

Vicki Foerster, MD MSc
2875 Porter Road, Oxford Station, Ontario, Canada. K0G 1T0
(613) 258-0302 📞; (613) 246-2875 (C) 📞; vicki.foerster@sympatico.ca ✉️; www.drwickifoerster.ca 🌐

Career Summary

- Expertise in literature reviews, health care policy issues, medical writing, health technology assessment, and project facilitation involving diverse stakeholders
- A senior-level manager with 40 years in the medical field including experience as a family practitioner, health care consultant, and vice-president of research in a government-funded health care organization (CADTH)
- A Fellow of the American Medical Writers Association based on contributions to the organization

Professional Experience

2003 to present: Independent medical consultant, Ottawa area, Ontario

I work independently and with various consulting firms and expert teams in health policy, primary and secondary research, and health technology assessment. My roles have involved authorship and medical review as a single author or team member, including team lead. Sample of clients:

- Accreditation Canada
- Alberta Health
- Atlantic Cardiovascular Society
- British Columbia Centre for Disease Control
- British Columbia Centre for Substance Use
- British Columbia Ministry of Health
- British Columbia Patient Safety & Quality Council
- Canadian Agency for Drugs & Technologies in Health
- Canadian Blood Services
- Canadian Centre for Substance Use and Addiction
- Canadian Institute for Health Information
- Canadian Medical Association
- Canadian Pharmacists Association
- Canadian Society for International Health
- College of Pharmacists of BC
- Conference Board of Canada
- Department of National Defense
- Diabetes Canada
- Doctors of British Columbia
- Elsevier Canada
- Health Canada
- Institute for Health Economics
- National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities
- Nunavut Department of Health and Social Services
- Ontario Medical Association
- Provincial Health Services Authority (BC)
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
- Universities of Alberta and Western Ontario
- World Health Organization

**2000 to 2003: Canadian Agency for Drugs & Technologies in Health, Ottawa, ON
Vice-President, Research**

- Organized and managed a research division of 20 scientific staff members, undertaking over 60 scientific projects with a team that tripled in size over a 3-year period.
- Established and promoted a continuing education program for staff that resulted in key networks with external professional groups.
- Developed a visiting scholar program for international scientists and students.
- Led a research team in collaborative development of internal policies and guidelines.
- Facilitated a relationship between research staff and industry leading to ongoing, productive interactions, and collaborative information exchange.
- Contributed to uptake of research knowledge by a health care decision-making audience through networking and participating in presentations, workshops, and committees.

**1996 to 2000: BC Ministry of Health, Victoria, British Columbia
Medical Consultant, Regional Programs**

- Reported to the Associate Deputy Minister.
- Participated as a medical collaborator and expert in a number of areas related to professional and hospital issues. Examples:
 - Appointed Provincial Surgical Waitlist Coordinator and spokesperson on surgical waitlist issues including implementation of a web-based registry for surgeons and waittimes.
 - Assisted with the introduction of regulated midwifery, including drafting of legislation, determining remuneration and facilitating integration of the profession.
 - Participated in decision-making and tracking of high-cost radiology equipment.
 - Acted as the ministry resource on hospital bylaws for medical staffs, working with medical and legal experts and committees.
 - Responded to medical issues from the Coroner's Office and the Children's Commission.
 - Managed the processes related to on-call payment of rural and locum physicians.

**1993 to 1995: University of Utah, Salt Lake City,
Ambulatory Care Fellow and Graduate Student**

- Awarded a US Veterans Affairs fellowship in ambulatory care including sponsorship of graduate studies in medical informatics and work with international experts.
- Participated on committees in ethics and quality improvement at the U of Utah Hospital.
- Provided clinical services at the Women Veteran's Medical Clinic.
- Provided consulting services for various quality assurance activities.

1981 to 1993: Family Physician

Urban and Rural Settings in BC and Ontario

- Delivered care in various settings including private offices, emergency rooms, operating rooms, acute and chronic hospitals and facilities, public health clinics, and patient homes.
- Assumed the presidency of the Victoria branch of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada, leading to enhanced participation and enthusiasm.

Education and Training

BSc (honours), UBC, Vancouver, 1976

MD (cum laude), Dalhousie University, Halifax, 1980

Rotating Internship, North York General Hospital, Toronto, 1980-81

MSc (medical informatics), University of Utah, Salt Lake City, 1993-95

Physician Management Institute Leadership series, Canadian Medical Association

Medical Writers Diploma, American Medical Writers Association

Dr. Vicki Foerster – examples of consulting projects 2015 to 2021

Consulting Group	Client	Initiation	Nature of Project	Role	Completion
Independent	The Foundry (an NGO in BC)	02/21	Series of 5 rapid evidence reviews of issues related to young people	Author	Anticipated 12/21
Independent	Asthma Canada	02/21	Rapid evidence review of the use of oral corticosteroids in severe asthma	Author	Anticipated 05/21
Husereau & Associates	Pharmaceutical	01/21	Systematic review of a new gastrointestinal product	Team member	Anticipated 04/21
Independent	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons	09/20	Series of 5 evidence reviews on topics related to surgery for congenital heart defects	Author	12/20
Independent	BC Ministry of Health (MoH)	11/20	Human resource planning in health	Author	12/20
Independent	BC MoH	09/20	Innovation in health care	Author	10/20
Independent	Clinical pulmonologist	06/20	Draft for publication – case report of a patient with sarcoidosis	Author	11/20
Independent	BC MoH	08/20	Primary health care for vulnerable populations	Author	09/20
Independent	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons	03/20	Literature review of analyses of cost effectiveness and resource use of simulation technologies to train surgeons	Author	07/20
Independent	Nanosonics Inc. (Australia)	05/20	Evidence reviews of multiple aspects of the cleaning of endoscopes (7 reports)	Author	09/20
Husereau & Associates	Pharmaceutical	06/20	Systematic review of a new dermatology product	Team member	09/20
Independent	The Foundry	03/20	Series of 5 rapid evidence reviews of issues related to youth and substance use	Author	09/20
Independent	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons	03/20	Literature review of analyses of cost effectiveness and resource use of simulation technologies to train surgeons	Author	07/20
Independent	BC MoH	06/18	Rapid reviews (4 weeks) of published and grey literature on a variety of topics requested by MoH policy staff members	Author	Ongoing - multiple
Independent	BC MoH Knowledge Management (KM) Branch	08/19	Series of 3 rapid reviews (each with a 4-week timeline) of issues in amphetamine use	Author	03/20
Independent	Diabetes Canada	11/19	Literature review of the disease burden (clinical and economic) of diabetic retinopathy in Canada	Author	01/20
Independent	Institute of Health Economics	10/19	Emerging trends in drug innovation	Team member	01/20

Independent	BC Centre for Substance Use	08/19	Team member (researcher/writer) developing an opioid prescribing guideline	Team member	05/20
Independent	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons	09/19	Literature review of the role of multidisciplinary teams in management of obesity	Team member	03/20
Independent	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons	06/19	Review of 3D printing in the operating room	Team member	09/19
Independent	World Health Organization	10/18	Distillation for publication of a report (roll-up of 20 separate reports) on primary care in middle- and lower-income countries	Lead author	05/19
ReVue Drug Evaluation Group	BC PharmaCare Drug Program	07/18	Review of pharmacogenetics including a systematic review of the literature and interviews of industry leaders	Team member (interviews)	02/19
Independent	BC MoH KM Branch	12/18	Innovation in programs to ensure Indigenous cultural safety and humility in health care services	Author	01/19
Independent	BC MoH KM Branch	11/18	Identification and summary of emerging technologies in surgery and the operating room	Author	12/18
Independent	BC MoH KM Branch	07/18	Effectiveness of culture as an intervention for Indigenous wellness in the areas of mental health and substance use	Author	09/18
Independent	BC MoH KM Branch	07/18	Virtual provision of services for mental health and substance use care	Author	10/18
Independent	BC MoH KM Branch	07/18	Implementation of an innovation centre at the BC Ministry of Health	Author	07/18
Independent	Lower Limb Review Online Journal	04/18	Evidence for ankle fusion versus ankle replacement	Author	07/18
Independent	Atlantic Cardiovascular Society	02/18	Regional clinical guidelines on cardiac rehabilitation	Author	06/18
Independent	Health Canada First Nations & Inuit Health Branch	05/17	Updating of clinical practical guidelines for RNs working in remote communities	Author	06/18
Independent	Canadian Blood Services	02/15	Systematic reviews of scoring systems for liver transplantation & medical writer for expert panel deliberations	Author	04/18
Independent	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons	08/10	Literature reviews of various topics related to emerging technologies + medical review of reports by other authors	Author & reviewer	06/18
Independent	Pulmonologist / Blue Cross	01/18	Clinical guideline and US coverage review of the use of coronary CT angiography for patients with chest pain	Author	02/18
Independent	National Association of Pharmacy Regulators (NAPRA)	09/17	Background to a tool on pharmacist-patient communication about opioids: literature review and interviews with stakeholders	Author	02/18

TheraBusiness (Ottawa)	Alcon Inc.	12/16	Literature reviews of state-of-the-art publications on a number of ophthalmology products	Author	12/18
Independent	BC MoH (Lab Division)	02/17	Review of provincial policy on access to and funding of pulmonary function testing, including a literature review and interviews with experts	Author	11/17
Independent	University of Alberta	07/16	Policy analysis for an HTA report on robotic surgery in Alberta	Author	10/17
Independent	Canadian Agency for Drugs & Technologies in Health (CADTH)	02/17	Emerging technology bulletins on two diabetes topics: (1) the artificial pancreas, (2) HbA1C for diabetes diagnosis	Author	07/17
Team member	Doctors of BC + BC Ministry of Health	07/12	Evaluation of Specialist Services Committee (SSC) one-time funding allotment – 20+ innovative projects being funded for up to 3 years	Lead author	06/17
Independent	CADTH	02/17	Evidence review of HPV vaccination in males (for Corrections Canada)	Author	06/17
Cdn Society for International Health (CSIH)	Ministry of Health of Costa Rica	09/16	Introduction of health technology assessment to Costa Rica	Team member / Author	04/17
Independent	CADTH	11/16	Emerging technology bulletin on outpatient total hip arthroplasty	Author	03/17
Independent	CADTH	11/16	Evidence review of medical marijuana for neurodegenerative diseases	Author	12/16
Independent	Elsevier Canada	04/16 and 09/16	Two reports for specialist audiences: (1) Canadian management practices for anti-VEGF agents for acute macular degeneration and (2) Canadian management practices for actinic keratoses	Co-author with 2 experts	12/16
Independent	Health Quality Councils	10/09	Facilitating meetings of Canadian health quality groups	Facilitator	11/16
Independent	Atlantic Cardiovascular Society	04/16	Summarizing guidelines for management of diabetes mellitus in patients with cardiovascular disease	Co-author with experts	10/16
Lead team member	Doctors of BC + BC MOH Specialist Services Committee (SSC)	01/16	Final evaluation of 2 SSC-funded projects on (a) electronic operating room booking and (b) wait time management, led by groups of BC surgeons	Lead author	09/16
Independent	Canadian Blood Services	01/16	Report on donated tissue bioburden reduction practices for an expert group and a consensus forum	Author	06/16
Independent	BC MOH, Health Technology Review Office (HTR)	01/16	Compilation of health technologies requested for assessment by the BC HTA office, including literature summaries and interviews with experts	Lead author	04/16

Independent	BC MoH	01/16	Development of two separate business cases and <i>ad hoc</i> HTA consulting	Author	04/16
Independent	BC Canuck Place Children's Hospice	11/15	Business case to increase physician funding from the BC MOH	Author	01/16
Independent	University of Alberta	11/15	Provincial scan to determine assessment and funding of "companion diagnostics"	Author	01/16
Independent	Public Health Agency of Canada	10/15	Review of training methods to educate public health providers	Author	03/16
Independent	College of Pharmacists of BC (CPBC)	09/15	Developing stakeholder consultation materials for proposed pharmacist prescribing	Author	11/15
Independent	CPBC	09/15	Evidence review of the literature on dispensing errors to underlie development of College standards	Author	11/15
Independent	CADTH	05/15	Emerging technology report on fecal microbiota transplantation	Author	10/15
Team member	CADTH	05/15	Updating of CADTH resource for information specialists called Peer Review of Electronic Search Strategies (PRESS)	Co-author	07/15
Team member	Canadian Pharmacists Association & Health Canada	02/15	Plain language patient materials for prescription drugs included in the Compendium of Pharmaceutical and Specialties	Author / writer	07/15
Independent	Public Health Agency of Canada	10/15	Review of training methods to educate public health providers	Author	03/16
Independent	BC Public Health Laboratory	02/15	With the Director, development of a forward-looking plan for the Provincial Laboratory & refinement of the 2014-15 Strategic Plan	Co-author	04/15