

...proudly announces the Physician, Midwife or Nurse Practitioner of the month for February 2023:

Dr. Nicholas Half, OB/GYN



The VJHPS is pleased to announce Dr. Nicholas Half as **February's 2023 Medical Staff Member of the Month**. We salute Nick for exemplifying the qualities of an excellent practitioner, and we are pleased to have him as a respected member of our medical staff community since 2009.

Nominator's Comments (Birte Paschen, RM):

Background and Training:

Medical School: University of BC
Residency: Calgary

Dr. Nicholas Half was born in Nelson, then moved around BC and Alberta with his parents and eventually graduated from high school in Sechelt on the Sunshine Coast.

After high school, while studying Kinesiology, he started working for Canada Customs at the Vancouver Airport. His positive attitude towards people and his ability to stay calm in stressful situations was recognized by his employers and they would have liked to keep him, but luckily he was accepted into med school so that now these qualities can be appreciated by VJH staff and patients alike.

Nicholas met his wife Dr. Aisha Manji in medical school and both focused on obstetrics. The couple was able to put their obstetrical knowledge into practice when they had preterm twins 9 years ago. But apparently they weren't busy enough, so they had another daughter just over 2 years later.

The girls keep them busy with lots of hobbies and Nick reports that the family loves cross country and downhill skiing together. He hopes they don't leave him in the dust too soon.

If Nicholas had more time for hobbies, he would be found road biking, playing guitar and learning languages. But in the meantime he just plays hockey on the Doctor's hospital team once a year.

Apart from the obvious obligations as an OB/GYN (clinic, OR and on-call time) he has been working in the colposcopy clinic for the last 10 years. Nicholas loves teaching: he is a core team member of the PEER teaching program MoreOB on Women's and Children's, as well as the Lead for 3rd year Integrated Clerkship program and for 4th year med students.

He travels to Revelstoke for 3 days a month to do surgeries and clinic days and lastly, he is the newest Department Head for WCHS, again.

Nick points out that if it wasn't for his wife Aisha, he couldn't do what he does. She was also the driving force behind their Involvement in Dancing with the Vernon Stars in 2019, a fundraiser for the Hospice Society, that the couple won.

He likes the Dan Brown books and more recently, the David Baldacci 'The Memory Man' series. His favourite movies are: Dead Poets Society, Gladiator and Pitch Perfect 1.

Nicholas, who describes himself as an optimist, reports that what he likes most about his job is feeling a sense of appreciation. And appreciated he is, by colleagues and patients alike! We are very lucky to have him here!

Congratulations Dr. Half on being our Medical Staff Member of the Month!