

# Department of Emergency Medicine

## Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

Natalie

## Operations

### Notes from Catherine

#### Indigenous Sensitivity Training

The residents and some staff recently completed the AHS Indigenous Awareness and Sensitivity training program via an in-person workshop. This training is actually required learning for all AHS staff and over the next 6-12 months we hope to ensure that our department is as close to 100% compliant as possible. If you have not already completed the training, you are welcome to complete the 7.5 hours of online learning module, however there are also 3.5 hour online workshops offered every 2 weeks. Having done both, I strongly preferred the workshop option. Here are the instructions on how to access the workshop registration.

1. Website: [Mylearninglink.albertahealthservices.ca](https://mylearninglink.albertahealthservices.ca)
2. Choose "Courses & Registration" from the left hand menu
3. In the search tab type "indigenous"
4. Select "Required Organizational Learning (ROL) - Indigenous Awareness and Sensitivity Workshop"
5. "Register" for the session of your choice

#### N95

With viral season upon us, the department needs to ensure that everyone has an up to date N95 fit test. If you have a valid fit test card please send a screenshot/photo of it to Jordan-Rose ([jordan-rose.dettillieux@ahs.ca](mailto:jordan-rose.dettillieux@ahs.ca)). If you do not have a valid fit test you will need to arrange to have this updated, the fit test schedule can be found on Insite: <https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/main/assets/hr/tms-hr-calgary-zone-n95-fit-testing-sessions.pdf>.

Please expect Jordan-Rose to reach out to you if you don't submit your valid card.

#### FMC physician mailboxes

As you may know, all administrative staff in the DEM are now working in the office five days a week. With our department's continued growth, we are facing increasing space constraints in the administrative offices at FMC. Given these changes and the reduced need for physical mail with the implementation of Connect Care, we have decided to transition all mailboxes at FMC to file folders over the next month. This change will allow us to repurpose the mailroom into a drop-down office space, which will better meet our current space needs. If you receive a high volume of mail (e.g., if your AHW billing slips are delivered to FMC), you will soon receive an email to collect your remaining mail. We kindly ask that you redirect any future AHW mail to another location, as we will no longer have the capacity to accommodate large volumes of mail).

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we make this transition to optimize our space and resources.

#### ED Gala

You've all hopefully seen the separate message that was sent out regarding the ED gala date for 2024-2025. The ED Gala will be held on **May 8, 2025** so please ensure that you save the date.

Catherine

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## Notes from James

### ED Hiring Cycle Underway

The 2024 ED Hiring Cycle is well underway. Many thanks to Miles who has done an outstanding job as ED Hiring Lead to modernize and streamline the hiring process, and to all of the individuals that have generously donated their time to review the large pool of applicant files and take part in interviews on October 4 and 7.

Thankfully, we have a deep and well-qualified applicant pool and will be interviewing a total of 36 candidates (17 FRCP, 19 CCFP-EM) for both permanent and locum positions.

Job offers will be made to successful candidates on October 21.

### Locum Feedback

To help the hiring committee make decisions, we are looking for confidential feedback on our locums that you may have worked with. These docs have not been scheduled at FMC or ACH, so if you only work those sites, you are off the hook!

Many thanks to Meira for building this excellent feedback form.

Please complete it by **October 7th**: <https://forms.gle/tGjUHYhEJNkZX4QE8>

### EMS Urgent Offload

Please note that as EMS is facing growing call volumes, they have developed an Emergent Offload policy to be used only during times of critical EMS overcapacity. This will result in EMS Crews offloading their patients in an expedited fashion in order to allow them to get back on the street, but will of course create additional inflow pressure on our EDs. Many thanks to our EMS Leaders including Jamie Narnia and our ED Patient Care Managers for working closely together in a collaborative fashion to develop strategies to manage these (hopefully rare) situations.

Please be aware that if this occurs, the Nurse Clinician and/or Unit Clerks may message you to ask for your assistance in looking for rapid disposition opportunities and/or assistance in ED Park. As a leadership team, we are also working on additional inpatient surge strategies to help. We appreciate your ongoing efforts and understanding.

### ED Chest Tube Standardization – Moving to Wayne Catheters only

We are thankful for the prior work of Dr. Jason Fedwick and others to standardize our pigtail chest tube supplies across the zone. Despite our positive experience with the Thal-Quick catheters, we have run into an issue where certain connectors needed to allow the inpatient teams manage these tubes can no longer be reliably sourced, and despite several months of looking into a suitable alternative, we have not been able to find one.

Consequently, to avoid ongoing issues and standardize our supplies across the zone, we will only be stocking the Wayne catheter in all of our EDs going forward. For those of you who are not familiar with the product, it is placed with standard Seldinger technique and works in a very similar fashion to the Thal-Quick.

Please see the link outlining the contents of the Wayne kit, and the video outlining reminding you how to safely place it.

**Kit contents: [LINK TO WAYNE CATHETERS](#)**

Insertion Instructions (Seldinger technique shown in video on the left):  
[https://www.cookmedical.com/products/cc\\_utpt\\_webds/#videos](https://www.cookmedical.com/products/cc_utpt_webds/#videos)

\*Please ensure that if you are using the included Heimlich valve rather than attaching it directly to a Pleur-evac that you attach it in the correct direction, as it will cause a tension pneumothorax if attached backwards.

James

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## Connect Care Update

Hi Everyone

Here is the Connect Care update for this week:

### 1) EDCOURSE Notes

Quick reminder that we are still encouraging everyone to include the EDCOURSE smartphrase in your primary provider notes, especially when the patient is being handed over. This allows downstream ED physicians to add to the primary provider note by using the

ED Course box in the Workup tab, thus keeping all relevant clinical documentation easily accessible in one place in the chart. **Please note that you must sign your primary provider note** for subsequent ED physicians' ED course notes to automatically populate the shorthand. If you fail to sign your note, then downstream ED physicians will only be able to see the ED Course notes by scrolling through the text box in the Workup tab (which is fairly inconvenient) and our consultant colleagues will generally not be able to see these notes at all, since they will not appear in the primary note until you have signed. This could certainly result in impaired communication from one physician to the next and thus the preferred workflow is to make sure all your notes are signed before you leave for the day. If you are delaying signing the primary provider note for fear of burdening the patient's family physician with multiple copies of the note (which was a problem with earlier versions of Connect Care) please be aware that this problem has largely been addressed and the GP will only be sent a copy of the the primary note once it has been signed and a disposition has been assigned.

## 2) Assigning Dispositions

On a related note, please be reminded that we should generally refrain from assigning a disposition of 'Admit' to our patients in the dispo tab. Prematurely doing so can cause a copy of the primary provider note to be sent to the GP prior to all relevant ED course updates being included in the primary note while charting is occurring on patients who are awaiting an admission order from the consultant. The Admit disposition should automatically be assigned when the admission order is written, so we should not have to worry about assigning it ourselves.

## 3) Alberta Referral Directory Upgrades

The ARD has been undergoing some exciting upgrades lately, with a view to improving its functionality for ED physicians across the province (and especially in the Calgary Zone). Many clinics' information pages have been updated to include important information including indications for admission and referral workflows relevant to Connect Care users. There are also plans to add a special section with referral information specific to ED physicians, that should hopefully be rolling out on our most-frequently used clinics before the end of the year. If you have never used the ARD before, I would encourage you to take a look at [www.albertareferraldirectory.ca](http://www.albertareferraldirectory.ca). **There is also a hyperlink to the ARD at the top of every Ambulatory Referral order window**, which gives direct access from within Connect Care.

## 4) Downtime Blues

If you are wondering when the next Connect Care downtime will be occurring (not that anyone would want to avoid downtime, right?) please be advised that you can access the list of dates here: <https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/cis/Page23865.aspx> Also remember that there is a handy-dandy [Calgary Zone ED physician downtime survival guide](#) that we have posted here.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out

Chris

[chris.hall@ahs.ca](mailto:chris.hall@ahs.ca)

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# Grand Rounds and Journal Club

Grand Rounds Thursday October 03, 2024 (0900—1000) (1.0 Education Credits)

**Room:** Clara Christie – HSC

**Zoom Link:** <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/61834756597?pwd=Sk91ZmdXOGdRWmgxMUc0U3lNMjR5Zz09>

**Meeting ID:** 618 3475 6597

**Passcode:** 407952

**Speaker:** Dr. Pavneet Singh

**Title:** Pain Management in the Emergency Department: From an EDI Lens

**Description:** This talk will cover the basics of ED pain management along with discussing pain management from an equity, diversity, and inclusivity perspective.

**Evaluation Link** [click here](#)

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

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## Journal Club

You are invited to attend the Emergency Medicine Journal Club.

**Date:** October 10, 2024,

**Time:** 18:00 to 21:00

**Topic:** Noninvasive Ventilation for Preoxygenation during Emergency Intubation.

**Presenters:** Drs. Kayla Baker, Dirk Chisholm and Kyle Exner

**Preceptor:** Dr. Colin Bell

**Hosted by:** Dr. Colin Bell

**ARTICLE 1:** [Noninvasive Ventilation for Preoxygenation during Emergency Intubation, NEJM June 2024, Gibbs et al.](#)

Please RSVP to Tris: [TrisSurendra.Malasan@ahs.ca](mailto:TrisSurendra.Malasan@ahs.ca) by **Oct 6th** if attending.

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## Department News

### Attention all Staff: Royal College MedSIS 3C Launch October 2nd

Phase 1 of the MedSIS 3C implementation to replace ePortfolio for EPA completion for Royal College residents begins October 2nd. Preceptors will receive access to the system on October 2nd. Quick reference guides and training materials will be viewable online in the coming days here: <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/pgme/medsis-information>

Please see the attached powerpoint for further details but in sum:

1. If you provided your **UCalgary email** as your preference, you will receive one email to your UCalgary account with your log-in details on October 2nd.
2. If you provided your **AHS email** as your preference, you will receive 2 emails to your AHS email on October 2nd:
  - The first email will be from Microsoft requesting whether or not you will allow access to MedSIS3C. You must click "accept"
  - The second email will come from MedSIS 3C and will include your log in details

You will still be able to access ePortfolio through [mainport.royalcollege.ca/cbd](http://mainport.royalcollege.ca/cbd) until December.

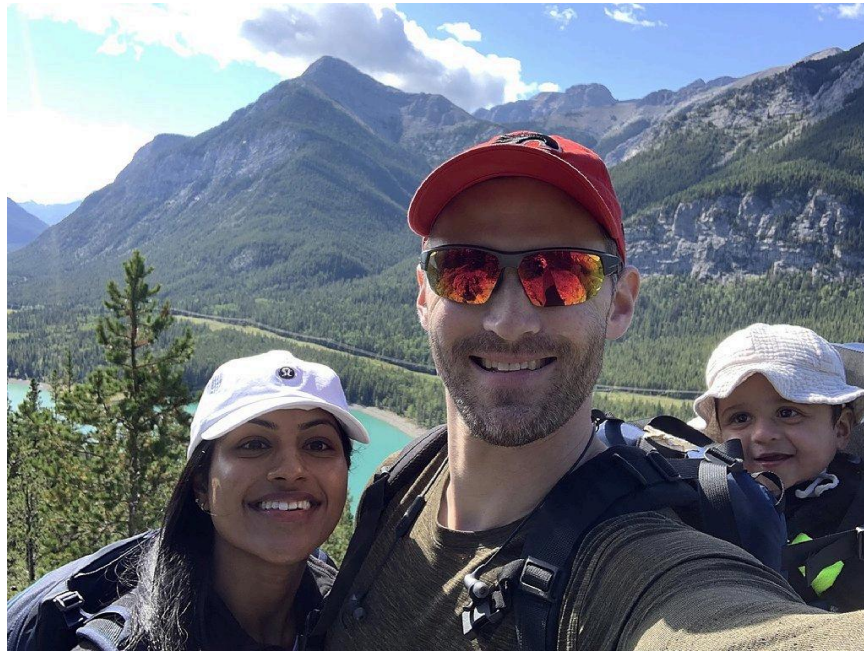
Contact Anjali or Kelsey ([anjali.pandya@gmail.com](mailto:anjali.pandya@gmail.com) or [Kelsey.ragan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:Kelsey.ragan@ucalgary.ca)) for any questions or concerns.

Anjali

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## Emergency Physician Spotlight

Today's spotlight features Dr. Greg Beller. You can read more about this amazing doctor below.



After spending much of his early life pursuing that elusive NHL career – reality finally set in and Greg feels fortunate to have found a new career in medicine. A 2020 graduate of Calgary's CCFP-EM program he is very excited to begin family life in Mahogany with his wife Steffany and 10-month-old son Christian.

Greg is incredibly grateful to be working at the South Health Campus with a fantastic group of physicians, nurses, and allied health staff. There is a wonderful culture of collegiality here that is a joy to be a part of. The short 7-minute commute to work also doesn't hurt!

Outside of work he keeps busy chasing after Christian, going on hikes in beautiful Kananaskis with Steffany, and re-living the glory days in the Heritage Hockey League.

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## Teaching Opportunities

### Shadowing Students

There is no new process here, just a friendly reminder to all.

University of Calgary first year medical students are often looking for shadowing opportunities before starting their clerkship. The UME policy is they are allowed to shadow for a maximum of 2 x 4 hour shifts, or 1 x 8 hour shift per specialty.

We are now accepting Physician Assistant first year students for shadowing, with the same process/rules as above. See link on the new physician assistant program. [Physician Assistant Masters Program \(MPAS\) At University of Calgary](#).

There is a Google Sheets for preceptors interested in having shadowing (both PA and UME) students. Please add (if interested) or remove (if no longer interested) your name on the [Preceptors Accepting Pre-Clerks for Shadowing or AEBM Shifts Google Sheet](#).

Please reach out to myself, Catherine and/or Rahim if you have further questions at [calgaryelectives@gmail.com](mailto:calgaryelectives@gmail.com).

Claire Acton

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## Other Opportunities

### Canadian Armed Forces Medical Specialist Employment

The Canadian Forces Health Services is currently hiring physicians holding the FRCPC (EM), Internal Medicine and Anaesthesia certification. You can find out more from the direct link

below:

<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/dnd-mdn/documents/health/dnd-ta50-po-medical-journal-ad.pdf>

There was an incorrect application due date on the website and applications are due **October 21, 2024**.

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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

Teaching Opportunities

### Staff Examiners Required FOR CCFP-EM ORAL EXAMS : 2024 Thursday's November 28th, 2024 – In Person

The CCFP-EM Residency Program is in need of 8 staff examiners for the oral exams for:

- November 28th 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 **November 28th, 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 I will send Calendar invites.

Thanks,

Tris

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