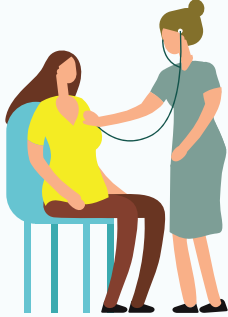


In celebration of BC's first Family Doctor Day – May 19, 2018

Family doctors have a unique role in our health care system



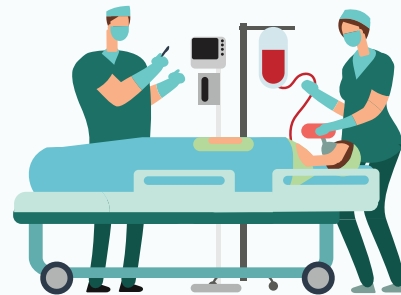
Family doctors specialize in your health.



Family doctors partner with you to manage your health.



Family doctors work in teams with other health care professionals and specialists.



Family doctors care for patients in the community, surgery, deliver babies or work in hospitals, including the emergency department.

The patient-doctor relationship is central to family medicine.

Family doctors get to know their patients and serve as trusted health advocates, tailoring the care and advice that they provide to meet each patient's changing needs and stage of life.

Did you know?



More than 6,500 family doctors practise in BC



About 1,200 family doctors work in rural settings



3,500 family doctors teach medical students or residents

Why are family physicians important for the health of British Columbians?

Family physicians have a unique role within the health care system.

We are the first point of contact for patients when they have health concerns, and we act as the central “hub” for managing the health of our patients and their families over time.

By proactively managing the health of our patients and providing prompt treatment when they are unwell, we can minimize the need for more expensive, hospital-based care later on.

We are highly skilled generalists, with the expertise to assess patients early in their illness, developing a patient-centred diagnosis and treatment plan.

The patient-doctor relationship is central to the care provided by family physicians.

We get to know our patients and we serve as a trusted health advocate, tailoring the care and advice that we provide to meet each patient’s changing needs and stage of life.

The care provided by family physicians impacts the wider population.

The care we provide goes beyond the health and wellbeing of individual patients, impacting the health of communities and the population as a whole.

Family physicians are a vital resource to their communities.

Collectively, we work with our local and provincial partners to deliver accessible, comprehensive, continuity-based, patient-centred care.

We provide health care services to the broader community: family physicians care for patients in the office, the hospital, other health care facilities, or the home.

In a hospital setting, the role of a family physician may include: working in emergency departments; delivering in-hospital care; administering anesthesia in the operating room; or providing obstetrical care.

Family physicians work with specialists and other health care professionals to deliver comprehensive, coordinated, patient-centred care.

We support the Patient’s Medical Home and the primary care network vision for family medicine, where family physicians work within health care teams to offer comprehensive, coordinated care for our patients.



**BC COLLEGE OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS**
The home of family medicine

The BC College of Family Physicians is the professional home of family medicine in BC, providing leadership, support, advocacy and education.

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