

Proudly Announces the Physician, Midwife or Nurse Practitioner of the Month for **April 2022**

Dr. David Spicer

Internal Medicine

The VJHPS is pleased to announce **Dr. David Spicer as April's 2022 Physician of the Month**. We salute Dr. Spicer for exemplifying the qualities of an excellent physician, and we are pleased to have him as a respected member of our medical staff since 2020.



Background and Training

University of Victoria – Kinesiology
UBC Vancouver – Medical Undergrad
UBC Vancouver – General Internal Medicine 5 year
program (1 year Echo and ICU training)

Nominator's Comments (Dr. Marius Aucamp):

Dr. David Spicer is a BC native from Victoria. When I met up with him to discuss his nomination, he had just returned from a trip to the Island to visit family and celebrate his 10-year wedding anniversary. He met his wife at high school where they are high school sweethearts. They have two children, a boy and a girl. They have particularly enjoyed Silverstar and skiing this year with the kids. Skiing and mountain biking are several of the great reasons for settling down in Vernon. It also just so happens that many of their good friends from University were from the Okanagan and from Vernon. In his 3rd year of Internal Medicine training, David did a month-long rotation in Vernon and found he particularly enjoyed its Internal Medicine department and the size of the hospital. The great outdoors was the cherry on the cake and the deal was done.

David also had a successful career as a rugby player, earning his first cap in 2003 for the Canadian National team. I believe at that time he was one of the youngest capped Canadian players. He went on to represent Canada at the 2007 World Cup. After playing in the World Cup, he signed a contract as a professional rugby player at Auch, Gers in France, where he played at the highest club level. It was during the peak of his rugby career that he started thinking about going to medical school, so after returning to Canada in 2010 he continued playing rugby locally, but started to focus on his studies. In 2011 he began medical studies at UBC, Vancouver and subsequently retired from rugby.

If David had a special power he would pick the ability to grow a few inches more...he finished his final growth spurt in Grade 7 and that was it. He was by far one of the biggest kids in the class, but soon his friends caught up and surpassed him. He would use his power to play basketball, one of his favorite sports.

A perfect day in David's world would be spent going for a 3-4 hour morning mountain bike ride, recovering in the pool with the kids in the afternoon, ending with all his friends coming over for a barbeque and a couple of beers, and then hopping into bed promptly by 9:30 pm.

His cooking skills come to an end at the barbeque. He currently enjoys doing up a rotisserie of chicken or lamb shawarma.

It is a joy to work with David, and as a Hospitalist I connect with him often. He is always willing to help, and is open to chat and give advice. He is a great asset to the VJH and the community, AND should the hospital ever host a rugby derby (for whatever reason, I have no idea why we ever would) we might stand a chance....

Congratulations David on being our Physician of the Month!
