



Department of Emergency Medicine

# Weekly **email**

Updates for ED Physicians

**Oct 11, 2022 Edition**

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## Operations

### Alberta FAST Launch with Ortho and Urology

Referrals for non-urgent surgery are now being centralized in the province. The program called "FAST" (Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment) is starting today, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

They are starting with Urology, Spine and Orthopedics.

Unit Clerks should have this information. Note that this replaces the Urology Central Triage as a referral site for that specialty.

Most of our referrals to specialists from the ED are either urgent and done through the consultant on call, or are non-urgent and could be made by the patient's family physician to FAST.

I would not expect that we would be using this very often.

If you have any questions, please email [ABFAST@ahs.ca](mailto:ABFAST@ahs.ca).

[Please see attached a memo for how to refer into the FAST program.](#) In addition, please see a [patient resource you can use for unattached patients.](#)

-Neil

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**FMC Clinical Meeting - Oct 13, 12:30**

James and I are hosting another FMC Clinical meeting on October 13th at 12:30 via zoom (will be recorded). We will be discussing the go-live of Connect Care (November 6th) and other aspects of providing care for our patients at the FMC. All are invited to join.

-Dave and James

### **FMC Clinical Update Meeting October**

Scheduled: Oct 13, 2022 at 12:30 to 14:00, MDT

#### **[Join Zoom Meeting](#)**

- Meeting ID: 673 6180 1208
- Passcode: 049057
- One tap mobile +15873281099,,67361801208# Canada
- Dial in for audio only +1 587 328 1099 Canada

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### **DEM Education - What are the gaps? What do you want?**

Most of you pay into PSF which is funding the new Deputy Head - Education role. Whether you fund the role or not, I want YOUR opinions on where the future focus of this role and other education leads/projects should be put towards. What gaps do you think we have in our department relating to continued medical education, faculty development, mentorship? What do you want to see in our department to make you a better emergency physician, teacher, educator, learner. The more detail you can give, the more ideas you put forward, the higher the likelihood of it getting done!

**[Please fill out this survey which will inform our DEM Strategic Planning day](#)** being held on the afternoon of Nov 3rd. It will take you 10 minutes but its the only way I can really gauge what you want!

**Please email Fareen** ([fzaver@gmail.com](mailto:fzaver@gmail.com)) if you are interested in attending the in-person session or if you have any other feedback/comments/ideas regarding our department's education.

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### **Mark your Calendars - Upcoming MetricAid Scheduling Information Session**

**Thursday, November 03 from 1000 to 1100 in the Clara Christie Theatre – HSC.**

The schedulers (Amanda Schreiner, Tash Wright and Nick Pompa) plan to host an hour-long grand rounds in conjunction with MetricAid to discuss scheduling in the Calgary Zone Emergency Departments. Please plan to attend in person, if at all possible. We will review the following in more detail:

1. Current and future expectations for FTE, weekend coverage, and non-summer/christmas vacation time
2. Step 1, 2 and 3 preference entry with examples
3. Plans for Summer 2023

#### 4. Guidelines and approval process for FTE reduction requests and line change requests

The schedulers and MetricAid will host a question and answer period following the presentation and hope to address as many questions as possible. \*\*Please note that this will be a staff only discussion - residents and physicians outside of the Calgary zone schedule will not be invited to attend. **A unique zoom link will be provided closer to the date.**

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## YYC ED Specific

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### CSM Strategic Plan - Call for participation : Working Group

Dear colleagues,

With the medical school under new leadership we are at a critical juncture in determining the future direction of the CSM.

Please consider reaching out to Belinda Ibrahim if you are interested and willing to play an integral role in shaping our department's future at the University of Calgary. [Read the call out for participants here.](#)

-Eddy

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### DAM workshop Instructor Recruitment - Can you help?

The Difficult Airway Management Workshop is back again! The workshop is planned for Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. We are in need of attending physician instructors for the day. We would be very thankful if you are able to support the workshop by lending your airway management expertise. For those of you who have not yet taught the workshop, the day runs from 9:00 until 15:00 at the ATSSL with faculty instructors from various disciplines.

Participants, including a large group of EM residents this iteration, are guided by experienced faculty as they rotate in small groups to practice key airway management skills. As instructors you are compensated PGME hours for teaching and lunch, coffee and snacks are provided. Most importantly, it's a fun day to be involved with and a good opportunity to foster linkages with other Departments and trainees. All appropriate COVID protocols will be followed. We are REALLY in need of your support. Please consider helping out if you're able. Please notify Stephon ([stephon.anderson@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:stephon.anderson@albertahealthservices.ca)) as soon as possible if you can assist. We will share instructor details with you prior to the workshop.

Thank you in advance, sincerely,  
Jonathan Gaudet

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### Pneumothorax QI Survey

I am an interventional pulmonologist at the Foothills Medical Center. I am interested in optimizing the management of **primary spontaneous pneumothorax (PSP)** in Calgary-area Emergency

Departments and looking at ways the pulmonary service can be of greater value, particularly for early follow-up.

In consultation with the Department of Emergency Medicine, I've developed a **7-minute survey (link below)** that is designed to better understand how pneumothorax guidelines are used in the ED, what the practice patterns are, and what are the perceived barriers to discharge.

Your responses are critical to have a better understanding of how PSP is being managed and I hope you are able to complete the survey. I will send out a few reminders along the way. Please email me if you have questions or concerns: [erik.vakil@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:erik.vakil@albertahealthservices.ca)

**Survey link: [Management of PSP in Calgary-area Emergency Departments \(qualtrics.com\)](#).**

*Thank you!*

*Erik Vakil, MD*

*Clinical Assistant Professor  
Interventional Pulmonary Medicine  
Division of Respirology  
University of Calgary | Alberta Health Services*

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## **The UME (Undergraduate Medical Education) Hub Wants You**

The UME Hub currently includes a dedicated group of physicians who deliver weekly Key Concept rounds to the rotating Emergency Medicine clerks. Additionally, one of my goals as Clerkship Director is to explore ways that we can refresh and revitalize the current 2-week curriculum.

**If you have an interest in participating in Key Concept rounds or the curriculum development process, please let me know: [melanie.sohn@ahs.ca](mailto:melanie.sohn@ahs.ca)**

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## **POCUS Study Recruitment**

### **US interpretation study that provides 200 first trimester pregnancy cases**

This is excellent practice for first trimester pregnancy interpretation and we are hoping everyone would benefit from this review.

We are recruiting emergency medicine residents, fellows and physicians to participate in the ethics approved study entitled "Climbing the Learning Curve in First Trimester Pregnancy POCUS Image Interpretation."

There are 200 image-based cases, and the task is to achieve a 90% competency standard in identifying those cases with an intrauterine pregnancy.

If you think this might be a valuable opportunity for you or trainees, please share this email announcement and participate!

[Register here.](#)

For more information please contact

***Kasia Lenz MD, FRCPC, RDMS, Emergency Medicine, Resident Ultrasound Education Lead***

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### **ED – Trauma Sims Sign Up**

[EM Physician Participants: Level 1 Trauma Process Sims \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

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### **ED Staff Simulations**

**Please sign up for ED Staff Simulations.**

[EM Physician Participants: 2022 ED Staff Simulation \(Sept- Dec 2022\) \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

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### **Wellness**

#### **Parenting & working as a physician during COVID - [resources from CSM](#)**

#### **Wellness Supports**

1. Call your Peer Support Team. [HERE are their phone numbers \(updated October 2021\)](#). 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 free hours of counselling for yourself and for your family members.

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## **Grand Rounds & Journal Club**

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### **Submit your Qs for Neurology Grand Rounds**

We are fortunate to have an expert Neurologist (Dr. Jarvis) give us a Grand Rounds talk Nov 10th, 2022. He will spend the first 30 minutes discussing migraines and various procedures we can attempt in the ER for refractory migraines.

He will then spend the last 30 minutes answering any of our questions we may have regarding any neurologic complaints (outside of Stroke - please see Dr. Katie Lin's ask for stroke topic questions for her talk in March).

[Please fill out this form to add your burning near questions to the list](#) answered by Dr. Jarvis.

Thanks, Fareen

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## Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds

- **Date:** Thurs, Oct 13, 2022
- **Time:** 0900 – 1000 (1.00 Education Credits)
- **Room:** In-Person: Clara Christie Theatre - HSC
- **Zoom:** <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/66383702969>
- **Passcode:** 037024
- **Eval:** <https://cutt.ly/xT82kgH>

### Session #1 (0900 – 1000)

Moderator: Dr. Adam Oster

Speaker: Bobby Johnston

R3 Emergency Medicine Resident, FRCPC

Topic: Dilantin Toxicity in the Undifferentiated Altered Patient

*Description:* Managing altered patients with multiple competing differential diagnoses in the emergency department.

\*\* Recording Link: [Archived recordings can be found on our website.](#)

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## Journal Club - October 20

You are invited to attend the [In-Person Emergency Medicine Journal Club](#) on Thursday, October 20, 2022.

- **Date:** October 20, 2022
- **Time:** 18:00 to 21:00
- **Presenters:** Drs. Alli Farfus and Bobby Johnston
- **Preceptors:** Dr. Katie Lin and Bijoy Menon
- **Hosted by:** Dr. Andrew Robinson

**ARTICLE 1:** Intravenous tenecteplase compared with alteplase for acute ischaemic stroke in Canada (AcT): a pragmatic, multicentre, open-label, registry-linked, randomised, controlled, non-inferiority trial.

Please RSVP to Tris [TrisSurendra.Malasani@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:TrisSurendra.Malasani@albertahealthservices.ca) by this Monday October 17, if you would to attend this Journal Club.

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## Opportunities

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### Callout for Academic File Review Committee and General Faculties Council

The Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) has the following volunteer standing committee opportunities:

**[Admissions File Review Sub-Committee:](#)**

As a member of the CSM File Review Sub-Committee, you are responsible for the actual review and scoring of applicant files that determines who will be invited to interview for medical school. The committee consists of between 50 and 70 people, including faculty members, residents, students, allied health care professionals, and patients from the communities of south and central Alberta. Between them, members of the committee review between 1100 and 1500 applications annually, with each application receiving 4 full reviews, meaning that each sub-committee member reviews about 80-100 files. Most reviewers can review between 1.5 and 3 files per hour, for a total time commitment between 35 and 50 hours. This is a strictly volunteer position. Appointment is for a two-year term. Faculty, resident and community members are eligible to have their terms renewed once.

**Fifteen (15) – faculty members appointed from full and clinical/adjunct faculty with representation of all levels of appointments**

**TERM – 2 years, renewable once**

**[General Faculty Council \(GFC\)](#)**

The GFC is responsible for the academic affairs of the University, subject to the authority of the Board of Governors. GFC should be an effective voice of the academic community, approving matters such as academic policy and priorities, and offering its advice to other decision-makers on issues touching upon the academic work of the University.

**ONE – Faculty Member (must hold an academic staff appointment (GFT))**

**TERM - 2 years, renewable once**

**Note:** The deadline to receive applications is **Monday, October 17/22**. Please provide your Expression of Interest (EOI), a Bio-sketch or current curriculum vitae to **[forster@ucalgary.ca](mailto:forster@ucalgary.ca)**

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**Associate Dean (Postgraduate Medical Education)**

The Associate Dean for PGME reports to the Senior Associate Dean Education, will Chair the PGME Committee, serve on the Strategic Education Council and participate in the Cumming School of Medicine Leadership Forum. Some travel is required to represent PGME at Provincial and National meetings.

The successful candidate must have an MD; must have leadership experience in medical education and administration, preferably as a Program Director; must have experience with residency program accreditation; be a respected educator and scholar; and have proven ability to collaborate and sustain relationships within the Faculty, provincially and nationally with government and professional organization.

The position is 0.6 FTE with a start date of November 1, 2022. The term of office is five years, renewable. [See TOR for the position](#). Please submit a statement of interest and curriculum vitae **by October 17, 2022**, to:

Dr. Beverly Adams

Vice Dean

Cumming School of Medicine,

c/o [ibrahim@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ibrahim@ucalgary.ca)

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## Two Chairs - AHS Scientific Advisory Group

The [AHS COVID-19 Scientific Advisory Group](#) is in the process of becoming a permanent AHS advisory body, with a new name (TBD) and a broader mandate. SAG 2.0 will report to the AHS Clinical Operations Executive Committee and can take questions on any topic, so long as the question is an AHS priority and requires the multidisciplinary lens that SAG offers. If you are interested in leadership role in SAG 2.0, we are seeking two 0.3 FTE Co-chairs.

The [expression of interest for the Co-Chair positions is now posted on Doctor Jobs Alberta](#). Please direct any questions you might have about the Co-Chair positions to Dr. Braden Manns, Interim VP, Provincial Clinical Excellence. This is an exciting transition and we are looking forward to the next phase of the Scientific Advisory Group.

## Rachael Erdmann MSc MPH

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### MD Wellness Lead

Dr. Sarah McPherson will be departing on a sabbatical starting September 1, 2022, and as a result the MD Wellness Lead role is available for a term period of time from September 1, 2022, to December 31, 2023. We would like to thank Sarah for her ground-breaking work & contributions to the role this past year.

#### About the Position:

The MD Wellness Lead is considered a **0.1FTE** position, compensated at the rate of **\$23,199 annually**. If you're interested in applying for this exceptional opportunity, please email me a cover letter highlighting your interest and skillset for this position, and an updated CV.

The occupational wellbeing of physicians is recognized as an important factor in professional fulfillment and growth, and directly impacts the provision of care to patients. This is especially relevant in the COVID era and applicable to emergency physicians as they report the highest rates of burnout within all physician groups:

[29 physician specialties ranked by 2021 burnout rates \(beckershospitalreview.com\)](#)

This position will focus on the importance of emergency physician health, and will ensure that there is protected and supported time to advocate for physician wellbeing on important department decisions, to innovate and incorporate change into the Emergency Department, and to strive to become a center of excellence for physician wellbeing within our province. Multiple MDs in our department have specialized training in MD wellness and have been engaged in wellness projects.

This role will work collaboratively with the members of the Department of Emergency Medicine community to foster a culture of physician wellness and lead the planning, development,

implementation, evaluation and continuous monitoring of department well-being initiatives and to make physician wellbeing a department priority and address issues on system level.

[See job posting.](#)

For further details about the role, please feel free to call or email me or Neil/Eddy or contact Sarah directly at [sjmcpher@gmail.com](mailto:sjmcpher@gmail.com).

Thanks!

**Scott Banks**

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### **Associate Research Director**

After serving for two successful years as the Associate Research Director, Katie Lin has decided to step down and focus on other things effective September 30, 2022. Katie has done an exceptional job in this role, and has helped to make the research area very successful. We would like to thank her for the many contributions to research within the Calgary Zone Emergency Department. We are now in the process of recruiting a new Associate Research Director.

**About the Position:** The Associate Research Director is considered a **0.2FTE** position and is paid from the University of Calgary. It is compensated at the rate of **\$41,790.50 annually** inclusive of vacation pay and there are no benefits associated with it. If you're interested in applying for this exceptional opportunity, please email me a cover letter highlighting your interest and skillset for this position, and an updated CV.

Innovation in emergency care and development of new evidence is critical to informing process and operational improvements, and in improving patient outcomes. This position is essential for the development of new evidence using local Calgary data. The Associate Research Director Scientist will also act as a scholarly mentor for graduate and postgraduate trainees, and participate in Calgary Zone ED quality improvement activities. They will also act as a collaborator with researchers from outside of the Department of Emergency Medicine whose research will impact the care of ED patients.

#### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Primary research/evidence generation leading to operational and practice change in Calgary Zone EDs.
- Mentoring graduate, postgraduate and undergraduate medical trainees engaged in research and/or quality improvement projects.
- Coordinating with the Calgary Zone Emergency Medicine Division Chief of Research regarding research projects involving collaborators outside of the Department of Emergency Medicine.
- Attend meetings as required and the departmental annual retreat.
- The Associate Research Director scientist will be expected to compete for additional peer-reviewed salary support.
- Assisting the Division Chief of Emergency Medicine Research in organizing the annual EM Research Day.
- Supervision for our Research Coordinator.
- Co-chairing the EM Research Advisory Committee.
- Developing original research ideas and leading in the performance and publication of these research ideas.

- Assisting with other collaborative research that occurs in the department.
- Teaching EM residents and other trainees about research methodology, abstract submission, poster design and oral presentation skills.

The selected candidate will work closely with EM Research Section Chief. For further details about the role, please feel free to call or email me, Eddy or speak directly to Stephanie and Katie at [katielinmd@gmail.com](mailto:katielinmd@gmail.com)

**-Scott Banks**

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## **EM Effectiveness & Clinical Excellence Coordinator**

### **ED Physicians**

After seven and one half years as the ED Effectiveness Coordinator, Shawn decided to step down from this role. We would like to thank him for his work and many contributions in this role, while he simultaneously collaborated on various research projects for the improvement of our department. We are now in the process of recruiting a new Effectiveness & Clinical Excellence Coordinator.

### **About the Position**

The Effectiveness & Clinical Excellence Coordinator is considered a **0.2FTE** position, compensated at the rate of **\$46,398 annually**. If you're interested in applying for this great opportunity, please email me a cover letter highlighting your interest and skillset for this position, and an updated CV. The start date will be as soon as possible.

This position allows for improved resource stewardship in the Emergency Medicine Department, as well as, improvement in the quality of care we deliver and continuous work to increase physician engagement by utilizing feedback with physician performance measures.

The EM Effectiveness & Clinical Excellence Coordinator is responsible for optimizing clinical decision support and quality improvement audit and feedback activities within ConnectCare. In addition, the Coordinator reviews/changes/updates the EM Order Set for EM users. This role develops and creates reports on quality indicators of clinical effectiveness at the provider level in conjunction with the Department of Emergency Medicine Data Analyst reflecting optimal care, i.e. % of hemodynamically stable upper GI bleed patients receiving transfusion for Hgb >80, use of expensive antibiotics when less costly alternative is available.

This position is essential to continue and lead innovation & quality improvement projects/activities in the department. The Effectiveness Coordinator identifies areas of need for clinical effectiveness or quality improvement support, training and education for ED physicians.

For further details about the role, please feel free to call or email me or Neil/Eddy or contact Shawn directly at [skdowling@gmail.com](mailto:skdowling@gmail.com).

[See job posting here.](#)

**Applicants are to submit curriculum vitae & cover letter (in pdf format) to Scott Banks at [ScottH.Banks@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:ScottH.Banks@albertahealthservices.ca)**

-Scott Banks

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## CME & Learning

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### Dermatology Educational Dinner Invite - Oct 27

Dr. Lauren Lam from the Division of Dermatology, is extending a special invitation to all Emergency Physicians, Residents & Nurses to attend an [upcoming Educational Learning Event](#).

Topic: “Hidradenitis Suppurativa and Surgery”

- **Date:** Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - **Time:** 5:00 to 8:00
  - **Location:** Centini Restaurant - 160 8th Ave SE Calgary
  - **RSVP:** [smriti.agrawal@novartis.com](mailto:smriti.agrawal@novartis.com)
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### Beckman Coulter Industry talk for key clinicians on novel biomarker in sepsis - Oct 12, 2022

*For brief background, MDW is a novel biomarker for sepsis. It functions similar to procalcitonin, but much cheaper (cents/test) and readily available on every CBC when in place. It comes as a simple add on to CBC as it is part of the Beckman Coulter lab analyzer. Drs J. Conly (ID), E. Rennert-May (ID), B. McDonald (ICU), T. Rad (Heme-Path Dept Head) and I have been in very preliminary discussions to pilot this in Calgary hopefully in ED and ICU, with further discussions to follow re ED and ICU research groups.*

*-Mark Gillrie MD PhD FRCPC, Assistant Professor in Medicine, Infectious Diseases Clinician*

[More info here.](#)

5:30 PM Registration

Location: Courtyard Marriott, Airport, 2500 48th Ave

Questions: contact James Allen - [jallen03@beckman.com](mailto:jallen03@beckman.com)

[Register Here.](#)

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### CAWM Conference

The [Canadian Association of Wilderness Medicine's CAWM 2022 Conference](#) is coming up!

The conference is a hybrid virtual and in person coming up this Nov 11-13, 2022.

There's some awesome workshops that would be phenomenal for physicians and medics interested in getting more familiar with austere environment care.

approved for CME for physicians and Paramedics.

- 18.5 Mainpro+® credits.
- 21.5 MOC credits through Royal College
- 57 CE Credits through Alberta College of Paramedics
- 20 CE Credits through the SK College of Paramedics
- FAWM(Fellowship in the Academy of Wilderness Medicine) Credits through the Wilderness Medicine Society

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## Call for CAEP23 Conference Track Chairs

### New for CAEP23!

Be part of making CAEP23 a more inclusive and exciting experience. This year we're doing something different and we invite all CAEP committees to submit nominations for conference track chairs, vice-chairs, and learner leads (you can even nominate yourself!) Submit a letter of interest and cv by Friday, October 28th, 11:59pm PST [here](#). Nominees should be CAEP members in good standing (you can update your membership [here](#)).

### How things will be different

For the first time, we'll be putting out a call to emergency physicians across Canada to submit conference session ideas. All CAEP members will be eligible to rock the podium or run a workshop or be a part of a panel. We will be opening the abstract submission process for the educational component of the conference on September 30, 2022 and it will close on November 30, 2022 (23:59 PT). Track chairs, vice-chairs and learner leads will select from these submissions to build tracks based on six high-yield hot topics:

1. Everyday excellence in emergency medicine (focused on CME and clinical practice)
2. The leading edge: Innovation and leading change (QI, hospital administration, technology, leadership, management)
3. The learning continuum: Advances and strategies for academic, education, and training (academic leadership, educational innovations)
4. Society and Emergency Medicine (Social EM, journalism, politics, advocacy, climate change)
5. EM at the extremes and in diverse contexts (global health, disaster medicine, rural and remote EM)
6. Great EM research

### Who we need

We are recruiting 5 track chairs, 5 vice-chairs and 5 learner leads (the research track will continue to be led by the Research Committee). [Read on for more details about the roles](#). To apply, by October 28th, submit your cv and letter of interest [here](#). Please contact [jgale@caep.ca](mailto:jgale@caep.ca) if you have any questions.

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