

Department of Emergency Medicine

Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

Natalie

Operations

Notes from Catherine

Dear DEM members,

I am humbled and filled with gratitude for the opportunity to serve you, the members of the Calgary Department of Emergency Medicine (DEM), as your Department Head. Thank you to everyone who has reached out with such warm welcomes and to those that would have chosen another candidate (what a tough decision!) I would like to make a commitment to earning your trust as we work together to make the DEM a department that we can all be proud of.

Thank you to Eddy for his 11 years of service and for being so open and available to ensuring a smooth transition. I wish him well on his administrative leave this coming year.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge our administrative and leadership teams who have been working extra hard throughout this transition period. In particular, I would like to thank Dr. James Andruchow who has been holding down the ship as I get up to speed. It is hopefully clear to everyone that James is a tremendous asset in his role as DDH and has been working tirelessly over the last year to advocate and initiate positive change in our ED operations with impressive results. I am positively THRILLED to announce that he has agreed to continue in his role as DDH. I believe through our combined efforts we will be better placed to advocate and push for change. James will remain the lead for all ED operations issues, he will continue to have an active presence at the tables where decisions are made and he will have my full engagement, support, and presence. We plan to work very closely as a team to ensure we are on top of things and able to ensure responsiveness and coverage as issues arise. Despite the summer slow-down James and I have already been working together over the past 4 weeks to move forward on a number of key projects and we hope to share results of these efforts over the coming months.

I'd like to offer a few key updates:

- I've realized quite quickly that my Fall schedule is not optimized for the DH role, so I may have more conflicts than expected over this time period, please bear with me as I get the balance right over time.
- I believe that it is critical for the DH to have an understanding and experience at all our sites so I am pleased to announce that your site leads have welcomed my request to work shifts at all 4 sites as of Jan 2025
- We are in the midst of some unexpected administrative medical leaves and are currently down 2 admins, please be patient as we work to get back to a more complete complement of administrative support by September 1 at which time I will provide updates on which admin is responsible for what. For the moment, I can be reached via any of my existing email addresses but will be shifting to use catherine.patocka@albertahealthservices.ca for Departmental matters. Finally, in hopes of ensuring frequent communication and opportunities for feedback, we are in the midst of planning for Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 hybrid town halls. We hope to send these dates/calendar invites as soon as we can confirm them.

I am very excited to roll up my sleeves and get to work and look forward to your engagement, support and feedback.

Catherine

Notes from James

Pediatric Sports Medicine Clinic Option:

Please note that one of the Peds EM folks at ACH, Dr. Michelle McTimoney, is creating a Pediatric Sports Medicine Clinic which may be helpful in providing follow-up to some of our younger patients with sports-related injuries.

Please see a message from her below for more information:

"As some of you may know, I completed a fellowship in Pediatric Sport Medicine, earned my Dip Sport Med credential in the early 2000's and had a part-time sport medicine clinic during my career in Halifax. After moving to Calgary in 2014, initially I did some team support / event coverage, mostly with Alpine Canada and thought I would re-engage with Pediatric Sport Medicine in the clinic setting when the time was right. The time is right. I will be working at Innovative Sport Medicine starting September 3rd. Innovative has a very collaborative, team approach to athlete injury, rehabilitation and return to sport. The team includes physiotherapy, athletic therapy, chiropractic therapy, massage therapy, strength and conditioning, sport nutrition, orthotics, and biomechanical assessment. They usually also have sport psychology but are between psychologists right now. Diagnostic imaging is across the parking lot.

I would really appreciate referrals for any young athletes (<18 years old) with sport related injuries:

Who: *Athletes with sport related injury / illness - referrals from ACH ED - but also think of me for any of your kids or your friends kids, or your kids friends who are in sport and have a sport related injury*

What: *Including but not limited to: ankle sprains (returning to sport), heel and calf pain / injury, patellar dislocation / subluxation, meniscal injuries, MCL, LCL injuries, Osgood-Schlatter disease, hip pain in the athlete, back pain in the athlete, shoulder dislocation / subluxation, concussion (returning to sport), sport related asthma. If you are unsure, just text me (587-585-0462).*

How: Physician referral to **Innovative Sport Med** (usual referral form) - please indicate on the referral form that the **referral is directed to Michelle McTimoney** as there are other adult trained docs that see Peds at Innovative.

When: Tuesday afternoons starting Sept 3rd”

James

Connect Care Update

Hi Everyone,

Here is the Connect Care update for this week:

1) Urology Referrals

Please make sure that you are addressing your urology outpatient referrals to the correct place of service (POS). Our unit clerks have been noticing an uptick in the number of referrals that have been addressed to the wrong destination (eg - Central Zone rather than Calgary Zone). For a quick refresher on how to make a urology referral, check out the [Outpatient Referrals Workflow Document](#)

2) IT Bed IFT Workflow Feedback

We are still eager to hear from anyone with feedback about the IT bed transfer workflow. If you would like to share your experiences – positive or negative – please let me know at chris.hall@ahs.ca

3) Inpatient Consult Order optimization

Work has begun on removing inpatient consult orders for several off-site surgical services (see previous newsletter posts for details). If you have been encountering any difficulties as a result of these changes (eg - unable to reach a specific service or delays in obtaining off-site surgical consultations) please let me know. As a quick reminder, please note that services affected by the removal of these IP consult orders should either be contacted via RAAPID if they have a service agreement in place, or directly via the unit clerk / ROCA if they do not.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to ask

Chris Hall

Grand Rounds and Journal Club

Grand Rounds Will Resume September 2024

Grand Rounds run on Thursdays (0900—1000) (1.0 Education Credits)

September 5th will be the first Grand Rounds for 2024-2025 academic year. Please check back for more information in the fall.

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

Teaching Opportunities

Staff Examiners Required FOR CCFP-EM ORAL EXAMS : 2024 Thursday's September 5th, 2024 – In Person

The CCFP-EM Residency Program is in need of 7 staff examiners for the oral exams for:

- September 5, 2024 from 1030 – 1300

These exams are In-Person sessions. Lunch will be provided.

Please check your availability and let me know if you can help on **September 5, 2024**, please send the responses to TriSurendra.Malasani@ahs.ca

Your help and assistance is very much appreciated. Once confirmed Tris will send Calendar invites.

Tris Malasani

2024 ED Staff SIM Sign Up

Sept - Dec 2024 Sign Up:

EM Physician Participants: 2024 ED Staff Simulation (Sept - Dec)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AAAD22A5F8C25-49150052-2024#/>

Please review the available slots below and click the link above to sign up. For changes, please email Monica at Wonjun.Lee@ahs.ca Thank you!

2024 Faculty Debriefing Education Session

If you are interested in getting involved in simulation, as a Calgary medical student or resident (Jr. Sr. and EM) facilitator, you are invited to a no cost faculty debriefing education session, run by Patty Lee, Tyson Savage and James Huffman.

Date: October 11, 2024

Time: 0900-1200

Location: O'Brien Centre Room 1500 (Calgary Medical School)

Details on the session: We welcome simulation facilitators and educators with diverse experiences for a morning refresher course on the art of debriefing. Join your colleagues in sharing expert tips and tricks on navigating common simulation educational challenges.

[Sign Up Google Doc Link](#)

Meaghan Mackenzie

CME Learning and Conferences

UME Has Posted New Leadership Opportunities

If you are interested in Medical Education, leading change and teaching in the MD Program, you will find posted some interesting and challenging positions.

Here is the link to the website where all the postings and job profiles are located:

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/mdprogram/faculty/job-opportunities>

All applications can be directed to our Associate Dean, Dr. Amy Bromley at associatedean.ume@ucalgary.ca.

Thank you to all who have contributed in leadership and teaching this past year in the MD Program.

Amy Bromley

Lifevac and Dechoker Training Available

Sharing in case anyone has family or friends who may be interested in participating!

We're conducting a randomized controlled trial on pre-hospital choking interventions. We're looking for individuals who may be interested in participating in a no cost, one hour training session learning about new airway clearance devices (Lifevac: <https://lifevac.ca/>; and Dechoker <https://www.dechoker.com/>). These devices are being sold as choking treatments, but not yet taught in first aid courses as we truly don't know how well they work.

[Click on this pdf link for further information](#)

We are trying to determine how well these devices work for bystanders - who they are marketed for - so the only criteria is that participants cannot be healthcare workers. However, if you know anyone who may be interested we would appreciate you sharing the details and contact info!

We have a number of dates & times available for participation (see pdf link above). If you have any questions, or anyone would like to sign up, they can contact Cody at Cody.dunne@ucalgary.ca. Thanks everyone!

Cody Dunne

Other Opportunities

Participants Needed For AI In Pediatric Healthcare Research

What is this study about?

We are conducting a study on recognizing and responding to life-threatening infections in kids and exploring the perspectives of healthcare workers in emergency departments, inpatient units, intensive care units, physician's offices, nursing stations, or other sites. We are interested in their work experiences, clinical judgment, and views on using artificial intelligence (AI) in pediatric healthcare to help us model risk communication and inform future AI interface design for safe human-AI interaction.

[More details about tasks and remuneration can be found on this linked poster.](#)

[UWaterloo Survey.](#)

Ryan Tennant

Updated Newsletter Process

Submissions can be sent to: natalie.sun@ahs.ca and CC 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 **Tuesdays 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.

In Case You Missed Last Week

Job Postings

The Calgary Department of Emergency Medicine is hiring

If you are eligible for this year's Locum Hiring Cycle or Associate Hiring Cycle, we would love to see you apply.

Additionally, if you might know of any excellent emergency physicians who may also be interested, feel free to let them know!

We've recently updated our Job Opportunities section on the Department of EM UofC website. Stop by and take a look:

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/departments/emergency-medicine/job-opportunities>

Miles Hunter
