



Department of Emergency Medicine

# Weekly <sup>email</sup>

Updates for ED Physicians

Sept 20, 2022 Edition

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## Operations

### Update from PRC

This link contains a summary of the minutes of the last PRC where **many important issues were discussed**. Summer holidays, FTE reduction requests, new locums etc.

[Click here to read summary of the Sept 15 PRC meeting.](#)

-Neil

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### FR Program Accredited!

Just a quick note to let you all know that FR program has received full accreditation with regular follow up (in accreditation speak this is the best result possible, there are no major deficits and no need for short term follow up, we continue with a review every 8 years). There are some very reasonable areas for improvement which we will work on over the coming years and will surely further improve the program. We received a commendation for the EDI curriculum (yay Claire Acton and Kelsey Ragan)!

We wanted to thank all of you for your time, effort, and dedication to residency education. We know many of you are very busy and we are so grateful that you show up each and every day for the residents!

Catherine, Anj and Madhavi

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### The Minister of Health invites you to participate in a Conversation about Healthcare in Alberta on September 26/September 27

Please join us and bring your perspective as a healthcare worker to discuss what's working well in our healthcare system, and where you see a need for improvement. This is an opportunity to share the successes and challenges you see in the provincial healthcare system with government and AHS leadership. Please register today if you able to attend.

**When:** September 26/September 27

**Time:** 1:30PM to 4:00PM/9:30AM to 12:00PM

**Where:** Delta Hotels by Marriott Calgary South (135 Southland Drive SE, Calgary AB)

[Details/registration here.](#)

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### 24/7 PES Team

Good News. We are moving to a psychiatry emergency services "24/7 model" at all 4 adult sites.

This model, already in practice at SHC will allow for PES nurses to help to process new consultations 24 hrs a day, as well as helping with the needs of admitted mental health patients who are being boarded in the ED. Ongoing efforts to increase Mental Health inpatient capacity continues. We appreciate the significant work in the background by psychiatry, hospital administration and senior AHS leadership.

Please [see attached memo from Janet Chafe and Dr. Val Taylor](#) announcing the expansion of a 24/7 PES team at the FMC, RGH, PLC and ACH. This is great news for the Emergency Departments!

-Neil Collins

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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

#### **Location**

David Lendrum is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

#### **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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### **What ECGs do you want to see?**

[Please take a moment to complete this short survey.](#) We are seeking your input as to what RN-ordered ECGs you feel should be brought to your attention prior to the patient being assessed by an MD. This is not an exhaustive list and there is opportunity for comments in the survey. It takes about 1 minute.

Thank you.

Adam Oster  
adamoster@mac.com

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### **Fluoroquinolones Backgrounder**

Please see this [Pharmacy Services Backgrounder](#) regarding the avoidance of using fluoroquinolones as first line treatment. It also has a great summary of empiric antibiotic choices for urinary, respiratory and intra-abdominal infections.

-Neil

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### **Common MOH Questions**

Please see [this document regarding common questions asked of the MOH](#) regarding animal bites, COVID-19, BBFE, and Tetanus.

Please note that there is no internal consult from Connect Care for MOH consults.

-Neil

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### **SCM Updates!**

## Scopolamine Transdermal Patch - Removed

Effective September 22, 2022, the 'scopolamine transdermal patch' and 'scopolamine transdermal patch REMOVE' orders have been removed.

Rationale: The manufacturer has discontinued the scopolamine transdermal patch.

- The following order sets impacted:
  - ED Imminent Death
  - ED Vertigo

**Michelle Sampson BN RN**  
Clinical Informatician

Mobile: 403-819-1601 | Teams: 587-943-1771  
Email: [michelle.sampson@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:michelle.sampson@albertahealthservices.ca)

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## **PSF Application - 2 weeks left prior to PSF deadline – 30 September!**

See attached PSF mandate and PSF Application guidelines.

- [PSF Application Guidelines](#)
- [PSF Mandate and Process](#)

**Deadline for PSF Application submission: September 30, 2022**

**EFT Next withdrawal: October 12, 2022**

*Note: April 2022 contribution receipts have been emailed in July – Aug 2022.*

## **PSF Seeking new committee members**

The PSF is looking for *two* more interested members to diversify our team. It's a great way to provide some of your service hours to the department, and requires only ~10 hours of virtual meeting/work per year.

Come help us disburse money to support the awesome projects our members contribute for!

Thanks everyone for your support.

If interested in becoming a member please email: [Maria.Petrosyants@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Maria.Petrosyants@albertahealthservices.ca)

Thank you!

Maria  
**On behalf of the PSF Committee**

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## **YYC ED Specific**

### **ED Nurses Night - Oct 5**

ED nurses night October 5th starting at 1930 to 0200 at taqueria el jefe

address: 250 6 Ave SW unit 181

All ER docs from all sites are invited.

RSVP: to Nicole Goholski [Groholskin@gmail.com](mailto:Groholskin@gmail.com) and phone number if any questions 4037964868

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### **Overcrowding of ED project**

4 UofC students (Sabrina Pearce, Tyara Marchand, Erica Marr and Tara Shannon) are conducting research on "overcrowding in the Emergency Department review of reviews" the [brief document related to their research is attached herewith.](#)

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## Canadian Badminton Open - Medical Coverage needed

Seeking volunteer medical coverage for Canadian Badminton Open at Markin McPhail building at Winsport Sept 28/29th for any portion of 0800-2100. There is a paramedic court-side to deal with minor injuries but need MD coverage (residents welcome). Come watch some world class badminton - meal allowance provided. Contact either Jody Patrick [jodypatrick@shaw.ca](mailto:jodypatrick@shaw.ca) and/or Kelli sherlock [kellisherlock@gmail.com](mailto:kellisherlock@gmail.com) if interested.

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## Instructors required: EFAST (Nov 3: 12-5 pm)

Department of Critical Care Medicine is looking for 2 instructors to help with the EFAST course that is running on Nov 3 from 12-5 pm. This is a hands on, basic (and largely scripted) US course that is provided to the R1 surgery residents as part of their Foundations of Surgery training stage. It is held in the ATSSL at Foothills. If interested, please contact Dr. John Kortbeek at [John.Kortbeek@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:John.Kortbeek@albertahealthservices.ca). Thanks!

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## PRIHS IV study is looking for ED physician feedback to improve the process to utilize RAAPID for LTC to ED transfers for stable patients:

PRIHS IV grant funded the implementation of a process to reduce potentially avoidable transfers from LTC to the ED. If a patient has an urgent concern and they are deemed medically stable with GOC that would permit a transfer to ED, the LTC staff will call the LTC MD and a call through RAAPID to the ED physician will be initiated. If a patient has a change in condition and is considered unstable the LTC staff will initiate a call to EMS directly. [Please see the attached one-page background document and process map.](#)

### What is the study about?

- Every day nearly 28 LTC residents in Alberta are transferred to an Emergency Department (ED).
- Many acute changes in a resident's condition could be addressed at the LTC facility if appropriate supports were available.
- When ED visits are appropriate, poor communication between the ED and LTC facility can lead to poor outcomes and patient/family dissatisfaction.
- This study involves implementing a new care pathway for use by LTC facilities, along with tools to help detect changes in resident's status earlier.
- This pathway uses RAAPID to link the LTC doctor and nurse to an ED doctor, before transfer of non-emergent LTC patients.

### What is the purpose of the study?

The PRIHS IV research team is looking to recruit ED physicians to participate in one-on-one interviews or a focus group to provide feedback on how to improve this process, looking specifically at barriers and facilitators of successful use of this care pathway. [See poster.](#)

**If you are an Emergency Department Physician who has received a RAAPID call from LTC within the last 24 months, you are invited to participate in an online focus group or one-on-one interview.**

**The aim of the interview is to try to understand the barriers and facilitators faced by health practitioners in using the new care pathway. Participation is completely voluntary. A CDN \$50 gift card will be provided as reimbursement for a participant's time.**

**If you have any questions regarding this study or are interested in participating, please contact the study team at [nuclear@ualberta.ca](mailto:nuclear@ualberta.ca) or 780-492-5026.**

Study Title- Improving Acute Care for Long-Term Care Residents: A Better Way to Care for the Frail Elderly in Times of Medical Urgency.

Principal Investigator- Dr. Jayna Holroyd-Leduc University of Calgary

*The plan for this study has been reviewed for its adherence to ethical guidelines by the Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (CHREB REB190106) at the University of Calgary and the Research Ethics Board at the University of Alberta (Pro00090932). If you have questions about your rights or how research should be conducted, you can call the Research Services Office at University of*

## ED – Trauma Sims Sign Up

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

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## ED Staff Simulations

Please sign up for ED Staff Simulations.

[EM Physician Participants: 2022 ED Staff Simulation \(Sept- Dec 2022\) \(signupgenius.com\)](https://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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### Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds

- **Date:** Thurs, Sept 22, 2022
- **Time:** 0900 – 1000 ([1.00 Education Credits](#))
- **Room:** In-Person – [G382 - HSC](#)
- **Zoom:** <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/66383702969>
- **Passcode:** 037024
- **Eval:** <https://cutt.ly/xT82kgH>

#### Session #1 (0900 – 1000)

##### Farah Visram, RN, BN, BSc

Care Manager, Transition Services (SHC) and Complex Care Hub (SHC & RGH)

##### Michelle Gerwing, MN, RN

Manager, Transition Services and Complex Care Hub (SHC & RGH)

##### Kirsten Proceviat, RN MAL

Manager, Transition Services Community

#### [Speaker Bios](#)

#### Topic: Transition Services – An Overview of Our Mysterious World

**Description:** *The world of Transition Services is vast, and can be daunting. Knowing the basics about Home Care, Supportive Living, Long Term Care, and Specialty/Complex placements is critical to facilitating safe and effective patient care in the Emergency Department. Transition Services support can be a very useful tool to get to know your patient's baseline, their level of care, priorities for their health and most importantly—facilitating the best possible discharge plan.*

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

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### Last Week's GR Pearls - Sept 15

[Click here to download documents from Sept 15 Rounds with Dr. Head:](#) how to document injuries; Signs and Symptoms of Non-Fatal Strangulation; and information about when to do advanced imaging for patients who have experienced Non Fatal Strangulation

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**Clinical Pharmacology & Toxicology Pearl of the Week:**  
[Newer IV NAC regimens, Part 1](#)

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## Opportunities

### 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.

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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### Senior Associate Dean, Health Equity and Systems Transformation

The Cumming School of Medicine invites applications (Cumming School of Medicine, only) for the position of Senior Associate Dean Health Equity and Systems Transformation.

Please see the [complete terms of reference for the position](#).

The successful candidate will hold an MD or PhD; be a member of the CSM faculty; have leadership experience in health equity and administration; be a respected educator and scholar; and have proven ability to collaborate and sustain relationships within the Faculty and across the province with government and professional organizations.

The position is 0.5 FTE. The initial appointment will begin December 1, 2022 for a five-year term.

Please submit a statement of interest and curriculum vitae by September 30, 2022, to:

Dr. Todd Anderson  
Dean  
Cumming School of Medicine,



### 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

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 SCM 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. If the position is not filled, coverage would be at risk on ongoing

projects/developments & core responsibilities in general, including but not limited to identifying areas of need for clinical effectiveness or quality improvement support, training and education for ED physicians.

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

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## UME Simulation Lead for ED

Melanie (UME EM clerkship director) and I (electives clerkship director) would like to invite all interested candidates to apply for the position of UME simulation lead for the emergency department. We thank Kevin Haley for taking on this role and all of his great work in the past.

This position would involve creating, organizing and maintaining a simulation program for core and elective clerks that rotate through the ED (approximately 6-12 clerks per 2 week rotation). Our goal is to offer a 2-3 hour simulation session every 2 weeks (1 session per clerk block) covering commonly encountered EM topics (ACLS, trauma, toxicology, etc). The remuneration is \$125/hour.

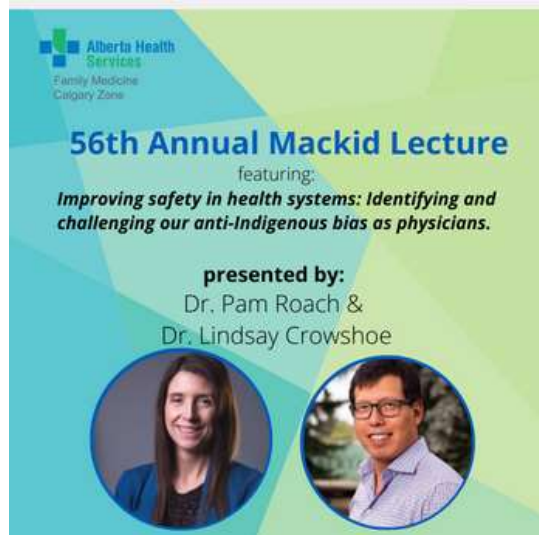
If you have any questions regarding the role, please feel free to email Melanie ([Melanie.Sohn@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Melanie.Sohn@albertahealthservices.ca)) and I ([calgaryelectives@gmail.com](mailto:calgaryelectives@gmail.com)), or Kevin ([khaley@ualberta.ca](mailto:khaley@ualberta.ca)) as the outgoing UME sim lead for more information.

For interested candidates, please email your CV and a letter of interest to both Melanie and I by September 30.

- Claire Acton and Melanie Sohn

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## CME & Learning



### Dept of Family Medicine: 56th Mackid Lecture

ED Physicians are invited to the 56th Mackid Lecture on Sept 27, 5-9pm.

\$20 - includes reception and dinner  
1.5 Mainpro+ credits

*Improving safety in health systems: Identifying and challenging our anti-Indigenous bias as physicians.*  
presented by: Dr. Pamela Roach & Dr. Lindsay Crowshoe

[More info and agenda here.](#)

Email [family.medicine@ahs.ca](mailto:family.medicine@ahs.ca) to register.

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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

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**SAVE THE DATE!!! CAEP 2023**



Come reconnect with the Canadian Emergency Medicine Community at

CAEP 2023 which will be held **May 28 - May 31, 2023** in Toronto.

The planning committee is already busy putting together a stellar program and implementing many changes that will make the conference more desirable for all EM physicians to attend.

<https://caepconference.ca>

(program details are typically available in early January)

PS: if there are improvements or things you would like to see at conference feel free to reach out to [catherine.patocka@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.patocka@gmail.com) with any ideas!

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### 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.](#)

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### Save the Date! Canadian Annual PEM Review Course 2023

January 26-28, Banff AB - [See info](#) and [pricing](#)

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### 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](mailto:gord.mcneil@albertahealthservices.ca)) if you are interested or have any questions

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### Upcoming EDI events, opportunities, activities and resources

[Click here to read.](#)

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### 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.](#)

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### **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.](#)

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## **Kudos**

Calgary Herald: [Calgary ER doctor's photography book captures COVID-19 in city hospitals](#)

### **Shadows and Light Book Launch at The Pioneer**

Friday October 14, 6:30-8:30

[Tickets available starting Wednesday September 21 @ 1700.](#)

This event was previously sold out!

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[Toxic tradeoff: Disinfectants are ineffective for COVID-19 prevention and create harmful exposures - Healthy Debate](#) - Joe Vipond