



Department of Emergency Medicine

Weekly **email**

Updates for ED Physicians

<hr size=2 width="100%" align=center>

January 05. 2021

COVID-19 Updates

COVID OPERATIONS UPDATE

Hi Group:

Happy New Year, here are a few brief points to update you on.

CAPACITY

COVID positive cases in the province are falling.

Admissions to hospital are lagging behind positive swabs by a few weeks and are at pandemic-highs but appear to be plateauing. The same is true of ICU admissions.

"COVID Demand" on the hospitals is very high right now due to increased admissions, beds closed or restricted due to outbreaks on units, and decreased outflow (closed Long Term Care beds for example). We hope that this is plateauing as well. Hopefully, this will be the period of time with the most pressure on the system. Current high EIP levels have made for difficult work conditions in the ED. Many surgeries were cancelled today for help with capacity and other measures were being explored to help clear the EDs of admitted patients.

PLC OUTBREAK

The number of Healthcare Workers affected by the PLC ED outbreak has stabilized at 23. We hope everyone is feeling better soon. Investigations are ongoing as to what caused the outbreak. In light of the fact that we are not sure what caused this outbreak, enhanced vigilance is appropriate.

GOING ON A HOLIDAY?

A reminder that the 14 day quarantine for travellers applies for anyone working in an AHS facility. Vaccinations don't currently affect this.

DESIGNATED SUPPORT PERSONS

I have noticed that many patient complaints in the past six months have mentioned the inability of families to accompany patients to the ED. I myself have found it difficult to evaluate cognitively impaired patients or patients for whom English is a second language without family present to provide context or translation. **AHS visitation policy during the pandemic states that one Designated Support Person (DSP) can accompany a patient in the ED.** If you feel that your patient would benefit from a DSP, please approach the bedside RN or charge RN. As long as the DSP is not isolating for COVID themselves, it is reasonable to have them available at the bedside to help make crucial disposition questions.

Regards,
Neil

Wellness COVID Updates

1. **Call your Peer Support Team.** The Peer Support Team member can provide an empathetic ear, screen for safety and guide you to resources that exist in our community (i.e PFSP).
2. **Call Physician and Family Services (PFSP) – 1877SOS4MDS. THIS LINE IS AVAILABLE 24/7.** You have 6 free hours of counselling for yourself and 6 free for your family members.
3. [Watch the 2020 ED MD Gratitude Video on Youtube](#)

Message from Dr. Vipond

Dear colleagues,

Through the grapevine, it has come to my attention that certain members of our EM group have had concerns about some of my recent media appearances, in particular, that I may have given the public the impression that I was speaking on behalf of the entire group, rather than as an individual physician. Although I have explicitly attempted to avoid this confusion, there have been moments in some interviews where I can see how this confusion could have occurred. For this, I sincerely apologize. In the future, in doing media interviews relating to COVID and my practice, I will always state "The views I present are mine alone, and not those of my colleagues or of AHS" at the commencement of every interview. I hope this will help alleviate any concerns about future misrepresentations.

Dr. Joe Vipond

Operations

Milk River Coverage

Milk River is looking for help with ED coverage as of Jan 7.

Shift Breakdowns:

Day Shift: 08:00 – 17:00

Evening Shift: 17:00 – 08:00

Full Shift: 08:00 – 08:00 the next morning.

The dates listed below will need to be covered at this point in Milk River:

Jan. 7 – Evening Shift of 17:00 – 08:00.
Jan. 8 – Day Shift of 08:00 – 17:00.
Jan. 11 – 14 – Full shifts or Day/Evening Shifts.
Jan. 18 – Full shift or Day/Evening Shifts.
Jan. 19 – Evening Shift.
Jan. 20 – 21 – Full shifts or Day/Evening Shifts.
Jan. 22 – Day Shift.
Jan. 26 – 28 – Full or Day/Evening Shifts.

Contact Liesel Hann if interested and for details about compensation.

OD info for EDs

ESCN has put together a document for EDs on [Opioid Use Disorder Treatment during COVID-19](#).

UCalgary Sports Medicine Clinic

The University of Calgary Sport Medicine Centre offers specialty clinics to assist patients and primary healthcare providers determine an accurate diagnosis and care plan while minimizing the use of unnecessary diagnostic imaging and treatment. The specialty clinics were established to provide patients with timely access to specialist level care with no out-of-pocket costs.

Self-referred Clinics

- **Acute Knee Injury Clinic (AKIC)** - Patients are seen by an athletic therapist and sport medicine physician generally within two weeks from the date of an appointment request. Patients are able to self-refer through an [online portal](#).
- **Acute Sport Concussion Clinic (ASCC)** - Patients who sustain a concussion, or suspected concussion, within the past six weeks during a sporting activity are eligible for care in the Concussion Clinic. Patients are seen within one to two weeks from the date of their injury and can self-refer through an [online portal](#). Patients are seen by a sport medicine physician.
- **Acute Sport Injury Clinic (ASIC)** - Patients who sustain a musculoskeletal injury within the past eight weeks due to a sporting activity are eligible to receive care in the sport injury clinic. Patients are seen by a sport medicine physician generally within 48 hours and can self-refer through an [online portal](#).

Referred Clinics

- **Shoulder Clinic** - Patients presenting with shoulder pain and loss of function can be referred *by a physician* to the Shoulder Clinic to be assessed by a physiotherapist and sport medicine physician. The assessment team will assess the patient and provide the patient with a care plan, and if appropriate, a referral to an orthopedic surgeon.
- **Knee Osteoarthritis Clinic (KOAC)** - Patients presenting with knee osteoarthritis can be *referred by a physician* to the KOAC to be assessed by a sport medicine physician to optimize conservative treatment of a patient's knee osteoarthritis.

[Referral form here.](#)

Physician Participation Needed!

Looking for ED physician participation in CIHR funded study:

Surgical masks have similar efficacy to N95 respirators for protecting healthcare workers against influenza and other respiratory viral infections. It is important to assess whether the same is true for COVID-19. This study is a randomized controlled trial in which healthcare workers are randomized to either medical masks or N95 respirators when providing care to patients with COVID-19 for non-aerosol generating procedures. The primary outcome is RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19. Healthcare workers who provide direct care to COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 patients are eligible. Follow up is for 10 weeks, where 1 or 2 brief text messages per week are sent about symptoms and exposures. A blood test at the start and at the end of the study is obtained to test for antibodies. The study is funded by CIHR and WHO and has been endorsed by public health leaders in Canada.

Please contact jillian.vandenbrand@albertahealthservices.ca to be connected to the research assistants working on this project with Dr. John Conly, Infectious Disease



Present at Research Day 2021 - April 1, 2021

The University of Calgary and Alberta Health Services Department of Emergency Medicine is looking for presenters for our annual Emergency Medicine Research Day being held on April 1st, 2021 hosted via Zoom.

Presenters for the event should have either completed or have an ongoing research project in any of the Emergency Departments, Urgent Care Centers, Pre-hospital services or other clinical areas that would be of interest to those who work in Emergency Medicine.

Attached are the Abstract Submission Forms for either completed or work in progress projects. Instructions for Submission:

1. Complete either the [COMPLETED](#) or [WORK IN PROGRESS](#) Abstract Submission Form.
2. Send complete abstract form back to Jill Vandenbrand (jillian.vandenbrand@ahs.ca) via email by Monday January 25, 2020 at 16:00.

Deadline for Abstract Submissions is Monday January 25, 2020 at 16:00.

OSCE Examiners need for Procedural Skills - JAN 20, 2021

Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) is recruiting examiners for Year 2 OSCE (Procedural Skills – suturing) for Wed, Jan 20th 2021. We are using our new recruitment tool. You should have received an invitation to OSLER where you can sign-up for this OSCE. There are AM and PM slots available. If you wish to examine for the entire day, please select both AM and PM. Otherwise, select only half a day if that works better for your schedule. There will be a boxed lunch provided by the UME for examiners working entire day.

I will send more details to those who sign up and are confirmed to the exam. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me.

Regards
Mateusz Sobczak

AHS Doc of the Week Call for Nominations

Do you know a physician, or team, who have gone above and beyond during the pandemic to shape and drive improvements for patients? Perhaps a physician colleague has gone above and beyond to help support others during a difficult day?

Each week, we would like to take a moment to celebrate and thank the amazing physicians working across the province to provide high-quality care to patients, staff and colleagues across the province.

If you know someone who deserves to be celebrated, please email CMO@ahs.ca with your suggestion, and a brief description of why.

MD Spotlight

Hello ED physicians,

We add the “MD Spot Light” section to the first edition of ED newsletter each month. The goal of this section is to introduce yourself to other ED members and learn more about your academic, professional and personal interests. If your bio hasn't been added to the newsletter, please send it with a head shot to Judy Mackay (judy.mackay@ahs.ca). Length is approximately 250 words. Here are some key concept examples:

1. A short biography of your educational, research, or personal background with a “head shot photo”
2. What kind of extra clinical activities are you involved in, and why?
3. What motivates your passion for Emergency Medicine?
4. Do you have any future goals, activities, research projects not yet announced?

Also, if you would be so kind as to **nominate** one or two of the staff for our next MD Spotlight, just send Judy the name and she will take care of the rest!

Thank you.

Department of Emergency Medicine.

Education. CME. Rounds.

Emergency Grand Rounds

January 07, 2021

Time: 0900 – 1030 (1.5 Education Credits)

Session #1: (0900 – 0945)

Dr. Adrienne Stedford

CCFP-EM Resident - U of C

Topic: “Agitation in Older Adults in the Emergency Department”

Description:

Cognitive impairment and increased susceptibility to delirium are just a few of the challenges in understanding and treating agitation in older patients. With older adults representing a large proportion of emergency department visits, this talk will focus on the latest evidence-based approaches to management of agitation in patients aged 65 and older. An emphasis will be focused on non-pharmaceutical strategies as well as important considerations for selection and administration of pharmaceutical agents, when necessary.

Session #2: (0945 – 1030)

Dr. Jamie Keess

CCFP-EM Resident - U of C

Topic: “Both Sides of the Mask: PPE in the ED”

Description: *This presentation will explore the utility, benefits and risks of wearing surgical and N95 masks in the ED.*

Evaluation form:

Please fill out the evaluation form at <https://forms.gle/szfmBrmxiesjuGfg8>.

ZOOM session

Recording Link:

Recordings of this Thursday's Grand Rounds (Except QAER Rnds) will be available the following Tuesday on our website:

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/departments/emergency-medicine/professional-development/grand-rounds/grand-rounds-archive>

Jan 28 Research in Development session

Dr. Stuart Rose – the Info Study

Dr. Danny Peterson- COVID Lung POCUS study

January 28, 2021

Presentation start: 10:15 am

Zoom Session

ED Grand Rounds Recording - Dec 17 2020

Part 01:

Speaker: Dr. Eddy Lang & Dr. Neil Collins

Topic: COVID Update

Part 2:

Speaker: Dr. Paul Tourigny

Topic: "Post Intubation Care in the ED"

Click [here](#) for recording.

Anti-Racism in Emergency Care: Reflecting on Results of an Ongoing Mixed Methods Project

Jan 29, 12pm-1pm presentation by Patrick McLane (ESCN) and Bonnie Healy

This presentation shares results of an ongoing mixed methods research project titled "Understanding and Defining Quality of Care in the Emergency Department with First Nations Members in Alberta" from the perspectives of the Principal Investigator Patrick McLane and Principal Knowledge User Bonnie Healy. The presenters will reflect on why emergency medicine is a particularly important health services area in which to address racism, and the place of emergency medicine within public health. The importance of community engaged research partnerships will be highlighted.

Info here: https://events.ucalgary.ca/obrien/#!view/event/event_id/238738

CSM Faculty Development Workshops

Browse upcoming workshops here: <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/office/ofdp/workshops>

Coming soon:

- Plus 4: Reconciliation Leadership Foundations
 - EDI Lunch & Learn: Promoting Trustworthy Research - Do we need to modify current perverse incentives and rewards when assessing researchers?
 - Intro to physician wellness
 - Difficult conversations
 - and more
-

Opportunities

Clinical/Adjunct Promotions and Awards Deadlines

Hello ED physicians,

The 2021 deadlines and application requirements for the Clinical/Adjunct promotion process can be [found in the attached document.](#)

For any question, please contact Amani at amani.otoom@ahs.ca

Department of Emergency Medicine.

Teaching Opportunities - Osler

As a faculty member in UME at the University of Calgary, we thought that you would be interested in helping out at some of our teaching or OSCE events:

Latest posted opportunities:

- Tue 26th of Jan 2021
1:00 - 5:00pm <Small Group> Class of 2022 Clerkship Bootcamp integrated case based session - (groups TBD) Location - TBA
- Thu 28th of Jan 2021
1:00 - 5:00pm <Small Group> Class of 2022 Clerkship Bootcamp integrated case based session - (groups TBD) Location - TBA
- Tue 2nd of Feb 2021
1:00 - 5:00pm <Small Group> Class of 2022 Clerkship Bootcamp integrated case based session - (groups TBD) Location - TBA
- Thu 4th of Feb 2021
1:00 - 5:00pm <Small Group> Class of 2022 Clerkship Bootcamp integrated case based session - (groups TBD) Location - TBA

Simply sign up for teaching by clicking on the link shown here:

https://osler.ucalgary.ca/opportunity_form?hash=ecfdcd8e6906f53fec011afcc7706f9e

As a current user in Osler, you can view and subscribe to any 'teaching or OSCE opportunities' that are available:

Log in to Osler, <https://osler.ucalgary.ca>.

If teaching opportunities are available you will see the 'Teaching Opportunities' tab on your dashboard. Select this tab to view the available teaching events.

To access our faculty resources with information that will help your teaching, including our school's philosophy and graduation objectives, please use the following link: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/ofd>

If you believe there has been an error, please forward this message along with a description of the problem to: osler@ucalgary.ca
