

Department of Emergency Medicine

Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

Natalie

Operations

Clinical Operations – Notes from James

Hi Folks,

I hope you're all doing well. Have a few more updates to pass on.

Allied Health Funding Partially Restored

Some good news! After the recent completion of the 1-year OT/PT in the ED trial, the zone lost a significant proportion of its allied health funding, which would have resulted in the loss of OT/PT from most EDs. The good news is that after some strong advocacy by the ZDEM Physician and Nursing/Operations leadership team, this funding has been 50% restored and now made permanent. It will be up to individual sites how they allocate this funding between the various services (OT/PT, Pharmacy, Social work, etc), but this is certainly a positive development. We are hoping to continue to collect data supporting the value of allied health in the ED and advocate for more resources going forward.

Cart and Equipment Stocking

As you know, we continue to experience challenges with cart and equipment stocking across the zone. Thankfully, we have caught the ear of the highest levels of nursing operational leadership and convened a workgroup to address these issues.

The first output of the workgroup has been to generate a standardized approach to restock supplies in real time that are missing or in low supply at all sites. The process is being trialled initially for the suture carts, but hopefully will be expanded to include all supplies and equipment that we need on a daily basis.

If you see any supplies that are running low (i.e., 2 or fewer left) or totally depleted, please either call or secure message the unit clerks with the location and the equipment missing (e.g., “suture cart 2 by B1 out of lido with epi and very low on sterile gloves.”) They will contact the appropriate worker for restocking (which

varies by site). Please note this does not replace an ongoing responsibility to stock all supplies once per shift (twice a day) in all EDs.

Also expect to see a survey coming from your local nursing QI lead to assess the current (pre) state of suture cart stocking at the site(s) that you work. If you work at multiple sites, expect one survey for each – just make sure your answers correspond to the right site! In a few months, we will distribute a follow-up survey to see if noticeable improvements have been made.

Incomplete Notes Make GP Follow-up Challenging:

We recently received a concern from a GP that many ED notes in ConnectCare are only partially completed, containing only a history, physical and initial plan. The GP pointed out that it makes it difficult for them to follow-up or manage the patient if they don't see the outcome or follow-up plan clearly documented.

In order to make the lives of both GPs (and your ED colleagues and pharmacists) who are seeing the patients in follow-up easier, please be sure to add some updates in ED Course and make sure the following smartlinks are added to your note templates:

@EDCOURSE@ – Adds all of the ED Course updates to your final note

@EDDISPOSITION@ – Adds disposition (admitted/discharged/LAMA)

@EDDISCHARGEINSTR@ – Adds the discharge instructions included in the AVS to your note

@EDDISCHARGERX@ – Adds all discharge prescriptions

***To make sure these fields are included in the final product, be sure to refresh and sign your note after your discharge instructions are completed.**

GCA Pathway – ED Physician Help Requested

One of the Rheumatologists (Stephanie Garner at SHC) is developing a Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA) pathway for the ED and primary care, and would like an emergency physician opinion. She estimates this would take about 2-hours of work to complete.

If you are interested and are willing to help, please reach out to stephanie.garner1@ucalgary.ca and copy me – so I know if someone has signed up ;)

As always, please reach out to me directly at james.andruchow@ahs.ca with any questions or concerns.

Wishing you all a great week.

James

Connect Care Update

Hi Everyone

Here is the Connect Care Update for this week:

1) CERA / C-Endo is Paperless!

I have been in touch with the staff at CERA / C-Endo and they have indicated that they do not require separate paper forms for referrals from the ED. The automatic referral letter that is generated by the external referral process in Connect Care has proven to be acceptable to them so all you have to do is fill in the pertinent clinical details in the Comments section of the ambulatory referral order. No more printing / sending paper forms! Yay! ([The CZ Referral Workflows Document](#) has been updated to reflect this.)

2) Public Health / Medical Officer of Health workflows

I was recently forwarded a very useful document summarizing or most commonly-encountered workflows relevant to the Medical Officer of Health, which I have attached below (ie - animal bites, BBFE, and tetanus-prone wounds). The document walks through the risk stratification pathways the MOHs use and can help to avoid unnecessary consultations (especially late at night). There is also information on how to submit referrals to the MOH / public health team for follow up in specific instances (eg - follow up of Hep B serology after BBFE to determine if vaccine booster is required). Super-useful information, I've already used it a couple of times in the past week! We will also look at getting it posted to the Eolas (myED) website.

3) CPSA Physician Practice Improvement Projects (PPIP) and Connect Care

As many of you know, the CPSA mandates that we all participate in 3 PPIP activities over a 5-year period. 'Connect Quality' is an initiative developed by the Chief Medical Information Office (CMIO) of AHS to provide the resources, training, reporting tools, and documentation required for you to meet the CPSA's PPIP requirements. Check out the following link to find more details about how you can use Connect Quality to achieve your PPIP goals: <https://manual.connect-care.ca/Training/connect-quality>

4) IT Bed IFT Workflow

I am still hoping to receive feedback from anyone who has had recent experiences with the IT Bed transfer workflow. Good, bad, or ugly please let me know your feedback at chris.hall@ahs.ca

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Chris Hall

Critical Care Patients Requiring Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment at the Misericordia Community

The Misericordia Community Hospital Hyperbaric Oxygen Unit is experiencing a critical supply shortage of Hyperbaric IV Extension Kits (HBO Chamber port adapter) that is required to provide hyperbaric oxygen treatments for critically ill patients on life support.

[Read the full memo from Covenant Health here](#)

Grand Rounds and Journal Club

Grand Rounds Thursday June 13, 2024 (0900—1000) (1.0 Education Credits)

[Academic Grand Rounds Evaluation Link](#)

Room: Clara Christie Theatre – HSC

Zoom Link: <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/61834756597?pwd=SkglZmdXOGdRWmgxMUc0U3lNMjR5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 618 3475 6597 **Passcode:** 407952

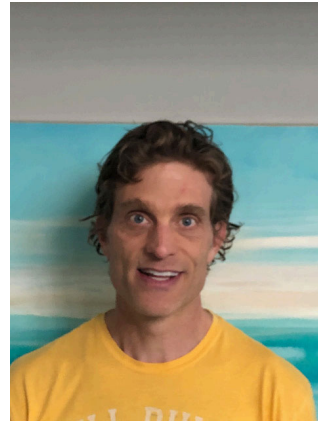
Speakers: Dr. Gavin Greenfield

Title: A potpourri...

Description: A smorgasbord of topics including (but not necessarily limited to) NPO guidelines, vertigo (BPPV), opioids, sugammadex and what makes a good preceptor (from a very senior resident's perspective). Presented with my recently completed R4 year as a backdrop.

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

Short Bio: Gavin has been a staff emergency physician in the Calgary Zone since 2002. He has worked as a Transport Physician with STARS since 2005. He has held various Administrative roles including serving as the FMC Emergency Department Site Chief from 2006-2012. He was the University of Calgary's Clerkship Director for Emergency Medicine from 2017-2022. He is currently the Medical Director of Education for STARS and has been in this role since 2018. Recently he took one year "off" and completed a year of Anesthesia training at the University of Alberta. His clinical time is now split between Emergency Medicine and Anesthesia. He is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the UofC and a Clinical Lecturer in the Department of Anesthesia at the UofA.



Department News

Pediatric Pneumonia Guideline

Please see attached for the updated pediatric pneumonia guideline which was created by Dana Stewart, Kelly Millar, Cora Constantinescu and Theresa Wu.

Pertinent updates include:

1. A 5-day course of amoxicillin is safe for the outpatient management of otherwise healthy children with community acquired pneumonia.
2. Standard dose amoxicillin (40-50mg/kg/day divided TID) is appropriate for children without risk factors for resistant strep pneumo. Risk factors include: daycare attendance, antibiotic use within the past 3 months, unimmunized or incompletely immunized, not from the Calgary area, or failure of initial therapy. In children with risk factors for resistant strep pneumo, high dose amoxicillin (90-100mg/kg/day divided TID) should be used.

[Updated Guidelines](#)

Career Development Week (pre-clerks) Observership

In end of June and beginning of July, we will have our next group of pre-clerks ("pc" on Metricaid) rotating through the ED. As a reminder, these are first year UofC medical students who have chosen an observership in emergency medicine. This is many of their first clinical exposure. Therefore it is entirely appropriate to treat this shift as an

observership shift only as their clinical experience is zero to limited. It is also reasonable to send them home a bit early if that works better for you. I have tried to schedule them equitably and so most people should not have more than 1 pre-clerk shift this summer.

As a reminder, here is the staff primer for all FAQs related to off service residents and elective residents/clerks:

[Primer for staff working with elective learners and off-service residents](#)

Claire Acton

Kudos Corner

Kudos to Dr. Anoop Manocha for a splendid keyboard performance at Docs that Rock at the CAEP 24 meeting in Saskatoon.

[Video Clip of Dr. Manocha](#)

Thanks to Jill Vandenbrand and Jorrdan Rose Detilleux for organizing a great social event for Calgary residents staff and research presenting students who attended CAEP and thanks to all who attended.

Research

Kudos Publication

Congratulations to Cody Dunne and Julia Cirone for the publication Evaluation of basic life support interventions for foreign body airway obstructions: A population-based cohort study in the journal Resuscitation.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0300957224001515?via%3Dihub>

Updated Newsletter Process

Submissions can be sent to: natalie.sun@ahs.ca
and CC Jordan-Rose.Detillieux@ahs.ca.

For reoccurring submissions, there is a **max three week run**. If you would like to re-run your submission, please submit with updates.

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

In Case You Missed Last Week

Grand Rounds and Journal Club

Emergency Medicine Journal Club Thursday June 13, 2024

You are invited to attend the Emergency Medicine Journal Club

Date: June 13, 2024

Time: 18:00 to 21:00

Topic: Effect of Noninvasive Airway Management of Comatose Patients With Acute Poisoning

Presenters: Drs. Christina Dennehy and Tyler Clarke

Preceptor: Dr. Chris Lipp

Hosted by: Dr. Dave Mainprize

**Emergency
Medicine
Journal
Club**

ARTICLE 1: Effect of Noninvasive Airway Management of Comatose Patients With Acute Poisoning

Department News

R5 Graduation Gifts

We are getting ready to celebrate the upcoming graduation of our R5's: Jason Elzinga, Cara McCulloch, Natasha Goumeniouk and Cody Dunne. To send them off in style, we would love to continue the tradition of graduation gifts. If they have ever brightened your day, kept you sharp on shift, lifted your overnight morale or stolen your procedures, please consider donating to their send-off.

We will collect the funds and purchase the gifts, to be distributed at the grad BBQ in June. As always your support is much appreciated. Please reach out with any questions.

E-transfers can be directed to: meaghan.mackenzie2@ucalgary.ca

Thank you, Meg, Sean, Zoe and Dana (the R6's)

Group Emergency Medicine Sessions aka GEMS 2024/2025

The sign up is now 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.

[GEMS sign up sheet](#)

Teaching Opportunities

Academic Day Preceptor Opportunities

We are now recruiting staff preceptors for the 2024-2025 Emergency Medicine academic teaching sessions.

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 Opportunities](#)

This list will be kept as up to date as possible. All sessions are remunerated at the standard PGME rate.

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