



Dr. Sheila A. Turriss
RN, BHSc, MSN, PhD, FNP (exam certified)

Sheila is a lifelong learner and an active researcher, clinician, and educator. She has studied at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), the University of British Columbia (UBC), and the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). She obtained a doctoral degree from UBC where she studied decision making and treatment seeking in the context of symptoms indicative of cardiac illness.

In terms of a research program she has a passionate and long standing interest in the provision of, and the links between, pre-hospital care and emergency services. She is a researcher in the Mass Gathering Medicine Interest Group in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of British Columbia (UBC). Her research has been in the growing field of mass gathering health. She has published in a wide variety of professional journals and enjoys the process of writing as well as teaching others about the process of academic publication. She is an active peer reviewer and is often invited to be a guest lecturer.

In terms of clinical practice, Sheila has a background in acute care, with a specific focus on emergency services. After completing the education required for a Nurse Practitioner (NP), she has made a transition to primary care and maintains a family practice on the North Shore with a focus on providing care for individuals who are members of particularly vulnerable populations.

In terms of education and teaching, in the course of her career to date Sheila has taught paramedics, nurses, members of the armed forces, and physicians in a variety of settings. She has developed undergraduate and graduate level curriculum. She currently holds adjunct professor appointments at the UBC the University of Victoria (UVic). As well, she is an active preceptor and instructs on a sessional basis for both universities as well as teaching Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) for nurses and physicians.

Sheila will continue to partner with the Justice Institute of BC and interested affiliates in carrying out research that will strengthen the links between pre-hospital and acute care services with a focus on mass gathering health and minimizing the impact of special events on local communities.