

## **Clinical Pharmacology Subspecialty Consultations**

Clinical Pharmacology (CP) is a physician-based medical subspecialty that focuses on the application of pharmacological principles and methods in the real world. It is based on in-depth knowledge of human pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacogenomics, and toxicology.

The goals of this service include the following:

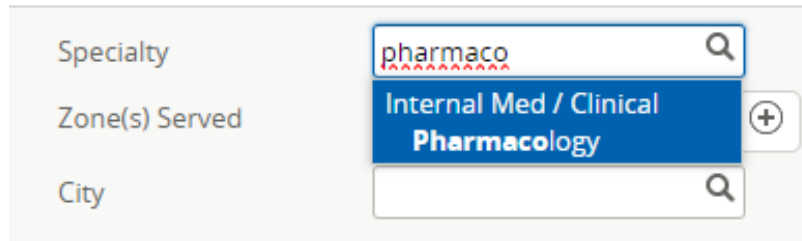
- Diagnosis and management of medication-related adverse drug events
- Decreasing adverse drug events in and out of hospital
- Decreasing the use of unnecessary medications
- Decreasing in-hospital and out of hospital drug costs through rational use of medications
- Education of physicians, residents, nurses, and allied health on safe and rational medication use

Physicians and Nurse Practitioners are encouraged to call the physician on call for Clinical Pharmacology (CP) with questions about patients with any of the following issues:

- Suspected adverse drug events of any kind (e.g., cutaneous adverse reaction, new prolonged QTc on ECG, drug induced liver or renal injury, abnormal laboratory results secondary to drugs)
- Polypharmacy/overprescribing questions
- Deprescribing (advice on reducing or stopping medications that are no longer needed)
- Unusual or unpredicted responses to therapeutic use of medications (unexplained inefficacy or toxic effects)
- New or unusual drug interactions
- Supra or subtherapeutic drug concentrations
- Restarting medications after an adverse event
- Management of therapeutic drug discontinuation/withdrawal syndromes (e.g., SSRIs)
- Interpretation of pharmacogenomic testing results

The Clinical Pharmacology Consultation Service is available from 8am-5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding stat holidays). Physicians with subspecialty training in Clinical Pharmacology and/or Medical Toxicology cover the service. A consultation can be requested through any of the following methods:

1. Alberta Netcare e-referral (under Health Services Catalogue / Specialty, select Internal Medicine/Clinical Pharmacology or select Pharmacology Assessment as reason for referral)

A screenshot of the Alberta Netcare e-referral form. The 'Specialty' dropdown menu is open, showing 'Internal Med / Clinical Pharmacology' as the selected option. The 'Zone(s) Served' and 'City' fields are also visible but empty.

2. [Specialist Link](#) (for Calgary Zone area Primary Care Networks)
3. For inpatients at any of the five acute care hospitals in Calgary.:
  - a. AHS Insite Regional on Call Application (Choose any site → Internal Medicine → Clinical Pharmacology Consults).
  - b. Selecting “Inpatient Consult to Clinical Pharmacology” in Connect Care and then contacting the Clinical Pharmacology physician on call as above.
4. Contacting the CP MD on call via RAAPID North or RAAPID South.
5. **Coming in Fall 2025:** Clinical Pharmacology will be joining the Connect MD (Edmonton Zone) group of physician consultants.

More information about the CP consult service, CP education, and the CP physician group is available by clicking the following:

1. CP Consult Service: [CP Consult Service | Cumming School of Medicine | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)
2. CP entry in the Alberta Referral Directory: [Alberta Referral Directory - Main Search](#) (type Pharmacology in search tool to find our service)
3. CPT Educational Pearls of the Week: [CPT Pearl of the Week | Cumming School of Medicine | University of Calgary](#)

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