



Department of Emergency Medicine

Weekly **email**

Updates for ED Physicians

Oct 4, 2022 Edition

Operations

Contrast Shortage Update

One piece of good news!

The contrast shortage has been alleviated to the extent that we are cleared for using CT PE as first line for rule out PE.

They would still appreciate an awareness that they are not up to 100% contrast supply levels and any reduction in contrast usage (ie plain head vs CTA when possible) is still appreciated.

See the [memo from Dept of Radiology Head Dr. Manish Joshi here](#).

-Neil

MyED App Tips and Updates:

- 1) Right Click on guidelines/documents to open them in a new tab
- 2) Updated FMC Shift Responsibilities/Handover document
- 3) Exercises for older adults in the ER
- 4) Management of agitation in older adults algorithm
- 5) Algorithm for fever in infants <60 days - Updated

- 6) FMC Cast clinic guidelines
- 7) First time seizure and driving documents
- 8) HUS/STEC diagnosis and management guidelines
- 9) Femoral Nerve block reference guide and patient info sheet

As always, email Hilary (hilambrose@gmail.com) or Shawn (skdowling@gmail.com) or Katie (katiedawnanker@gmail.com) with any questions, concerns or suggestions!

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 Faren (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.

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.**

YYC ED Specific

Pneumothorax QI Survey

Dear colleagues,

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

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 Respiratory
University of Calgary | Alberta Health Services

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

EMBER Newsletter

[Please see attached for our September 2022 EMBER Newsletter.](#) You will also be receiving a stakeholder meeting invite for December 5th, 2022. We look forward to connecting with you then!

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

ED – Trauma Sims Sign Up

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

ED Staff Simulations

Please sign up for ED Staff Simulations.

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

ED Nurses Night - Oct 5 - New location!

ED nurses night October 5th starting at 1930 to 0200 at **Please and Thanks!**

address: 811 1st St SW

All ER docs from all sites are invited.

RSVP: to Nicole Goholski Groholskin@gmail.com and phone number if any questions 4037964868

No fee to attend, just pay for your food/drink - spouses and significant others welcome!

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.
-

Grand Rounds & Journal Club

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

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds

- **Date:** Thurs, Oct 6, 2022
- **Time:** 0900 – 1000 (1.00 Education Credits)
- **Room:** In-Person – 1405B - HSC
- **Zoom:** <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/66383702969>
- **Passcode:** 037024
- **Eval:** <https://cutt.ly/xT82kgH>

Session #1 (0900 – 1000)

Moderator: Dr. Anoop Manocha, Emergency Medicine Physician, Alberta Health Services – Calgary Zone

Speaker: [Dr. Stephanie Cooper](#), MD FRCSC, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Alberta Health Services – Calgary Zone

Topic:
Obstetrical Complications in the ED

Postpartum Hypertension

- *Appreciate that postpartum hypertension is an under-recognized cause of maternal mortality*
- *Emphasize the role care providers have in recognizing severe hypertension and pre-eclampsia*
- *Identify when and how to treat hypertension in the post-partum period*

Delayed Postpartum Hemorrhage (PPH):

- *Develop an approach to diagnosing delayed PPH including appropriate use of ultrasound*
- *Identify which PPH cases may be appropriate for medical vs surgical management*

Cesarean Section in the ER

- *Consider scenarios where Cesarean delivery should be performed in the ER*
- *Prepare for perimortem C.Sections by considering maternal and fetal physiology, accessing available tools and practicing through simulation and drills.*

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

Last Week's GR Pearls

Date: Sept 29, 2022

Presenter: Dr. Chris Lipp

Topic: Acute Presentations of Valvular Heart Disease

- When resuscitative efforts addressing other more common causes of shock (sepsis, hypovolemia, cardiomyopathy) are no longer effective, cardiogenic shock from structural heart disease should be suspected.
- The most common valvular emergencies presenting with cardiogenic shock include aortic insufficiency, aortic stenosis, and mitral regurgitation.
- The initial management for most decompensated structural heart disease is complex: (1) cautious fluid boluses to optimize preload, (2) maintaining diastolic blood pressure (coronary perfusion) with inopressors, (3) cardioversion into sinus rhythm; and (4) reducing pulmonary congestion.
- In patients with critical aortic stenosis, extreme vigilance is advised during interventions causing rapid hemodynamic changes (such as initiating positive pressure ventilation), due the risk for cardiovascular collapse.
- Rapid cardiology consultation for echocardiography, coronary revascularization and bridging mechanical circulatory support is essential.
- Cardiac surgery is required to definitively manage most cases of structural heart disease due to the high mortality rate in presentations of cardiogenic shock.

Katie Lin will be presenting a Stroke topic Grand Rounds in the new year (March 9, 2023)

Please take 1 minute to [complete this brief survey on stroke-related rounds topic requests](#).

You can also let Katie know directly if you have any trouble accessing the survey or have any burning stroke-related questions you'd like covered: katielinmd@gmail.com.

Opportunities

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

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

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.

Thanks!

Scott Banks

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

-Scott Banks

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.

[See job posting here.](#)

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

-Scott Banks

CME & Learning

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 if you have any questions.

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:

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CAEP Virtual Leadership development course

CAEP is offering its third rendition of a leadership development course later this fall.

Please consider registering and happy to discuss the content with any of you, of course.

[Virtual Leadership Series - CAEP](#)

-Eddy Lang

Geriatric EM CME opportunity

CAEP is offering a **four-hour virtual course** covering the core clinical topics in **Geriatric Emergency Medicine** on **Thursday October 27th** at **12pm** EST. The course is highly interactive with ample opportunity for learning from Canadian emergency physicians focused on geriatric care AND your peers. Registration includes free access to **14 instructional videos** covering core Geri EM topics. It is accredited by both the CFPC and the RCPSC.

[Register here.](#)

Practicing Cultural Competency: Indigenous Themed Simulation

The AHS Indigenous Wellness Core (IWC) and eSIM Provincial Simulation teams would like to invite you to participate in a simulation project, *Practicing Cultural Competency: Indigenous Themed Simulation*.

As part of the ongoing work to improve the health and health care of Indigenous Peoples in Alberta, we aim to build on the current AHS ROL *Indigenous Awareness and Sensitivity Training* modules with hands-on practice for health care providers focusing on applicable skills in communication and inclusion, specific to Indigenous Peoples.

Simulation provides an opportunity for the exploration of communication skills and meaningful discussion about the impact of improved practice in an Indigenous frame for those accessing emergency departments and urgent care settings. This experiential learning is broadly applicable to

all patients of any culture or marginalized group accessing a variety of rural and urban health care settings.

Simulation session on Oct 13 at RGH from 08:30 -12:00

Section 3 credits for 4 hours

Please contact Gord McNeil (gord.mcneil@albertahealthservices.ca) if you are interested or have any questions

The Alberta SimPosium

eSIM Provincial Simulation is proud to host the inaugural Alberta SimPosium on October 25th & 26th, 2022.

The Alberta SimPosium is an interprofessional simulation education conference which targets simulation educators, researchers and healthcare professionals, and students engaged in the field of simulation.

With options to attend in-person in Calgary, Edmonton, and/or virtually, eSIM aims to offer a unique opportunity for simulation expertise to be shared broadly with healthcare professionals across the province.

[Click here to register.](#)

SEND Physician Program: Organ Donation Symposium

The SEND Physician Program is hosting a virtual 'Organ Donation Symposium' on November 2, 2022. [Click here for info.](#)

Kudos

Kudos to Dr. Vipond on this recent publication! [Planetary Health in CanMEDS 2025](#)
