UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

CaRMS
Information Package

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
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Health Care Centre
11th Floor - 2775 Laurel Street
Vancouver, BC Canada
WEBSITE: PSYCHIATRY.UBC.CA

QUESTIONS ABOUT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE?
CONTACT: Shilpa Samji
SENIOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS MANAGER
TEL: (604) 875-4111 Ext 68102
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Message from Dr. Sadrehashemi</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message from our CaRMS Committee</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Overview</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Track</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraser Track</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Island Track</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George Track</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Track</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Training</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Outline</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Days &amp; Teaching</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Training Opportunities</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Training Opportunities Unique to UBC</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; Rural Practice Opportunities</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychotherapy Curriculum</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subspecialty Residency Training Programs and Fellowships</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What to expect on your Interview Day</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome Message from Dr. Sadrehashemi

Ladan Sadrehashemi
Program Director
ladan.sadrehashemi@ubc.ca

Dear CaRMS Applicant,

I am excited that you have chosen to come to Vancouver for an interview. I look forward to meeting you during the interview period as I meet with all applicants individually. UBC Psychiatry offers a dynamic and comprehensive program. Depending on what track you have applied to, I encourage you to read the information outlined in the document.

I am from Calgary and completed medical school at the University of Calgary. I came to Vancouver in 1999 to begin my training in Psychiatry at UBC. Given that I have trained here, I can say first hand that we offer an incredible program with respect to clinical experience and resident education. I have been involved in resident education since my residency training and feel privileged to be able to lead this program.

Please feel free to either email me at ladan.sadrehashemi@ubc.ca or call me at (604) 728-2334.

Sincerely,

Ladan Sadrehashemi
Program Director
University of British Columbia
Postgraduate Education Psychiatry
Message from our CaRMS Committee

Dear CaRMS Applicant,

The University of British Columbia Psychiatry program offers a diverse array of exceptional training in all core competencies outlined by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

The philosophy of our program is to train psychiatrists in the broad aspects of the bio-psycho-social model of medicine and psychiatry and to prepare interested residents for further subspecialty training or fellowships. Our psychotherapy and pharmacologic training is excellent, and research is actively encouraged. One day per week is dedicated to academic seminars (Academic Day).

For those residents with expertise and interest in research, a specially tailored training track has been developed that maximizes available research time within the Royal College’s training guidelines. Many research opportunities also exist for all trainees outside of the research track, with projects being developed by the third year of training and completed during elective time in the last year of training. As with all tracks, one day per week is dedicated to academic seminars (Academic Day).

Through an integrated program of clinical placements and academic seminars, our program is designed to achieve the training goals of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the University of British Columbia. We graduate highly skilled psychiatrists capable of practicing in diverse settings.

Our program follows a distributed model, with residents placed in various hospitals throughout the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, and in Northern BC (Prince George). All sites offer excellent training and there are opportunities for all residents to complete some portion of their training at any of these sites.

All tracks are administered through the UBC Department of Psychiatry. The standards and training requirements are uniform across all distributed sites.

Should you have any questions about the program, please do not hesitate to contact us through Shilpa Samji (shilpa.samji@ubc.ca). In addition, we are happy to connect you with residents in our program who can answer your questions.

Sincerely,
CaRMS Committee
Program Overview

The Department of Psychiatry offers residency training through the following distributed programs:

- Vancouver (includes IMG residents and Research Track residents)
- Fraser
- Vancouver Island
- Prince George

The standards, training requirements, and curricula are unified across all distributed sites.

Our Residents and Tracks

Our residency group is made up of residents with diverse backgrounds, experiences and interests. There are currently 113 residents placed among the distributed programs.

There are 22 positions available for the next PGY1 year:

- Vancouver Program: 12 track positions, including 2 IMG and 2 Research track positions
- Fraser Health Greater Vancouver Program: 6 track positions
- Vancouver Island Program: 3 track positions
- Prince George Program: 1 track position

Similarities and differences between tracks:

- All tracks have the same core rotations and psychotherapy requirements.
- Tracks vary by the group of hospitals at which core rotations are completed.
- Tracks affect the feasibility of attending the weekly academic days in-person vs videoconference. Most in-person teaching occurs in Vancouver with videoconference to sites in Fraser, Vancouver Island, and Prince George. Most residents in the Vancouver and Fraser tracks attend sessions in person together, while residents in the Vancouver Island and Prince George tracks videoconference each week, and attend in-person once per month.
- In PGY5, residents can (and many do) complete electives at various sites and are not limited to their home program.
Vancouver Track

Thank you for your interest in the Vancouver Track at the University of British Columbia Postgraduate Residency Program in Psychiatry. We have a well-established and very highly regarded residency program, that is incredibly diverse in its breadth of patient experience and depth of teaching faculty in a city that is world class in its beauty and offerings. Our clinical training offers numerous opportunities in a wide range of psychiatric clinical placements including inner city, tertiary and community sites, with an eye to ensure all residents meet and move beyond the Royal College requirements. With this tremendous variety of clinical teaching and experience, our program still endeavours to maintain the collegiality, connectedness, and learning experience of other more intimate programs. I am proud of how our program directors, administrative staff, clinical faculty, and junior colleagues all work together to create what I feel is an exemplary residency program, and I am thrilled to welcome you to what I consider an excellent track therein.

Dr. Irfan Khanbhai
Assistant Program Director, Vancouver Track

Sites:
- Lion’s Gate Hospital (LGH) – North Vancouver
- UBC Hospital (UBCH) – Vancouver, West
- St. Paul’s Hospital (SPH) – Vancouver, Downtown
- Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) – Vancouver
- BC Children’s Hospital (BCCH) – Vancouver, South
- Mount St. Joseph’s Hospital (MSJ) – Vancouver
- Richmond General Hospital (RGH) – Richmond

Program Overview:
PGY1: Basic clinical year at St. Paul’s Hospital (SPH) or Royal Columbian Hospital (RCH); elective rotations are flexible
PGY2: General psychiatry at VGH, SPH, or RGH
PGY3: Child Psychiatry at BCCH; Geriatric Psychiatry at VGH/SPH/MSJ/UBCH
PGY4: Addictions & Shared Care at various sites in Vancouver
PGY5: Elective and Selective opportunities

For more information about this track, please visit: https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/education-programs/postgraduate-training-program/clinical-training-sites/

Program Highlights:
- Numerous opportunities to gain experience working with diverse populations
- Excellent staff interested in supporting and mentoring residents
- Emphasis on resident teaching and learning
- Access to multiple training sites and sub-speciality clinics
- Friendly and collegial resident group
Fraser Track

The UBC Fraser Health Greater Vancouver Psychiatry Residency Program (UBC-FHGV) is located in Greater Vancouver – a region which houses the fastest growing population in the province. Our program has a record of excellence in resident education and we are proud of our dedicated clinical faculty who are deeply committed to teaching. It is a very exciting time for a new resident to be part of Fraser Health – both of the main teaching sites are undergoing or have recently undergone extensive redevelopment with specific attention to mental health areas. There are numerous opportunities for electives both within Fraser Health, as well as throughout Vancouver and the rest of BC. The diversity of population and variety of learning options allows for a well-rounded and rich educational experience. We look forward to meeting you and discussing the program further, good luck!

Dr. Faiza Hameer
Assistant Program Director, Fraser Track

Sites:
- Royal Columbian Hospital (RCH) - New Westminster
- Surrey Memorial Hospital (SMH) - Surrey
- Burnaby General Hospital (BGH) - Burnaby
- Peace Arch Hospital (PAH) - White Rock

Program Overview:
**PGY1**: Basic clinical year at Royal Columbian Hospital (RCH)
**PGY2**: General psychiatry at RCH or SMH
**PGY3**: Child Psychiatry at SMH; Geriatric Psychiatry at RCH / SMH / Burnaby
**PGY4**: Addictions & Shared Care at various sites in Fraser Valley
**PGY5**: Elective and Selective opportunities (any site from any track)

For more information about this track, please visit:
https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/education-programs/postgraduate-training-program/clinical-training-sites/

Program Highlights:
- Strong emphasis on teaching which takes a priority over service-based components
- Extra resident-focused teaching provided
- Excellent staff support on call
- Strong collegial atmosphere, young staff, future employment opportunities
- Extra-curricular events and educational dinners where staff and residents socialize
Vancouver Island Track

Situated in the most beautiful city in Canada, the Victoria Program is known for its strong academic focus, collegiality, opportunities for continuity of care, and work-life balance. We maintain our connections with UBC Psychiatry Residents from other sites through call-back trips to Vancouver for educational and social events, as well as offer Victoria Postgrad specific social events and Psychiatry specific educational and social events. Training is centralized at Royal Jubilee Hospital in the heart of Victoria, where psychiatric inpatient units are located on the first 2 floors of the state-of-the-art Patient Care Centre. This has greatly reduced the stigma of mental illness and allowed for increased collaboration of medical treatment for psychiatric patients with concurrent illnesses and care continuity. We have well established ACT teams, outpatient clinics, and Tertiary facilities like Seven Oaks. Most of the graduates from the program (including subspecialty residents from Child and Geriatric Psychiatry) have chosen to live and practice in Victoria or other parts of Vancouver Island.

Dr. Wei-Yi Song
Assistant Program Director, Vancouver Island Track

Sites:
- Royal Jubilee Hospital (RJH)
- Victoria General Hospital (VGH)
- Queen Alexandra Centre for Children’s Health (QACCH)
- Urgent Short Term Assessment and Treatment (USTAT)

Program Overview:
PGY1: Basic clinical year at RJH
PGY2: General psych at RJH and/or USTAT
PGY3: Geriatric Psychiatry at RJH, Child Psychiatry at QACCH
PGY4: Shared care and addictions at multiple sites in Victoria.
PGY5: Elective opportunities in Victoria, up island and on the mainland

For more information about this track, please visit: https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/education-programs/postgraduate-training-program/clinical-training-sites/

Program Highlights:
- Strong community environment with a collaborative and close-knit program
- Flexible program that caters to your individual interests, including many opportunities for teaching and leadership roles even as a junior resident
- Centralized training and beautiful hospital (RJH) and newly renovated psychiatric emergency department
- Lifestyle and simple commuting
- Reimbursed monthly travel and accommodations to Vancouver for academic days (videoconferencing for other academic days)
- Multiple psychotherapy training opportunities
Prince George Track

Northern Health provides services across a vast region and provides residents numerous and diverse outreach opportunities with both rural and First Nations communities. Close relationships are developed with faculty and other residents. With the success of the medical school here, there has been an exciting transition from Regional referral hospital to University Hospital of Northern BC. While the growth and expansion of our medical community and services has been rapid we have retained a community hospital feel and true northern collegiality and hospitality. Finally, Prince George offers an excellent lifestyle for people who are interested in the outdoor and a closer connection to nature. Affordable housing and frequent flights ensure we are in commuting distance to Vancouver and Calgary. Prince George is a friendly and vibrant small city with excellent opportunities for families and individuals to experience the arts and sporting facilities. We would be happy to welcome any applicants to come and visit!

Dr. Johannes Giede
Assistant Program Director, Prince George

Sites:
• University Hospital of Northern BC (UHNBC) in Northern Health Region
• Inpatient units at UHNBC Adult Inpatient Unit (24 beds) and Adolescent Psychiatric Assessment Unit (APAU) (6 beds)
• Outpatient services at Community Clinics

Program Overview:
PGY1: Basic clinical year
PGY2: General Psychiatry Adult Inpatient at UHNBC Adult Inpatient Unit and Adult Outpatient at the Community Acute Stabilization Team (CAST) and/or Community Outreach Assertive Services Team (COAST)
PGY3: Child Psychiatry at the Adolescent Psychiatric Assessment Unit (APAU) and Community Clinics and Geriatric Psychiatry
PGY4: Combined Longitudinal Chronic Care / Shared Care / Addictions and Consultation-Liaison / Electives
PGY5: Selectives / Electives / Exam Prep

For more information about this track, please visit: https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/education-programs/postgraduate-training-program/clinical-training-sites/

Program Highlights:
• UHNBC serves a wide region in Northern BC with a diverse population and provides broad clinical experiences with a high degree of independence and flexibility with residency training options
• The clinical services have a strong focus on resident education and are not resident-dependent
• The resident group is small but close-knit and we meet for resident lunches and other activities
• The cost of living is very affordable compared to larger cities
• Prince George has several unique local restaurants, pubs and coffee shops
• Outdoor sports and activities, especially mountain biking are very popular in PG
LAYOUT OF TRAINING

PGY1
- Clinical placement at SPH
- 1 – 2 months research elective
- Support from program director to identify mentor/supervisor & plan a research project

PGY2
- 1 day/week research time
- Clinical placement is usually at VGH/UBC hospital
- Research methodology training

PGY3 & 4
- 1 day/week research time
- Option to enroll in a Master’s program in clinical neuroscience or other discipline

PGY5
- Up to 4 day/week research time
- Opportunity to continue research in PGY6 & 7 in the clinical investigator program
- Opportunities to transition from Master’s to PhD

Research Track Highlights:
- Personalized mentorship to support research interests
- Dedicated & protected time for scholarly projects
- Integrated & flexible curriculum to allow resident to meet clinical training requirements outlined by the Royal College
- Opportunities to enter program from any clinical track throughout residency
- Opportunities to complete Master’s or PhD programs

QUESTIONS ABOUT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES?

Contact us!
Dr. Anthony Bailey
Research Track Program Director
Email: anthony.bailey@ubc.ca

Explore our website!
http://scholarlyactivity.psychiatry.ubc.ca/
Clinical Training

Our course curriculum follows the standards mandated by the Royal College of Physician and Surgeons.

Our program is fully accredited with the Royal College until 2020.

Training Outline

*PGY1
Basic Clinical Training Requirements include:
- 3 Block Psychiatry (variable)
- 3 Blocks Electives/Selectives
- 3 Blocks Internal Medicine and Family Medicine
- 1 Block Emergency Medicine
- 1 Block Pediatrics
- 1 Block Neurology + 1 Block Neuroimaging

PGY1 Residents from all sites will spend one Thursday per month at their home program (Psychiatry academic full day)

**PGY4
Chronic Care/Elective Block requires:
- 2 days/week of chronic care
- 2 days/week of elective
- 28 hours with developmental disability mental health service teams
Academic Days & Teaching

Academic Days:

• **PGY1**: Each site has its own weekly site-specific half-day teaching on all medicine topics. Once a month, residents attend a Psychiatry academic full day at VGH.

• **PGY2 - 4**: Weekly academic full days at VGH, with videoconferencing to Royal Columbian (Fraser), Royal Jubilee (Vancouver Island), & UHNBC (Prince George).

• **PGY5**: Thursdays are reserved for self-study for Royal College exams.

In all years, residents attend Psychiatry academic full day at VGH once a month. Residents in Vancouver Island and Prince George are reimbursed for their travel expenses for academic day.

Site Specific Teaching:

Varies from site to site, includes: grand rounds, clinical teaching rounds, on-call rounds, OSCE rounds, formulation course, phenomenology teaching, ECT course.

Additional Academic Opportunities:

• **Frames of mind** – monthly mental health film study
• **Balint group** – difficult case reviews, staff mentorship, emotional support
• **Monthly journal club** – review cornerstone studies and guidelines, food provided
Clinical Training Opportunities

Electives and Selectives:

A wide variety of electives and selectives are available to residents at UBC, both at approved residency programs in North America and abroad which are relevant to contemporary psychiatric practice.

This includes electives in other branches of medicine including: internal medicine, pediatrics, neurology, and research.

Some examples of electives/selectives available at UBC include:

- Anxiety Disorders
- Child Psychiatry
- Chronic Pain
- Civil Forensics
- Adolescent Medicine
- Concurrent Diagnosis
- Consultation / Liaison
- Early Psychosis
- Eating Disorders
- Forensic Psychiatry
- Gender Dysphoria Clinic
- Geriatric Psychiatry
- Group Psychotherapy
- Infant Mental Health
- Mood Disorders
- Multicultural Psychiatry
- Neuropsychiatry
- Movement Disorders
- Psychotherapy
- Refractory Psychosis
- Reproductive Psychiatry
- Research
- Sexual Medicine
- Sleep Disorders
- Student Health Services
Additional Training Opportunities Unique to UBC

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM (VCMHS)
Community based multi-disciplinary mental health teams catering to the needs of clients suffering from chronic mental illness

BC CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL (BCCH)
Tertiary care pediatric hospital for the province of British Columbia with specialized clinics in OCD, ADHD & somatization disorders

SPECIALIZED GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES
Offered through MSJH, VGH, RCH, Vancouver Community Mental Health Services (VCMHS), St. Joseph’s Hospital in Comox, and PAH

PSYCHIATRY ASSESSMENT UNIT (PAU)
A unique emergency service within Canada. It is designed with a crisis stabilization model, providing assessments to the ER, immediate intervention, containment, stabilization and short-term triage of patients. It is adjacent to the ER at VGH, consists of 20 beds (incl. 8 seclusion rooms) and 10 ER psychiatrists of varied backgrounds attend the unit

SLEEP DISORDERS
A multidisciplinary program based at UBC with inpatient/outpatient programs involved in the assessment and evaluation of sleep disorders

DIVISION SEXUAL MEDICINE
Provides clinical services to patients with sexual dysfunctions and gender dysphoria through the BC centre for sexual medicine at UBC. The sexual medicine consultation clinic is part of VCMHS and provides consultation services to both patients with severe mental illness and their therapists. Both sites also provide opportunities for education and research

HILLSIDE CENTRE IN KAMLOOPS, BC
Provides specialized tertiary services for adult and geriatric patients from the southern and northern interior of BC. The neuropsychiatry program there provides specialized services for the province, as part of the BC neuropsychiatry program linked with the UBC site. South Hills provides tertiary psychosocial rehabilitation and sub-acute stabilization for people from throughout the Interior health authority with severe, refractory illness in a community setting

FORENSIC SERVICES
Affiliated with the forensic psychiatric services commission and provides extensive clinical experience in the assessment and treatment of adults in conflict with the law, including the opportunity to participate in intensive treatment of sexual offenders. Residents may choose to do their chronic care rotation at the Forensic Psychiatric Hospital. There are also opportunities for outreach placements and research

MULTICULTURAL PSYCHIATRY
In the unique setting of Vancouver’s multicultural society, the multicultural psychiatry program emphasizes an academic and research base combined with service at ambulatory and inpatient levels; the acquisition of skills through electives, and the sensitization of all staff to these areas through active liaison and teaching at all levels

OUTREACH COMMUNITY PLACEMENT
Provides training in general community psychiatry in suburban areas outside of Vancouver, designated rural sites in the province and outreach facilities providing consultation to outlying areas in the province on a regular basis

SAINT PAUL’S HOSPITAL
Offers residency training opportunities in the assessment and management of patients with chronic pain and HIV related psychiatric illness. The eating disorders clinic at SPH evaluates and treats disorders associated with eating through inpatient / outpatient and outreach programs

REPRODUCTIVE PSYCHIATRY
Based both at BC Women’s Hospital and SPH. Evaluates and treats women with psychiatry problems associated with their reproductive years
Outreach & Rural Practice Opportunities

Rural Training Sites
There are opportunities for residents to complete clinical work and gain experience in smaller communities and remote areas of B.C., including: Duncan, Comox, Nanaimo, Haida Gwaii, Penticton, Prince George, Vernon, Nelson/Trail, and Kamloops.

Outreach
Outreach opportunities are encouraged and supported by the program and the Rural Education Action Plan (REAP) in various communities throughout BC.

REAP funds UBC Psychiatry Residents financially to accompany their preceptors who are involved in the Specialist Outreach Program.

Funding is available to receive up to $1,000/month for travel and accommodation expenses to cover the cost associated with providing outreach care.

If you have questions about this program please email Lisa Oliver (lisa.oliver@familymed.ubc.ca) or call 604-827-4188. Further information is available at https://rccbc.ca/education-and-cmecpd/residents/reap/psychiatry-outreach-program/.
UBC has a comprehensive psychotherapy curriculum which includes training, supervision, and experiences in all validated modalities. Our psychotherapy training runs longitudinally throughout residency.

Psychotherapy teaching and supervision is provided to residents individually as well as in small groups at both academic day and at all of the teaching hospitals starting in PGY2.

The current curriculum includes specific training and experience in the following modalities:
- Psychodynamic Psychotherapy
- Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT)
- Interpersonal psychotherapies (IPT or brief psychodynamic psychotherapy)
- Multi-person therapies (group, couples, and family)

Academic day lectures, starting in PGY2, review the fundamentals of various therapeutic modalities. These seminars continue throughout PGY3 and PGY4 and increase in their complexity over time.

Opportunities for learning and experiences in other modalities are available and encouraged (e.g. Mindfulness Based CBT, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Couples Therapy, etc.). Experiences are often available in individual patient work and in group therapy.

Residents have protected and dedicated time for psychotherapy starting in PGY2 (3 hours/week).

QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PSYCHOTHERAPY PROGRAM?
Please contact: Dr. Auby Axler,
auby.axler@ubc.ca, Tel (604) 662-4776
Subspecialty Residency Training Programs and Fellowships

More information can be found at:

- Subspecialities: [https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/education-programs/postgraduate-subspecialties-training-programs/](https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/education-programs/postgraduate-subspecialties-training-programs/)
- Other program divisions: [https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/programs/cross-cultural-psychiatry/](https://psychiatry.ubc.ca/programs/cross-cultural-psychiatry/)
What to expect on your Interview Day

Welcome & Orientation
Program Director and other candidates

Interview with the Program Director (10 min)

1 Mini Interview (15 min) 1 Panel Interview (15 min)

COMMUNICATION  PROFESSIONALISM  COLLABORATION SKILLS

RESEARCH TRACK Applicants
• Same process as above
• In addition, separate interview with Research Track Program Director

Want more info?
• Explore the UBC PGME website at http://postgrad.med.ubc.ca
• Direct interview day questions to Shilpa Samji, Senior Education Programs Manager: shilpa.samji@ubc.ca, (604) 875-4111 ext 68102