

THE  
Skin Care  
Centre



Division of Dermatology  
University of British Columbia

Vancouver Hospital  
& Health Sciences Centre  
Vancouver, Canada



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VANCOUVER HOSPITAL  
& Health Sciences Centre

# Clinics

A partnership of the Vancouver Hospital & Sciences Centre and the University of British Columbia Division of Dermatology, The Skin Care Centre strives to provide a scope of services that will continue to position The Centre as the major dermatologic referral centre for British Columbia and an international leader in basic research, developmental therapeutics, and medical education.

## Research

There are five major areas of focused basic research:

- Research on the genetic control of skin cancer is centred in laboratories at the VGH Jack Bell Research Centre where the focus is on oncogenes, suppressor genes, and their regulation.
- Photobiology research is conducted in our laboratories at the BC Cancer Agency and Vancouver Hospital & Health Sciences Centre. It includes diagnostic device development, laser therapeutics, and photodynamic therapy.
- Membrane biophysics and liposome technology research is conducted in our laboratory on the university campus, and in collaboration with the Departments of Physics and Biochemistry.
- Hair disorder research, including alopecia areata and androgenetic alopecia.
- Immunology research, focusing on antigen presentation to T cells.



## Clinical Trials

Each of the focused clinics is active in extensive research programs coordinated through The Skin Care Centre's Clinical Trials Unit. With its full-time experienced trials coordinators and dedicated clinic space, it is one of the largest university-based dermatologic trials units in North America.



## Continuing Medical Education

As part of its mission, The Skin Care Centre pledges to "provide leadership in the education and professional development of health care providers." To these ends, family physician training programs are held twice yearly. We are leaders in web-based dermatology education through [dermweb.com](http://dermweb.com). Additionally, Dermatology Update is held each autumn and is now the leading treatment focused dermatology symposium in Canada.

The Division of Dermatology is also the editorial centre for the *Skin Therapy Letter*, the leading publication for evidence-based dermatology practice.





A major resource for teaching and developmental therapeutics, general dermatology clinics held at The Skin Care Centre are complemented by a broad range of focused clinics, many of which are unique in Canada.

### Dermatologic Surgery

With the only training program in micrographic surgery in Canada that has been accredited by the American governing body, the Dermatologic Surgery Clinics are part of The Centre's surgical training program. In addition to micrographic surgery for skin cancers, the clinics are a referral centre for other dermatologic surgery procedures.

### UBC Hair Clinic

A referral centre offering clinical expertise for patients with significant hair problems. Innovative therapies for various scalp and hair diseases are also being studied, and the program is integrated with collaborating laboratories capable of assessing markers of immune activity and gene expression. The Clinic also conducts laboratory research on hair-related problems.

### Hair-Transplant Centre



A clinic affiliated with the Division of Dermatology at the University of British Columbia, The Centre specializes in the latest techniques for the treatment of hair-related medical problems including mini and micro grafting.

### Human Papilloma Virus Clinic

A referral clinic for the assessment and treatment of patients with problem warts referred by a dermatologist for innovative therapies. The HPV Clinic is linked to laboratories capable of specifically typing HPV virus and assessing host immune response.

### Immune Modulation Clinic

A referral clinic for the management of patients requiring drugs that modify the skin's immune response. The Clinic participates in trials of innovative new agents.

### Lions Laser Skin Centre

Active in laser research and laser education, the Lions Laser Skin Centre uses state-of-the-art lasers for the treatment of vascular, pigmented, and other lesions. The Centre is supported by The BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities.



### Melanoma Clinics

Approximately 400 new patients each year are assessed and followed up through the Melanoma Clinics based at the BC Cancer Agency. The Skin Care Centre provides the administrative base for the Canadian Melanoma Foundation, which is active in the support of research and education.

### Photodermatology Unit

The photodermatology unit is a leading centre for research in the photodynamic therapy of skin cancers and other skin conditions, and is also a referral clinic for the assessment and treatment of light sensitivity disorders.

### Pigmented Lesion Clinics

Referral clinics for the assessment and management of complicated pigmented lesions and for melanoma screening.

### Psoriasis & Phototherapy Clinic



With more than 32,000 patient visits per year, the Psoriasis & Phototherapy Clinic provides outpatient UVB and PUVA therapy as well as a Psoriasis Day Care Program.

### Wound Healing Clinic

A referral clinic for patients with problem skin wounds, the majority of which are leg ulcers resistant to standard therapy. The teaching program at the Clinic includes instructing Home Care Nurses on proper ulcer care.

### Hair Removal Laser Clinic

Leading edge laser treatments offer safe, effective reduction of unwanted hair for all skin types.