



Canadian Medical Hall of Fame

Discovery Days

in HEALTH SCIENCES

PRESENTED BY



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BC Children's Hospital and Research Institute

Friday, November 6th, 2026

WORKSHOP CATALOGUE

Code	Title	Description	AM	PM	Coordinator/Presenters (Department) and Location
A01	Allergies and the Immune System: Why do they exist?	Let's talk about various allergies: to foods, to pollens, animals, and how the immune system is in the middle of it all. And you will get a chance to practice using an EpiPen!		8	Bahar Torabi (Allergy and Immunology) Room 202 BCCHR
A02	Capturing the Nuances: An Introduction to Qualitative Research	This workshop aims to introduce students to qualitative research, how it differs from quantitative research, and why it is essential for understanding people's experiences in healthcare. Students will learn how qualitative methods help capture the nuances of health, illness, and care that numbers alone cannot reveal. Students will also participate in a creative photovoice activity, using storytelling, drawing, and reflection to explore personal or observed health experiences and discover how qualitative research gives voice to diverse perspectives.	20		Asli Ozer Sarah Hooseman (Qualitative Research) CRSU (CSB 302)
A03	Child Life Specialists: Healing through Play	Child Life Specialists are an integral part of pediatric health care. They are part of the allied health team and help patients and families cope using therapeutic play, developmentally-appropriate preparation and normalization activities. In this interactive session, participants will learn how child life specialists use therapeutic play interventions to prepare patients and provide procedural support during otherwise stressful and painful procedures. Case studies will be discussed and students will engage in a play activity. The academic pathway to becoming a CCLS will also be reviewed for those students interested in pursuing a career in Child Life.	20	20	Bernadette Sanchez Emma Ferdinands Jackie Nixon Heather Hameluck (Child Life) Multipurpose Room, Congregation Beth Israel
A04	The Power of Nutrition: How Dietitians Change Lives Through Food	In this interactive session, participants will be introduced to the role of an oncology dietitian through engaging activities such as polls, multiple-choice questions, and discussion. Students will learn how dietitians use clinical nutrition to assess, diagnose, and manage nutrition-related challenges, helping oncology patients maintain their health and well-being throughout their health journey. The session will also feature a hands-on demonstration of real clinical nutrition equipment and tools, including feeding tubes and nutrition support supplies. Through these real-world examples,	20	20	Misuzu Noguchi (Nutrition) Room CW K0-155 (AMB)

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		participants will gain insight into the specialized and often unseen work of dietitians, and discover how clinical nutrition plays a vital role in patient care. This session will also highlight the diverse career opportunities within dietetics and the meaningful impact dietitians have on the lives of patients and families.			
A05	The Heart of the Matter- Let's talk about heart and vascular health	I would provide students with an overview of the nurse practitioner role within a specialized critical care setting, what a typical day looks like, and the collaborative approach to caring for patients recovering from cardiac surgery. I would also like to incorporate a discussion on heart health, including cardiovascular disease prevention, healthy lifestyle habits, and the importance of early awareness. My goal is to help students better understand both the clinical and public health aspects of cardiovascular care while inspiring them to consider careers in health care.		25	Shannon Pillay (Cardiac Surgery) Room 3113 (BCCHR)
A06	Newborn Intensive Care - Off to a Good Start	In this interactive workshop, you will learn how babies transition to life in the real world. You will get to see what happens when things don't go as expected and how doctors train with simulated patients to practice for these emergencies. You will get a hands-on experience in dealing with an emergency and learning what is done in the Neonatal Intensive Care.	10	10	Jonathan Wong Deepak Manhas Emily Farnan Julieta Conti (Pediatrics) BC Children's and Women's Hospital
A07	Can Your Environment Change Your Genes? Try being an epigenetics researcher	What if our experiences could leave marks on our DNA? In this interactive workshop, students will step into the role of pediatric health researchers to explore the fascinating field of epigenetics, the study of how factors such as our environment, health, and experiences can influence how our genes are regulated without changing the DNA sequence itself. Through hands-on activities and small-group challenges, students will learn how researchers study DNA methylation and biological aging, interpret simplified research data, and consider what scientists can, and cannot, conclude from biological markers. Students will also tackle a real-world research challenge: if a cheek-swab test suggested that a child's biological age differed from their chronological age, what would that mean, and how should researchers communicate this information to families? By combining genetics, pediatric health research, study design, and research ethics, this workshop will give students an inside look at how discoveries move from a research question to meaningful knowledge for children and families.		10	Yasmine Tremblay (Epigenetics) BCCHR SHY E409

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A08	Think, Move, Communicate : How Occupational Therapists and Speech-Language Pathologists Work Together	In this workshop, you will learn about the practical applications of Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology. Participants will learn about how these professions assist people of all ages in creative and fun ways. Come learn about how our activities, materials and equipment can improve mental health, physical health, community involvement and quality of life.	30	30	Shari Linde Gina Fernandez (Occupational Therapy & Speech Language Pathology) Auditorium - Room 2111 (BCCHR)
A09	Behavioural Medicine is a Career?	In this interactive workshop, you will have the chance to hear about what it is like to work in different areas of physiotherapy practice. You will also get the chance to experiment with performing a variety of common physiotherapy assessment and treatment techniques.	20	20	Alysha Deslippe (Behavioural Medicine) BCCHR Classroom
A10	Physiotherapy - It will Move You	Physiotherapists and a Physiotherapy Student will give you insight into the rewarding career if Physical Therapy. You will then participate in 3 practical sessions in Respiratory, Neurology and Orthopedics where you can try some activities yourself!		18	Kathy Couture Jasmin Samra Megan Brushetta (Physiotherapy) 2N35
A11	A Day in the Life of a Midwife	In this workshop you will get to explore pregnancy through the lens of midwifery care. There will be four hands-on stations where you will have the opportunity to: 1. Palpate a real pregnant person, feel the baby and find its heartbeat! 2. Get an up-close look at the equipment midwives bring with them to births. 3. Learn how babies navigate the pelvis on their way into the world, practice "catching" a baby and have a tour of a real placenta! 4. Learn how to assess the health of a newborn baby and provide breastfeeding support.	20	20	Marella Falat (Midwifery) Conference Room, Congregation Beth Israel
A12	Healing Heroes: Behind the Beam - Discover Your Future as a Radiation Therapist (RTT)	This interactive workshop an opportunity to learn about radiation therapy and the role radiation therapists play in cancer care. The session includes an overview of the profession, educational pathways, and career opportunities in BC, along with insights into the blend of patient care, science, technology, and teamwork involved in the role. Students will participate in a hands-on patient positioning activity, where they will work through the process of preparing a patient for treatment and experience the importance of accuracy, communication, and problem solving in radiation therapy. Time permitting, students may also explore basic treatment planning concepts and learn how radiation is directed to a tumour while minimizing exposure to surrounding healthy	20		Elizabeth Stevenson (Radiation Therapy)

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		tissues. These activities provide a practical introduction to the profession and identify some of the skills required to deliver high-quality patient care.			
A13	Discovering Occupational Therapy	Are you a creative problem solver? Do you enjoy helping others reach their potential? In this hands-on session, you will try out some of the assessments, solutions and devices occupational therapists use to assist people with physical and mental health challenges to participate in life, to their fullest ability.		20	Elizabeth Stevenson (Occupational Therapy) Needs help booking
A14	Human Vision - How to Assess It	In this workshop you will learn about different aspects of vision and how they can be disrupted in childhood by neuro-divergent development. You will see the tools we use to assess vision, and you will have the opportunity to participate in several different hands on activities to measure your own vision.	12	12	Deborah Giaschi Meriwether Morris Alexander Cook Christina Felber (Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences) Ophthalmology Research Lab - Room E300E, BCCH Shaughnessy Building
A15	Medical Imaging and Radiology	In this workshop, students will explore how dentistry blends health science, artistry, and patient care. They will discover that dentistry is a unique profession where scientific knowledge, creative skill, and compassion meet every day. Dentists diagnose and treat oral conditions such as dental caries and gingivitis while also restoring the appearance and function of a patient's smile. By improving oral health, dentists not only help patients eat and speak comfortably but also enhance their confidence and overall quality of life. Through engaging examples and interactive discussion, students will learn how dentists think critically, work with precision, and apply artistic techniques to achieve natural-looking results. They will also see how restoring a smile can have a profound psychological impact, helping patients feel more confident in their daily lives. This workshop offers a glimpse into a profession where improving someone's smile can truly transform their health, well-being, and self-esteem.	15		Jim Potts (Medical Imaging and Radiology)
A16	Gene Genius: The World of Genetic Counselling	Who are Genetic Counsellors? Genetic counsellors are health care professionals with training in medical genetics and counselling. Genetic counsellors hold a Bachelor's Degree and a Masters of Science in Genetic Counselling from an accredited program. These programs typically include course-based learning, research, and clinical training. Genetic counsellors help individuals and families understand complex genetic information, their	20	20	Melanie Guy Crystal Yu Abby Hansen Beth Winniski

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		chances to develop genetic conditions, and navigate the emotional journey of genetic testing. They work in a variety of clinical settings including prenatal, fertility, cancer, pediatrics, cardiology and many more! Workshop Outline In this workshop, we will review genetics concepts including an overview of DNA, genes, chromosomes, and other things commonly discussed during a genetic counselling appointment. To facilitate hands-on learning, students will have the opportunity to participate in interactive genetic counselling activities and win some sweet prizes! Activities will include drawing a family tree (a pedigree), which is a crucial part of a genetic counselling appointment. It is a tool genetics clinics use to map out relationships and see how genetic information and conditions are passed through families. Students will also have the opportunity to ask genetic counselling trainees about their journey and the profession.			
A17	Investigating Mysteries of the Genetic Code: How Studying Rare Diseases Changes Lives	In this workshop, you will learn how scientists and doctors work together to make breakthroughs in rare disease cases. Patients with a rare disease experience what we call a diagnostic odyssey, where patients go through test after test to find a diagnosis. We will discuss how patients with unknown conditions are identified and how genetics can be leveraged to make a breakthrough in their cases. This will be followed with a hands-on activity where you get to solve a mystery case to make a diagnosis. Following this activity, we will discuss how precision medicine can be used to treat rare disease patients.	30	30	Mattison Stojcic Pariya Yousefi Zheming Mei Abigail Ngan Kiana Rashidi Hugh Hartloper (Genetics) Ballroom at Congregation Beth Israel