

Meet the Follow Up Teams

The British Columbia (BC) Pediatric Oncology Long-term Follow-up (LTFU) Program is a provincial program that provides surveillance and management of the risk of recurrence and late effects after treatment for childhood cancer. With current therapies, 83% of children with cancer will become long-term survivors. However, the cost of cure can pose a significant risk of chronic health conditions that span a broad spectrum of issues, including secondary cancers, heart disease, lung disease, endocrinopathies, physical impairment, psychosocial distress, developmental and learning disorders. The multidisciplinary team supports the diverse needs of this population based on the individual patient's risks to allow for prevention, early detection, and treatment of late effects. We work in close collaboration with other subspecialty teams and deliver care using the best model for the patient and family, including telehealth, outreach, and shared care with regional care providers. For patients who are at least 18 years old, 5 years off treatment and are at high risk of late effects, they are transferred to the Late Effects, Assessment, and Follow-Up (LEAF) Clinic at BC Cancer. The LEAF clinic was created jointly by BC Cancer and BC Children's Hospital (BCCH) for adult childhood cancer survivors. The LEAF Clinic's mission is to ensure that pediatric cancer survivors receive the best care as they are at risk for health complications later in life, called late effects, that may vary over time. The program helps provide survivors with the latest information, support, and ongoing assessment. Late effects vary for each survivor and depend on factors such as diagnosis, age, and treatment.

The Team



Dr. Kristin Marr, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

Dr. Marr received her MD from the University of Toronto, followed by residency training in Pediatrics and Pediatric Oncology and Hematology at BCCH. She completed her Masters in Health Sciences at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in 2017. She is the medical lead of the Pediatric

Oncology LTFU program at BCCH. She strives to provide individualized and comprehensive screening and surveillance for late effects after treatment for childhood cancer. She has active research interests in patient-centered and culturally appropriate care of patients. She has a special interest in the unique aspects of cancer care for adolescents and young adults, particularly in the transition to adult care. She is the co-lead of a provincial Oncofertility Network in collaboration with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer to improve fertility and sexual health services related to the cancer journey. Outside of work, she is known to get overly excited about new hobbies, which recently include learning to play tennis, piano, and acrylic painting.



Dr. Karen Goddard, MD, MRCP, FRCPC, MA

Dr. Goddard is the Medical lead of the BC Cancer LEAF Clinic and was instrumental in establishing this program. She is also a pediatric radiation oncologist and has been a part of the pediatric oncology team for 30 years. Her special clinical interests encompass survivorship and late effects which include long-term health problems and risks following treatment for childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer, pediatric radiation oncology, the management of soft tissue and bone sarcomas, as well as Canadian Health Law. She obtained an interdisciplinary degree in Law and Medicine from UBC in 2014. She is a member of the Children's Oncology Group (COG), currently serving as the Radiation Oncology representative for the COG Internal Performance Monitoring Committee.



Dr. Ewa Lunaczek-Motyka, BSc, MD, FRCPC

Dr. Lunaczek-Motyka received her Bachelor of Science from UBC and her Doctor of Medicine from the University of Calgary. She completed her Pediatric residency in London, Ontario, and then her Pediatric Oncology and Hematology fellowship at BCCH. During her fellowship training, she developed a special interest and love for late effects and long-term follow-up of pediatric cancer survivors, enjoying multiple opportunities to work and study abroad at follow-up clinics in the United Kingdom and New Zealand. Since 2009, Dr. Lunaczek-Motyka has been working at the Victoria General Hospital satellite site, supporting children and their families on Vancouver Island. Outside of work, Dr. Lunaczek-Motyka loves to travel with her husband and daughter, hike, camp, kayak, ski, and dance.



Dr. Leslie Cohen BSc (Med Hons) MBChB

Dr. Cohen received his medical degree from the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He relocated to Vancouver in September 1992 and has been working as a clinical associate in the Pediatric Oncology, Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplant department since 1994. He has been involved with the pediatric oncology LTFU clinic since 2014. He also follows a cohort of adult patients who were treated as children in his family practice and is impressed by how well many of the kids do post their treatment. Outside of work, he enjoys travel, dining out, working out, and spending time in BC's wonderful outdoors.

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Kari Dykstra, RN, BSN

Kari received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1997 and has been working at BCCH in the Oncology, Hematology, and Bone Marrow Transplant program ever since! She completed her Master's in Nursing Leadership in 2003. During her time at BCCH, she has held several

roles but has found her passion in the Long-Term Follow-Up Nurse Clinician role. Kari follows the children until they are 15 years old and is dedicated to providing knowledge, support, and education to their families. She has a zest for encouraging healthy lifestyles and utilizes the principles of LIVE 5210 in all her patient appointments. Outside of work, she can be found watching her daughters play basketball. Kari also enjoys biking, birding, cooking, traveling, painting, and spending lots of time with family and friends. She has a desire to learn new things and develop new hobbies.



Monica Gazzola, RN, BSN

Monica completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at UBC and began her nursing career in February 1998. She started at BCCH in oncology when it was known as 3B. Monica has dedicated her career to this department, holding various roles over the years. She has worked as an

inpatient bedside nurse, a primary nurse (a role from earlier years), clinical resource nurse, returned to patient care in the clinic, and currently serves as a nurse clinician in LTFU. Additionally, she had the opportunity to be the nurse coordinator with Camp Goodtimes for a couple of years. Currently, Monica works with patients aged 16 and up until they transition into the adult system. Ensuring that these adolescents and young adults are prepared for the adult world and equipped with the necessary education and resources to thrive is important to her. Outside of work, Monica enjoys roller skating, spin classes, spending time outdoors, relaxing at home with a good book or working on a knitting project.



Jennifer Williams, RN, BScN

Jennifer started her nursing career in 2014 working in the Hematology and Oncology Program at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario and moved to Vancouver in 2017 to work at BCCH in the Oncology, Hematology & Bone Marrow Transplant program in both the inpatient

and outpatient settings. Jennifer has been in the Neuro-Oncology LTFU Nurse Clinician role since July 2021. She is passionate about supporting neuro-oncology survivors and their families in their life after treatment. Jennifer works with survivors and their families, providing support, education, goal setting, and community resources in preparation for the transition to adult care. Outside of work, she can be found on the beach, playing volleyball, hiking in the mountains, and playing extra competitive board games.



Leigh-Ann Baron, MN, NP(F)

Leigh-Ann is a 2018 graduate of the Nurse Practitioner program at UBC. Prior to becoming a Nurse Practitioner, she worked as a Registered Nurse in various areas, including Leukemia and Bone Marrow Transplant at Vancouver

General Hospital, perioperative, and outpatient clinics. She is now the Nurse Practitioner at the BC Cancer LEAF Clinic, where she helps provide long-term follow-up care for adult childhood cancer survivors.



Charity Van Tine, RN, BScN

Charity received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Victoria in 2012. Since graduation, she has worked exclusively in pediatrics, enjoying the dynamics of both inpatient and outpatient settings. Charity completed her advanced oncology training at

BCCH in 2014 and became Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses certified in 2016. Tremendously grateful, Charity has had the honor of joining the Pediatric Oncology Nurse Clinician team in Victoria for multiple interim assignments, including her current role as interim Oncology LTFU coordinator (until September 2024). In this role, Charity is mindful of the drastic and lifelong impacts that a childhood oncology diagnosis presents. It is her goal to help these warriors navigate the long-term medical and psychosocial complexities that may arise and prepare for the hope-filled future that awaits. A new foster parent and part-time children's outreach worker, Charity enjoys date nights with her husband and sailing adventures with her "God-kids".



Hannah Mohun, MSc

Hannah Mohun has been the Psychology Fellow with the LTFU team since 2022. She is originally from Vancouver but spent 10+ years on the island at the University of Victoria studying Psychology. She completed her clinical psychology residency in Saskatoon in 2022. She believes there is a

strong connection between mental and physical health and is grateful to provide support to patients and their families. When not working, she enjoys cooking meals with family and friends and exploring BC's beautiful islands.



Karel Ramirez

Karel graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from the Philippines and migrated to Canada in 2016. She has worked at the Health Sciences Centre Hospital in Winnipeg as a Dietary Clerk and for Manitoba Health Performance, Information Management, and

Analytics, Epidemiology, and Surveillance (PIMA) as a Surveillance Unit Clerk. Karel and her family moved to British Columbia in 2022, where she works in Oncology LTFU as the Booking and Registration Clerk. Outside of work, Karel enjoys spending time with her three boys, playing arcade games, watching movies, or spending quality time outdoors.

THE PROVINCIAL PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY/HEMATOLOGY NETWORK

The Network is an interdisciplinary organization whose goal is to ensure appropriate diagnosis, management, follow-up, and end-of-life care for pediatric patients with malignancies and blood disorders.

The Network supports community hospitals and practitioners, and develops partnerships with other health care facilities to enable seamless and integrated care for patients and families on treatment and off treatment.

It will further develop and enhance the research programs of basic, translational, and clinical research to better childhood cancer control and improve outcomes for these patients and their families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Dr. Caron Strahlendorf, Network Medical Consultant

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