

BCNeurologists.ca

*Dr. John Falconer, FRCPC
President, BC Section of Neurology
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Your BC Neurologists Executive Team 2022 - 2023



Clinical Associate
Professor of Neurology,
UBC, Kelowna General
Hospital Stroke
Neurologist

Dr. John Falconer - President



Clinical Associate Professor of
Neurology practicing, UBC
Hospital MS Clinic and serves
as site investigator for clinical
trials in MS. As part of a
strong interest in Neuro-
rheumatology, I also have
provided a provincial resource
to neurologists in autoimmune
encephalitis cases.

Dr. Robert Carruthers - President elect



Clinical Associate
Professor of Neurology,
UBC, Island Health,
who practices general
neurology with a sub-
specialization in MS
care.

Dr. Olinka Hrebicek - Past President



Pediatric Neurologist in
Burnaby. Consultant care to the
Pediatrics and Neonatal
Intensive Care Units at Royal
Columbian Hospital. RCH
Pediatrics Subspecialty clinical
lead. Neurologist DoBC
Representative Assembly and
Consultant Specialists of BC
(cSBC) delegate for Neurology.

Dr. Torin Glass - executive member at large



Clinical Associate Professor
of Neurology, UBC,
Director and Principal
investigator for many
clinical trials at the Fraser
Health MS Clinic (Burnaby,
BC) since 2004. General
neurology with a sub-
specialization in MS care.

Dr. Galina Vorobeychik - secretary/Treasurer

Purpose: What is “The Section of Neurology?”

DoBC: Our provincial medical association is the Doctor of BC: DoBC (Formerly the BCMA - BC Medical Association). The DoBC is the legal negotiation entity for all doctors in BC in relation to the Government of BC. Most doctors in BC are individual members of the DoBC. Benefits of DoBC membership include negotiating or fees with the government, offering cost-effective disability, life, travel insurance, support for dealing with non-fee for service contracts, various “deals” for cell phones and holidays, support in dealing with Health Authorities, as well as general advocacy for BC doctors.

Sections: The various doctors in BC are organized into about 35 sections. This includes Family Practice, Obstetrics, Paediatrics, General Surgery, Dermatology, Neurology, etc. The sections are responsible for all matters related to each section, e.g., fee codes, interactions between sections, support of individual section members, etc.

The Section of Neurology: This is the group which deals with matters pertaining to all neurologists in BC. We advocate for our members, assist with recruitment, maintain a website (BCNeurologists.ca), establish fee codes and billing amounts for these, provide education to neurologists on these matters, deal with questions from government and elsewhere regarding neurologists, the Privileging Dictionary as pertains to neurologists, and advocating on behalf of neurology in BC.

Section of Neurology executive and members: All neurologists in BC are invited to be members. The members elect or ratify the executive members, which includes:

President: Dr. John Falconer

Vice-president: Dr. Olinka Hrebicek

Treasurer: Dr. Galina Vorobeychik

Members at large: Dr. Rob Carruthers, Dr. Torin Glass

There are two satellite organizations in BC:

The consultant Specialists of BC (cSBC)

The BC Family Doctors (BCFD)

We encourage everyone to simultaneously join the consultant Specialists of BC, who advocate and support ALL specialists in BC. They deal with issues unique and common to specialists.

Section of BC - five-year accomplishments:

1. Dictionary - the development and maintenance of the Privileging dictionary. You all see this when you renew privileges every year. The dictionary was mandated by the College, and we developed the entries for neurologists and maintain their evolution.

2. College of Physicians and surgeons of BC, re: Consultation definition - what represents a “Consultation” vs. repeat consult, vs. continuing care? A hot topic and we are working with the cSpecialists of BC on this issue.
3. We have successfully achieved for BC neurologists, over and above routine fee increases everyone gets:
 - a. Labor Market Adjustment award \$1,300,000 (per year added to neurology fees)
 - b. Recruitment and Retention award \$1,700,000 (per year added to neurology fees)
 - c. Disparity sectional award \$2,888,787 (per year added to neurology fees)
4. Disparity amongst Specialists - there is a long-standing desire to reduce the income disparity between the different specialties within BC. We have worked very hard to advocate for neurology and have been successfully awarded over \$5,888,787 to correct disparity for our members. This has resulted in an increase of neurology incomes averaging \$50,000 per year over compared to five years ago, over, and above general fee increases all doctors have been getting. Neurology bills about \$30,000,000 per year, so we have obtained relative fee increases of 20%.
5. Alternative Paid Practice within Neurology - APP salaries are placed on a “grid” amongst all groups. Over the last five years we have raised the neurologists from (240,000-314,000) \$298,000 to \$373,000 per year. This amounts to a 15% increase.
6. Neurology fee code development and support - we have established new fee codes to support certain under-recognized areas within neurology, including MS, Cognitive, Movement Disorders, Auto-immune complex therapies, innovation in virtual care, etc.
7. Development and maintenance of our provincial website: BCNeurologists.ca
8. Your membership of \$450 per year has resulted in each of you getting many thousands of dollars per year you would not have had without all the work the section has done on your behalf.

Kind regards,



John Falconer MD, FRCPC
President Neurologists of BC
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