

# Department of Emergency Medicine

## Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

Natalie

## Operations

### Notes from Catherine

#### Recovery Alberta

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, the transfer of staff to Recovery Alberta (the new provincial health agency that will provide mental health, addiction services and correctional health services) will occur on **Sunday September 1, 2024**. While there have been lots of rumours about how this will impact clinical operations, we have been told loud and clear by our Zone medical leadership that the priority for the transition activity is to **maintain operations without interruption**. To that end, AHS has noted that front line staff should escalate questions/concerns as per normal channels and we have been told that there is a Post Go-Live Support Team to escalate urgent matters (though contact for them has yet to be provided).

Recognizing that unexpected events can happen, I will be working clinically on Sunday September 1 morning at the PLC and would be happy for people to reach out to me in the event of an unexpected operational issues.

If you are interested in reading more about this please refer to the Recovery Alberta Transition FAQ document

<https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/main/assets/tms/ra/tma-ra-staff-faq.pdf>

#### Commendations:

I recognize that we have again recently faced numerous surgical diversions, adding to the already demanding nature of our practice in our EDs. Despite these hurdles, many individuals continue to step up and deliver exceptional care and contributions to ED patients. I want to do a better job of recognizing and celebrating these efforts.

Based on feedback from our physicians, we have recently sent letters of commendation for:

1. **Dr. Paul Cattle** for his remarkable management of several significant trauma cases without house staff during the trauma reduced capacity event in July.

2. **Tony Chu** (nurse clinician) for his adept handling of the challenging situation related to EMS/RAAPID during that same evening of reduced trauma capacity at the FMC.

I would like to continue highlighting the exemplary behaviour of our team and consultants during these operationally challenging times. I encourage our physicians to share any instances where someone has truly gone above and beyond. Please provide testimonials so these individuals can be appropriately acknowledged and highlighted to medical/nursing/operational leaders and department heads.

#### **Denise Watt finishing her tenure at Healthlink:**

I also want to acknowledge Dr. Denise Watt for her work over the last 10 years with Healthlink, here is what the Senior Provincial Director had to say about Denise:

*“During her tenure within the portfolio Denise has supported Health Link 811 in clinical teletriage best practice and has helped lead and grow the service from a nurse triage program to a robust multidisciplinary team. Denise’s dedication, perseverance, and tenacity in leadership through the many challenges over the years and especially during the pandemic will be missed. Denise is leaving a much more robust program than the one she stepped into many years ago.”*

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## Grand Rounds and Journal Club

### 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.](#)

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## Department News

### Kudos - Patient Commendation

#### **Big Thank You to Rockyview General Hospital Staff - Aug 5 In ED**

You sometimes hear that the system has problems ... NOT IN MY CASE! From the time I entered the ED - from Triage to Admitting and into the F Area/Minor Treatment, I was looked after very professionally. My issue was serious, and I was moved to B Area, still within the ED. All the staff were amazing. I was admitted and then moved to Internal Medicine - Unit 94. You can't help but notice the genuine caring from ALL staff - Doctors / Nurses / Aides / Housekeepers and of course the Food Services and Volunteer Resources.

I can't single out one person because you ALL made a great impression on me. I did not want to miss anyone. THANK YOU! You are all doing a great job, you are amazing and you are very much appreciated.

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# A big thank you to everyone who attended our two very successful Charity Spin Events!

We held a spin class at Mode Fitness in Mahogany, on June 1st 2024. The Calgary ED MDs raised \$400 for the DOAP team.

At the same studio, on Friday May 24th 2024, SHC staff raised \$560 for the Calgary Health Foundation SHC's Emergency Department Greatest Needs Fund.

See photos below.

Thank you again to everyone who made the effort to show up, sweat it out and donate money to important causes that are dear to our hearts.

Huma





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

The CCFP-EM Residency Program is still in need of ONE more staff examiner for the oral exams for:

- **September 5th, 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 5th, 2024** please send the responses to: [TriSurendra.Malasani@ahs.ca](mailto:TriSurendra.Malasani@ahs.ca)

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

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## Emergency Physician Spotlight

Dr. Christina Dennehy

Born and raised in Edmonton, Christina's journey to medicine was anything but ordinary. She began her first career as an opera singer, living out her passion while honing her expertise in finding the finest cappuccinos and gelato across Italy. After years volunteering in the Music Therapy program at Ronald McDonald House, her focus shifted to medicine—a surprising twist for her family and friends, who now happily send her pictures of rashes and medical questions. This new calling led her to medical school at UofC, Family Medicine residency in UBC's Kelowna Rural program, and her CCFP-EM training back in Calgary.

Christina was drawn to Emergency Medicine for its perfect blend of high-stakes problem-solving, meaningful patient and family interactions, and the dynamic, fast-paced environment. Now in her locum year in Calgary, she feels incredibly fortunate to be part of such a supportive community and to count herself among the lucky few who can truly say they love their job.

When she's not in the hospital, you'll likely find her on the golf course (taking one too many putts), carving up the ski slopes, exploring new destinations, or passionately cheering on the Oilers!



## 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: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

Teaching Opportunities

## MedSIS 3C TRANSITION

Phase 1 of the launch of MedSIS 3C is scheduled for October 2nd and will include Emergency Medicine along with 22 other residency programs. This platform will replace Mainport/E-Portfolio for EPA completion for residency programs that have transitioned to CBD (this includes essentially all Royal College residents that you work with including off-service residents like surgical and medicine residents). Narrative global evaluations will continue to utilize One45 for the time being. **In order to be able to use MedSIS you will need to know your UCalgary SSO credentials OR your AHS Credentials for your AHS email.** If you do not already know these, please review this document to help troubleshoot and confirm your credentials:

[IT Account Info LGI Education MedSIS](#)

If you have any questions please contact Anjali at [anjali.pandya@gmail.com](mailto:anjali.pandya@gmail.com)

Anjali Pandya

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Department News

## Group Emergency Medicine Sessions aka GEMS 2024/2025

The sign up is still open for the coming year for the Group Emergency Medicine Sessions (GEMS). These are small group, staff only sessions on a variety of topics relevant to our practice that occur throughout the year. Please sign up for a group on the google doc that works best for your schedule. You may move between sessions, as needed based on your schedule, throughout the year. Note: These sessions are funded by the PSF. If you are not a contributing PSF member, you will be required to pay a fee to attend.

Brit Sunderani

[Group Emergency Medicine Sessions \(GEMS\) 2024/2025 Signup](#)

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