



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY



Department of Emergency Medicine



Weekly email

Updates for ED Physicians

Operations

! Need to Know – SCM Updates:

[Click here to read:](#)

- **SCM Order Sets: Add Plasmalyte-A to Common IV Fluids Peds Order Set**
- **SCM Order Sets: Add 'levetiracetam' Order to ED Seizure Peds Order Set**

- Marta Nijssen, RN BN

Clinical Informatician

Provincial Clinical User Support

Calgary Zone | Clinical Services – IT | Alberta Health Services

Frostbite Update

As you may remember from last winter, we now have Iloprost available for the treatment of severe frostbite. Initial review of the 9 cases in which it was used last year suggest that it has been remarkably effective, with digit amputation rates half of what they are in the reported literature. We have already had our first treated case this year.

A more detailed guide will be forthcoming soon, but in the meantime, these are a few key points.

1. Assessment of severity of frostbite requires the extremity to be rewarmed first.
2. Iloprost is indicated for any frostbite of grade 2 or greater. Basically, if the frostbite extends to the DIP or there is cyanotic tissue, give the drug.
3. The decision to use or not use Iloprost rests with us. You can ask plastics what they think, but they are expecting us to make the call.
4. Iloprost is given by 6 hr infusion. As it can have some hemodynamic effects, the current practice is to give the first infusion in the ED.
5. Pts with grade 4 frostbite (involvement proximal to the MCP or MTP) should also be treated with Alteplase. This is NOT the cardiac or stroke dose. Speak to the pharmacist before ordering.
6. Current recommendation is to treat anyone who meets criteria within 72 hrs of rewarming.

7. Iloprost is now available at all four adult sites, so there is no need to transfer these patients within the city.
8. Identifying an admitting unit might pose some challenges. Involve nursing management.
9. The most appropriate admitting service will have more to do with co-morbidities than with the need for Iloprost, but most of these patients thus far have been admitted to the hospitalist service.
10. There is an issue with the Baxter pump settings for the frostbite dosing of Alteplase, so we have had to take the ED Frostbite order set off line temporarily. We will get it back as soon as possible.

I am happy to field calls to trouble shoot in real time (assuming it is not the middle of the night!), and happy to respond to questions or concerns directly. Please be patient with this process. We are still working it out as we go, but our best guess is that we have already saved somewhere in the range of 50 fingers and toes from being amputated, so it is worth the effort.

Ian Walker

Physician Participation Needed!

Bedside Teaching

I am now recruiting for Thursday afternoon Bedside Teaching. This is a paid teaching activity and can occur at the site of your choice. The times are 13-16 at FMC and 1330-1630 at all other sites. Please let me know if you can do any of the following dates. Please also specify site. Thanks.

Gavin Greenfiled

- Jan 9 site?
- Jan 16 site?
- Feb 6 site?
- Feb 13 site?
- Feb 20 site?
- Feb 27 site?
- Mar 5 site?
- Mar 12 site?
- Mar 19 site?
- Mar 26 site?
- April 2 site?
- April 9 site?

Observed History & Physical Teaching

Hi all, it is clerk teaching recruiting time again. The Observed History and Physical (OHP) session is now occurring at all 4 sites. I have changed the OHP schedule a little and it now works really well for you to come in 45 minutes early to your shift and perform the teaching activity. The advantages to you are as follows:

1. you are paid for this teaching activity (in addition to the fee for service you will bill for the visit)
2. you will get a sense of your clerk's skills right up front
3. you will start your shift with one patient already seen

The OHP is a teaching activity that has been very well received by the students and faculty alike. The model of coming in 45 minutes early has been running at the RGH for a number of months and has been well received. OHP is always on the first Monday or the first Tuesday of the block. The times/sites are in the attached screenshot. Please let me know if you can fill any of these slots: Jan 6/7, Feb 3/4, Feb 17/18, Mar 2/3, Mar 16/17, Mar 30/31.

Thanks.
Gavin Greenfield

Preceptors for Key Concept Rounds – January 2nd till April 2nd 2020

Dear Colleagues:

I am now recruiting preceptors for Key Concept rounds for January to April 02, 2020. All volunteers are greatly appreciated. I will fill spots on a first come, first served basis. Remuneration is \$150 per hour, or \$225 total per session.

Each session runs 10:30 am to noon on Thursdays following departmental grand rounds. The room will be notified later
Sessions are small group format targeted at clinical clerks and off-service PGY-1 and PGY-2 residents. Please send the responses to cgyemergelectives@albertahealthservices.ca
Modules are provided to minimize preparation time and the topics and dates follow:

Jan 02 Chest Pain
Jan 09 Dyspnea
Jan 23 Shock
Jan 30 Chest Pain
Feb 06 Dyspnea
Feb 20 Shock
Feb 27 Dyspnea
Mar 05 Chest Pain
Mar 12 Shock
Mar 26 Chest Pain
Apr 02 Dyspnea

Thanks all

Meira Louis, MD, FRCPC

R5 Oral Exam Days

We are now looking to fill spots for the R5 oral exam days in the Winter on the second Wednesday of every month. There is also still 1 more space on December 11. The sessions are from 1500-1700 in the Health Sciences Library in the medical school. Depending on the number of examiners, you will need 2–4 exam questions (only 2 if we are able to fill the spots). Please sign up for a session below if you are able to help, they have been going well so far and the R5s are so grateful for your time. Thank you so much!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qOOocS4a20wBcPgrlIRoRNT5dp-a2goZO8w1WQVhFh4/edit#gid=0>

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Brit Sunderani

2020 Staff Simulation Sessions

Please click on the link to sign up for Jan 28 & Mar 24 sessions at SHC.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4ca5ac2eaaff2-20201>

Understanding & Defining Quality of Care in the Emergency Department with First Nations Members in Alberta

Dear Calgary Emergency Physicians, I am writing to invite you to share your thoughts on First Nations people's care in Emergency Departments for a project called "Understanding & Defining Quality of Care in the Emergency Department with First Nations Members in Alberta." The study team will be conducting interviews that should

last about an hour and can be by phone or in person. This project is funded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research and is a partnership between the University of Alberta and the Alberta First Nations Information Governance Centre. The goals of the project are: 1. To examine quantitative differences in ED visit characteristics and quality of care indicators between FN members and non-FN members. 2. To explore FN ED experiences of seeking and receiving care, racism and reconciliation, and healing, from FN patient and ED clinician perspectives. 3. To Produce FN definitions of quality of care in the ED, and bring FN perspectives into dialogue with western understandings of quality of care. If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and experiences, please contact the interview and focus group coordinator, Leslee Please do not tell me whether you choose to contact the coordinator or not. Participating is your choice and whether you choose to participate or not will remain confidential.

Patrick McLane, MA, PhD
Assistant Scientific Director
Emergency Strategic Clinical Network™

What did you think about EPL?

Should it stay?
Should it go?
What departmental impact, did EPL have on flow?

In order to understand how the EPL (Emergency Physician Lead) had an impact on flow in the Emergency Department, we are conducting a mixed method study...and we would like to hear from you! We are looking for both nurses and physicians to give feedback on their experiences during the pilot project.

This would involve is an approximately 20-minute one-on-one interview with our research assistant. Interviews can be completed in person or over the phone depending on availability. Questions will surround your experience and feedback on the impact of the EPL pilot project.

If you are interested in participating, please sign up using our online tool:
<https://forms.gle/aJfKED8kZtQrgYTm6>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:
Zoe Polsky
Jason Elzinga

Thank you in advance and for your support of this initiative.
This study has been approved by the University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board Ethics ID [REB19-0610](#)_MOD1

Education. CME. Rounds

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds

Date: Thursday, December 12th, 2019
Time: 0900 - 1000
Host Site: Coombs Theatre - FMC
Title: [Minor Head Trauma in Patients on Anti-Thrombotic Therapy](#)
Presenter: Dr. Kelsey Ragan (R4 – FRCPC)

Telehealth Sites:

Rockyview General Hospital – Rm 10332
South Health Campus – Rm - 410007
Peter Loughheed Hospital – Rm 4023
Canmore General Hospital – Boardroom 1256

December 19th EM Rounds - Dr. Manish Shah "[High Intensity Telemedicine: A New Approach to Providing Acute Illness Care to Older Adults](#)"

Thursday, December 19th, 2019

9:00 AM

FMC Coombs Theatre

Resident Retreat Feb 7th - 9th in Canmore...BOOK NOW!

Friday Evening reception at Elevation Gallery in Canmore (appetizers/cash bar) 1800-midnight

Saturday morning - small group sessions with the residents

Saturday afternoon - free time to enjoy activities in Canmore

Saturday Dinner: 1800-2030 Group Dinner at The Malcolm Hotel

2100-midnight at least Group Party at The Malcolm Hotel – DJ and Costume themes TBA

Sunday - free time

[Click here for booking details.](#)

Save the Date - Emergency Medicine Research Day 2020

The 2020 Emergency Medicine Research Day is April 30, 2020 at the ACH Amphitheatre, Alberta Children's Hospital, featuring our keynote speaker, Dr. Kathryn Dong.

For planning purposes, we request advance registration by March 31, 2020 – registration is now on Eventbrite, link below. Please note – you do NOT need to print your ticket to attend the event.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/emergency-medicine-research-day-2020-tickets-84285990667>

2020 EEM Conference - Group Registration

Please fill out the following form ([Calgary Emergency Medicine - 2020 EEM Registration](#)) to request an invoice to purchase your registration at the discounted rate of \$995 to attend the live conference in San Francisco on May 21-23. Limited time offer - discounted rate available until February 15, 2020.

<https://www.essentialsofem.com/>

ED Highlights

Save the Date! Hodsman Lecture 2020

1. [Hodsman Lecture on Thurs, March 12, 8am-12pm](#) (FMC Auditorium) - Guest Speaker: Dr. Gregory Luke Larkin

2. Dinner and Social Night. Date & Location TBD

RMES Christmas Party

Thursday, Dec 12, 6pm

Please **RSVP by Dec 5** to Lilian Prudencio

FMC ER Christmas party

FMC Emergency Christmas Party

When: Dec 12th 1900-close

Where: St. James Corner Restaurant and Irish Pub

1219 1st SW

- No tickets needed for Christmas party you pay for your own food and drinks.
- Casual to formal attire
- Everyone is invited including spouses and friends

- DJ provided aka Raj

Nicole Groholski RN

Opportunities

African Federation for Emergency Medicine Intern Hiring

The African Federation for Emergency Medicine is seeking interested candidates for several 1-year internship positions in global emergency care development. AFEM Interns will receive a small living stipend and be based in Cape Town, South Africa for the 2020-2021 year, with potential of travel to other African countries. These are competitive positions in which the intern is heavily involved with daily operations of the organization, while conducting independent scientific research on a topic of their interest within global emergency care development.

AFEM is an international non-profit engaged in research, education and advocacy concerning emergency care development in Africa. It is comprised of members and member organizations from over 40 countries, and works to develop training materials for emergency care providers, plan international conferences, facilitate research and collaboration, and assist with the development of acute care systems across every level of the healthcare continuum.

We're hoping you can help by disseminating the announcement to all interested/relevant parties in your department. Medical, public health, business, and international development students or recent graduates are all encouraged to apply, and the application will be available from 9 December through January 15, 2020. Please find attached the Fellowship Application and Fellowship information. Many more details and the application are available at <https://afem.africa/get-involved/>.

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Call for Abstracts - Emergency Medicine Research Day 2020

The University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services Department of Emergency Medicine is looking for presenters for our annual Emergency Medicine Research Day being held on April 30th, 2020 at the Amphitheatre at Alberta Children's Hospital.

Presenters for the event should have either completed or have an ongoing research project in any of the Emergency Departments, Urgent Care Centers, Pre-hospital services or other clinical areas that would be of interest to those who work in Emergency Medicine.

Attached are the Abstract Submission Forms for either completed or work in progress projects.

Instructions for Submission:

1. Complete either the [COMPLETED](#) or [WORK IN PROGRESS](#) Abstract Submission Form.
2. Send complete abstract form back to Dr. Andrew McRae via email by Friday January 24, 2020 at 16:00.

Deadline for Abstract Submissions is Friday January 24, 2020 at 16:00.
