

# Department of Emergency Medicine

## Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

DEM News Subscriber,

## Operations

### Notes from Catherine

#### AI Scribe Survey

Last chance to respond to the to the AI scribe survey – we've received 46 responses. I have a meeting with AHS on **January 24, 2025**. Please consider weighing in, it should not take more than 2-3 minutes. Also, if anyone is aware of other providers in the hospital using AI scribes (I've discovered a few) please let me know. [AI Scribe Survey Link](#)

#### AIVA

You should have received an email to your AHS email about AIVA completion. Completion of the AIVA is part of the terms and conditions of your employment with AHS

Catherine

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### Notes from James

#### \*EQUIPMENT CHANGE: NEW Esophageal balloons for Upper GI Bleeds

Just a reminder that the Linton esophageal balloon which we have used in the Calgary Zone for many years has recently been discontinued by the manufacturer.

The Blakemore tube has now been substituted. It's very similar to the Linton, but adds an esophageal balloon (which you don't necessarily have to use).

For more information on how to place them, please see the following videos from EM:RAP:

Comparison of Linton and Blakemore <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yv4muh0hX7Y>

Blakemore Tube Placement <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHelCd5Jtp4>

There will also be an upcoming sim session to gain some hands on experience – be on the lookout for an a signup.

James

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# Grand Rounds, Journal Club and Clinical Pearls

## Pediatric Trauma Rounds

Thursday January 23, 2025 0800–0900

This is a hybrid meeting occurring simultaneously in ACH Conference Room 2 (in person) and via Zoom. There will be COFFEE and MUFFINS supplied by Solventum.

**Location:** ACH Conference Room 2 and via zoom

**Zoom Link:**

<https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/66899222392?pwd=zyNOdOZUVWTZpLU72by6HJNYMMSLJE.1>

**Meeting ID:** 668 9922 2392 **Passcode:** 729575

**Speaker:** Dr. Tanya Drews

**Title:** Blood, Sweat and Tears

**Description:** Blood Product and Hemostatic Agent use in Trauma – a Review of Major and Recent Trials

**Post Meeting Survey**

[https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV\\_5yl4f3GFH2momuW](https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV_5yl4f3GFH2momuW)

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## Grand Rounds Thursday January 23, 2025 (0900—1000) (1.0 Education Credits)

**Room:** Clara Christie – HSC

**Zoom Link:** <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/61834756597?pwd=Skg1ZmdXOGdRWmgxMUc0U3INMjR5Zz09>

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

**Speaker:** Dr. Bobby Johnston

**Bio:** Bobby is in his fifth year of emergency medicine and specializing in advanced acute care ultrasonography which as cool as it is, is not as cool as wearing pink on Wednesdays). He will be joining SHC and PLC in July!

**Moderator:** Dr. Mark Bromley

**Title:** The Doctor Will See You Now: Physician Performance Beyond the Science

**Description:** The presentation explores the impact of physician presence and performance on patient outcomes beyond measurable clinical factors. It focuses on the importance of recognizing the emotional and psychological elements of patient interactions and how physicians can optimize their approach to improve both patient and team experiences.

[DEM Academic Grand Rounds Evaluation](#)

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

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## Grand Rounds Follow Up from Dr. Joe Vipond

**RE: Thursday January 16, 2025**

Thank you all for attending my grand rounds presentation last week. As promised, here is the hyperlink to my slides, which contain all my references via hyperlinks.

[Dr. Joe Vipond Google Doc](#)

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns: [jvipondmd@gmail.com](mailto:jvipondmd@gmail.com).

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## Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology Pearl of the Week

Read about today's pearl of the week. Today's topic: [Renal Drug Dosing – Part 2](#)

Mark Yarema

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## Department News

### Emergency Physician Spotlight

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



Dr. Huma Ali has been a dedicated member of the South Health Campus ED since 2014. After completing her medical school ('09) and FRCPC residency at McGill University, she moved to Calgary. She later pursued a Point of Care Ultrasound Fellowship at UBC ('16) and earned a Master of Arts in Healthcare Leadership from Royal Roads University ('20).

Although born and raised in Montréal, Dr. Ali was drawn to Calgary for its lower taxes, less traffic, and fewer potholes. She has held various leadership roles within the department, including the mentorship committee, wellness hub, and the EDI and anti-racism group. Dr. Ali is a physician collaborator with Well Doc Canada and has presented on Physician-to-Physician Peer Support at local and national levels. She also serves on the EDI Advisory Committee to the CAEP Board of Directors and facilitated CAEP's efforts towards advancing EDI in the organization. She introduced Schwartz Rounds to SHC, which promote multidisciplinary dialogue around the emotional and ethical challenges of healthcare. She was awarded the Calgary Health Foundation's "Heroes in Healthcare" Award for her work on bringing Schwartz Rounds to the hospital and you can see her poster hanging in the cafeteria at SHC!

She is a certified spin instructor and teaches every Tuesday at 9:30am at Mode Fitness in Mahogany.

Her journey in emergency medicine thus far has taught her that the AVS will always print at the printer furthest away and that patients have so much to teach us about being human, we just need to pay attention to the lessons.

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## Global EM Hub New Visiting Residents

You may notice some new faces in the FMC and PLC EDs in February and March. We are hosting three visiting emergency medicine residents from Uganda - Bernard Mwesigye, Martha Nadunga, and Brian Twinamatsiko. They are here as part of a collaborative project with the Mbarara University of Science and Technology. Please help them feel welcome in Calgary!

[Their biographies are attached](#)

Thanks, Andrew and Margriet

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## Save the Date: Calgary EM Educators Day

**When: April 17th 2025, 1-4 PM Libin Theatre (after the Hodsman Lecture)**

Does having a learner on shift make you stressed? Have you ever felt overwhelmed by the cognitive load reviewing a learner's patients while answering RAAPIDs, consultants and CTAS 1s? Do you wonder how your colleagues seem to be "doing it all"?

Join Drs. James Huffman, Patty Lee-Nobbee, Sarah McPherson and Fareen Zaver for an afternoon of sharing tips and tricks on the art of on shift learner management. Let's increase the collective competence of our faculty and utilize the incredible experience of our group to further the educational prowess of our department.

Supported by the PSF, [April 17th Calgary EM Education Day Signup](#)

Patricia

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## Outpatient Cardiology Referrals:

As you are all aware, we have a large number of outpatient cardiology clinics to refer to. As a department we do not endorse any particular clinic(s), but want you to be aware of your choices, which include but are not limited to:

- Total Cardiology
- C-ERA
- Symphony of Health
- Summit Cardiology
- Vita Diagnostics

To this list you can also add Cardiology One - a new clinic opened by Dr. Ronak Kanani and Dr. Doris Basic.

Please see the attached link for referral instructions: [Cardiology One Referral Program](#).

Arthur Tse

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## Kudos Corner – Patient Commendation

**Kudos to RCPSC-EM PGY-2 Dr. Katie Gourlay for this patient commendation:**

On Saturday I personally had to present to the ER Dept at the Rocky View Hospital and I was fortunate to receive care from Dr Katherine Gourlay. It was a bit of a long afternoon and evening for me and Dr Gourlay was not only very thorough with her investigations and overall care, but she was also very kind and had excellent communication with not just me but her colleagues as well. I feel it's important to pass along feedback and Dr Gourlay was just

wonderful in all aspects. Dr Gourlay made a long and stressful day as a patient more comfortable and I can't thank her enough for her care.

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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

### Call for Abstracts – NEW DEADLINE

It's time to showcase your scholarly activity!

Department of Emergency Medicine Research Day abstract submission is now open!

Research Day is coming up May 8, 2025 from 0800-1600. We are excited to partner with Pediatric Emergency Medicine to deliver a high-impact, high-quality, clinically relevant and engaging research day, with both adult and pediatric EM topics!

Please save the date and consider submitting your work! New this year, learners can receive feedback on their abstracts from abstract reviewers. [Please use the attached form for submission](#) to [christina.cherian@ahs.ca](mailto:christina.cherian@ahs.ca)

**NEW DEADLINE: January 27, 2025 at 1600h.**

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### EDI Learning Opportunity

All staff and learners are welcome and encouraged to join the EM resident group for the upcoming Equity, Diversity, Advocacy and Cultural Safety (EDACS) lecture.

Our guest speaker this month will be Dr. Caley Shukalek ([you can read more about Dr. Shukalek here](#)) and he will be presenting on some key considerations when caring for LGBTQ2IA+ patients in the ED. The session will be held Thursday, January 23rd from 1600-1700 in Rm G500 in the Health Science Centre.

We hope to see you there!

Claire Acton & Kelsey Ragan (EDACS Co-directors)

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### 2025 ED Staff Simulation Sign Up (Jan-June):

Given the switch to Blakemore tubes for UGIBs (from the Linton) we will facilitate practice using the Blakemore tube in SIM over the coming months, for any interested participants. Email me two weeks before your SIM session if you want to have hands on practice with the Blakemore, and we will incorporate it into your session.

Additionally, if you are unable to participate in a SIM session but would like hands on practice with the Blakemore tube, please email me. If there is enough interest, I will set up a separate session to accommodate more hands-on practice.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0844AAAD22A5F8C25-52416005-2025#/>

Meg

[meaghan.mackenzie2@ucalgary.ca](mailto:meaghan.mackenzie2@ucalgary.ca)

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## Academic Day Preceptor Opportunities

Now that the dust is settling on the Spring schedule please consider signing up to preceptor one of the few remaining academic sessions this year!

All resident led sessions needing staff preceptors from January 1st to June 30th 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](mailto:kelsey.ragan@ucalgary.ca)).

[Academic Day Preceptor Google Sheet](#)

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

Kelsey

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## GRAND ROUNDS 2025/2026

In an effort to support our colleagues and residents and to continue to improve the quality of our grand rounds, please consider contributing to the [GRAND ROUNDS DOCUMENT](#).

In this document, you may share any suggested topics or guest speakers you would like to see included in the upcoming year. Furthermore, if you have something you would like to present to our group, there is also a place to add your name, topic (if already known) and preferred month and/or dates so I can preferentially schedule you. Thank you, as always and feel free to reach out with any other suggestions.

Brit Sunderani

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## Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss Study

Please help us appraise a clinical care pathway for sudden sensorineural hearing loss. This pathway has been developed existing literature and local expert feedback from audiologists, family physicians, emergency physicians, and otolaryngologists.

This study has been approved by the University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (REB23-15588).

If you are interested in participating, please access the survey here or scan the QR code below: [https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV\\_eR4rcrGbxG3Tq6](https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV_eR4rcrGbxG3Tq6)

If you have any further questions, please reach out to William Kim at [william.kim@ucalgary.ca](mailto:william.kim@ucalgary.ca).



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## Call for Abstracts – Emerging Dynamics

**Emerging Dynamics June 10, 2025.**

The Emerging Dynamics Conference planning committee is pleased to announce the upcoming annual conference will take place on June 10, 2025, at the Health Sciences Center attached to the Foothills Hospital in Calgary, Alberta.

We are seeking people interested in presenting a topic relevant to emergency care/practice.

[Further information and guidelines can be found through this link.](#)

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