

Epilepsy Centre

Clinic Hours:

Monday thru Thursday

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Vancouver General Hospital
Gordon and Leslie Diamond
Heathcare Centre**

**2775 Laurel Street
Vancouver BC V5Z 1M9
Tel: 604-875-4402**

Mission Statement

The Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) Epilepsy Centre is the Adult centre dedicated to the comprehensive care of patients with epilepsy and related disorders for British Columbia. We are actively involved in the pre-surgical assessment and surgical treatment of patients with epilepsy. Patient and Family Education and support are integral to our objectives. In addition, we work with community organizations, agencies, psychology interns and fellows to assist people with Epilepsy.

The VGH Epilepsy program is closely allied with the University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine. The education of undergraduate medical students, postgraduate residents, fellows and Community Physicians is part of our mandate. In addition to teaching and clinical care, we are committed to research advancing the understanding and treatment of epilepsy.

Services

The Epilepsy Centre has both in-patient and out-patient components including:

Interdisciplinary Epilepsy Clinic:

Individuals are initially assessed in our Epilepsy Outpatient Clinic by neurologists for diagnosis, medical management, or initial pre-surgical assessment.

Neuropsychological evaluation, education and counseling may be provided by members of our interdisciplinary team including an Clinical Resource Nurse and a Neuropsychologist. Referrals for other services including, psychiatric assessments and social work consultations can be facilitated as required.

Seizure Investigation Unit

The Seizure Investigation Unit (SIU) is located on the fifth floor of the Jim Pattison Pavilion at Vancouver General Hospital. There are 2 Seizure Investigation rooms equipped with 24 Hour Digital Video EEG technologies. These facilities are used to diagnose seizure type and brain location of seizure onset.

This information is combined with clinical assessments, neuroimaging and neuropsychological assessment evaluation to determine management including possible candidacy for epilepsy surgery. Basic in-patient SIU evaluation involves an average hospital stay of 7-10 days.

EEG Laboratory

The EEG lab provides service to inpatients, outpatients and the SIU. In some situations, ambulatory EEG recording may be arranged.

Neuropsychological Assessment

A presurgical neuropsychological evaluation examines how the brain performs certain cognitive functions (for example, memory), as well as patient's psychological functioning. This assessment is aimed at understanding individual patient's cognitive strengths and weaknesses associated with their disorder. Post-surgical follow-up assessments are available when needed.

Centre Clinical Staff

- **Mano Javidan** MD, MSc, FRCP(C)
Medical Director EEG Lab
- Dr. Javidan obtained a Masters degree in Neurophysiology and was trained in Neurology at the University of Alberta (U of A) in Edmonton. He completed one year of Fellowship training in electroencephalography at the U of A and another year of Epilepsy /Epilepsy surgery fellowship at Yale School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut.

Dr. Javidan was the Director of the EEG Lab and the Epilepsy Program at U of A Hospital for eight years before moving to UBC where he has been the Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Neurology, Director of the Neurophysiology Lab and Co- Director of the Epilepsy Program at Vancouver General Hospital since 2001.
- **Tiffany N. Townsend** MD,CM, FRCP(C)
Medical Leader Seizure Investigation Unit
- Dr. Townsend completed her Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and her Medical Degree at McGill University, Montreal. During her Neurology Residency at McGill University she had the opportunity to train in the Epilepsy Unit and EEG lab at the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital.

She then went on to complete a 2 year Clinical Neurophysiology/EEG/Epilepsy Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio. Dr. Townsend is happy to be back in Canada as a Clinical Instructor in the Division of Neurology, UBC Faculty of Medicine. She plans to use her knowledge and skills to improve the care of people living with epilepsy in B.C.

- **Barrie Woodhurst** MD FRCS(C)
Neurosurgeon
 - Dr. Woodhurst is a native British Columbian. He has BSc and MD Degrees from UBC and trained in Neurosurgery at UBC.
He has been in practice in Vancouver since 1981. His special interests are Adult Epilepsy Surgery and Surgical Education.

- **David Katz** Ph.D., R.Psych., ABPP-CN
Neuropsychologist
 - Dr. Katz is a registered psychologist and board certified in Clinical Neuropsychology. He earned his doctorate degree from the University of Kentucky and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology at Harvard Medical School/McLean Hospital. He is the neuropsychologist of the Epilepsy Program at VGH.
In addition, he is a clinical assistant professor at UBC Faculty of Medicine and a member of the UBC Brain Research Centre. His specialty areas are neuropsychological assessment of epilepsy and other neurological diseases, neuropsychiatry, and psychotherapy.

- **Janice Henrikson** R.N., B.Sc.N
Clinical Resource Nurse
 - Janice has a varied background in nursing including, Emergency, Medical/Surgical, and clinical teaching. Her role with the Epilepsy Centre involves coordinating admissions to the Inpatient Seizure Investigation Unit for individuals from all over British Columbia, patient, family and staff education and support, as well as monitoring a person's progress post surgery.
Janice is the primary contact person for people waiting for admission to the SIU.

Referrals

To request an appointment at the
VGH Epilepsy Center:

Please fax a completed referral form to 604-875-4786



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