



Department of Emergency Medicine

# Weekly email

Updates for ED Physicians

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**November 17, 2020**

## COVID-19 Updates

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### Admitting Well Patients for Isolation

There are current outbreaks at many of the facilities that traditionally house vulnerable patients with unstable housing. Occasionally the MOH will direct a patient to be admitted to hospital for isolation when they are at risk for increasing spread of COVID-19 and have no place to isolate.

#### Bottom line:

Only the following categories of well patients should be considered for admission to a hospital bed purely for isolation purposes. In case of disagreement or confusion, please consult the MOH on call. It is possible (desirable) that the criteria for admission might be tightened if capacity becomes tight(er).

- COVID **positive**
- COVID **pending** but **symptomatic and a close contacts** of a positive case
- asymptomatic close contacts WHO HAVE EXTENSIVE MEDICAL NEEDS RELATED TO ADDICTIONS

Please see [the full background document here](#); it is worth reading as it outlines how patients are categorized into Priorities, how isolation facilities are categorized into Tiers, and how MOH's designate which priority patients to which Tier of isolation facility.

Note: If the patient is at an urgent care facility, the Urgent Care MD can arrange for admission to the ward (or to the ED if the ward is full) by direct consultation with the hospitalist via RAAPID. [This protocol is outlined here.](#)

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Neil Collins

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## Wellness COVID Updates

### 1. Kudos Corner!

- **Kudos to Dr Ian Walker who was recently elected to the CPSA Council**
- **Kudos to Dr Christine East and RGH Charge RN Ken Mont for their fabulous ongoing work with the ED Treatment Plan committee.** This fantastic project addresses complex medical and social needs of patients identified as high users of the emergency department. Cases are reviewed and plans developed to ensure more consistent and appropriate ED care. This frequently results in a dramatic drop in ED visits while care needs are better met through other channels.

*Our Calgary EM colleagues accomplish incredible things, big and small, every day, let's celebrate their accomplishments with everyone in our department! The Kudos Corner will celebrate a colleague, anonymously or not. Let's share gratitude and praise for the amazing people in our community. Please email Amani at [Amani.Otoom@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Amani.Otoom@albertahealthservices.ca) with the Kudos and it will be included in the next week's weekly newsletter.*

2. **Call your Peer Support Team.** The Peer Support Team member can provide an empathetic ear, screen for safety and guide you to resources that exist in our community (i.e PFSP).
3. **Call Physician and Family Services (PFSP) – 1877SOS4MDS. THIS LINE IS AVAILABLE 24/7.** You have 6 free hours of counselling for yourself and 6 free for your family members.

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## Operations

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### Reminder about entering the admit order when transferring a patient between EDs

If you are transferring a patient from an ED to be admitted at another site (ie. Urology at RVGH), **an admission order must be entered in SEC**. This is generally the responsibility of the accepting specialist, but if they happen to be somewhere where they do not have immediate access to SEC, they may ask you to do it.

-Neil Collins

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### SCM Updates!

[Click here to read summary for:](#)

- Update to Standard Dosing Units on several continuous infusion items throughout SCM/SEC
- Changes to Urine Drug Screen - Comprehensive
- ED History and Physical
- [Isolation Header for Bed Placement Clerk](#)

Joshua Vejprava RN BSc BN MBA

### **Relocation of FMC ED Administration Offices Back to C231**

The move of our FMC ED Admin offices back to C231 is scheduled from Wednesday, November 25 – Nov 27. The C231 space has been completely renovated with new flooring and the walls have been painted. All staff physicians who have mail boxes at FMC Room C 1150, if you can pick your mail before November 24<sup>th</sup>, that would help us a lot by packing as little as possible for the move back to C 231 office.

Thank you.

Department of Emergency Medicine.

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### **New Calgary Zone Emergency Medicine app/resource for all relevant ED documents**

Have you ever been frustrated trying to find an ED resource like the Spinal emergency pathway? Or the new hematuria pathway? Not sure if it exists on AHS insite or UCalgary EM website? We now have a solution! We have secured Zone wide funding for the My ED app ( <https://my-emergency-department.com/>) **thanks to the Physician Support Fund.**

We are currently building the content in the site so it's far from complete but we believe there is enough there now for people to start using it (and more importantly notify us of the content you want to include – email me. [See the attached document](#) for all the details on how to access and tips/tricks. So far over 80 physicians have signed up and the feedback has been very positive! Special thanks to Hilary Ambrose and Katie Anker for leading the PEM component of this.

Shawn Dowling

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## **Physician Participation Needed!**

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**Strategic planning. See part 1 & 2 below.**

### **Part 1: Reminder! Response needed for the Calgary Zone Emergency Department Strategic Planning Survey – Phase 2**

Thanks to those who have already completed the online survey to inform the second phase of the Calgary Zone Emergency Department's Strategic Planning Process.

If you have not already done so, please complete the survey no later than Friday November 20, 2020. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete, and your answers are anonymous. To access the survey, please click here or copy and paste the following link into your Internet browser:

<https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50089734/Emergency-Department-Strategic-Planning-Phase-2>

If you have any questions about the survey, please email Elizabeth Manafo ([elizabeth@exep.ca](mailto:elizabeth@exep.ca))

### **Part 2: ED Strategic Planning Virtual Session- Dec 03 @1400**

I would like to invite you to join our Virtual ED Strategic Planning Session. The session will be held on **Thursday, December 03, 2020 at 1400-1530 via ZOOM**. Connection details are provided below.

#### **Session objectives:**

- The session will allow our ED members to discuss together and provide feedback on the vision of the ED department, our priorities and areas of improvement in the next five years.
- To review the survey results from phase one and two of the strategic planning process.

- To draw a final draft of the department strategic plan.
- This session will also be an opportunity for us to connect again as the pandemic didn't allow us to organize a departmental retreat this year.

### **ZOOM Session.**

Eddy Lang

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### **Physician Resource Committee, Request for feedback before meeting this Thursday**

We will be making some decisions about hiring new physicians into the group on Thursday of this week. It would help the committee if we knew of anyone who is planning a long term LOA or resignation/retirement in Fall 2021/Winter or Spring 2022.

If you have a perspective on hiring that you would like the committee to consider before Thursday's meeting, please contact your scheduler or Billing representative.

Thanks

- Neil Collins (for the Physicians Resource Committee)

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### **Our Story. Our Time. Our Life. A Photo Documentary of Life in the Emergency Department During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

As an emergency physician, I have often wished that I could share with people what I see during a shift in the emergency department. Every day can be equal parts tragic and amazing, devastating and miraculous. It is a place where teamwork and connection can save lives, and where kindness is critical.

This documentary photography project aims to capture the behind the scenes story of an emergency department, to show the daily lived reality of our multidisciplinary team and how we care for our patients during this unique time in history.

I will be photographing our team as we care for patients between December 2020 and June 2021. AHS and Ethics approvals have been obtained.

If you wish to participate, please complete the attached consent form and photography release. Any questions or concerns can be directed to the email address below.

**Please complete the [attached consent forms](#) and return to Dr. Heather Patterson.**

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### **Please Sign This Petition to Support Improvements in our Billing:**

<https://www.change.org/resolvmdintegration>

I am working on a project that involves leveraging modern technology to build software that will dramatically improve our billing experience. This tool will provide granular financial feedback, insightful benchmarking and unprecedented transparency around rejected and refused claims. Later stages will employ machine learning and artificial intelligence to help maximize our revenue through automated billing code selection. In order to fully realize all the potential benefits of this software we need to integrate with Connect Care. AHS is currently choosing a limited number of third party vendors to pilot early integrations. Please consider signing this petition to help show AHS that you care about improving your billing experience. Please direct any questions to me..

Thanks for your support!

-Marshall Ross

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### **ED Performance Improvement Sessions (virtual)**

**Did you know 30% of physicians have participated in one of these performance improvement sessions?**

So far over 30% of ED physicians have come to these interactive ED Performance Improvement sessions. In these sessions, you will have the chance to review our current physician metrics and develop a goal and action plan in a small group setting with peer coaching.

**Next session: Dec 9th at 11:00-12:30 .**

**Location: Zoom(see details below)**

**You should attend if...**

- You've received your report and had questions about some of the metrics
- You've looked at your report and wanted to make changes but were unsure about how to do so
- You have an upcoming review with site chief or department head and want to understand the reports in more detail
- In need of CME- in particular Section 3 CME for those in the Mainport program (everyone in Mainport requires 15 credits per year). CCFP credits are also available. Details provided at the session.
- You want to learn from what your colleagues have found to be useful strategies to increase numbers of patients seen or reducing DI usage

**Please RSVP Chris Bond , Charles Wong or Shawn Dowling to book a spot in the session.**

The session will be held virtually via secure Zoom meeting. Only physicians who have signed up will be admitted. Feel free to attend this session from work or home as long as you are able to access your ED Physician Performance Report. The virtual setting will allow you to work with your peers and in smaller private groups while maintaining physical distance and will ensure no one sees your ED Physician Performance Report unless you choose to share it with them.

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Shawn Dowling

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### **Recruitment of new members to the ACPPC** - sent on behalf of Dr. Belanger & Sean Chilton

The Alberta Clinician Professional Practice Council ([ACPPC](#)) is actively recruiting new members including physicians. Please forward this message to physicians in your zone and area.

The purpose of the ACPPC is to provide a multidisciplinary forum within which the collective knowledge, experience, and expertise of the membership can inform and advise Senior Executive and AHS Leadership on strategy and tactics to promote effective patient and family centred health care, significant organizational strategies, quality and safety, and to address issues related to excellence in professional practice.

In addition to being representative of broad and diverse perspectives across the health system, it is also important for individual members to meet the following criteria:

1. Reflect the AHS core values in personal conduct and professional behaviour
2. Are committed to improving patient and family centred health care, significant organizational strategies, quality and safety, and professional practice
3. Participate fully and respectfully in discussions

The ACPPC is seeking applicants until **November 20, 2020**. Please see the [expression of interest](#) and [application](#).

For more information, please contact Stephanie Hlady

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### **Rainbow Pins**

Want to make a small gesture to help our 2SLGBTQ2IA+ patients feel more comfortable in the emergency department?

We have rainbow pins to give away to Calgary emergency MDs to attach to their name tag or lanyard! The rainbow is a well-recognized symbol of the 2SLGBTQ2IA+ community and having one visible can represent allyship.

The pins can go through the translucent plastic covering that holds our identifying tags and key cards so they don't have to be removed between shifts.  
If you would like a rainbow pin please email me and I will deliver one to your mailbox at your preferred site (likely Dec/Jan for delivery date).  
Thank you to the PSF for their support with this initiative.  
Dr. Kelsey MacLeod

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## Education. CME. Rounds

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### ED Virtual Rounds

Date: November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Time: 0900 – 1000 MST (1.0 Education Credits)

Moderator: Dr. Fareen Zaver

#### Guest Speaker:

Dr. Reuben Strayer, FRCPC, FACEP, FAAEM ([Bio Attached](#))

Associate Medical Director, Department of Emergency Medicine  
Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY

**Topic: Disruption, Danger, Droperidol: “Management of Agitation in the Emergency Department”**

*Agitation poses a direct threat to the safety of both patient and staff, as well as being an important manifestation of dangerous conditions that require rapid identification and treatment. Management of agitation consists primarily of physical and chemical restraint, and the details of how restraint is carried out—usually based more on tradition than considered plans or thoughtful protocols—directly determine case outcome. In this talk, we'll discuss the initial approach to agitation, focusing on the appropriate role of physical restraint, and then deliberate the options for chemical sedation and propose a menu of the safest and most effective agents for a variety of common agitation scenarios.*

#### Evaluation form:

Please fill out the evaluation form at <https://forms.gle/szfmBrmxiesjuGfg8>

#### ZOOM session

Please don't share the zoom link and connection details on social media or any website.

#### Recording Link:

Recordings of this Thursday's Grand Rounds will be available the following Tuesday on our website:

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/departments/emergency-medicine/professional-development/grand-rounds/grand-rounds-archive>

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### Recording link: ED Grand Rounds Nov 12

Speakers: ([Bios Here](#))

Dr. Heidi Rabie

Division Chief- Public Health Dental Clinics  
Chumir Dental Clinic

Dr. Graham Cobb

Professor Departments of Clinical Neurosciences and Radiology

Deputy Department Head Clinical Neurosciences

Director Calgary Stroke Program

Dr. Benjamin Hughes BMSc, DDS

Staff Dentist, Alberta Children's Hospital

**Topic:** Dental Issues in the ER & AHS Referral Pathways

Click [here](#) for recording.

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## Global EM Update - Global Rounds Dec 3, 2020.

Please save the date! Emergency physician and renowned author James Maskalyk will be giving us the annual **Global Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds Thursday, December 3**. This will be of particular interest to those in the global EM and wellness hubs.

### **Title: Doctor: Heal Thyself**

*Topic:* Using his decades of experience as a humanitarian physician, Dr. Maskalyk will draw parallels between the COVID-19 pandemic, the ongoing health crises that preceded it, and the necessity of "healing on the fly" when confronting them. He will also discuss his recent experience of illness, and how it illuminated his role as physician. Finally, he will leave us with two self-care practices to help us our life in the emergency department, and outside of it.

*Biography:* James Maskalyk is a physician and author, both of the international bestseller "[Six Months in Sudan](#)" and more recently, "[Life on the Ground Floor](#)", which won Canada's largest non-fiction [literary prize](#). He is an award-winning teacher and associate professor at the University of Toronto and practices emergency medicine and trauma at St. Michael's, Toronto's inner-city hospital, where he was the inaugural "wellness" lead in 2018.

He is the strategic director of a [program](#) that works with Ethiopian partners at Addis Ababa University to train East Africa's first emergency physicians and is a member of Medecins Sans Frontieres, an organization for which he has worked as journalist and physician. His work has appeared in newspapers around the world, and he wrote a [diary](#) for the Globe and Mail during the early days of COVID-19, and is writing his third book for Penguin Random House, titled "Doctor: Heal Thyself" about moving beyond traditional views of the body to explore different types of healing.

Special thanks to the Physician Support Fund for sponsoring these rounds. For more information please contact Andrew Battison.

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## Presenting at Research in Development Rounds

Research in Development Rounds will be on Winter Hiatus until January 2021

(Nov/Dec no rounds)

If you would like a chance to present your study or research idea for refinement please contact Jill Vandenbrand & Stephanie Vandenberg.

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## Journal Club

**Date: November 19, 2020**

**Time: 1800 hrs**

**Presenters: Drs. Brett Shaw and Miles Hunter**

**Preceptor: Dr. Mike Szava-Kovats**

**Questions**

**Topic 1: Wellness discussion highlighting moments of gratitude**

**Topic 2: Clinical Practice Guideline review on the diagnosis of acute aortic syndrome**

<https://www.cmaj.ca/content/192/29/E832>

Ohle R, Yan JW, Yadav K et al. Diagnosing acute aortic syndrome: a Canadian clinical practice guideline.

CMAJ 2020 July 20;192:E832-43. doi: 10.1503/cmaj.200021

**Join JC by Zoom**

Best Regards

Brett Shaw & Miles Hunter

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**Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology Pearl of the Week: [Toxicokinetics ≠ Pharmacokinetics Series Part 1 - Absorption](#)**

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## Opportunities

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### ESCN Virtual Quality Improvement & Innovation Forum - Submissions Open

Please note that we are holding the [forum for QI next year](#), please put a place holder in your calendar to attend February 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am – 1200 hrs. via zoom, more details will come in the new year for zoom information.

If you haven't already gotten your submissions please do so as the deadline is November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

[Submission form here.](#)

For more info:

**Leila Davey**

Administrative Assistant to the Emergency SCN  
Emergency Strategic Clinical Network (ESCN)  
10101 Southport Road SW -Cubicle 5171  
Calgary Alberta T2W 3N2

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### Call for Abstracts - [OHMES Symposium 2021](#)

Abstracts due 7 December 2020 to [ohmes@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ohmes@ucalgary.ca)

Registration will open in January, and a confirmed event schedule will be available at that time. The Call for Abstracts for orals, posters, videos and workshops is open until 7 December 2020, with details at <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/office/ohmes>.

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### Surgical Assists

Dr. Emmanuel Illicial is an orthopedic surgeon operating out of South Health Campus. He requires a surgical assistant to help with his cases starting at the end of November.

If you are interested in helping him, please contact him.

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### RGH Assistant Site Chief

*Sent on behalf of Scott Banks.*

ED Physicians:

The Department of Emergency Medicine invites applications for the position of Rockyview General Hospital Assistant Site Chief. This position represents a great opportunity to get involved in the leadership of the Calgary Zone Department of Emergency Medicine, and influence real change.

The Emergency Department Rockyview General Hospital Assistant Site Chief position is a **0.1FTE role** and is compensated at the rate of **\$23,199 annually (\$1,933.25 monthly)**. This position is available **effective January 1, 2021**.

To apply for this opportunity, please email me a cover letter highlighting your interest and skillset for this position along with an updated CV.

Cover letters and CV's should be emailed to Scott Banks and should be received no later than **November 20, 2020**.

[RGH Assistant Site Chief Role Description](#)

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## Recruitment - SIM & ProSkill Teaching (UCLIC Days + Jan-Apr 2021)

Recruitment is now open for upcoming, in person, Course 8 teaching for **UCLIC Days (Dec 1 & 2) + regular Friday sessions from Jan-Apr 2021** for the following:

- **SIMULATION** (1 physician + 1 SP working the SIMman per case with debrief)
- **PROCEDURAL SKILLS** (1 physician will teach the listed proskill either FAST ultrasound, Paracentesis + Knee Arthrocentesis, or Lung ultrasound)

Please click the link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4CAFAD2FA7F85-course82>

**Note: In person learning sessions will be held at the Health Sciences Centre at FMC in G820 ATSSL. Masks will be required for all sessions. Signing up does not guarantee you will be selected.**

**I will confirm regular sessions by Friday, Nov 20**

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**Kelsey O'Donnell**

Program Coordinator | UME

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## Train-the-Trainer Opportunity - Implicit Bias

Are you passionate about improving the CSM community? Are you experienced at teaching or facilitating for groups of coworkers or students? Do you have any time to give?

If the answers are yes, then we want YOU!

We are starting a train-the-trainer initiative to deliver Implicit Bias training across the CSM community. If you would like to be trained to deliver these sessions in the future, **please email Kelly Turner and indicate your availability (8-12 or 1-5) for the following dates: November 23 or 30.**

Initial training will take place on the date that works for the majority of respondents. Additional training dates may be added, dependent on interest.

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