



Department of Emergency Medicine

Weekly email

Updates for ED Physicians

September 14, 2021 Edition

COVID-19

High-Risk Nature of Pregnant COVID Patients

We would like to bring to your attention a reminder about the high risk nature of pregnant COVID patients. Presentations of patients with COVID who are pregnant seem to be more common in this wave.

Please have a low threshold for admitting them. Here are the answers to a few common questions that we posed to Dr. Colin Birch, Department Head of O and G.

1- Aside from the usual obstetrical indications for admission, when should you consider admitting a pregnant patient for COVID?

Answer: Maternal Early Warning Triggers. One yellow trigger is sufficient for admission (See MEWT below*)

2 - Does gestational age matter

Answer: No, any gestational age has the propensity for deterioration although more advanced gestations with the changes in physiology seem to be the most likely to require ICU

3 - Who does the initial consult go to if the request for admission is for MEW triggers?

Answer: MTU admit with OB consultation

4 - Does it matter which hospital they initially present to?

Answer: Between 23 and 32 weeks should be admitted to FMC

-Neil Collins

* Maternal Early Warning Triggers (MEWT):	
Yellow Alert	Red Alert
<input type="checkbox"/> Systolic BP <100	<input type="checkbox"/> Systolic BP <90 OR MAP <65
<input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Rate >22 or <10	<input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Rate >30
<input type="checkbox"/> Heart Rate >110 or <60	<input type="checkbox"/> Heart Rate > 120 or <50
<input type="checkbox"/> SpO2 <95% on room air	<input type="checkbox"/> O2 requirements >6L/min via nasal prongs to maintain 95%
<input type="checkbox"/> Increased work of breathing	<input type="checkbox"/> O2 requirements are increased by >2L/min from previous assessment to maintain (eg. 1 → 4L/min)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Temperature of ≥39°C or <35°C despite acetaminophen use
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered level of consciousness

Change of Practice of Chronic (non-life Sustaining) Non-Invasive Ventilation:

We continue to see increasing COVID-19 transmission and hospital admissions as part of the pandemic's fourth wave. In response we are reinstating the Non-Invasive Ventilation (NIV) in Acute Care during COVID-19 Pandemic guidance document. This reinstatement is effective immediately. [This document replaces all previous guidance specific to non-invasive ventilation \(NIV\)](#). Please update staff accordingly.

We continue to closely monitor the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic. Any opportunity to revert to less restrictive Chronic NIV practices will be communicated in a timely manner as the situation evolves.

-Calgary Zone Emergency Operations

Two COVID related updates from the recent CMO communication:

1) AHS is implementing a **policy of immunization for workers for COVID-19**. A finalized policy is expected in the coming days.

AHS workers, including medical and midwifery staff, are required to be fully immunized no later than October 31. This means the latest a second dose could be administered to still meet the deadline is October 16. To be able to have a second dose no later than October 16, any healthcare workers who haven't yet had their first dose need to make plans to do so very quickly. Appointments can be booked at an AHS clinic or participating pharmacy at <https://bookvaccine.alberta.ca/vaccine/sl/>, at a [walk-in clinic](#), a [doctor's office](#) or call Health Link at 811.

2) Eye Protection:

Executive Summary - For us in the ED, they recommend eye protection in general, and they require it for close contact of "screen positive" patients but if you are fully vaccinated, you will not be quarantined for contact with COVID-19 patients.

Background - "[Eye protection is always an important component of Contact and Droplet precautions, in addition to a medical mask, gloves and gown. As such, province-wide, continuous eye protection must be maintained for all staff and physicians:](#)

- In COVID-19 units.
- In settings experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks.
- When providing care or services within two meters of a patient with COVID-19, suspected COVID-19 or who is experiencing symptoms consistent with a respiratory tract infection.

For those who are fully vaccinated, as updated in the eye protection guidelines in May 2021, [eye protection](#) may be discontinued in all other instances.

Those who are fully vaccinated will not be quarantined following contact with COVID-19, if not wearing eye protection (providing they remain asymptomatic)."

-Neil Collins

Operations

Lacombe Hospital - Urgent Coverage needed Sept 17, 18

Sent on behalf of Dr. Janni Prins – Facility Medical Director, Lacombe Hospital

COVID Related staffing Shortage:

The Facility will be required to suspend Emergency services for this shift if coverage cannot be found. Urgent locum coverage needed for Lacombe Hospital acute care for the following dates:

1. Friday Sept 17th 2021: 8 am-7 pm
2. Saturday Sept 18th 2021: 7 pm- 8 am - Sunday Sept 19th

If you are able to assist in coverage for any of the above noted shifts, please contact:

Johannes.prins@ahs.ca
Tyler.mckinnon@ahs.ca
Jennifer.Bestard@ahs.ca

Clerks & AGMP

Previously, clinical clerks were prevented from being involved in patient care when an AGMP was being performed. All clerks have been fitted for N95s and are well trained in the use of proper PPE. The supply of N95s is robust. As result, clerks are allowed to be involved in the care of all patients - including those that may undergo an AGMP. Thanks and as always reach out with any questions regarding clinical clerks doing their mandatory rotation (Meira handles elective clinical clerks).

Gavin

SCM Updates!

Click to read

- [ED Discharge Comprehensive Order Set](#)

Tessa Moore, RPhT

Clinical Informatician | IT Clinical Systems User Support – Calgary Zone | Email: tessa.moore@ahs.ca

YYC ED Specific

PSF Application - Open

PSF application is open. See [attached PSF mandate and process](#) review process and [application form](#).

Deadline for submission: October 8, 2021

Next withdrawal: October 12, 2021

Note: April & October 2021 contribution receipts will be sent in November 2021.

Thank you!

Lilian

On behalf of the PSF Committee

Seeking PLC ED staff who care for patients who use opioids

Canada is currently facing dual public health crises: the opioid crisis and COVID-19. Have you provided ED care to patients who use opioids during COVID-19, directly or indirectly? If yes, make your voice heard.

Participate in a study exploring the impact of COVID-19 on patients accessing the PLC ED for opioid-related care. The study involves participating in a 1-hour interview over phone or Zoom. The interview will ask about your experiences caring for patients who use opioids while following COVID-19 protocols. You will receive a \$50 e-gift card of your choice, if participating outside of regular work hours.

If you are interested in participating please contact Nicole Gehring (ngehring@ualberta.ca; 780-886-4006).

RESPONSES NEEDED! Difficult Airway Management Cart Survey

The difficult airway management (DAM) carts in the Calgary zone adult sites were revised in the fall of 2019. We are following up with a feedback survey to determine if the changes have been positive and if any further revisions need to be made to improve usability. Your feedback is invaluable. Please complete this 5-10 minute survey at your earliest convenience. The survey will be open until September 10, 2021. Your responses will be kept anonymous, however, if you wish to provide feedback directly or discuss anything related to the DAM carts, please contact Tona.Laerz@AHS.ca or Dr. Jonathan Gaudet at jgaudet@ucalgary.ca.

Click the link to access the survey or scan the QR code to access the survey from a mobile device:

[DAM Cart Physician Feedback Survey](#)

Please [see attached a pdf with images of the cart with equipment lists](#). This information is also at the end of the survey.

The carts have been audited to determine if there have been any changes made to layout or equipment stocking since implementation.

We will also be looking for RLS reports related to the DAM cart. The RLS system enables staff and physicians to report adverse events, close calls and hazards to help make patient care safer by sharing learnings and improvements made. You should report any event, close call or hazard as this provides valuable information that brings attention to any areas of concern and helps us improve patient safety.

Tona Laerz RRT, BSc
Education Consultant II
Respiratory Services

Phone 403-944-3209, Pager 02729
Tona.Laerz@albertahealthservices.ca

WHAT'S NEW ON MyED!

Remember that MyED is a great place to find referral forms, department policies/pathways, knowledge resources and patient handouts - **use the master search function to find what you need!**

You can access the app on your device or pull up the browser version at my-emergency-department.com (link on EDSP desktop).

NEW EMAIL! Email myedcalgary@gmail.com (Shawn & Hilary) for access requests, content suggestions, questions etc.

Wellness Update!

September Happiness Challenge

It's September and it's been a great summer but also a very busy one. After a year and a half of a pandemic and all the other stressors of the year I can feel the stress mounting. I think it's time to actively rest and restore.

Check out the website and the August and September videos to learn more.

Click here to discover more: www.ycemhappinesschallenge2021.com

Click here to watch the August video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMKoji6xxPU>
And the September video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BeGP_eMyg_I

Wellness Supports

1. Call your Peer Support Team. [HERE are their phone numbers \(updated Feb 2021\)](#). 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 6 free hours of counselling for yourself and 6 free for your family members.
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Grand Rounds & Journal Club

Sept 16 Grand Rounds

Event: Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds

Date: September 16, 2021

Time: 0900 – 1015 (1.25 Education Credits)

Session #1: (0900 – 1000)

Dr. Scott Wakeham
R2 Emergency Medicine Resident (FRCPC)
University of Calgary

Topic: Beds Are Burning: Climate Change and Emergency Medicine

Description: A review of climate change, the implications for Emergency Medicine practice now and in the future. A call to action to protect personal, planetary and our patients' health.

Session #2: (1000 – 1015)

Dr. Alex Gregory MD FRCP ([Bio Attached](#))

Assistant Professor, Dept. Anesthesiology

Perioperative and Pain Management – Libin Cardiovascular Institute

Topic: REVERSE IT: Phase 3 Study of a novel Ticagrelor reversal agent

Description: *Rational and study design of the REVERSE IT Phase 3 study, including inclusion/exclusion, study implementation logistics, and the Study Team.*

Evaluation form: <https://forms.gle/szfmBrmxiesjuGfg8>

** If there is more than 1 session complete a **separate** form for each session: MainPro credits for EM physicians in the Calgary Zone will automatically populate on the forms after submission.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/98848048571>

Webinar ID: 988 4804 8571

Or One-Tap mobile: Canada: +14388097799, 98848048571# or +15873281099, 98848048571#

Or Telephone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

Canada: +1 438 809 7799 or +1 587 328 1099 or +1 647 374 4685 or +1 647 558 0588 or +1 778 907 2071 or +1 204 272 7920

Recording Link: Recordings of this Thursday's Grand Rounds (*Except QAER & ACH City-Wide Rnds*) will be available the following Tuesday on our website:

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

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

Journal Club Update

We are very excited to announce the return of in-person Journal Club! Dave Mainprize and I will be taking over from Marshall Ross and Mike Szava-Kovats. They've done an incredible job overseeing Journal Club over the past 5 years and we would like to thank them for all their hard work.

If any of the following statements apply to you, we would love to see you at the first Journal Club of the academic year coming up on Thursday, September 16th:

- If you have read the article
- If you have NOT read the article
- Enjoy getting to know the residents
- Appreciate a lively debate with colleagues
- Want to be up to date on practice changing evidence
- Love statistics and know how to bootstrap
- The only boots for you are hiking boots

Lastly - **we need your help!** If you are interested in preceptoring an upcoming journal club [please sign up here](#) – no experience required, and feel free to "buddy sign up" if you'd like to preceptor with a fellow colleague. Any question please reach out to us directly.

-Kelsey Ragan & Dave Mainprize

Journal Club

Please find attached the [invitation](#) for the upcoming **in – person** Emerg Med Journal Club.

The Topic and article are listed below

Hot Topic : “[Temperature Targets in Post-Arrest Care: The TTM2 Trial](#)”

Article: Hypothermia versus Normothermia after Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest. Dankiewicz et al: TTM2 Trial Investigators. NEJM 2021.

N Engl J Med 2021;384:2283-94. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2100591

Date: September 16, 2021

Time: 1800 - 2100

Presenters: Drs. Kira Genise and Natasha Goumeniouk

Preceptors: Drs. Kelsey Ragan & Dave Mainprize

Journal Club Address: Clara Christie Theatre

3330 Hospital Dr NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4N1

Dinner is at 1730

Please RSVP to TriSurendra.Malasani@albertahealthservices.ca by September 13 if you are willing to attend

This program meets the accreditation criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been accredited for 1.5 MainPro-M1 credits.

This program is approved as an accredited group learning activity as defined by the maintenance of certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology Pearl of the Week: [Amidarone Lung Toxicity](#)

CME

EDI LUNCH & LEARN - DECOLONIZING YOUR SYLLABUS: REFLECTING ON HOW, WHAT & WHO YOU TEACH

Due to overwhelming interest, we are excited to offer an extended presentation by **Dr. Pamela Roach** on “**Decolonizing your Syllabus**” at October’s EDI Lunch & Learn. Dr. Roach will discuss **epistemic racism**, guide participants in implementing the **principles of decolonization** into syllabi, course outlines, & course planning, and show how to develop a plan for tangible **changes in teaching & education**.

Space is limited so be sure to sign up quickly!!

WHO: Hosted by OPED, OFDP & ILGHO

WHAT: EDI Lunch & Learn – Decolonizing your Syllabus: Reflecting on How, What & Who you Teach

WHEN: October 7, 2021 12:30 – 2:00 PM

WHERE: ZOOM

HOW: Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/167109612349>

Fall CSM Fac Dev Workshops

EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR PROVIDING FEEDBACK- This interactive workshop helps you understand the importance of feedback, describe key elements in giving valuable feedback, and learn how to avoid the repercussions of giving unexpected feedback.

Thursday, October 7, 2021

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM MDT

[Sign Up Now!](#)

Wednesday October 20, 2021

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM MDT

[Sign Up Now!](#)

[RESEARCH Orientation for New Faculty](#) - Oct 6, 2021

[Media Training 101](#) - Oct 20, 2021

Opportunities

CAEP seeking National Scientific Chair for upcoming meetings

CAEP is in search of an established member with interests in education, research and leadership to take on important national roles related to upcoming meetings. [Please see attached](#) and please feel free to reach out if you have an interest and wish to discuss further.

Best wishes.

Eddy

Kudos Corner

A Thank-You note for Dr. Grant Kennedy from an appreciative patient:
