

May 24, 2024

Dear partners in care,

Vancouver Coastal Health is committed to caring for everyone, including the growing older adult population in our region. The Vancouver Community Older Adult Mental Health and Substance Use program (VC Older Adult MHSU) provides specialist support and treatment to:

- people 65 and older with mental health (MH), substance use (SU), and concurrent MHSU disorders or conditions that co-exist with a combination of age-related psychological, cognitive, functional, physical and social needs, and
- people of any age with complex behavioural and/or psychological symptoms associated with a progressive dementia.

Our team is currently in the process of standardizing our services, procedures and practice to enhance care and equity of access for the people we serve. To better streamline intakes, as of May 27, 2024, all referrals will be made through a single point of entry using the attached referral form. Completed referrals can be faxed to the new referral fax line at **604-872-0254** and you can contact **604-873-6733** with general referral inquiries.

The new referral form and process is aligned with how we have been accepting referrals from all other partners in care. We recognize that this change may require some adjustment and are available to support as needed. If you have questions, please reach out to Larissa Sandve, Manager, Older Adult Mental Health and Substance Use at Larissa.sandve@vch.ca.

Sincerely,

Kristen Farquharson

Operations Director, Vancouver Community
Vancouver Coastal Health

