



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY



Department of Emergency Medicine



# Weekly email

Updates for ED Physicians

## Operations

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### Reducing Transfers From LTC to ED

An initiative is underway that uses RAAPID to put ED MDs in touch with LTC care docs prior to the transfer of a patient from LTC to an ED. The initiative is designed to utilize community paramedics and other resources to reduce unnecessary transfers and to clarify the goals of necessary transfers. Further details to follow (we will need to become more familiar with community paramedics to be able to give expert phone advice)

- Neil

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### Invasive Group A Strep

Two important points regarding puerperal sepsis with **Invasive Group A Strep**.

1. Have a heightened awareness of this illness including the fact that it can present with vague symptoms ([see the document here](#)) for presenting symptoms, we might miss if V and D are attributed to viral gastro)
2. We have a responsibility to wear PPE (especially a mask) when providing care at or near the perineum at the time of delivery or **within 6 weeks post-partum**. There have been documented cases of a caregiver transmitting Group A Strep to a patient (Confirmed by DNA analysis!) and causing Invasive GAS with serious morbidity and even death.

Thanks

Neil

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### **Succinylcholine shortage**

This shortage has been resolved and we now have sufficient supply in the ED.

- Neil

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### **Suicidal Ideation and Non-Suicidal Self-Injury by Children and Adolescents:**

#### **Preparing Emergency Departments and Urgent Care Centres for the implementation of School-based Protocols to address SI and NSSI**

Recently, two protocols were developed for schools across Alberta – the [School-based Suicidal Ideation Response Protocol](#) and the [School-based Non-Suicidal Self-Injury Response Protocol](#). These were created in collaboration with various AHS departments, school authorities, and community-based services. The protocols aim to:

- increase mental health capacity in schools
- help school staff direct students to the most appropriate resources based on the student's level of risk
- decrease the number of non-urgent presentations to emergency departments
- improve the experience of young people and their families, and
- improve coordination between schools and healthcare settings.

While using the protocols is voluntary, it is expected that numerous school authorities will adopt these protocols in the 2019-2020 school-year. It is important for Emergency Department/Urgent Care staff and physicians to be aware of the use of these protocols and associated documents.

Most importantly, AHS physicians and staff need to know that school's adopting the protocol will be using an [Information Transfer Form](#) (listed as Appendix C in both protocols) when sending children/adolescents to the Emergency Department or Urgent Care Centre. This standardized form outlines the mental health related observations of school staff. This information can help healthcare professionals in their assessment of risk and determine whether a referral to Psychiatric Emergency Services or other mental health supports are needed.

A copy of the Information Transfer Form is attached as well as the Frequency Asked Questions related to each protocol. If you are interested in learning more about the protocols a 10-minute online module is available at [more.hmhc.ca](http://more.hmhc.ca). Search for SI Protocol or NSSI Protocol under Courses. Look for the courses for Administrators.

Should you have any questions about the protocols or require more information, please contact Aleta Ambrose, Senior Project Manager, Addiction and Mental Health – Calgary Zone

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## **Difficult Airway Management (DAM) Cart Update - It is finally here and coming to an ED near you!**

The new DAM cart is going live in Calgary EDs in October with an updated look, updated content, and additional cognitive and decision making support. Please see the [attached brief presentation](#) for a summary of the changes and what to expect. This could also be a great starting point for additional review and familiarization with the equipment and educational content. **Grand Rounds** on this topic will be occurring **Nov 7th**. Go live dates are FMC (Oct 15), PLC (Oct 16), RGH (Oct 17), and SHC (Oct 18). All your airway management needs organized and readily available!

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## **Education. CME. Rounds**

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### **Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds**

No Grand Rounds this week.

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### **Journal Club HOSTS Still Needed**

As a staff host, you are only required to host attendees between 1800-2100 on the evening in question. Monetary reimbursement is provided up to \$ 750 for hosts to provide dinner/ non-alcoholic drinks. You just have to provide your receipts to the Program Administrator. (Alcohol is not covered).

As a journal club host, you are not responsible for any of the academic requirements of the evening.

Most Journal Clubs see approx. 25 - 35 ppl in attendance.

This year we still are looking for hosts on the following dates:

## 2019

- December 12

## 2020

- February 20
- March 19

If you have any questions, please direct them to Katie Anker or myself.

If you can host, please let me know and I can send confirmation based on the responses I receive.

-Tris

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## Journal Club PRECEPTORS Needed

The EM residency program is looking for preceptors for each Journal club for the following dates:

- December 12
- April 16
- May 14

The expectation for preceptors is that you will help the assigned residents review and appraise 1-2 articles. You will then attend the Journal Club and help facilitate discussions. This is a great opportunity to get involved with the residency program and stay up to date with the latest evidence based medicine. You don't have to be a researcher to be a preceptor, you just have to have an interest in applying the latest evidence to your practice. This job is remunerated for 2 hours at the standard PGME rate.

Please email Dr. Marshall Ross and/or Dr. Mike Szava-Kovats if you're interested. thanks!

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## Journal Club - October 17th @ 1800

Articles:

Article 1: Dalziel, S.R., Borland, M.L., Furyk, J., Bonisch, M., Neutze, J., Donath, S., ... & Babl, F.E. (2019). Levetiracetam versus phenytoin for second-line treatment of convulsive status epilepticus in children (ConSEPT): an open-label, multicentre, randomised controlled trial. *Lancet*, 393: 2135-2145

Article 2: Lyttle, M.D., Rainford, N.E.A., Gamble, C., Messahel, S., Humphreys, A., Hickey, H., & Appleton, R.E. (2019). Levetiracetam versus phenytoin for second-line treatment of paediatric convulsive status epilepticus (EcLiPSE): a multicentre, open-label, randomised trial. Lancet, 393: 2125-2134.

Presenters: Drs. Daniel Metcalf & Shelly Chopra.

Preceptor: Dr. Katie Lin

Host: Dr. Ian Walker

[Questions Here.](#)

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### **Key Concept Preceptor Needed**

One sessions left for Key Concept rounds teaching for November 14, 2019. Topic is Shock

All volunteers are greatly appreciated. Remuneration is \$150 per hour, or \$225 total per session.

Each session runs **10:30 am to noon on Thursdays** following departmental 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](mailto:cgyemergelectives@albertahealthservices.ca)

Modules are provided to minimize preparation time and the topics and dates follow:

Thanks

Tris

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### **Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology Pearl of the Week - [Drug-Induced Prolonged QTc](#)**

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### **PLUS EM - Foundations of Leadership in Emergency Medicine**

This two day event will explore your leadership identity in Emergency Medicine, how it changes under crisis, and how it interacts with other identities. PLUS EM will also walk you through applying your leadership strengths to launching new initiatives and working in team. [See brochure here.](#)

Half the registration fee is covered by the department and the fee includes materials, lunch, coffee, and snacks.

- November 28 - Rose Room, 3rd Floor TRW, Foothills Campus
- December 19- G639, Health Sciences Centre, Foothills Campus

Registration Link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/plus-em-foundations-of-leadership-in-emergency-medicine-tickets-68499591121>

Further questions? Please email Fareen Zaver.

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## ED Highlights

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### **CMA Awards 2019, seeking suggestions**

We have received the call for the upcoming Canadian Medical Association (CMA) awards with a nomination deadline of November 30, 2019. I am writing on behalf of Wee Yong and Fiona Clement (Co-Chairs of the Awards Committee) to seek your suggestions for appropriate nominees. The [terms of reference](#) are attached. Please send any suggestions you may have to Wee ([vyong@ucalgary.ca](mailto:vyong@ucalgary.ca)) or me by Thursday October 10, 2019.

Thank you for your considerations.

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### **EM Clothing order**

Limited time left to order your EM clothing! Sample sizes are available for you to try on in the FMC Dept of EM Office on the 11th floor. Please ask Tris for directions into the resident's lounge. Please see the [attached catalogue](#) and visit <https://emergency-scrubs.myshopify.com> to place your order (**pw: EMERG2019**).

The embroidery options takes a few seconds to load on the website so please wait for all of it to load to enter in your embroidery preferences. Please send money via e-transfer to Ken Chan at [kchan.med@gmail.com](mailto:kchan.med@gmail.com). The last day for clothing order will be **October 17, 2019**. Pickup will be at the FMC Dept of EM Office. If you have any further questions, please email me at [kchan.med@gmail.com](mailto:kchan.med@gmail.com).

Thanks!

KC

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## **ER Nurses Night - OCTOBER 9, 2019**

*Where: The Ace Night Club / 111 7th Ave SW*

*Catering: Palomino Smoke House*

*When: 1930 - 0200*

As you all know ER nurses night is coming up quick and what better way to enjoy nurses night than have extra money for food and drinks. I will be selling raffle tickets starting Sept 7th for a 50/50 draw and the winner will receive a wine basket and the rest of the money will go towards ER nurses night. Draw ends Sept 30th by midnight. \$5 for 1 ticket, \$20 for five tickets, \$40 for 10 tickets.

Thanks,

Your friendly neighborhood social planner

Aka. Nicole Groholski RN

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## **Opportunities**

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### **PLC Leadership**

There will be a transition in leadership at the PLC site this fall/winter. The Site Chief and Assistant Site Chief positions at the PLC ED need to be filled.

Please see below advertisement from Scott Banks.

The two positions together represent the MD leadership at the highest volume ED in Alberta.

In addition to providing leadership at the site, the Site Chief and Assistant are part of the operational leadership for the whole zone. They work with the other site leaders and the Department Head and Deputy Department Head to lead hiring and develop operational policies for the Emergency Medicine in the Calgary Zone.

Qualities that would be beneficial for this role include:

- clinical expertise
- ability to work collaboratively with RN's in a multidisciplinary team at PLC Site Operations
- ability to work compassionately with patients in resolving complaints

- Neil and Ian

sent on behalf of Scott Banks

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\_\_\_\_\_ ED Physicians: We would like to formally thank Dr. Rick Morris and Dr. Cathy Dorrington for their many outstanding contributions serving in the roles of PLC Site Chief, and PLC Assistant Site Chief. They have both made several exceptional contributions, and have now decided to step down and pursue other interests. This now creates a great opportunity for others to continue to build on their outstanding work. The PLC Site Chief and Assistant Site Chief positions are available effective January 1, 2020, possibly sooner if the right candidates can be located and have availability to start sooner. The Emergency Department PLC Site Chief position is a .3FTE role and is compensated at the rate of \$69,597 annually (\$5,799.75 monthly). The Emergency Department PLC Assistant Site Chief position is a .1FTE role and is compensated at the rate of \$23,199 annually (\$1,933.25 monthly). To apply for these rarely available opportunities, please email me a cover letter highlighting your interest and skillset for this position, and an updated CV. Cover letters and CV's should be emailed to: [scott.banks@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:scott.banks@albertahealthservices.ca) and should be received no later than November 4, 2019. In your cover letter please state which position you're interested in.

Accountabilities and Deliverables of the Emergency Department PLC Site Chief & PLC Assistant Site Chief Roles: In a competent and professional manner, the Contractor will: ) Have high visibility and availability on the site and be a strong advocate for the members of the Department at the PLC site. ) Encourage clinical and professional development of site members; promote excellence in patient care delivery; ensure adequate site specific orientation for new emergency MD staff. ) Coordinate clinical care for the Emergency Department at their designated acute care site; report directly to the Deputy Department Head on all operational matters. ) In collaboration with the Deputy Department Head and/or Department Head, establish and periodically update any policies and procedures relating to the operation of the Emergency Department consistent with the AHS and University of Calgary mission, roles and goals. ) Participate in the strategic and operational planning of emergency care in the Calgary Zone; attends all monthly zone department meetings relating to clinical operations. ) Be an active member of the Emergency Department Physician Resources Committee and provide input on physician performance including but not limited to clinical competence and professionalism. The Site Chief will aid in compiling feedback in relation to new physician hires during their locum and probationary periods and when available, will be a participant in the interviewing process of potential physician hires. ) Coordinate and oversee the reviews/complaints of all patient, physician, consultant, and resident training at your designated

site as it pertains to emergency care, in a prompt manner and in accordance with the zone medical bylaws; communicates and collaborates with the Deputy Department Head on all escalating reviews or when deemed necessary. } Collaborate and participate in Emergency Medicine Safety & Quality Improvement meetings and activities. } As a Site Chief/Assistant Site Chief in Emergency Medicine, will be responsible for the day-to-day administrative duties in the Emergency Department at the designated site by monitoring benchmarks and measurement mechanisms in accordance with the departmental quality assurance framework. } Attend and participate in site specific Emergency Medicine and other interdepartmental meetings relating to clinical operations i.e. site flow committees, site specific disaster committees; site QAC, site leadership. } In collaboration with the Deputy Department Head, monitor patient volumes as they relate to wait times and physician resources including but not limited to, the implementation of strategic physician shifting, shift additions and removals, and shift start times and durations. } Site Chief to collaborate and communicate with assistant Site Chiefs to designate site specific tasks and divide Site Chief work load as appropriate; Assistant Site Chiefs will report directly to the Site Chief and Operational Lead as appropriate. } In collaboration with the Zone Department of Emergency Medicine research section, support approved research activities of all disciplines within the designated Emergency Department. } Represent Emergency Medicine in dealing with site specific management issues in a timely manner, assist in the site specific strategic planning and provide site specific leadership on issues relevant to the Emergency Department as needed; attend at site leadership meetings when appropriate. } As needed, participate in site specific Emergency Department and hospital redesign/rebuild planning meetings when appropriate; provide updates of departmental construction or rezoning to the physician executive and physician large group as necessary. } Facilitate open and effective communication between the site and the Zone Department of Emergency Medicine as well as with other disciplines and departments. } In collaboration with department leadership, develop, review, revise and implement AHS policies, procedures and guidelines relating to patient care in a timely fashion. } Provide input for an Annual Report or any other material relevant to the site as requested by the Deputy Department Head and/or Department Head; attend and deliver site report at annual Emergency Department Retreat. } Advise the Deputy Department Head and Clinical Department Head on matters relating to bed utilization and resources required to carry out the patient care responsibilities of the Department at his/her particular site. Thanks - if you have any questions about these roles, please feel free to call or email me, Neil, Ian or speak directly to Rick and Cathy about the roles.

Scott H. Banks, MBA, CITP, CHRP

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### **Opportunities in Mass Gathering/Event Medicine**

[Click here for details](#) on upcoming events in Alberta.

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### **HOPEthiopia Volunteer Opportunity**

HOPEthiopia is looking for volunteers for a medical outreach clinic November 18-22 in Harbu Chulule, Ethiopia. It is a volunteer trip and therefore each member raises their own funds or pays for their travel expenses. The organization is Christian but there is no expectation that members participate in faith-based activities, just respect the local culture. Several members of our department have been on medical trips with HOPEthiopia and the leader, Dr. Ralph Dubiensi, can put you in touch with them upon request.

For further information please contact Dr. Ralph Dubiensi or visit their website [www.hopethiopia.com](http://www.hopethiopia.com).

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## MD Spotlight

### Dr. Kip Rodgers

Born and raised north of Toronto, Kip left the east to complete a degree in Evolutionary Biology degree at UBC with a minor in alpine studies at Whistler/Blackcomb. He then returned to Ontario to complete a Masters in Neuroscience followed by an Education degree with specialization in Outdoor Education at Queen's. His second move west led to his short career as a White Water Raft Guide and was followed by his role as an Educational Designer in Calgary. Several years later he found that medicine united his passions for science and education. He completed medical school and residency at U of C. He is now in his 5<sup>th</sup> year as a staff physician. Kip believes that high quality medical care is a fundamental human right and he feels it is a privilege to provide care to individuals of all backgrounds, cultures and ways of life.

Kip has a strong interest in residency education and acts as both a longitudinal preceptor and senior ultrasound educator for the program. Outside of clinical medicine, he acts as the Disaster Coordinator for the PLC, works as a volunteer physician at Sunshine Ski Resort and assists with World Cup Ski events and training at local resorts.

Kip and his incredible wife Heather have 2 kids, Quinn (10) and Hannah (7) who bring both magic and chaos to their lives. They spend their time biking and skiing in the mountains, waterskiing and paddling at the cottage back east, and spending time in the wilderness in Alberta.



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## Misc.

### **Congrats Dr. Potok!**

Vanessa Potok and her husband Marvin welcomed baby Oscar Otis Corona on Sept 22nd. Mom and baby are doing great! Everyone is having lots of fun adjusting to being a family of 4.

