



Department of Emergency Medicine

Weekly email

Updates for ED Physicians

May 17, 2022 Edition

NOTE: There will be no ED Newsletter next week - May 24, 2022. The Newsletter will resume on May 31.

Operations

MOH Bulletin: Severe Acute Hepatitis in Children
[Read bulletin here.](#)

Updated Paxlovid/remdesivir criteria

Alberta Health announced the expansion of Paxlovid™ and remdesivir criteria for outpatient treatment. The details of the changes in access can be [found in the attached memo](#).

Additionally, the decision has been made to permit Paxlovid™ use in AHS facilities, in alignment with the outpatient criteria. The intent of use is as follows:

- For patients that have started Paxlovid™ in the community and cannot provide their own supply
- For patients admitted to AHS that may meet criteria and remdesivir is not an option

Other key points to consider include:

- Patients presenting to Emergency departments that are eligible for Paxlovid™ should be provided a prescription for treatment that can be filled at a community pharmacy. Paxlovid™ is not to be dispensed out of Emergency departments at this time. Discussions with our Emergency colleagues is underway to determine what role AHS can play in rural/remote locations where a community pharmacy may not be readily accessible

The COVID-19 Therapeutics Working Group has indicated the following:

- Both remdesivir and Paxlovid™ are available for inpatients. At this time, even though Paxlovid™ is oral, remdesivir is the preferred treatment for inpatients due to:
 - Few drug interactions and improved tolerability
 - A shorter treatment course (3 days vs. 5 days)
 - Patients with certain conditions (e.g. transplant) should not receive Paxlovid™ due to the serious drug interactions

o Prior to prescribing Paxlovid™, please carefully review the drug interactions in the ([Clinical Resource Guide](#)). If required, your site pharmacists are available to help review the suitability of Paxlovid™

Not all AHS sites will be bringing in supply of Paxlovid™. The first time ordering treatment may result in a business day delay in access. If there is anticipated need at a site for Paxlovid™, please discuss this with your local Pharmacy Department to ensure supply is available

The AHS online formulary has been updated to reflect these changes.

There have been recent questions around rebound symptoms after Paxlovid™ treatment and use of Paxlovid™ in the prevention and treatment of long COVID. The [FAQs for Healthcare Providers on Paxlovid™ Outpatient Treatment](#) has been updated to address these questions. In short there is not sufficient evidence at this time to:

- re-use Paxlovid™ after a rebound of symptoms or extend the treatment timeframe to prevent rebound symptoms
- Use Paxlovid™ for the purposes of preventing or treating Long COVID

The COVID-19 Therapeutics Working Group is working to host an online session for AHS staff and physicians later next week. Details will be shared once the dates and presenters have been confirmed.

Jeremy Slobodan, BSP jeremy.slobodan@ahs.ca
Director, Drug Utilization, Information & Stewardship

Patient resource for "Driving in Alberta After a First-Ever Seizure"

Through the NVR Strategic Clinical Network, in collaboration with patient advisors, neurologists, epileptologists, family and emergency physicians, Driver Fitness and Monitoring, the Epilepsy Association of Alberta, and more collaborators, a patient resource aimed at patients who have had their first seizure has been developed. The aim of the resource is to help clarify the process for returning to driving in Alberta after having a first unprovoked seizure. It is easily accessible for both patients and providers.

The resource can be found by going to [MyHealth.Alberta.ca](https://myhealth.alberta.ca) and searching "Seizure" in the search bar, or alternatively using this link: [Seizures: Driving in Alberta after a first-time seizure.](#)

YYC ED Specific

Mbarara Update

[Read May 17 update here.](#)

CSM EDI Curriculum Needs Assessment Survey

The Cumming School of Medicine has been taking steps to build on and address the gaps in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policies and programs in the past year. Part of this process is focused on improving the integration of EDI topics in our curriculum. Given the breadth of the programs offered at the faculty, we do not currently have a clear understanding of what, how and when EDI topics are being addressed in each program.

We are currently undertaking a needs assessment of EDI curriculum at CSM and would like to invite your participation in this study as a course leader, program director or key stakeholder in curriculum development and/or instruction within your academic program.

Participation in this study would involve completing a 15-20 minute survey. This survey will include questions on the focus, format, depth, and time spent of EDI topics in your course or program.

[You can access the survey here.](#)

Your participation is completely voluntary, and you may choose to withdraw at any time. If you decide to participate, please be assured that your data and information will be kept confidential.

This study has been reviewed by and received ethics approval from the University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (REB21-0342).

If you have any question or concerns about this study, please contact the research coordinator for this project, Benn Antepim at bantepim@ucalgary.ca.

Preceptors needed for upcoming Academic Year

We are again seeking preceptors for the first half of our upcoming academic year. As a

August 4	13:00-15:00	ABG/VBG/Acid-Base Disturbances
August 4	15:00-17:00	Blunt Chest & Abdominal Trauma
August 18	1400-1500	Penetrating Extremity Trauma/Peripheral Vascular Injury
August 18	13:00-14:00	Seizures and Seizure Disorders
September 8	1300-1400	Genitourinary Trauma
September 8	1400-1500	Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence
September 8	1600-1700	Trauma in the Geriatric Patient
September 29	1300-1400	Approach to Chest Pain & CP Risk Stratification
September 29	1400-1500	NSTEMI/NOMI & Unstable Angina
September 29	1500-1600	STEMI/OMI
October 13	1500-1600	Skin & soft tissue infections
October 27	1300-1400	Dental Emergencies & Blocks
October 27	1400-1500	Sore throat, Neck infections & upper airway emergencies
November 3	1300-1400	Gallbladder & Pancreatic Disease
November 3	1600-1700	Peripheral Vascular Disease & Acute Limb Ischemia
November 10	1300-1500	Heart Blocks, Pacemakers & Bradycardias
November 10	1500-1600	Tachycardias
November 17	1300-1500	Ortho Series 1: Wrist, Forearm, Elbow

preceptor for an academic day session, your role is to guide the assigned resident as they develop their presentation and to be present during their teaching session to help guide the discussion, answer questions and offer clinical experience.

Precepting these afternoon teaching sessions is a great way to get to know the residents and they really appreciate the clinical lens that you bring!

Please email Anjali at anjali.pandya@gmail.com if you are able to preceptor any of the following sessions:

Connect Care Update: ED Treatment Plans

A quick note to remind everyone that as our Calgary Zone Emergency Departments transition to using Connect Care, ED Treatment Plans will continue to reside on the SCM system until all sites have completed the transition (which is expected to occur with Wave 6, in May 2023). Connect Care will provide a flag in the 'Storyboard' section of the patient's chart (the vertical information bar to the left of the screen) so that clinicians will be able to quickly recognize patients with ED treatment plans, but the plans themselves will need to be accessed outside of the Connect Care system by accessing the SCM database.

I have attached a couple of documents that outline the details.

- [Emergency Department Treatment Plan Interim State](#)
- [Emergency Department Treatment Plan Guide](#)

They can also be found at the following link, under the heading [Exceptional Care Plan & ED Treatment Plan](#).

Chris

Physician Leaders Needed for Quality Assurance Reviews

The ED Quality Assurance Committee is seeking 2 Physicians to co-lead Quality Assurance (Patient Safety) Reviews. These reviews contribute to our understanding of adverse events and are key activities in making system level improvements. You would be co-leading the review with a Patient Safety expert who will ensure that the review moves along and meets certain benchmarks.

These reviews involve a few meetings and interviews. We aim to complete them in 2 months or so. Thanks for your consideration and let me know if you have any questions. Please email brain.zarsky@ahs.ca if you would like to participate.
Adam Oster.

ROYAL COLLEGE ORAL EXAMS

We are looking for examiners for our R4/5s for their upcoming Royal College oral examination. Our residents have given us a number of dates that they will be available and we do our best to fill these spots with either 1 or 2 residents per Zoom "room" depending on how many staff examiners we have. Please sign up in this [Google document](#).

We will confirm your session and send links within 1 week of the date. Chase has an oral exam bank if you would like cases for your sessions.

Thank you in advance,
Brit + Chase

CSART is actively looking to recruit physicians for the team!

The team is in need of new physician sexual assault examiners as soon as possible.

CSART is an excellent career opportunity for newly graduating emergency physicians or those with more experience who want to pivot their career into a new niche. CSART physicians choose when they are available to be on call, generally ranging 30-70 hours per month in shifts of a few hours or much longer. Scheduling is flexible. Physician members often find CSART to be a refreshing break from the emergency department adding interesting diversity to their careers. The skill set overlaps well with emergency medicine and reading/clinical mentorship will prepare candidates well to get started independently. Remuneration is favourable.

If you are interested in the CSART opportunity or just have questions, you can contact one of the current emergency physician members to learn more about this opportunity.

For more information, you are invited to contact any of these current CSART physician members:

- Pauline Head (medical director). pwhead@me.com
 - Colleen Carey. drcolleencarey@gmail.com
 - Kelli Sherlock. kellisherlock@gmail.com
 - Kelsey MacLeod. kmacleod@ualberta.ca
 - Kari McFarlane. karimcf7@gmail.com
 - Verlyn Leopatra. vgsleopa@ucalgary.ca
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May 19 Ultrasound Rounds

I will be hosting multidisciplinary ultrasound rounds on May 19 from 10:30-12 in room 1405B at the medical school.

If you want to learn about cases where US made a difference or want to share an interesting US case, please join me, the senior residents and our Internal medicine colleagues. This will be a very informal forum so that we can all learn from one another.

Please RSVP to me, Kasia Lenz at lenz.kasia@gmail.com so I know how much coffee to supply.

Hope to see many of you there!
Kasia

Backcountry ski spots available!

Come join your colleagues for a rare 4 day hut trip at [Battle Abbey](#) Jan 3-7th. Fully catered and guided at the incomparable Battle Abbey - we fly out of Golden - a very easy trip! Email Sean Fair drseanfair@gmail.com

Year-End BBQ June 23

We will be hosting our [Annual Year-End BBQ on June 23 at 18:00](#) at the Southern Alberta Pioneers Memorial Building. This year, we are thrilled to be able to open the invitation to the entire emergency physician group again! We hope you can join us to welcome our incoming residents and help celebrate those residents who are transitioning into practice!

While we very much wanted to be able to host the family friendly events of our pre-COVID era, we are proceeding in a staged manner and this year's event will only be open to staff physicians. We hope to welcome your significant others, families and children back to next year's event though.

If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Madhavi at madhavi.talasila@albertahealthservices by June 16th and include any dietary restrictions you might have.

Thank you to all of you for everything each and every one of you do to help support residency education. We could not dream of a more supportive department and hope to see you there!

Regards,
Catherine, Anjali, Jason & Charles

R5 Graduation Gifts

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far! We will continue to collect funds for the soon-to-be-staff R5s [until June 9th](#). The great gift unveiling is still planned for June 23rd and promises to be an exciting event!

E-transfer can be directed to: kmragan@gmail.com. As always your support is much appreciated, and please reach out with any questions.

Thanks!
- Kelsey, Katie and Ryan (the R6s)

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

2022-23 Grand Rounds - Survey & Reminders

As the new Deputy Head - Education, one of the first areas I am focusing on is improving the quality of our Grand Rounds.

Please fill out this short survey to help guide topics, speakers, and increase the caliber of our rounds. [SURVEY LINK](#)

To refresh everyone's memory (and ensure transparency), here is an outline of the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of Grand Rounds:

It is a requirement of every staff to present Grand Rounds every 5-8 years (this is tracked).

Presenters are able to choose from the following:

1) Pick from a highly relevant, up to date Emergency Medicine topic (and ensure that this topic has not been covered in the last 2-3 years unless drastic EBM content needs to be updated)

2) MODERATE a guest speaker - this is often the path people take if they don't feel comfortable presenting themselves. The expectation, however, if the presenter invites a guest speaker is the following:

a) The presenter will crowd source the residents/staff as to what topics they would like covered by the speaker - feel free to put a brief survey into rounds before the presentation to get ideas.

b) The presenter will ensure that the **topics covered and evidence provided by the guest speaker are EM specific and clinically relevant for the practice of emergency medicine**. Presenters should ensure they have direct say in the content being covered (often we find guest speakers vaguely focus on basic knowledge and are ignorant to the day-to-day practical aspects and realistic expectations of providing care in the ED). An example is outlining specific treatment or diagnostic pathways, pitfalls in diagnosis or management, appropriate consult and referral timelines. Speakers are also welcome to invite guest speakers from outside the zone or province as long as they are approved in advance and are not expecting remuneration for their presentation.

**For all staff, FRCPC & EM resident talks:

In order to ensure the highest quality rounds the speaker **MUST** submit their topic to me 2 months prior to their presentation date for approval to ensure the topic is appropriate and that content does not overlap with other speakers in the recent past (or already scheduled for this upcoming year). Though rare, if there are issues with topic choice, guest speaker recruitment, etc, the Academic Steering Committee will be notified to assist the speaker in choosing an appropriate topic.

Once a presenter (resident or staff) has been scheduled for a talk, it is their responsibility to find a replacement for that date if they are unable to present themselves.

All presenters are also required to fill out [this form](#) outlining a summary/teaching points which will be included in the subsequent Tuesday department email sent out to EM staff and residents. This needs to be filled out no later than **one week prior** to the presentation date.

Thanks and please let me know if you have any issues/questions or feedback. (fzaver@gmail.com)

Fareen

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds

- **Date:** Thurs, May 19, 2022
- **Time:** 0900 – 1000 (1.0 Education Credits)
- **Room:** Zoom & In-Person – [Room G500](#)
- **Zoom:** <https://zoom.us/j/98848048571>
- **Eval:** <https://cutt.ly/xT82kgH>

Moderator: Dr. Adam Oster

Speaker: Dr. Jason Elzinga – R3 EM Resident, FRCPC

Topic: QAER Rounds: Elopement of Patients from the ED

***Description:** This presentation will review patient safety events related to the elopement of formed ED patients, contributing factors within our departments, and areas for system improvement when caring for mental health patients*

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

Please don't share the zoom link and connection details on social media or any website.

Recording from Emergency Medicine Research Day 2022

Click to view [Emergency Medicine Research Day 2022 Video](#)

eSIM Grand Rounds with Dr Jen Arnold: Exploring Patient and Family Centered Care Through Simulation

Date: Friday, May 27, 2022

Time: Noon - 1 p.m.

Registration: Sign-up Now [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Summary: This session will explore how simulation based education can be a valuable instrument in educating patients and their family/caregivers.

Healthcare simulation is an effective method for training to high risk and rare clinical situations for medical staff... but why not our patients and families? More than ever before, patients and families are providing more care at home, especially for children with complex medical needs. The focus of this talk by Dr Jen Arnold, Program Director at Boston Children's Hospital Simulator Program (SIMPeds) and Harvard School of Medicine, will be to explore how healthcare simulation can be a life-saving tool for patients and their home caregivers.

Audience: Facilitators, anyone interested in simulation based education.

Keynote Speaker: Dr Jen Arnold, is Board Certified in Neonatal Medicine and most recently accepted a new position as the Program Director at Boston Children's Hospital Simulator Program (SIMPeds) and newly minted member of Harvard's faculty. Currently, her areas of interest within simulation include use of simulation for evaluating new clinical spaces, team training, improving quality and patient safety, improving home care and skills for primary caregivers of medically complex children, and developing educational curricula for various departments throughout the hospital.

She has spoken both nationally and internationally on healthcare simulation and has made inspirational speeches on overcoming obstacles for avenues such as the Texas Conference for Women, Shiners Hospital, Sloan Kettering, March of Dimes and many more. She has received awards including the Ray E. Helfer Award for Innovation in Pediatric Education from the Academic Pediatric Association in 2008, Compassionate Doctor Recognition, and Patients' Choice Award from Vitals.com.

Hope you can join us!



May 19 In Person Journal Club

You are invited to attend the [In-Person Emergency Medicine Journal Club](#) on Thursday, May 19th, 2022.

- **Date:** May 19, 2022
- **Time:** 18:00 to 21:00
- **Location:** Theatre ONE
- **Presenters:** Drs. Danny Liang and Travis Novak
- **Preceptors:** Dr. Shawn Dowling
- **Topic:** The role of the bougie in first attempt endotracheal intubations

ARTICLE 1: Effect of Use of a Bougie vs Endotracheal Tube With Stylet on Successful Intubation on the First Attempt Among Critically Ill Patients Undergoing Tracheal Intubation. doi:10.1001/jama.2021.22002

ARTICLE 2: Effect of Use of a Bougie vs Endotracheal Tube and Stylet on First-Attempt Intubation Success Among Patients With Difficult Airways Undergoing Emergency Intubation: A Randomized Clinical Trial. doi: 10.1001/jama.2018.6496

Thanks

Drs. Danny Liang and Travis Novak

CME

Honoring and Healing our Burden of Grief and Loss

25 May 2022, 7:00-8:30 p.m. ZOOM

There is no fee for this session and [pre-registration is required](#).

PFSP is offering physicians in all career stages an opportunity to tap into heart-based techniques to reduce their own personal suffering and enhance their well-being.

In the safety, confidentiality and community of fellow physicians, Dr. Ileen Taylor MD CCFP will guide you through a humanistic approach to help you acknowledge and witness the personal grief and loss that contributes to burnout, unhealthy behaviours, and lack of joy in our lives, and for which physicians often feel they are left alone to cope.

I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

With thanks and appreciation,

Audrey Harlow - PFSP Education Lead

CADTH and CWC are presenting a free Zoom webinar, Friday June 3rd, 10:00am to 11:00 am.

Join Dr. Wendy Levinson, the chair of CWC, and a panel of clinical and policy experts for an introduction to [CWC's new Using Labs Wisely program for hospitals](#).

[Register Here](#)

Opportunities

Indigenous Faculty Rep

On behalf of the Cumming School of Medicine (CSM), a **new** volunteer opportunity has been created for an **Indigenous Faculty representative** on the Student Academic Review Committee (SARC):

Student Academic Review Committee

The Student Academic Review Committee mandate is:

- To act as the delegated body of Faculty Council in the review and ratification of undergraduate medical student (hereafter, referred to as student) performance.
- To make recommendations to Faculty Council and the Dean concerning:
 - the promotion of students.
 - discipline related to the academic performance (knowledge, skills, and professional behaviour) of students who, by reason of Unsatisfactory Performance, cannot be promoted.
- To make recommendations to the Dean regarding allegations of unethical behaviour or unprofessional conduct.
- To make the final decision regarding the acceptance of visiting students requesting to do their clinical clerkship at the University of Calgary taking into account the recommendation of the Associate Dean.
- To make the final decision regarding student application for a return from a Leave of Absence at the discretion of the UME Office (other than Maternity leave), extension to clerkship, and requests to do the complete clerkship year at another LCME approved medical school.

One - Indigenous Faculty Member, Term - 2 years, renewable once

Note: The deadline to receive applications is **May 27th, 2022**.

Please provide your Expression of Interest (EOI) and a Bio-sketch to forster@ucalgary.ca.
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Kudos Corner
