



Photo credit: UBC DHCC



Photo credit: Don Erdhardt



Photo credit: UBC DHCC

Patient & Community Voices Workshops 2012-2013 Series



6 community-led, interprofessional workshops:

Positive Reflections and Voices Unheard: Learning from Persons Living with HIV
(November 8th 2012 & January 31st 2013)

Living a Life of Recovery with Mental Illness
(November 19th 2012)

Talk is Cheap – Living and Communicating with Aphasia
(February 4th 2013)

How to Support People with Epilepsy
(March 21st, 2013)

Linking Bridges: Mental Health Awareness Workshop
(June 5th 2013)

meetingofexperts.org

Recent Publication

[Patients as educators: Interprofessional learning for patient-centred care](#)

by Angela Towle & William Godolphin
Medical Teacher 2013; 35: 219–225

Patient & Community Voices Workshops are designed by community members with input from faculty and students. They typically last 2 to 3 hours and are held in a community setting outside usual class time. They are instructed by community educators, who are patients/clients and caregivers who share with students their unique experiences and expertise. The workshops are interactive and include small group discussions by 3 or 4 community educators with 10 to 25 students from multiple UBC health and human service programs.

Background Since 2008, the Division of Health Care Communication, College of Health Disciplines, UBC has coordinated Patient & Community Voices Workshops in collaboration with our community partners. People with chronic health concerns and other “expert patients” have important life experiences and expertise that can and should enrich present University training. We believe that active patient participation is an essential component of training future health and human service professionals for patient-centred, interprofessional practice.

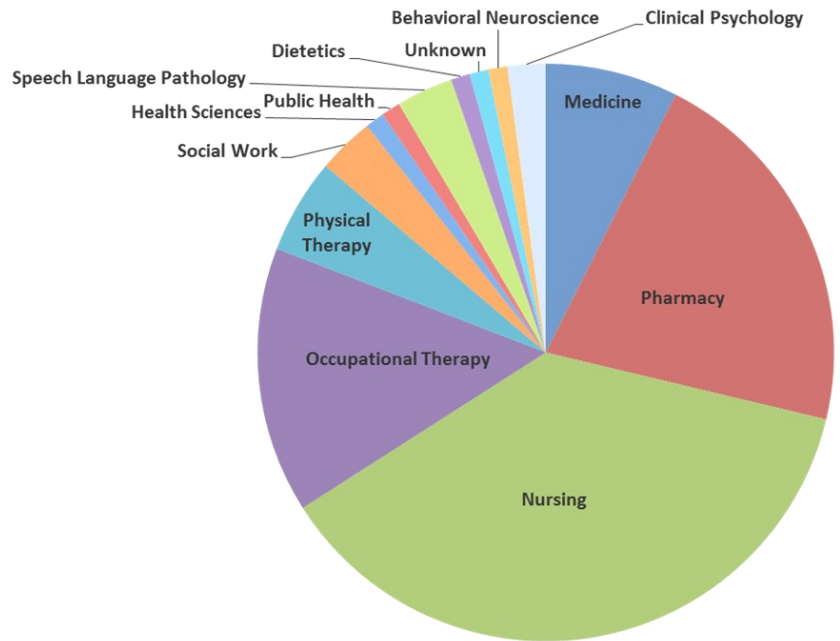
2013 Partners & Collaborators:

- * BC Epilepsy Society
- * Positive Living Society of BC
- * Recovery Narrative Project
- * Richmond Mental Health Consumer & Friends Society (RCFC)
- * UBC School of Audiology & Speech Sciences (SASS) Aphasia Mentoring Program

Student Programs

94 students from **12 UBC** health and human service programs participated in the workshop series in 2012-2013:

- * Behavioral Neuroscience (1)
- * Clinical Psychology (1)
- * Dietetics (1)
- * Health Sciences (1)
- * Medicine (7)
- * Nursing (35)
- * Occupational Therapy (14)
- * Pharmaceutical Sciences (20)
- * Physical Therapy (5)
- * Public Health (1)
- * Social Work (3)
- * Speech-Language Pathology (3)



Learning Outcomes

At Patient & Community Voices workshops, students learn:

- The varied and personal experiences of patients/clients living with a chronic condition or disability
- The interactions that patients/clients have had with health professionals, and approaches to create positive relationships
- The social impacts of living with a chronic condition or disability, such as stigma
- Community resources and information available for health professionals and their patients/clients
- The range of perspectives and scopes of practice of other health professions
- Contributes 40 “exposure level” points to the student Interprofessional Education Passport

“It was great to learn about the medical aspect of Epilepsy, but the personal experiences shared by the guests were amazing - we do not get this experience in school.” — Nursing student

“I learned a lot about how my future career as a pharmacist can have a lot of impact on other people’s lives. The workshop reminded me to always put a patient’s interest when making a decision.” — Pharmacy student

“I think having feedback from people with chronic conditions on how HCPs [health care providers] are performing is invaluable in terms of learning how to conduct ourselves in our future careers.” — Nursing student

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the community educators for volunteering their time and sharing their stories with UBC students. We gratefully acknowledge Richmond Mental Health Consumer and Friends Society (RCFC) for donating space for their workshop.

Thank you to **Calhoun’s Catering** and **Out-to-Lunch** catering for their generous donations of snacks for our workshops.



Thank you to program staff in departments and faculties for circulating our workshop invitations to their students!

Future We aim to continue to develop and present interprofessional workshops that enrich student learning, and to integrate the workshops into curriculum. The challenge is to acquire ongoing financial support for coordination and communication. The promise is enriched education for our students and social accountability by our academy.