



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY



Department of Emergency Medicine



Weekly email

Updates for ED Physicians

Operations

PERT Response Feedback

As you may be aware, the pulmonary embolism response team (PERT), a multi-disciplinary rapid response team designed to assist in managing and disposition planning for high risk/unstable PE's has now been operational for over 1 month at the FMC.

Please forward any feedback on the experience with PERT to continue tweaking things for the future by either emailing me directly, or via a **very** brief survey monkey to collect feedback:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WQQTNGX>

Best,
Mike Szava-Kovats

Mental Health Emergency Physician Liaison (MH-EPL) and overnight psychiatry consults at FMC

Jennifer Nicol has taken the new role of the Mental Health Emergency Physician Liaison (MH-EPL) with the objectives to optimize the delivery of mental health services in our departments, using evidence based best practices, working closely with our colleagues with psychiatry. She is currently working on a standardized approach to medical clearance of our psychiatric patients, and a methamphetamine induced psychosis treatment pathway.

What I ask of you, is to please contact me with any concerns or questions you have related to mental health care delivery in our EDs, with ideas you have for process improvements, or with any questions. Your feedback will help guide issues that I tackle over the next year, and is greatly important and appreciated. I will be using the weekly newsletter to send out updates, so please stay tuned!

PLC/FMC overnight psychiatric consults:

If a patient is "medically cleared", meaning sober and medically stable, with an active psychiatric concern that requires their expertise for disposition (i.e. safe discharge or admission), then it is appropriate to consult the

resident on call overnight, and not hold the patient until morning. The psychiatry residents are aware of this at both PLC and FMC, and should you encounter any pushback or resistance to them coming in, please email me directly and let me know.

Jennifer Nicol

Physician Participation Needed!

ED Staff POCUS Hands-On Sessions!

The Calgary ED POCUS Hub is proud to provide Calgary ED staff physicians with dedicated hands-on training sessions with expert instructors covering some high yield POCUS applications such as advanced cardiac, peripheral nerve blocks, gallbladder, DVT and more.

Please let us know which applications you would like covered in the sessions by ranking them in the following short survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MMHG26V>

The first session will be December 12, 2019 from 1030-1230 at the ATSSL. Each session will accommodate 20 participants. Please RSVP to myself to sign up for the session.

The sessions are supported by the PSF and thus PSF members will have priority sign up. Please note there will be a \$200 charge if a participant cancels within 24 hours unless the spot can be filled by another participant.

Thanks!

Danny Peterson and the Calgary ED POCUS Hub

Seeking Speakers- Family Medicine Fall Conference (Nov 28)

The Family Medicine Residents are planning an Urgent Care-themed conference on November 28th here in Calgary. We are looking for one more speaker to complete their program. If interested, the details are below:

Date: November 28th, 2019

Location: Best Western 1316 33 St NE, Calgary, AB

Time: 11:00 – 11:50

What: 40 min talk with 10 minutes for questions

Possible topics: The FM residents have identified common infections as a possible learning point, but are open to other topics, especially those that the EM group feels FM residents are lacking in (perhaps toxicology?). [Attached are the CCFP Priority Topics for EM](#), as a guide. We already have talks on approach to red eye, ENT, chest pain, and fractures.

If interested, please email Sarah Smith by **Friday, November 8**.

Thank you!

Sarah Smith
Family Medicine PGY-1

Equity Working Group

Equity Matters! The Department of Emergency Medicine is interested exploring what equity looks like in our department and how we can improve. Our starting focus is on gender equity: we are putting together a task

force to look at this issue and help shape the future of our department. We are hoping to have a diverse group of people contributing. If you are interested in being a part of this working group please email Kelsey MacLeod.

Education. CME. Rounds

ED Grand Rounds

Date: Thursday, Nov 07, 2019
Time: 0900 - 1000
Host Site: Coombs Theatre - FMC
Title: Airway Updates
Presenter: Dr. J. Huffman, Dr. A. Tse, Dr. B. Weber, Dr. Jon Gaudet
[\(Poster Attached\)](#)
Telehealth Sites:
Alberta Children's Hospital - Rm B4-010
Rockyview General Hospital – Rm 10332
South Health Campus – Rm - 410007
Peter Lougheed Hospital – Rm 3047
Banff Mineral Springs Hospital - Rm 5018
Canmore General Hospital – Boardroom 1256

ED Journal Club

Date: November 14th, 2019
Time: 1800 - 2100
Presenters: Dr. Dana Stewart and Dr. Meghan Mackenzie
Preceptor: Dr. Chris Hall
Host: Dr. Colleen Carey

The Questions Are [Attached](#).

Article 1: Early or Delayed Cardioversion in Recent-Onset Atrial Fibrillation

Article 2: A Multicenter Randomized Trial to Evaluate a Chemical-first or Electrical-first Cardioversion Strategy for Patients With Uncomplicated Acute Atrial Fibrillation

Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology Pearl of the Week: [Hydroxocobalamin – Cyanide Antidote](#)

ED Highlights

Drs. F. Zaver and M. Ross- Calgary's Top 40 Under 40 for 2019

Congratulations to Drs. Zaver and Ross for being among the recipients of Calgary's Top 40 Under 40 for 2019
Details on their achievements are below:

[Dr. Marshall Ross](#)

[Dr. Fareen Zaver](#)

Opportunities

The Canadian Alpine Ski Team - Men's Speed Team

The Canadian Alpine Ski Team – Men's Speed Team, is Downhill Ski training at Nakiska on November 14th-18th. They are looking for a physician(s) who can help with on hill medical care.

All of the expenses are covered and the days are normally fairly quiet but it is SPEED Training. The days start early (0600) and the team is usually off the hill by lunch time and the afternoon is free. All of the medical gear is supplied. You should be at least a strong intermediate skier (no snowboards or tele).

I have done many days and weeks with this team and it is very enjoyable and a great group to work with.

Please contact the Medical Coordinator, Julie Harvey, if interested.

- Kevin Hanrahan

Emergency Physician

EMS Associate Medical Director

Alberta Health Services

MD Spotlight

Dr. Kasia Lenz

Kasia was born in Poland and crossed the Atlantic when she was 8. She and her family came for only 1 year – 27 years ago. Unfortunately, she lost her accent quite quickly after immigrating which she laments has made her significantly less interesting.

Kasia originally thought she was going to be an orthopaedic surgeon like her grandfather, but saw the light early in medical school. She is grateful to mentors such as Ian Wishart and Grant Innes for putting up with her shadowing.

Currently Kasia works at the Rockyview Hospital where she loves consulting her husband, Ryan, and brother in law, Brendan Kerr. She's still not sure if this means fewer or more of her patients get admitted. She loves and thrives on the dynamic environment of the Emergency Department. No day is like the last and that's what keeps her coming back. She also loves the teamwork that's required to make any code room, intake or minor treatment area run smoothly. Finally, she loves ultrasound; so much so that she's the Resident Education Lead for Ultrasound Education, trying to make everyone love it as much as she does. She's currently working on developing a senior ultrasound block for our R5 residents.

When she's not in the ER, Kasia loves spending time in Golden, skiing and mountain biking till she can't walk. Her 2 kids (1 and 5 years old) who have the motto: "Never stop never stopping", keep her home environment as dynamic as her work life.

