. Acceptable proof includes one of the following:

- a [TOEFL iBT](#) (internet-based test) with a total score of 96 with 24 in each of the four sections. A TOEFL score is valid for a period of two years from the date taken and must be submitted with the application.
- an Academic IELTS with a minimum score of 7 in each component with an overall band score of no less than 7.

Please see the CPSBC website for more details (<https://www.cpsbc.ca/physicians-area/registration>)

*Please note that we are unable to consider any application without proof of English proficiency.*

We recognize that this is a lot of paperwork and are willing to help in any way we can. The web site at <http://www.med.ubc.ca/postgrad> is extremely helpful in terms of the various regulations and application procedures.

**PEM Fellowship Application Checklist (to be included with application)**

- Your name: \_\_\_\_\_
- A one-page personal statement.
- Three (3) letters of reference (please fill in table below):

Referee Title	Name	Phone Number	E-mail Address
Residency Program Director			
Emergency Department Attending			
Physician Other			

- A transcript of academic courses in medical school and/or Dean's letter of reference.
- Documents certifying the applicant's degrees if not indicated on the academic transcript.
- Photocopies of certificates held (i.e. LMCC's, USMLE, National Board, PALS, ATLS) and/or copies of statements of results.
- Three (3) recent passport size photographs signed/identified on back.
- Proof of TOEFL/IELTS English Language Proficiency exam.
- Two (2) copies of curriculum vitae (one for PEM Fellowship Director, one for Dean's Office).
- A completed copy of this PEM Fellowship Application Checklist.

**Please mail your application package in its entirety to:**

**Rhea Ignacio**  
 PEM Program Assistant  
 Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Pediatrics  
 Room K4-159 - 4480 Oak Street Vancouver, BC V6H 3V4

**Email:** [Rhea.Ignacio@cw.bc.ca](mailto:Rhea.Ignacio@cw.bc.ca)  
**Phone:** 604-875-2000 x 5435 | **Fax:** 604-875-2414