

Department of Emergency Medicine

Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

Natalie

Operations

Notes from James

Access Orthopedics Requiring Patient Email for ALL Referrals

We just recently learned that ACCESS ORTHOPEDICS is requiring that **all referral letters be sent with the patient's email address included in the referral letter**, effective immediately.

If the patient does not have access to email then ***please explicitly state this on the referral letter.***

The clinic is no longer accepting referrals without patient emails attached to them or without a statement that the patient does not have access to email.

Connect Care Update

1) Inpatient Consult Orders - Upcoming Changes

Last week's newsletter message detailed an upcoming change to the list of Inpatient Consult orders that will be available in Connect Care (please refer to those messages as well for full details). To summarize, Connect Care will be removing a large number of off-site Inpatient Consult orders in an effort to clean up the large number of unmaintained consult lists currently lingering in cyberspace. These orders are slated to be deleted in stages over the next few weeks into the early fall. Once these consult orders are removed, we will no longer be able to consult the affected services using these orders (e.g. - Vascular Surgery will no longer have an IP Consult order at sites **other than** the PLC). Any affected service will need to be contacted via the RAAPID Service Request Order if they have a service relationship with RAAPID, or directly via the Unit Clerks if they do not. The list of affected services is too long to detail here, but if you notice that an IP consult order you had previously been using suddenly disappears then you can safely bet it was one of those culled and you will have to switch to the new workflow.

These changes will not affect which services are available through RAAPID; appropriate use of the RAAPID Service Request Order is detailed further in the [Common Workflows document](#). **It is also important to remember that any 'Red' patient warrants immediately contacting RAAPID by phone** (NOT by using the RAAPID Consult order) in order to avoid delays in consultation.

Bottom line: If you are currently using the RAAPID Service Request Order to connect with RAAPID-accessible services, continue to do so in the same fashion. If you have been using the IP Consult order to access services that are contacted via RAAPID, then you will need to switch to using the recommended workflow if those IP Consult orders are among the list being removed from the system.

2) Gynecology is now a FAST Service

The list of services accessible via the centralized FAST surgical outpatient referral service has expanded once more to include Gynecology, as of June this year. Outpatient referrals can be made using the same external referral process as for other FAST services such as urology, vascular surgery, and general surgery. Please refer to the [Outpatient Referrals document](#) for further details under the FAST surgical central triage link in the table of contents. There is also a primer sheet for Calgary FAST referrals available here:

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/about/aop/ahs-aop-asi-fast-launch-caz-primary-care-providers.pdf>

3) Transfers to FMC for STEMI Patients

Friendly reminder to please remember to set the Disposition to 'Transfer to Another Clinic or Facility' (not 'Discharged') when transferring acute STEMI patients directly to the FMC cath lab. This will allow you to use the IFT Order Navigator to place 'Signed & Held' orders for any continuous infusions the patient will need during transfer, and subsequently allows the receiving nurses to continue and titrate these medications without interruption on arrival at FMC. A tipsheet for how to complete IFT orders is available here: <https://share.albertahealthservices.ca/Main/assets/cistr/tms-cis-tr-cmio-interfacility-transfer-to-a-cc-site.pdf> (**NOTE:** some of the steps that are detailed in this generic tipsheet are not relevant for acute patients like STEMI / stroke patients; the really key step to complete in the IFT process is to enter a Signed & Held order for the continuous infusions, such as NTG and vasopressors).

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to let me know,

Chris Hall

Grand Rounds and Journal Club

Grand Rounds Will Resume September 2024

Runs 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.](#)

Department News

Emergency Physician Spotlight

In this week's edition, we are featuring **Dr. Stephanie VandenBerg**.

Dr. Stephanie VandenBerg is an emergency physician in the Calgary Zone, Associate Research Director for the Department of Emergency Medicine (@uofcemresearch) and Clinical Assistant Professor at the Cumming School of Medicine. She received her MD from the University of Toronto and holds a Bachelor of Arts & Science from McMaster University with a Minor in Biochemistry and a thesis in Paediatric HIV. She completed a Master's of Science in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and performed a subgroup analysis of the WOMAN trial data (tranexamic acid in postpartum hemorrhage) for her graduate project. She has lived in Brazil, Angola and Vanuatu as part of her research and clinical work.

Stephanie uses a "research for advocacy" framework to engage discussions on health systems, harm reduction, and ways to improve vulnerable populations' health outcomes using principles of community based research and information design/visualization. She is currently co-leading a project to better support people who use crystal methamphetamine and access the emergency department when experiencing a behavioural crisis as well as the staff who care for them. She is an advocate for including people with lived experience of addictions as a part of healthcare teams and is working on creating space for recovery coaches in the Emergency Department.

She is a mom to three young kids who keep her on her toes. If running after them wasn't enough, she is desperately trying to get back in shape so she can try out of for the Canadian Women's Medical Football Team (@cdnwmft)



Kudos Corner

Congratulations to Dr. Joe Vipond who is a recipient of the CMA Award for Political Advocacy for his tireless work to address the health impacts of climate change.

[Read more](#)

Site Exchange Program

We are looking at allowing folks to swap sites with another doc for a **limited and planned schedule period** (ie January-March 2025) as a direct exchange of FTE. An exchange would give folks a chance to try a different site, maybe bring back optho/urology skills from RGH, or peds info from SHC, or addictions/vascular pearls from PLC. You would be there consistently enough to meet the docs, get to know the nurses, and know where to buy coffee.

This would not be a request for a line change and would not change anyone's priority for line changes. You would swap assignment with all the parts that go with it, nights

etc. We would confirm any swaps before preferences happen so that you would still build your schedule as per usual. If you are a 1.0 at a site, you can swap part of your FTE to match the doc you are swapping with.

If you are interested in putting your name on the list, email Meira Meira.Louis@albertahealthservices.ca or your site chief with the FTE that you are willing to swap and the sites you are interested in trialing. Note that FMC is not participating in this program at this time. We can't guarantee that we will have enough docs wanting to try it, but we will collect interest and go from there.

Teaching Opportunities

Academic Day Preceptor Opportunities

We are still recruiting staff preceptors for the 2024-2025 Emergency Medicine academic teaching sessions and small groups – there are only a few spots left to fill. Please consider signing up if you are free.

All resident led sessions needing staff preceptors from **July 1st to Dec 31st** can be found in the link below. If you are interested in being a preceptor for one or more sessions, or have any questions, please email Kelsey (kelsey.ragan@ucalgary.ca).

[Academic Day Preceptor Google Sheet](#)

Thanks in advance for everyone's ongoing support of the EM Residency program.

Kelsey Ragan

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 8 staff examiners 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 Tris know if you can help on **September 5th, 2024**. Please send the responses to TriSurendra.Malasanani@ahs.ca

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

Thanks,
Tris

CME Learning and Conferences

Canadian Association of Wilderness Medicine

Join the Canadian Association of Wilderness Medicine team **November 1-3, 2024** in Halifax, Nova Scotia at the Halifax Convention Center or online for the 5th Annual Canadian Association of Wilderness Medicine Conference.

This year's theme is "Trailblazing Canadian Wilderness Medicine" and will feature three full days of lectures from both faculty and students, a keynote speaker, in-person and hybrid format workshops, panel discussions, and social events! Topics covered will include dive medicine, heat illnesses, drowning, MCI's, wilderness/environmental toxicology, search and rescue, advanced trauma, resuscitation, point-of-care ultrasound, and more! CME credits are available and pre-conference courses will run **October 30-31**. Visit our website for more information and how to register at www.cawm.ca.

10% OFF REGISTRATION UNTIL AUGUST 1. Find Kendra Young on shift or contact conference@cawm.ca with any questions.



Urgent Care Conference

Saturday November 16, 2024

University of Calgary Health Sciences Centre

Overview: Best Practice & Excellence in Care

This conference is designed for physicians, paramedics, nurses and nurse practitioners working in Urgent Care Centres (UCC). The content will provide participants with an update on the management of several urgent clinical conditions presenting to a UCC.

[More details through this brochure](#)

And through this website: <https://www.urgentcareconference.ca/>



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 three week run and this must be requested.** If you would like to re-run your submission after three weeks, please submit with updates.

In Case You Missed Last Week

Department News

Emerg Float Party

Date: Aug 23, 2024

Time: 1200 hrs until dark

Address: 6120 Bow Cres NW

Who: MDs, RNs, OTs, Pharmacists, Physio/OTs, Unit Clerks all welcome as are the Residents and any students on rotation (significant others too of course).

Please RSVP to betznerm@mac.com so Mike can have a basic idea on numbers.

Party notes from Dr. Mike Betzner:

- People can head through to the back yard on the left side of my house as they stand and look at it
- If weather permits, we can start with a float from just under Stoney Trail to my place as per the map
- 1200 hr launch from there should put us at the house in about 45 mins to an hour
- Large water guns for the flotilla would be beneficial for those that have them
- Travel through Bowness is after all fraught with danger and the likelihood of encountering hostile locals and wildlife is high
- Basic supplies will be at the house but people will need to bring some hydration and sunscreen
- Lawn chairs would also be ideal, though my backyard is very sit on the grass friendly (with the exception of being accosted by some malodorers at the best of times Labrador retrievers
- Bring your best cocktail competition
- Lots of room for bikes in the fenced backyard if people want to ride over
- Otherwise Uber is best as don't want anyone hydrating aggressively and trying to drive home



Teaching Opportunities

2024 Emerg UME Sim Program

Hello,

I am reaching out to recruit facilitators for the remainder of the 2024 Emergency UME Sim program.

Medical students (elective and mandatory clerks) rotating through Emergency will have a simulation during their two week block. These are generally on **Thursdays 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. You will receive the case including a review of discussion topics so it will be low preparation.

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

Sign up included below. Thank you for considering. Please let me know if you have any questions.

[UME Sim Sign Up 2024 Google Doc](#)

Ryan Wilkie

rdwilkie@ucalgary.ca
