

# THE SPECIALIST SERVICES COMMITTEE (SSC)

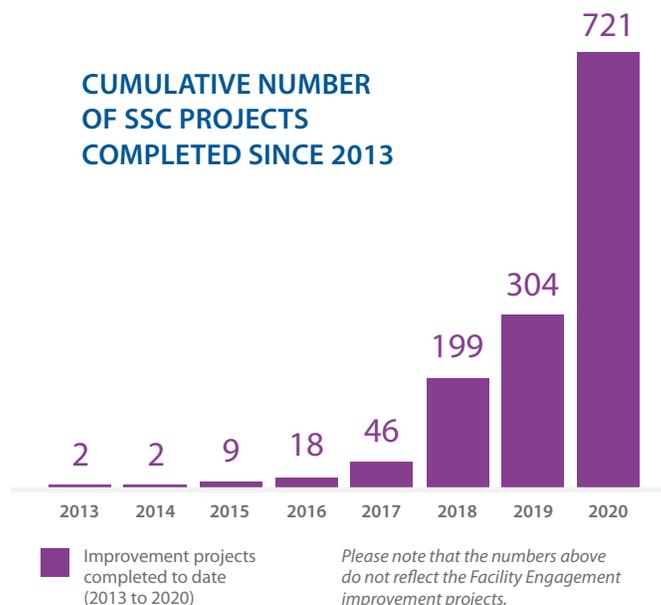
IMPROVES PATIENT CARE BY ENGAGING PHYSICIANS TO COLLABORATE, LEAD QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, AND DELIVER INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO BC'S HEALTH CARE CHALLENGES



SSC has divided its work into three strategic areas and 11 initiatives (as seen in the below diagram). As part of some of these initiatives, participant physicians receive SSC funding and support to complete one or more improvement project(s) to better patient care, either directly or through improvements in the health system. These projects can be local, regional or sometimes provincial in scope.



## CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF SSC PROJECTS COMPLETED SINCE 2013



However, SSC's achievements are not limited to the improvement projects mentioned above. Each initiative works towards filling a gap and helps support, coach, train and create opportunities for collaboration across the health system.

Click [here](#) to learn more about SSC's programs and initiatives.

## A FEW EXAMPLES OF SSC'S IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

### Helping change the paradigm of treatment for alcohol use disorder in BC

Through a Physician Quality Improvement project, Dr Jeff Harries measured the change he had made by speaking to different medical communities about his experience of using new pharmacotherapies for treating patients with alcohol use disorder (AUD). The results showed prescriptions quadrupled for AUD in places where he had spoken. In the South Okanagan alone, over the first 18 months of his talks, 1,000 people with AUD began to be treated with proven pharmacotherapies.

Read the full story [here](#).

### Leveling the playing field for osteoporosis care

A Health System Redesign project helped Dr Susan Purkiss, an internist who works at BC Women's Hospital, and Dr David Kendler, an endocrinologist at Vancouver General and St Paul's hospitals to form the BC Coalition of Osteoporosis Physicians (BCCOP) that enables a unified voice to advocate for osteoporosis patients.

Read the full story [here](#).

### Specialist Services Committee (SSC) backs expansive strategy for improving Cystic Fibrosis patient care

Since 2015, SSC has supported three projects in support of improving care for Cystic Fibrosis (CF) patients. The first project created the first made-in-Canada CF Standards of Care, identifying who is responsible for delivering different aspects of care of health care to CF patients. The second project supported the screening and treatment of mental health by BC's CF clinics, and the third project initiated a BC Cystic Fibrosis Health Improvement Network to facilitate implementation of the established standards of care.

Read the full story [here](#).

# Q3

OCT 1, 2020 – DEC 31, 2020



## 5,702

PHYSICIANS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATING  
ACROSS ALL SSC INITIATIVES

**359** Northern Health

**1,144** Interior Health

**1,092** Island Health

**1,216** Vancouver Coastal Health/  
Providence Health

**1,235** Fraser Health

**409** PHSA

*There are physicians with unknown health authority affiliations, the numbers may therefore not add up.*

**3,342** specialists currently participating  
across all SSC initiatives

**48** specialty types participating  
across all SSC

**97%** of participating physicians rated  
their participation in SSC initiatives  
as a *valuable* use of their time

**120** improvement projects (teams)  
underway transforming  
patient care

**329** physicians trained in leadership  
and quality improvement

**183** through Physician Quality Improvement

**141** through Physician Leadership Scholarship

**19** through UBC Sauder Leadership Program

*\* Note: Some physicians have taken more than one type of leadership program, that's the reason the numbers in the subcategories don't add up.*