

# Department of Emergency Medicine

## Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

DEM News Subscriber,

## Operations

### Notes from Catherine

#### Grand rounds

Many have inquired about some of the content shared during grand rounds on November 14. Please see this week's ***Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Corner*** for a note from Dr. Langhan. I want to take a moment to acknowledge the courage it takes to critically examine our actions and practices, and to embrace opportunities for growth and change. As we reflect on how we want to be perceived as a department, let's strive to consistently embody those values in our actions and interactions.

In addition, we are developing enhanced guidance and resources to support faculty as they prepare their Grand Rounds presentations. We aim to share these updates in the new year.

#### Townhall

Thank you to all of those that attended and engaged (virtually or in-person) during the townhall. The recording of the event is available in today's newsletter and we will be publishing minutes next week. Please remember that the next town hall will be **April 10, 2025** from **10:30-12:30pm**

#### AHS Our people survey

All medical staff should have received an individualized survey link to the AHS Our People survey. This is an important way to provide feedback about how you think the organization is doing in meeting your needs, I encourage everyone to be as open as possible (I certainly was).

#### Site Medical Informatics positions

I previously posted about opportunities for the provincial informatics positions, but there are also site-specific positions that are dedicated to **Critical Care – Surgery – Emergency Medicine** and it would be nice to have EM physicians in some of these roles to continue to improve the implementation of connect care.

<https://doctorjobsalberta.albertahealthservices.ca/jobs/site-medical-informatics-lead-calgary-zone-4525?et=2zD4OT2z>

## Opportunity for PPIP personal development project

One of our previous CCFP-EM graduates (Dr. Emily Quick) is launching a limited opportunity for 50 staff in Calgary to receive feedback on EPAs they have completed for residents. In addition to the personal growth from receiving feedback on your feedback, we will ensure that any participant of this initiative will receive a report that will meet the criteria for a CPSA PPIP personal development project (one less thing that you have to think about as you renew). Please consider signing up (see *Research: We need your help to improve EPA feedback in PGME at the CSM*).

## AI Scribe Working Group

With the ongoing AHS AI scribe trial and many other players on the market, there's growing interest in how this technology could benefit our ED providers and patients. I'm forming an **AI Scribe Working Group** to guide advocacy efforts and help keep me stay informed on developments. Should be very low commitment, I would hope that the group can meet periodically to share insights and shape our approach as it evolves. If you're interested in contributing, please reach out to me [catherine.patocka@ahs.ca](mailto:catherine.patocka@ahs.ca).

Catherine

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## Town Hall Meeting – Nov 21, 2024 Recording

[Please find the link to last week's town hall](#)

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## Notes from James

### Missed Shifts Secondary to Medical Appointments or Child Care Issues

We as a department recognize that conflicts with scheduled shifts may arise because of medical appointments and/or childcare issues. If these are known in advance, we strongly encourage members to trade shifts with their colleagues or with other open shifts at your sites.

We recommend managing these situations as follows:

1. Post the shift for trade and/or giveaway as soon as the conflict is identified.
2. If a trade cannot be arranged with a colleague in a timely fashion, email your site leads about the conflict to ensure that high priority shifts are covered.
3. Identify an open shift to cover at the same site, preferably within the next 1-2 weeks.
4. Please copy my admin assistant Ruchi Sharma ([ruchi.sharma@ahs.ca](mailto:ruchi.sharma@ahs.ca)) and me ([james.andruchow@ahs.ca](mailto:james.andruchow@ahs.ca)) with both (a) your uncovered shift and (b) the proposed open shift you will pick up.

To encourage accountability, if a recurring pattern is identified of shifts being left uncovered without shifts being picked up in return, members can be expected to be assigned additional shift(s) above their usual allotment in their next schedule.

### No Show Next Day Imaging Tests

We frequently order next day/urgent outpatient imaging tests (e.g., US, VQ, MRI) for ED patients. However, patients do not always attend the appointments that are booked (which depending on the site may be at the hospital or at an outpatient DI clinic).

Recently, a question was raised asking what is the medicolegal responsibility of a physician if the patient does not show to the imaging test booked.

This scenario was reviewed with the CMPA, and the bottom line was “what would a reasonable physician do in a similar situation?” While the CMPA supports the use of clinical judgment in managing these situations, they recommend the following as best practice:

- Call the patient to understand why they didn't attend and to determine whether or not the imaging test (or any clinical reassessment) is still required.
- If you feel the imaging test is still required, you should provide a recommended course of action (which may be to return to the ED or follow-up with their family physician depending on acuity).
- Document the conversation (or your attempt to contact the patient) in the medical record.

We as a department support physician judgment in these cases. If our clerks learn about a patient who did not show for a imaging test, we have instructed them to notify the ordering physician so that they can manage the situation as they best see fit.

As always, feel free to email me with any questions or concerns.

James

[james.andruchow@ahs.ca](mailto:james.andruchow@ahs.ca)

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## Grand Rounds, Journal Club and Clinical Pearls

### Pediatric Trauma Rounds Thursday November 28, 2024 (0900—1000) (1.0 Education Credits)

**Room:** Conference Room 2 at ACH (presenting in person) and ZOOM

**Zoom Link:** <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/62908532729?pwd=3vQs5NbQBES9ma78YrVGICAOrqb1v.1>

**Meeting ID:** 62908532729 **Passcode:** 528917

**Speaker:** Dr. Marcel Abouassaly, Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon, Alberta Children's Hospital

**Title:** Pelvic Fractures: Unique case of a 2 year old

**Post Meeting Survey:** [https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV\\_3EErkJoYAae900u](https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV_3EErkJoYAae900u)

There will be COFFEE and MUFFINS supplied by Solventum.

[To view archived grand rounds, please visit our website.](#)

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## Clinical Pearls

As the temperature goes down, just wanted to offer a quick reminder that all four Calgary hospitals have access to Iloprost treatment for frostbite. The AHS protocol which can be found at this link <https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/main/assets/tms/edc/tms-edc-care-adult-severe-frostbite.pdf> is based on the work done by Dr Alex Poole and Josianne Gauthier from Whitehorse.

As outlined in the document, please ensure that the extremities are rewarmed prior to grading the severity of the frostbite. Thanks to Dr. Ian Walker for spearheading this work a few years ago when he was site lead.

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# Department News

## Mark Your Calendars...

### Hodsman Legacy Lecture Series - 2025 Edition

- Thursday April 17
- 0830-1200h

Details to follow.

We hope to see you there!

The Hodsman Legacy Lecture Planning Committee

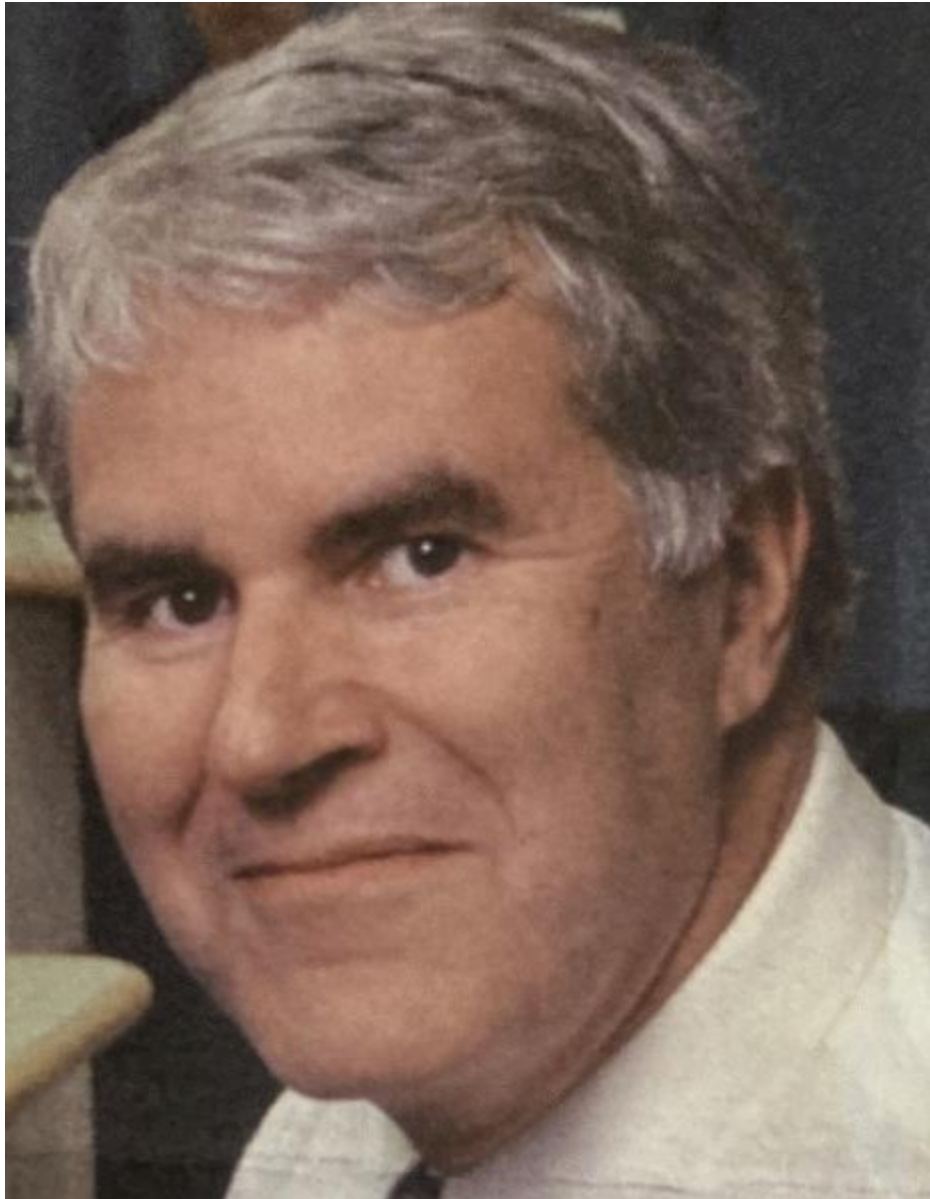
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## Kudos Corner – Patient Commendation

I want to express my deep gratitude to the incredible medical teams at Peter Lougheed and Rockyview Hospitals for their exceptional care during my health crisis on July 30, 2024. Special thanks to **Dr. Ryan Jeffery Deedo**, whose swift action and advocacy ensured I received the urgent care I needed, and to all the staff who demonstrated professionalism, empathy, and kindness throughout my treatment.

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## Honouring the Life of Dr. Robert (Bob) Johnston



It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of Dr. Robert (Bob) Johnston, on October 14, 2024, surrounded by his family in the beautiful Green Mountains of Vermont. As a clinician, he worked at the Foothills and the Alberta Children's Hospitals as well as being a flight physician with STARS. Throughout his career he held many leadership roles in Emergency Medicine (Department Head, Foothills Hospital, President CAEP, prehospital care), telehealth, and medical administration (CMO; Senior VP, Patient experience), to name a few. At his core, he was a kind, caring, compassionate clinician who modelled and lived by his motto "it's about the patient".

### **Celebration of Life**

As we mourn his passing, let us also celebrate the profound impact he had on many lives. His family invites you to join them in celebrating Bob's remarkable life.

Date: **Saturday, November 30, 2024**

Time: **1pm - 4pm (remarks at 2pm)**

Location: **Hamptons Golf Club, 69 Hamptons Drive NW, Calgary**

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to STARS or United Way, honouring Bob's spirit of giving.

You can read his [full obituary with this Calgary Herald link](#).

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## Kudos Corner – Award



The Calgary and Area Medical Staff Society (CAMSS) Advocacy Award is given to someone who exemplifies the spirit behind our mission statement: “Advocating for Physicians, Caring for Patients”.

### **Congratulations to the 2024 recipient, Dr. Christine East!**

CAMSS received numerous nominations, highlighting the dedication of physicians in the Calgary Zone to their patients, in the role of both advocate and healthcare provider.

Dr. East received the award in recognition for her tireless work developing and leading the Exceptional Care Plan Program, which began at the Rockyview Hospital and has now expanded across Calgary and beyond.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. East and visit [our website for more information about Dr. East](#) and her work, and why she is the 2024 CAMSS Advocacy recipient!

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## Teaching Opportunities

### 2025 Emerg UME Simulation



Hello! I am reaching out to recruit facilitators for **2025 Emerg UME sim**.

Medical students (elective and mandatory clerks) rotating through emerg will have a simulation during their two week block. This is generally on **Thursdays from 09:00-11:00** in the **Health Science's ATSSL (G820)**.

The group ranges between 6-14 learners and will typically require two facilitators per session. Your role will be to pre-brief, manage the scenario, and facilitate debriefing. I will send you the case including a review of discussion topics so it is low preparation.

Remuneration is at the UME teaching rate \$125/hr.

[Sign up included through this google doc.](#)

Thank you for considering! Please let me know if you have any questions.

Ryan Wilkie  
[rdwilkie@ucalgary.ca](mailto:rdwilkie@ucalgary.ca)  
403-390-6047

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## Research

### Funding and Awards

Gouri Ginde, Deepa Suryanarayan, Kathryn Crowder, Hossein Piri: **University of Calgary Transdisciplinary Scholarship Connector Grant: Machine Learning-Driven Solutions for Deep Vein Thrombosis Diagnosis in Emergency Department Settings**

**Funding amount \$17,000**

Kathryn Crowder, Gouri Ginde: **O'Brien Institute Learning Health Systems Catalyst Competition, partnered with the Department of Emergency Medicine: Machine Learning-Driven Solutions for Deep Vein Thrombosis Diagnosis in Emergency Department Settings**

**Funding amount \$15,000**

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### Kudos Corner – Publications

Congratulations to Katie Lin, Eddy Lang, Catherine Patocka and Jessalyn Holodinsky on their recent publications!

Ellaway RH, **Patocka C**. To define or not to define: a commentary on 'The case for metacognitive reflection'. Adv Health Sci Educ Theory Pract. 2024 Nov 18. doi: 10.1007/s10459-024-10391-7. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39556237.

Heymann EP, Lim R, Maskalyk J, Pulfrey S, Chun S, Osei-Ampofo M, deSouza K, Landes M, **Lang E**. Emergency medicine: a global perspective on its past, evolution, and future. Intern Emerg Med. 2024 Nov 7. doi: 10.1007/s11739-024-03812-3. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39508981.

Ospel JM, Brown S, **Holodinsky JK**, Rinkel L, Ganesh A, Coutts SB, Menon B, Saville BR, Hill MD, Goyal M. An Introduction to Bayesian Approaches to Trial Design and Statistics for Stroke Researchers. Stroke. 2024 Nov;55(11):2742-2753. doi: 10.1161/STROKEAHA.123.044144. Epub 2024 Oct 22. PMID: 39435547.

Mithoowani S, Bungard TJ, Castellucci L, de Witt K, Dowlatshahi D, **Lin K**, Forbes N, Siegal DM. Multidisciplinary Guidance for the Management of Severe Bleeding on Oral Anticoagulation: An Algorithm for Practicing Clinicians. Thromb Haemost. 2024 Nov 8. doi: 10.1055/a-2464-2887. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39515380.

## We need your help to improve EPA feedback in PGME at the CSM

**Study Title: Providing feedback on feedback: The current quality and patterns of feedback content in Canadian Emergency Medicine residency Entrustable Professional Activities**

If you are a faculty member with the department for more than 12 months who teaches emergency medicine residents at the Cumming School of Medicine (CSM), we are interested in getting in touch with you. [For more information, see the attached PDF.](#)

Please send us an email if you are interested in participating (or if you have any questions).

Dr Emily Quick – [emily.quick@ucalgary.ca](mailto:emily.quick@ucalgary.ca)

Dr Catherine Patocka – [catherine.patocka@ucalgary.ca](mailto:catherine.patocka@ucalgary.ca)

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## Call for Abstracts

It's time to showcase your scholarly activity!

Department of Emergency Medicine Research Day abstract submission is now open!

Research Day is coming up May 8, 2025 from 0800-1600. We are excited to partner with Pediatric Emergency Medicine to deliver a high-impact, high-quality, clinically relevant and engaging research day, with both adult and pediatric EM topics!

Please save the date and consider submitting your work! New this year, learners can receive feedback on their abstracts from abstract reviewers. [Please use the attached form](#) for submission to [christina.cherian@ahs.ca](mailto:christina.cherian@ahs.ca)

**Abstract submission deadline: January 10, 2025 at 1600h.**

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## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Corner

### Note from Dr. Trevor Langan MD FRCPC:

Dear Emergency Department Community,

I want to take a moment to address a mistake I made on November 14th and offer my sincerest apologies. I deeply regret the content included in my rounds presentation and the impact it had on many of you. I understand it was highly inappropriate and that it may have caused hurt, frustration, or disappointment.

I take full responsibility for this mistake. There is no excuse for it, and I am committed to learning from this experience. Moving forward, I will take concrete steps to ensure that I am more thoughtful, mindful, and accountable in my actions. I value the trust and respect of my fellow physicians, and I will work hard to rebuild that trust. I am grateful to Dr Catherine Patocka for standing up for what is right and protecting the integrity of the rounds environment.



Thank you for your understanding and patience as I grow from this experience. I hope to be defined not by this terrible mistake, but by how I recover.

Sincerely,

Trevor

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## Conferences, Workshops and Courses Update

### SUPPORT for PPIP Program

The [SUPPORT for PPIP program](#) aims to provide physicians with a comprehensive package of self-guided online tools as well as a Zoom webinar facilitated by an expert physician who has previously served as a Senior Medical Advisor at the CPSA. The program is designed as a comprehensive package that will help physicians complete all aspects of CPSA's PPIP requirements. See link above for more information.

Questions? Contact Susan Limongiello – [slimon@ucalgary.ca](mailto:slimon@ucalgary.ca)

Further information on this course can be found on the web page: <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/departments/emergency-medicine/faculty-staff/professional-development/workshop-and-courses>

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## Updated Newsletter Process

Submissions can be sent to: [natalie.sun@ahs.ca](mailto:natalie.sun@ahs.ca) and CC [Jordan-Rose.Detillieux@ahs.ca](mailto:Jordan-Rose.Detillieux@ahs.ca).

- Submissions will run for a period of one week
- Body copy will be edited at the discretion of the editor to optimize communication
- The deadline is **Tuesday at noon**

For reoccurring submissions, **there is a max two week run and this must be requested**. If you would like to re-run your submission after two weeks, please submit with updates.

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## In Case You Missed Last Week

Research

### Research in Development – Dr. Stephanie Vandenberg presenting

Thursday November 28, 2024  
12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm

**Topic:** Recovery Coach Network Program in Adult Emergency Departments in Calgary

Research In Development Rounds will review the evidence behind the use of Recovery Coaches in the ED as well as important reporting metrics for performance

## measurement and evaluation.

**Background:** The emergency department (ED) is often the first point of access to the health care system for adults with acute substance use concerns. In collaboration with multiple stakeholders including people with lived experience, researchers, operations leads, physicians and addiction service providers, we have designed a program that involves the creation of a Recovery Coach Network (RCN) supporting persons with substance use concerns in transitioning between acute care and community care on their recovery journey. Recovery Coaches (RCs) are persons with lived experience of substance use, experienced in using a recovery model to assist clients to overcome barriers to healthcare access and facilitate timely access to care. In addition to assisting with navigating the healthcare system, RCs bring the element of empathetic lived experience.

## Join Zoom Meeting

<https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/62324063208?pwd=PazpmPMXxN8f7WE6iCyDflsha084YR.1>

**Meeting ID:** 623 2406 3208

**Passcode:** 759667

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