



Department of Emergency Medicine

Weekly email

Updates for ED Physicians

Operations

New Role for RAAPID MD in the transfer-in of patients to see a specialist

Hi Group:

[This link provides an overview](#) of the new transfer policy for specialist patients. I would like to provide some editorial comments. This is a major operational change. It starts today. We have decided to take responsibility for those patients who arrive in our ED having been accepted in transfer by a specialist colleague. Please treat these patients as our own. The accepting specialist is still expected to see them in the usual time frame, and is accountable for medical care in their area of expertise and to help facilitate a disposition if admission under their service is not appropriate. However, ED MD's are uniquely poised to manage clinical deterioration in our department; we are also experts in the disposition of complex patients. Adam Oster's QA process has identified multiple adverse serious patient outcomes over decades, that arose because transferred-in patients did not have an ED MD on their care team in the ED.

This is not expected to result in extra transfers to the ED (we will be watching).

This process is not applicable to patients who are asked to attend an ED by a specialist to see that same specialist. (this should be a rare event and is discouraged)

You will be on calls where you don't see a clear role for yourself in the care of the patient. Your involvement will be minimal in these cases. We currently don't have a good way of filtering out these cases, but we will monitor things as the process gets underway.

This will result in a few more RAAPID calls for each of us. If the logistics of adding these extra calls creates operational difficulties, we will adapt.

Please discuss billing issues with your Billing Group Representatives.

I would like to thank Adam Oster and his team for the leadership he has provided in identifying this issue and "operationalizing" a solution.

Regards,
Neil Collins

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

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!

Physician Participation Needed!

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.

Looking for New PSF Committee Member

The PSF is looking for a new member to join our governance committee. This is a great opportunity for non clinical contribution to our department and also allows insight into the exciting projects that are going on in our emergency medicine community. Please direct your email expressing interest in the position to Lilian Prudencio.

The PSF Committee

PGY-5 Oral Exam Help Needed

I am in the process of developing a formal oral prep program for the R5s in addition to the on-shift orals they receive throughout the year and I'm hoping recruit staff to help give sessions 1 Wednesday afternoon a month.

I would like to aim for a minimum of 2 and a max of 4 examiners for the sessions. If we have two examiners the residents will be in pairs and will watch their colleague get two cases and receive two cases; if we have more, we will separate them. I will have a bank of orals available that I have collected over the last couple of years if people need more cases or if that is a limiting factor to being able to help out.

I am happy to chat re: any questions or feedback to help make this better for the R5s. I have attached a google doc link below for people to sign up- if people can even commit to just one session we can easily do this for them!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qOOocS4a20wBcPgrlIRoRNT5dp-a2goZO8w1WQVhFh4/edit?usp=sharing>

Brit Sunderani MD FRCPC-EM
Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellow
Alberta Children's Hospital

Seeking MDs and RNs interested in ED Treatment Plans!

ED Treatment Plans provide background and guidance for managing our most challenging and vulnerable frequent visitors. After seeing success with our project on a limited scale, we are moving Zone wide and will gradually create more plans at all 4 adult sites. Thanks to generous support from the PSF, we will be able to offer a limited number of honoraria for EDMD authors. There are two opportunities:

1. Seeking EDMDs interested in authoring plans: Please contact me and Ken Mont and we will get you started. If you have a patient in mind, great! Otherwise we can help you to identify a candidate at your primary site based on ED utilization data.
2. Seeking EDMDs and RNs at FMC and PLC to become Treatment Plan champions: This role will involve helping to identify Treatment Plan candidates at your sites, assisting EDMD authors, intermittently monitoring and reviewing your site's plans, and attending quarterly multidisciplinary case conferences. The time commitment is expected to be small, and billing codes are available for the case conferences. MDs who are Treatment Plan champions are also welcome to author plans.

Please contact me if you would like more information.
Dr. Christine East
Physician Lead ED Treatment Plans, Calgary Zone

FMC QI project Survey - To improve the rate of successful follow-ups after patients are discharged home with pending lab results.

You are being contacted to complete a short 5min survey developed by the pharmacy ED team at FMC. Our team is currently pursuing a quality-improvement (QI) project to improve the rate of successful follow-ups after patients are discharged home with pending lab results. This survey will ask questions about your involvement with the ED discharge process: [FMC Quality Improvement in the ED](#) (click the link to take the survey).

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact Dillon Lee (Pharmacy student, Phil Boilard, or Jen Jordan.

Education. CME. Rounds

ED Grand Rounds

Date: Thursday, October 31, 2019

Time: 0900 - 1000

Host Site: Coombs Theatre - FMC

Title: Status Epilepticus:

[A review of the test evidence and how it affects our management in the ED](#)

Presenter: Dr. Tyson Savage – FRCPC EM Resident

Telehealth Sites:

Alberta Children's Hospital - Rm B4-010

Rockyview General Hospital – Rm 10332

South Health Campus – Rm - 41007

Peter Lougheed Hospital – Rm 4056

Banff Mineral Springs Hospital - Rm 5018

Canmore General Hospital – Boardroom 1256

PEM Fellow Grand Rounds

My name is Robyn, I am one of the second year PEM fellows. I am presenting at PEM Grand Rounds on November 28th on The Unexpected Pediatric Death and updated End of Life Guidelines. I am hoping you might be able to take 5 minutes to fill out a quick survey, to help streamline what end of life topics might be the most useful for the group. Sorry to the group who has already received this email!

The survey is found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSXR2Q2>

Thank you in advance, and looking forward to seeing you at rounds on the 28th!

-

Robyn Buna MD

Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellow (PGY5)

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Peer Consultation in Clinical Teaching Program

Have you been teaching in the clinical setting and wondering "How can I further develop my teaching skills? How can I help learners optimize their learning and also feel personally fulfilled as a teacher?"

Maybe you have never had the opportunity to receive expert teaching and feedback on your own teaching skills? If any of these common thoughts have crossed your mind, keep reading ahead, we have the answers for you!

[The Peer Consultation in Clinical Teaching program](#) links clinical teachers with clinical educators experienced in facilitating development of clinical skills. Participation may be claimed as Section 3 credits in the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Maintenance of Certification Program. There is no charge to participate in the program.

Sign up today by contacting Kenna Kelly-Turner.

Abstract Call- Calgary Emergency Department Nursing Conference

The Emerging Dynamics Conference Planning Committee for 2020 is placing a call for abstracts.

If you or a colleague are interested in presenting at this [Province Wide Conference](#).

Please submit to Jennifer Evangelista.

ED Highlights

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT SOCIAL NIGHT

Who?: You and your significant other.

When?: Wednesday November 20th

Where?: Last Best Brewing Co. 607 11th Ave SW <https://lastbestbrewing.com>

Why?: Because we are a team... and colleagues that think together should also drink together!

How?: In part by the generous support of your ED Physician Support Fund.

Please email Grant Kenndy, Stuart Rose, Huma Ali or Ayesha Khory if you plan on joining us.

[See you November 20th!](#)
Your ED Social Night Team.

Save the Date! RGH Xmas Party - Dec 6

RGH ED Docs Christmas Party will be Friday Dec 6 starting at 7 pm. Drs. Grant and Christine Kennedy have graciously offered to host. Please RSVP to Ayesha khory with your attendance.

ED Gala Survey Results

A big thank you to those of you who completed the surveys. I have [compiled a summary of the two surveys](#) for your information. I am happy to share the full detail with anybody who would like to see it.

Stuart
On behalf of the ED Gala Committee

Opportunities

Physician Builder for Connect Care

As advertised in last weeks newsletter, we are looking for an Emergency Physician to fill the role of "Physician Builder" for Connect Care.

Please see the [job description here](#).

I have had several physicians contact me with interest. We will close applications for this on November 4th.

Thanks

Neil Collins and Ian Walker

PLC Site Leadership

The Site Chief and Assistant Site Chief positions at the PLC ED need to be filled.

Please see advertisement below from Scott Banks.

I would like to begin interviews for these positions as soon as possible. Please email Ian or me with questions.

Thanks

Neil Collins and Ian Walker
sent on behalf of Scott Banks

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 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

Emergency Medicine Zone Department Manager & Co-Chair ED Physician Resources Committee & Zone Manager for Critical Care Medicine & Obstetrics & Gynecology Alberta Health Services

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. Karen Keats

Karen is originally from Gander, Newfoundland and has moved around the country before settling in Calgary. Her academic achievements include:

Bachelor of Science, Dalhousie University

Medical Doctorate, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Emergency Medicine RCPSC, University of Alberta

Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine, Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society, ABEM

Upon moving to Calgary in 2000 Karen has consistently kept busy with clinical emergency medicine and Hyperbaric medicine. She enjoys the clinical variety and it's challenges and believes that the comraderie experienced by the front line community is like no other specialty.

Karen is also a mom to three busy boys (ages 12, 12 and 11). They are active in sports, music and attend Spanish school. She believes that learning to balance her professional life with being a mother has provided her with a tremendous appreciation of a parent's challenges and endless dedication.

From a personal perspective Karen is constantly seeking ways to promote growth and exploration. This is evident in some of her passions such as CrossFit, kitesurfing and world travel. Her focus for the near future is to travel more extensively and to become involved in humanitarian projects. She is extremely grateful that emergency medicine is the perfect specialty to facilitate these goals.

