



BC NURSE PRACTITIONERS ARE WORKING IN NEUROSURGERY

BONNIE GIOVANNETTI, MN, RN, NP(A) is one of two **Adult Nurse Practitioners (NPs)** who care for an average daily of **60 in-patients** with **seven Neurosurgeons** at **Vancouver General Hospital**.



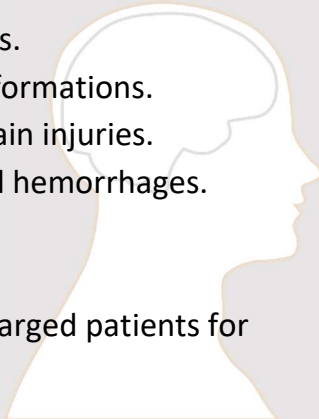
A TYPICAL DAY

- 0600:** Join residents in ICU to see patients. Assess acute patients in neuro ICU.
- 0715:** Orientate medical student interns (MSI) arriving for rotation.
- After:** Oversee in-patient care, treatments, discharges, family meetings, all details. Ongoing communication with off-service residents, MSIs, Neuro team.



THE TYPES OF CASES I WORK ON

- Brain tumours.
- Vascular malformations.
- Traumatic brain injuries.
- Subarachnoid hemorrhages.
- Seizures.
- Concussions.
- Post op discharged patients for follow-up.



OTHER "BRAINY" THINGS I DO

- Partnered with surgeon to open **Hydrocephalus clinic**.
- **Lumbar punctures** to assess need for shunts in patients with **normal pressure hydrocephalus**.
- Check, adjust programmable **Ventriculo-Peritoneal** shunts.
- Opening **brain care clinic** for patients newly diagnosed with primary brain tumours.
- **Refer** patients to cancer agencies for treatment or palliative care for transition.

MY TEAM



- Surgeons
- Residents
- Medical Student Interns



- NP, NP Lead
- Patient Care Coordinators
- Care Mgmt Leaders
- Unit Clerks
- Nurses



- Manager
- Director
- Patients & families



- Physio-therapists
- Occupational Therapists



- Speech & Language Pathologist
- Social Workers



- Dietician



- Stock People
- Cleaners

“ *Having a great team makes the hardest days manageable. Every role on the team supports the NP role (and vice versa), and each person is someone who makes me love my job.* ”