



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY



Department of Emergency Medicine



# Weekly **email**

Updates for ED Physicians

## Operations

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### **Direct Referrals within/outside Calgary Zone**

As has been previously communicated, Direct Referral consultations to specialists **from outside Calgary Zone EDs** will soon include an ED MD from the Calgary ED receiving site in the phone conversation. It will be expected that this ED physician will involve themselves in caring for the patient **to the extent that it is required**. More information about this new communication process with RAAPID, as well as how to write a note in SCM prior to the patient's arrival, will occur closer to the go live date for this process this fall. The initially planned roll-out on Sept. 9th has been pushed back.

The above process refers to patients transferred from Outside Calgary Zones or from an UCC. At times we ourselves will also need to transfer a patient to see a Consultant at another Calgary ED. As you know these calls do not go through RAAPID (except for ACH). A significant number of these patients will have progression of their underlying disease process and/or other unmet clinical or care needs once they have arrived at their destination ED.

**WHAT WE WANT FROM YOU: If you are sending a patient as a Direct Referral to another Calgary Zone ED please use RAAPID to talk to an ED MD at the destination site (following your arrangement call with the Specialist to accept transfer).** Use this opportunity to communicate key clinical information to them. Again, this ED MD will be an accountable MD at the destination site, to the extent that it is clinically required, and can also assist in better ensuring appropriate and timely management and disposition of the patient. We acknowledge that this is an additional step and may impact your workflow but also believe it will make this transition in care safer for the patient. Adam Oster or Neil Collins are happy to have feedback on this.

- Drs. Neil Collins & Adam Oster

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## Privacy Reminder

Please don't send any unencrypted patient information through regular email.

As physicians working in AHS facilities, we all have access to AHS email. Please use this instead.

Also please note, as per the recent memo from AHS Chief Medical Officer Dr. Francois Belanger, we are all required to complete the privacy training module "Infocare: On our best behaviour" by Dec 31, 2019.

I believe that access to Connect Care will be restricted to those physicians who have completed this module. This is the second compulsory module. (recall that the aboriginal awareness training module also has to be completed by this fall).

These modules are found in "My Learning Link", from the AHS "Insite" page .

Neil Collins

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## Look for email to participate in AHS Performance Review Workforce Survey

[Read letter from Dr. Verna Yiu](#)

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## SCM 18.4 upgrade and Mega-Downtime on Sept 20 18:00 - Sept 21 05:30

A friendly reminder about the upcoming SCM/SEC downtime which will last 11.5 hours starting Sept 20 6pm.

Regular downtime procedures will be effect during this time. Orders will be done on paper and patients can be tracked on the downtime board.

An announcement will be made overhead when it is safe to log back into SEC.

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## My ED DI AVL - What do I need to know?

1. Use it to follow up DI reports.
2. Results drop off the list after 2 weeks so don't procrastinate
3. Post discharge results and amended reports are flagged so make sure to look at those ones

There is potentially an issue with resident-ordered DI tests not populating to the DI AVL after a downtime. If you work with a resident during a downtime, try to review your DI reports in real-time or use your 30 day patient list (My ED and UCC patients, Last 30 days) to make sure nothing gets missed.

For further information about the DI AVL, look under the 'SCM/SEC Training for Physicians tab' at [insite.albertahealthservices.ca/edc/Page9692.aspx](http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/edc/Page9692.aspx)

Also feel free to email me any questions, except why the DI AVL only holds results for 2 weeks. This is a system setting and despite our attempts cannot be changed.

**Matthew Grabove**

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## Scheduled Outage to Alberta Netcare Portal: Thursday, September 12, 2019 from 9:00pm to 11:30pm

Alberta Netcare Portal will be unavailable during the above noted period in order to accommodate system upgrades. Users who are logged in during this time will be disconnected and will need to re-authenticate following the outage period.

If you anticipate urgent access to impacted results, please refer to and complete the ANP Downtime Contingency Kit <http://www.albertanetcare.ca/documents/ANP-Downtime-Prep-Kit.xlsx> in advance of the maintenance. For any questions or concerns, AHS employees please contact 1-877-311-4300, or Community Alberta Netcare users (outside AHS) can contact the Provincial Helpdesk at 1-877-931-1638.

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## ED Peer Support Team

We are a group of trained emergency physician colleagues who are available for support to any ED physician in a time of need. Our goal is to connect with physicians if they are *distressed for any cause* that is *disrupting* or *impairing* their ability to function in their professional or personal life. This can include, but is not limited to, distress surrounding an adverse patient event, a challenging shift or interaction, professionalism matters, or discord in their personal life.

Our ED PST was developed with the support of the Physician Support Fund and Well Doc Alberta. It is modelled after the Department of Medicine's PST which launched as a system-level approach to physician wellness.

Formal peer support training has been provided to your ED PST members who are now available to you in times of need.

**Any ED physician can use this service at any time.**

**How do you engage with the ED PST service?**

**You can personally reach out to any ED PST member directly.**

The ED PST is designed to be an empathetic ear. It is not designed to replace counselling services. There will be no recording or written record of interaction details. It is also not designed to evaluate the specifics of any particular situation or provide medico-legal guidance.

**The conversations you have with an ED PST member will be held in strict confidence. The boundary of this commitment would only be crossed if your PST member has immediate safety concerns for you and/or others.**

This is the first step of many in fostering a culture of wellness and safety for ourselves and our colleagues.

Sincerely,

Your Wellness Hub Leads

Drs. Eileen Kabaroff, Vanessa Potok, Huma Ali

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### **EPINEPHRINE AND BICARB Preload Shortage**

Epi and bicarb preloads are now critically short, and not available.

Substitution in the carts:

Epi (1 mg/ml) single dose ampules is packaged in a bag with 10 ml NS. Taped to the outside is a 10 ml syringe and a blunt fill filtered needle.

Sodium Bicarbonate is supplied in a 50mEq (mmol)/50ml Vial.

Pharmacy will let us know when this shortage is resolved.

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### **Physician participation needed!**

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#### **Physician Input on Syncope Pathway Needed**

Some of you may recall completing data collection forms in a study to derive and validate the Canadian Syncope Risk Score, the best-performing clinical score to predict risk of adverse events in ED patients with syncope. This work is now being translated into a clinical pathway that would include ED discharge for low-risk patients, outpatient cardiac monitoring for moderate-risk patients (with easier access than current Holters), and admission for high-risk patients. We'd like to have input from 2 ED physicians to provide feedback on the draft pathway. This would involve a 30-60 minute phone interview, for which respondents will be compensated with a \$50 gift card.

Please contact Andrew McRae if you'd be willing to comment on a draft clinical pathway.

Thanks

Andrew

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### **Global EM hub**

The next meeting for the Global EM hub will be Wednesday, **September 18 at 20:00, location Wild Rose Brewery, 4580 Quesnay Wood Dr SW.**

It's been an eventful few months since our last meeting, with some productive conversations leading to some new and exciting possibilities. We'll have several topics to discuss:

- 1) MBARARA, UGANDA PARTNERSHIP
- 2) FITCHE, ETHIOPIA SIM AND SEPSIS PROJECT
- 3) NORTHERN CANADA OPPORTUNITIES
- 4) GEM GRAND ROUNDS 2020

Shoot me an email to RSVP or if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Andrew Battison

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### **Interviewers Needed for Staff Physician Interviews**

We have a total of 12 applicants for new staff positions starting July 2020, which is likely more than we can accommodate. The Physician Resources Committee (formerly Manpower) is looking for people who would be willing to help make these important decisions about who to hire by interviewing candidates. Interviews are tentatively scheduled **for Oct 9th and 10th**.

If you would be willing and available, please let Ian Walker know.

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### **Invitation to ED Group - Indigenous Themed Simulation Pilot Project**

The eSIM team at Peter Lougheed Centre (PLC) in Calgary and Pincher Creek Health Centre (PCHC) would like to invite you to participate in a simulation pilot project, *Practicing Cultural Competency: Indigenous Themed Simulation*. [Read more.](#)

## **Education. CME. Rounds**

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### **Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds**

September 12, 2019 0900-1000

**[Title: "Knock Knock - Who's there?" - Concussion \(sport related\) update and emergency medicine specific management considerations](#)**

Presenter: Dr. Stephanie Vandenberg  
Emergency Physician, AHS Calgary Zone  
Clinical Lecturer, Cumming School of Medicine

Co-presented with the Medical Director of the NHL and member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Medical Commission, [Dr. Winne Meeuwisse](#) and [Dr. Cory Wowk](#), Sports Medicine Physician, 2017-18 Gold Medal Hockey Canada World Junior Men's Team Physician.

September 12, 2019 1000 – 1015

**[Topic: Thrombosis Program updates](#)**

Presenter: Dr. Leslie Skeith  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Hematology  
Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

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**Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology Pearl of the Week - [Nitrofurantoin – Part 2](#)**

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## Journal Club September 12 @ 1800

Articles:

Article 1: Motov, S., Mai, M., Pushkar, I., Likourezos, A., Drapkin, J., Yasavolian, M., ... Fromm, C. (2017). American Journal of Emergency Medicine A prospective randomized , double-dummy trial comparing IV push low dose ketamine to short infusion of low dose ketamine for treatment of pain in the ED. American Journal of Emergency Medicine, 35(8), 1095–1100. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajem.2017.03.004>

Article 2: Karlow N. "A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Ketamine as an Alternative to Opioids for Acute Pain in the Emergency Department." Acad Emerg Med. 2018. 25(10):1086-1097

Presenters: Drs. Zoe Polsky & Tyson Savage.

Host: Dr. Cathy Dorrington

### Questions Attached

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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.

Registration 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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## Geriatric Fall Visiting Scholar Dr. Don Melady Thursday September 19th, 2019

Our upcoming Geriatric fall visiting scholar, Dr. Don Melady will be presenting Thursday Sept 19th from 9:00-10:00 am at FMC Coombs Theatre. There will be a light breakfast served at 8:30am to start.

Dr. Don Melady will also be our keynote speaker at the 2019 Geriatric update conference on Friday September 20th ([see attached brochure](#)), please register online at [cmeregistration.ucalgary.ca](http://cmeregistration.ucalgary.ca) as on-site registration includes a surcharge, is based on availability and is not guaranteed.

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## CPOCUS CME Modules

I recently learned that CPOCUS has created online CME modules to help you refresh your ultrasound knowledge/skills and get CME credits.

Login: <https://www.cpus.ca/training-exams/maintenance-competency/>

You'll need to become a member to benefit from this.

Here is some more info below:

### **New Maintenance of Competency Program**

The Society encourages maintenance of competency and expansion of PoCUS skills through its new Maintenance of Competency ([MOC](#)) Program.

The MOC Program consists of 8 modules with online quizzes based on the Acute Care CORE Curriculum.

And good news, CPoCUS members can earn CME credits while completing the CPoCUS MOC modules. See how to [earn CME credits!](#)

- Kasia

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## ED Highlights

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### **Progress Update: SHC Emerg Pod C**

The basis of the design for the South Health Campus Emergency Department Pediatric Pod (Pod C) was to provide an environment that would improve the patient experience. The goal was to create a space that would help relieve anxiety and fear through the use of a number of environmental distractions. The following provides an overview of some of the elements that have been incorporated:

[SHC Emerg Pod C](#).

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### **ED Gala Donations for Silent Auction**

The annual ED Gala is quickly approaching on Sept 26th. It promises to be a great night of socializing and recognizing our colleagues. Our silent auction proceeds will again be donated to the DOAP team. Your donations in the past have been integral in raising our donation funds. If you have an item, experience or business connection that can provide a silent auction item please let us know and we can arrange drop-off. Examples of donations in the past:

- fishing trip
- dinner and wine night
- fitness class passes
- wine/ food baskets

We will also be doing the wine raffle again. If you have a wine store connection that would be willing to donate some bottles of wine that would be appreciated! Please contact one of the following committee members if you have a donation:

Ayesha Khory  
Stuart Rose  
Jennifer Puddy  
Nancy Zuzic

Thank you! Hope to see you there - Please contact Laurie-Ann Baker for tickets.

The Gala Committee

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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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### **Retirement Party for Dawne (Ortho Tech)**

Many people have been asking about A retirement party for Dawne Orthotech!! Her husband Doug and her have decided to have a night out at the King Eddy pub to celebrate this new phase of life!

Location: King Eddy pub

438 9 Ave SE, Calgary

Time: Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 8:00pm

There will be a live band and cover charge that night! The band playing is called the confusionaires and cover charge is 14\$ at the door or 10\$ booked ahead of time!

If you could please R.S.V.P to me Jessica Jackson at 403 619 0123 or comment on this post so we can have an idea of a head count that would be great! Dawne is looking forward to seeing everyone's friendly faces!

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## Opportunities

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### **OHMES Funding Competition Announcement**

Letter of intent due: September 27, 2019. [Click here.](#)

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### **CAEP's Annual Grant Competition**

CAEP's annual grant competition is open (<https://caep.ca/research/grant-competition/>). New this year are two Quality Improvement and Patient Safety grants (2500\$ each). You can find the details at the above link. Grants are due Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 23:59 (ET). Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this grant.

Dr. Shawn Dowling

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## MD Spotlight

### **Dr. April Tozer**

April grew up in Fredericton, New Brunswick and completed her undergraduate degree in BioChemistry at UNB, where she met her future husband Mike. They endured 4 years of a long distance relationship as she moved to Halifax for her Medicine degree, while he worked as an engineer in Toronto. They got married and moved to Kingston for her FRCPC EM residency - which she managed to complete in a seven short years, having two babies in the process.

Since moving to Calgary in 2013, April's family has expanded and she and Mike are now parents to four active children - three boys and a girl. April often looks forward to her ER shifts for some peace and quiet. Other clinical interests include obesity medicine and nutrition, and she is considering certifying for the American Board of Obesity Medicine.

Traveling is a big part of April's life, and her globetrotting adventures have included a year in Korea teaching English, medical placements in South Africa and Tanzania, a honeymoon in India and more recent family trips to Australia / New Zealand, Ireland and Austria. If you see her in the coming months, give her a high-five for working nights and sleeplessly solo parenting in the day while her nanny is off on maternity leave.

