



Department of Emergency Medicine

# Friday **email**

Updates for ED Physicians

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## Operational Updates

### Drugs and Therapeutics Backgrounder

The Drugs and Therapeutics Backgrounder is designed to facilitate discussions between frontline pharmacy staff and prescribers about medication use.

The topic this month is: [Simplified Acetylcysteine Dosing Regimen for Acetaminophen Poisoning](#).

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### Calgary-wide PRIHS-2 Study Report Cards

Since January 2018, four of our Calgary emergency departments have been participating in a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS) project led by Dr. Brian Rowe and Emergency Medicine colleagues across the province. In Calgary, Eddy Lang, Andrew McRae and Shawn Dowling have been assisting. This project is focused on encouraging evidence-based management of acute asthma/bronchitis and benign headache, while reducing imaging for these ED presentations.

[Data from October-December 2018 for the four Calgary sites \(Foothills, PLC, Rockyview, and South Health\) is displayed here](#). Since the quarter before the intervention, the absolute proportion of patients receiving CT heads for benign headache has decreased by 3.2% (relative decrease of 12%). The absolute proportion of patients receiving chest x-rays for acute asthma has decreased by 1.3% (relative decrease of 2%). Overall, we know that imaging rates have been increasing year over year, so these results for the sites are encouraging!

Remember, one option to decrease imaging is to treat first and image later. In addition, use the evidence-based management provided by the study team and imaging use should decrease. To see site-specific data, please contact your site chief.

Keep up the efforts and if there are comments, feel free to contact your site chief, the study coordinator (Lynette Krebs; or Dr. Rowe)

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### 2019 AIVA Forms - Deadline Feb 28

Medical Affairs Office sent out the 2019 AIVA forms on January 17, 2019. The information is the most current business/clinical and personal contact information that Alberta Health Services has relating to your Medical Staff Appointment. Please review this information, complete the questions in the Attestation Section and submit the completed form and required documents for the 2019 calendar year no later than **February 28, 2019** to Lilian Prudencio or fax it to **403-943-7967**.

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## Education. CME. Rounds

## **Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds:**

February 14, 2019: 9am-10am

Dr. Salima Alladina, Emergency Physician

["Emergency and Beyond: The Importance of Follow-Up for Common MSK Injuries, feat Dr. Kelly Brett \(Sports Medicine\)"](#)

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## **Audit & Feedback Session Feb 13th**

We will be having a session to review our personalized physician reports on February 13 at RGH from 10 AM-11:30 AM. These are group discussion sessions with colleagues to understand the metrics, review your data, reflect, and come up with strategies to improve upon your current practice.

Over the next year, we will try to have one session per month, to give everyone an opportunity to participate. You are certainly welcome to join more than once. Also, we strongly encourage you to go to sessions at sites where you don't work, as the cross-pollination of ideas/improvement strategies will certainly be beneficial. These sessions are eligible for section 3 Mainpro credits (3 credits for each 1H of participation).

Now is the time to sign up for this session and we will take the first 12 physicians who RSVP. Please RSVP to Chris Bond.

Charles Wong and I will be co-facilitating this session.

If you can't make this one, more of these will be coming up in the future. We look forward to seeing you there.

Cheers,  
The Audit and Feedback team

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## **Choosing Wisely Alberta Symposium**

Registration is now open for the [Choosing Wisely Alberta Symposium: Beyond Awareness to Implementing Change](#) being held on March 18, 2019 at The Westin Calgary hotel.

Choosing Wisely Alberta and the Physician Learning Program invite you to attend this free symposium to engage in a discussion with clinicians, patients and system leaders about how to prioritize and implement Choosing Wisely recommendations.

Choosing Wisely Alberta is part of a ground-breaking international and national campaign which encourages physicians and patients to engage in a conversation about the appropriateness of tests, investigations and treatments. The goal is to avoid unnecessary and low-value care to decrease the risk of harm to patients.

Keynote speakers: Dr. Brian Wong and Dr. Wendy Levinson

**Space is limited...register now for this free symposium**

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## **[W21C Research & Health Innovation Day](#)**

**March 5, 2019**

8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Health Sciences Centre, Foothills Campus, University of Calgary

Please join the W21C team for a day focused on celebrating the research, innovation and partnerships that inspire us to **MAKE CARE BETTER**.

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**CPT Pearl of the week - [Drug-Induced Neutropenia](#)**

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**Invitation to Facilitate / Participate in an Interprofessional Education (IPE) Event - FEB 15**

Dr. Wishart, along with the IPE team, would like to invite you to participate in an upcoming IPE event on Friday, February 15th in the afternoon. [Details here.](#)

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### **Journal Club**

February 21 @ 1800  
Host: Dr. Ryan Deedo

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### **Hodsman Lecture - May 2nd**

1. [Save the Date! Hodsman Lecture - May 2nd](#)
2. [Dinner Invite Hodsman Lecture Series](#)

Hello everyone,

The department of Emergency Medicine invites emergency physicians and residents to attend dinner on Wednesday, May 01 as part of Hodsman Lecture Series (2019) event. The dinner will be hosted at Dr. Colleen Carey's residence at no cost. Please RSVP to Amani by April 1. 2019.

Best regards,  
Sent on Behalf of Hodsman Lecture Planning Committee

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### **CAEP Award Nominations**

Applications close Feb 18 for CAEP 2019. [Click here](#) for list of awards and nominations procedure.

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## **ED Highlights**

### **PREEMPT Project Awarded \$20k Grant**

Congratulations to Dr. Hossein Sadrzadeh, Dr. Chad Bousman PhD, Dr. Jessica Boyd, PhD FCACB Dr. Tim Pollak MD PhD FRCPC, and Dr. Mark Yarema MD FRCPC for their successful application for a CLS Grant worth \$20k, for the *Pharmacogenetics Resource for Enhanced Education and Monitoring of Pharmacological Therapy (PREEMPT) Pilot Project.*

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### **Resident Retreat in Banff! Feb 22-24 - BOOK NOW!**

You are all invited to the upcoming resident retreat being held on [February 22-24, 2019 at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity](#). We are looking forward to yet another fantastic weekend this upcoming year at our new venue.

Staff are welcome to attend the entire weekend however, we have moved all joint staff and resident events to Saturday, Feb 23 to help facilitate you being able to attend.

#### **The agenda for Saturday Feb 23, 2019 will be:**

##### **0930-1300**

Joint staff and resident small group discussion on topics such as: strategies to achieve work life balance, practical financial tips, sleep hygiene, lifelong learning, and many more

##### **1400-1730**

- Free time with group options of xc ski, sports in the Sally Borden rec Centre, and more TBA

##### **1800-2030**

- Group Dinner at the Banff Centre

**2100-midnight at least**

- Group Party at the Banff Centre – DJ and Costume themes TBA

You are welcome to join us in staying at the Banff Centre or you can find other accommodation in Banff if preferred. **If you would like to stay at the Banff Centre you will have to call and make a reservation.** The group room rate is \$140.00 \$15.00 (facility fee) applicable taxes. In order to book for these rates you will need to call **1-800-884-7574** and quote the group booking code **EMR1902**. If you want a room at the Banff Centre I recommend calling ASAP as they are already quite booked up. If you will be coming to resident retreat we will need you to **RSVP Madhavi by Thursday January 17th** to any events you will be joining on the Saturday so that we can ensure we have the correct space and meals booked.

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### **Commendation for staff at SHC ED, EMS, cardiology & zone leadership**

This is a letter of commendation for the staff at all the staff SHC ED, EMS, interventional cardiology, and the zone leadership that has worked at length to have a process to effectively manage STEMIs outside FMC.

February 1, 2019 a 38 year old man presented to the SHC ED. He was rapidly identified by the triage RN as unwell, she alerted the department via overhead page.

He was in the SHC ED for 14 minutes (time stamps in SEC 12:56 to 13:10).

We were able to activate EMS and have a crew available promptly, the interventional cardiologist was readily available, meds were given, and patient shipped. In the cath lab, he received TNK.

I would like to thank every member of the entire SHC ED team, EMS, cardiology and ED leadership for the support to effect prompt and safe care.

Kind regards,

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cdr

Emergency Physician  
Alberta Health Services, Calgary Zone  
Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Calgary

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### **[Patient Commendation for Dr. Pompa](#)**

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### **Publication of Note**

#### **[Duration of Electrocardiographic Monitoring of Emergency Department Patients with Syncope](#)**

Venkatesh Thiruganasambandamoorthy , Brian H. Rowe , Marco L.A. Sivilotti , Andrew D. McRa, Kirtana Arcot , Marie-Joe Nemnom , Longlong Huang , Muhammad Mukarram , Andrew D. Krahn, George A. Wells, and Monica Taljaard

#### **[Active management of atrial fibrillation or flutter in emergency department patients with renal impairment is associated with a higher risk of adverse events and treatment failure.](#)**

[Scheuermeyer FX](#)<sup>1</sup> , [Wong H](#)<sup>2</sup> , [Barrett TW](#)<sup>3</sup> , [Christenson J](#)<sup>1</sup> , [Grafstein E](#)<sup>1</sup> , [Grunau B](#)<sup>1</sup> , [Wiens M](#)<sup>1</sup> , [Innes G](#)<sup>4</sup> .

#### **[Prevalence of Pulmonary Embolism Among Emergency Department Patients With Syncope: A Multicenter Prospective Cohort Study.](#)**

[Thiruganasambandamoorthy V](#)<sup>1</sup> , [Sivilotti MLA](#)<sup>2</sup> , [Rowe BH](#)<sup>3</sup> , [McRae AD](#)<sup>4</sup> , [Mukarram M](#)<sup>5</sup> , [Malveau S](#)<sup>6</sup> , [Yagapen AN](#)<sup>6</sup> , [Sun BC](#)<sup>6</sup> ; [North American Syncope Consortium](#) .

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Dr. Gerald Lazarenko awarded [CCPE Credential](#) Congratulations!

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### **Class of 2020 Faculty Appreciation - Gold Star Award**

Good News...

The Class of 2018 Clerkship Awards were handed out on the evening of February 5 2019. These awards are based on their 2 week mandatory rotation and result from a certain number of positive mentions in their post rotation evaluation. Congratulations to **Puja Chopra and Mike Su for receiving "Gold Star" recognition. Honourable Mentions were provided to Mark Bromley, Tony Chad, Ping-Wei Chen, Cathy Dorrington, Andrew Fagan, Mardelle Gamble, James Huffman, Eileen Kabaroff, David Lendrum, Andre Michalchuk, Jennifer Nicol, Christopher Rebus, Paul Tourigny, Stuart Turner, Phil Ukrainetz, Bryan Young.**

During the same event the Class of 2020 handed out their Preclerkship Awards. **Congratulations to Eddy Lang who received the Gold Star award for his teaching in the AEBM course and to Ian Wishart who received the Gold Star award for his teaching in the Medskills course. Ian Walker also received an "End of an Era Award" for his involvement with Admissions** (apparently since 2008 - wow - congratulations). Class of 2020 **Preclerkship Award Honour Roll recipients were Tony Chad and Mark Scott** - congratulations to both of you.

Although I know it seems tedious at times (especially during a busy shift) the students are so impressionable and really appreciate your guidance. Thank you to you all for your involvement in teaching at the Undergraduate level.

Gavin

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## **Opportunities**

### **Opportunity to perform MD review in Saskatchewan for FR grads**

Two FRCP assessors needed for an ER physician in Saskatchewan. [Details here.](#)

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### **Clinical opportunities in pre-clerkship medical school**

Look out for students to be contacting you about 2 clinical opportunities in pre-clerkship medical school. Both of these opportunities are fantastic for junior staff and locums.

Any questions can be directed to Meira.

1. **Pre-clerkship electives.** These are elective hours that students partake in between first and second year in July. Students have a list of preceptors that have volunteered in the past and will contact you directly to arrange the hours. These are keen and motivated students who are a pleasure to have on shift. If you have not volunteered with this in the past and want to have your name on the list, let Meira know. Once you have the dates arranged with your student, simply email them to Tris so we can keep track for IP&C.
2. **Applied Evidence Based Medicine (previously med440).** This is a 24 hour commitment to a student between first and second year. It can be done as 3 full shifts, or 6 half shifts, or whatever schedule you work out with the student. This year there will only be one block of med 440 (previously there were 2) which is split between April 16-May 28, and then again July 23-Sept 3. Due to the light commitment and extensive time period during which the shifts can be done, preceptors are welcome to take on more than one student if they wish. If you are interested, email

Tris with your name and how many students you are willing to take. We will ensure an equitable matching of students.

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## Calgary ED MD in the Spotlight

### Dr. Christine East

*Christine is a born and raised Calgarian, having completed all her schooling in Calgary, with the exception of venturing north to Edmonton for her Family Medicine residency. She completed the Calgary CCFP(EM) program in 2017 and works at RGH. Prior to her medical training, Christine worked as a Technical Writer; she has put this background to use in her roles redeveloping the oral exams used by Calgary's CCFP(EM) program, assisting with design of the Airway Management Pause tool, and developing a clinical teaching tool on the side ([www.calgaryclinicalcuecards.com](http://www.calgaryclinicalcuecards.com)). Her main extra-clinical passion lies in the development of ED Treatment Plans; working with a multidisciplinary group, she identifies the challenging and complex "frequent visitors" that make up a disproportionate number of ED visits and determines modifiable medical, social, and psychological factors in these patients' care. The goal is to ensure consistency when these patients visit the ED, to reduce over-testing and unnecessary or harmful treatments (i.e. IV narcotics in patients with chronic pain conditions), and to ultimately shift care out of the ED/UCCs and into the community whenever safe and feasible. Christine will be giving grand rounds on this topic in Spring 2019. Outside of work, Christine loves to experiment in the kitchen, hike, ski, camp, and travel the world with her husband Scott.*



## Miscellaneous

### MedShave for Alberta Cancer Foundation

Forwarded on behalf of the MedShave 2019 Committee

Over the years, the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine has consistently and successfully dedicated itself to fundraising in support of health and wellness research and promotion initiatives.

This coming February, the Cumming School of Medicine will be hosting its annual Head Shave event (MedShave 2019) to raise funds for the Alberta Cancer Foundation, with proceeds being directed towards research and programs for those impacted by cancer in our province.

The event will be at 12:30 pm on February 14th in the Health Sciences Centre at the University of Calgary Foothills campus. The afternoon will feature our wonderful students, staff, and faculty who will be shaving their heads for their own individual fundraising efforts for the Alberta Cancer Foundation. In addition, we will provide lunch and an exciting silent auction for all who attend the event.

We are inviting you to support our MedShave fundraising campaign through a donation or through official sponsorship of the event. Donations can be made under "General Donations" on our webpage (<https://www.albertacancer.ca/medshave2019>), or a cheque made payable to the Alberta Cancer Foundation. Please see the attached letter for more information or contact Daniel (below).

On behalf of the Cumming School of Medicine and Alberta Cancer Foundation, I sincerely thank you in advance for your consideration and support. Do not hesitate to contact me, I am more than happy to meet in person or communicate via email or phone call.

Warm regards,

Daniel Bailey  
Chair of the 2019 YYC Headshave Committee [daniel.bailey1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:daniel.bailey1@ucalgary.ca)  
(403) 970-6997

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Department of Emergency Medicine - Calgary