



**WOMEN'S HEALTH
RESEARCH INSTITUTE**
Women's health, women's lives

A Research Partner of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Vision

Leading research: Better health for all women.

Mission

To create and facilitate new knowledge and evidence-based solutions that inform and transform the health and health care of all women.

Core Values

To be *ethical* in our actions.

To be *transparent* in our activities.

To encourage *women-centered* research and innovative thinking.

To be *inclusive* of everyone and every idea.

To promote *equality* among everyone, every day.

To demonstrate *excellence* in all we do.



**Provincial Health
Services Authority**
Province-wide solutions.
Better health.



BC WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
& HEALTH CENTRE
An agency of the Provincial
Health Services Authority

Women's Health Research Institute

Informing and transforming women's health and health care

BC Ministry of Health start-up funding allowed for the establishment of the Women's Health Research Institute (WHRI) at BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre in 2005. As the need for in-depth and wide-ranging research into the connections between the health of BC women and their daily lives has grown, so has the potential for the WHRI.

Today, the WHRI continues to serve as the research arm of BC Women's, and also plays an expanded role as a research partner of the Provincial Health Services Authority. In addition to its role in women's health across BC, the WHRI provides support and collaboration on studies underway and under development across Canada and internationally.

The WHRI is a BC non-profit society governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and is affiliated through both research and teaching with the University of British Columbia. It also works with other women's health researchers, policy makers, health care providers and academic, government and community partners. The WHRI is able to continue and build its work through a combination of infrastructure funding, provincial and national research grants and philanthropy.

While working with increasing numbers of others dedicated to improving the health and health care of women and girls, the WHRI continues to develop its unique role across the continuum of research, education and care. Unlike some other research organizations, the WHRI embraces all four research pillars determined by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research:

Biomedical: Research with the goal of understanding normal and abnormal human functioning, at molecular, cellular, organ system and whole body levels.

Clinical: Research with the goal of improving the diagnosis and treatment of disease and injury, improving health and quality of life through normal life stages.

Health Services and Systems: Research with the goal of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of health professionals and the health care system through changes to practice and policy.

Social, Cultural, Environmental and Population Health: Research with the goal of improving the health of the Canadian population or defined sub-populations.

The WHRI's approach encourages discovery, innovation and collaboration across a wide range of women's health research topics.

Women's Health Research Institute

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“Women’s health involves their emotional, social and physical well-being, and is determined by the social, political and economic context of their lives as well as by biology.”

*Declaration, United Nations
World Conference on Women,
Beijing, 1995*

BC Women’s Hospital & Health Centre:
www.bcwomens.ca

BC Women’s Foundation:
www.bcwomensfoundation.org

Provincial Health Services Authority:
www.phsa.ca

Women’s Health Research Institute
E204 - 4500 Oak Street, Box 42
Vancouver, BC
V6H 3N1

Tel: 604-875-3459
Fax: 604-875-3895

Research is about people

The WHRI helps people make research happen

From biomedical and clinical studies to population health issues and service delivery, research matters to women’s health and women’s lives in BC. It also matters to the lives of all those who depend on them, care for them or care about them. Research, translated into better knowledge and care, is critical to women, their families, their communities and everyone who is part of their lives.

The inclusive and collaborative approach taken by the WHRI means a greater role for research in turning discovery into better clinical practice, better patient care, better training for the next generation of health care providers and increased awareness of health issues and treatments for everyone.

In essence, the WHRI provides a meeting place rich in possibility for diverse research interests to come together on issues and areas affecting women’s health and health care. It is also a place where women’s health researchers can find resources and support to further their work and build for future discovery. Imagine the possibilities for all of these connections to help women and all of us live stronger and healthier lives and build better futures.

But the work of the WHRI cannot grow without the continuing support of its members, partner organizations and many committed supporters. With your help, the WHRI will be able to take exciting new steps over the next several years to enrich the tradition of health research at BC Women’s, expand opportunities for new research and strengthen the translation of research into better understanding and application throughout BC.

These new directions are based on several strategic areas relevant to women’s health and health care: Cancer, Chronic Diseases, Health Promotion, Health Services Delivery, Heart Health, Infectious Diseases, Maternity, Mental Health and Addictions, Musculo-Skeletal and Reproductive Health. These areas intersect with one or more research themes, such as: Aboriginal Health, Development and Aging, Genetics, International Health and Marginalized Populations.

As we are born, grow, work, start families, age, and develop the need for knowledge or care, women’s health research plays a vital role throughout our lives. Thanks to you, the WHRI will be able to support those pursuing excellence in women’s health research and in translating new evidence-based knowledge into better health and health care.



To find out more about the Women’s Health Research Institute, please visit: www.whri.org