



## Meet Ms. Zufina Shirazneen Ali, BScN

Nurse Clinician, Ketogenic  
Diet/Neurology Team

### **What is your role in the department and what is your favourite part of the job?**

My role in the department is to support families with new diagnosis of epilepsy and other seizure disorders. I support patients who need a ketogenic diet to treat their seizure disorders. I am patients support in between appointments to help with understanding their diagnosis, medication, medication adjustments, coordination between hospitals for getting EEG, MRI, and other tests.



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My favourite part of my job is developing and maintaining meaningful relationships with families and colleagues in such a dynamic area of neurology.

### **Do you have any special talents, and if not, what talent do you wish you had?**

I am an excellent baker; chef and I have an excellent eye for home staging accessories.

### **Favorite restaurant and go-to dishes:**

My favorite restaurant is Afghan Chopan and my favorite dish is the Kabuli Palau.

See: <https://afghanchopanrichmond.com/menu.html>



## Meet Dr. Jennifer Retallack, MD, FRCPC

Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Pediatric Critical Care and Pediatric Hospital Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, UBC Investigator, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

*"I feel very lucky to work with a phenomenal and committed critical care team, to have a complex and fast paced job in which I am always learning, and to have the opportunity to introduce learners to critical care and the joys of acute care medicine."*



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### **Describe your role within the organization, including length of time in role.**

I have been at BC Children's hospital for 15 years, primarily in the PICU as a clinical associate, but also working as a consulting pediatrician on CTU. Recently I have focused on PICU Outreach, developing opportunities to support pediatric critical care beyond the walls of BC Children's Hospital.

### **What is your proudest accomplishment to date?**

My proudest accomplishment to date has been combining my love of critical care with my desire to support rural and remote pediatrics. I now have the opportunity to work in many different roles in tandem: a Transport Advisor in the PICU, a provider with Child Health Advice in Real-Time Electronically (CHARLiE - the Real Time Virtual Support line for Pediatrics), the medical co-lead of SPRUCe (Sustaining Pediatrics in Rural and Underserved Communities - a clinical network to support rural pediatrics) and as one of the leads on the Provincial Pediatric Critical Care Outreach Project. I appreciate the opportunity to share learnings between my roles as well as build relationships which span across projects.

See: <https://rccbc.ca/initiatives/rtps/charlie/> & <https://rccbc.ca/initiatives/spruce/>

### **Research interests:**

I am just starting my journey into clinical research and combining it with quality improvement work. I am developing work around the follow-up of children post PICU discharge, to better understand their recovery and trajectory as they leave the hospital. I also involved in research regarding rural and remote pediatrics.



## Meet Ms. Sarabjit Bains (Sarab)

Admin/Booking/Program Assistant,  
Division of Adolescent Health, and  
Medicine

### What is your role in the department and what is your favourite part of the job?

I take care of booking patients' appointments, attending phone queries, providing professional and friendly communication between patients and physicians as well as performing administrative duties.

I always put myself in my patients/families' shoes and I treat them the way I would like to be treated. Patient Quality is my priority.



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### Do you have any special talents, and if not, what talent do you wish you had?

In my free time, I play volleyball, badminton and enjoy walks with my kids and dogs. I also love cooking and gardening.

### Favorite restaurant and go-to dishes:

I love Boston Pizza, Nandos and Green Lettuce where I normally go to dine in with my family on the weekends.

See: <https://greenlettuceresrestaurant.ca/index.html>



## Meet Dr. Lára Malks-Jumba, MD, FRCPC

Consultant Pediatrician, Prince George BC  
Discipline Specific Site Lead, Pediatrics  
UHNBC, Undergraduate and Post-Graduate  
Site Lead, Community Impact Stream,  
Pediatric Residency Program  
Clinical instructor, Department of  
Pediatrics, UBC

*"I love the diversity in the ways I get to help kids and families in any given day, which includes anything from resuscitation of a newborn to helping a family navigate behavioural challenges in their child to managing a new type 1 diabetic. I also love working with medical students and residents and helping to instill in them a love for pediatrics."*



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### **Describe your role within the organization, including length of time in role.**

I have been a Consultant Pediatrician at UHNBC for nearly 10 years. I run an outpatient pediatric practice and cover on call nights and on call weeks at UHNBC as the Pediatrician on call. I am also the Discipline Specific Site Lead for Pediatrics, working with both undergraduate students and post-graduate residents who are rotating through pediatrics at UHNBC. I am also a consulting Pediatrician at the Northern Health SCAN Clinic and at the Central Interior Native Health Society.

### **What is your proudest accomplishment to date?**

Helping to start and lead the Community Impact (CI) Stream of the BCCH Pediatric Residency program which accepts one pediatric resident per year. These CI residents end up spending about a quarter of their training in the North, including almost 6 months of their R1 year.

### **What inspired you to become a doctor?**

I have always loved science, loved helping people, and loved working with children, so being a doctor, and especially a pediatrician, was a natural choice. I also wanted a career where I could contribute and make a difference in the North.

### **Tell us about more about your community.**

I love that as a pediatrician working in the North, it means that I can be involved in so many diverse aspects of pediatric medicine with the support of amazing colleagues and allied health professionals. It feels very collegial. The medicine is challenging and interesting. I also love that I can balance work and family as I am often watching my kids do their sports, responding to an emergency in the hospital, and volunteering in the community, all in the same evening.





## Meet Ms. Louise Aromin

Administrative Secretary, Division of Allergy and Division of Immunology

### What is your role in the department and what is your favourite part of the job?

As an administrative secretary, my role is vital in ensuring the smooth operation of the Division. With a friendly and approachable tone, I strive to be the backbone that supports the doctors in providing excellent patient care. In the realm of communication, I facilitate effective networking among doctors, patients, and other medical professionals.



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I absolutely cherish interacting with the doctors. Collaborating with such knowledgeable and compassionate individuals is truly inspiring. They trust me with important tasks and value my input which makes me feel valued and appreciated. The friendly atmosphere and the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of others make this role truly special.

### Do you have any special talents, and if not, what talent do you wish you had?

Music has always been a source of comfort and joy for me. My focus has primarily been on playing the guitar. I mainly play the instrument during praise and worship at bible studies at church. The talent I wish I possessed is the ability to learn different languages of the countries I travel to.

### Favorite restaurant and go-to dishes:

My current favorite restaurant right now is Hachibei. It is a humble mom and pop Japanese eatery. What draws me to this establishment is its unwavering commitment to serving authentic Japanese cuisine. My go-to dishes would be their Japanese AAA stake and rice meals.

See: <https://www.yelp.ca/biz/hachibei-japanese-restaurant-vancouver>



## Meet Dr. Nita Jain, MD FRCPC

Consultant Pediatrician, BC  
Children's Hospital  
Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pediatrics, UBC  
Medical Director, Child Protection  
Service Unit, BC Children's Hospital

*"It is a privilege to work in a field where learning and growth never stop. I credit my patients and multi-disciplinary colleagues for teaching me how to be a better listener, communicator, and advocate. I am also constantly amazed by the trust my patients and their families put in me when they share stories of their health and social challenges."*



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### **Describe your role within the organization, including length of time in role.**

I completed my pediatric residency at BC Children's Hospital in 1998. I have worked within the organization since then, initially in the Special Care Nursery (NICU) and Emergency Department, before moving on to a clinical and teaching role as for the CTU and outpatient General Pediatric Clinic. Since 2000, I have been with the Child Protection Service Unit (CPSU) where I assess children suspected of being maltreated. Presently, I am the Medical Director of this program. I also practiced pediatrics in the community setting for 17 years.

### **What is your proudest accomplishment to date?**

I volunteer my time as a board member for the BC Pediatric Society and for the past 3 years I have chaired the continuing medical education committee which plans the society's long-held annual conference. I am proud of the fact that the latest conference held in November 2023 was the most successful ever with a sold-out crowd of pediatricians attending and the exceptional line-up of speakers presenting was impressive.

### **What inspired you to become a doctor? And to pursue research as well?**

My fascination with the complex workings of the human body and brain inspired me to pursue medicine as a career. As a young person, I was drawn to stories about the resiliency of children who faced social and health adversities. This led to Pediatrics as a natural career choice.

### **Research interests:**

Through my work in the CPSU, I have been lucky to collaborate peripherally with the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit at BCCH.

*Cont'd*

**How does your role as clinician/researcher complement/balance each other out?**

As a member of the UBC clinical faculty, I feel fortunate to be able to combine my love for clinical medicine with many opportunities to instruct medical students and residents. Nearly every day I am reminded of the clinical pearls I learned from my mentors, and I feel strongly about the importance of passing on what I have learned and my experience to the younger generation.



## Meet Ms. Natalie Garrett

Administrative Coordinator, Division of Developmental Pediatrics

### What is your role in the department and what is your favourite part of the job?

I support the developmental pediatricians at Sunny Hill Health Centre with general administration. I love collating and organizing data, so as nerdy as it sounds my favourite part of the job is discovering a new data type that would be useful to collect in an excel table, whether it be laptop asset numbers for a tech refresh or availability of the physicians for being scheduled on the Acute Rehabilitation ward.



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### Do you have any special talents, and if not, what talent do you wish you had?

I enjoy assembling IKEA furniture, which I have been told is very unusual! To me it is just like a LEGO set and my family will sometime save purchases until I can visit to assemble them.

### Favorite restaurant and go-to dishes:

I have a major sweet tooth so my favourite would have to be a Spinach, Apple & Pecan Salad followed by the Chocolate Raspberry Cream Pie at Aphrodite's Organic Café & Pie Shop.

See: <https://www.organiccafe.ca/>