



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

June 17, 2025

# Department of Emergency Medicine

Calgary Zone

weekly email updates for ED Physicians

DEM News Subscriber,

## Operations

### Notes from Catherine

#### RGH MSA Awards

Congratulations to **Dr. Emmeline Ruka** on receiving a Physician Recognition Award from the RGH Medical Staff Association! Many thanks to Nancy Zuzic for her thoughtful nomination recognizing Dr. Ruka's outstanding contributions.

#### ACA Physician Leadership Council

Congratulations to **Dr. Shawn Dowling** on his appointment as one of five ACA Physician Leaders! Alongside Dr. Ken Stewart and ACA executive members, Dr. Dowling will serve on the newly formed ACA Physician Leadership Council, which will provide expert medical guidance and support clinician engagement to inform ACA operations and decision-making.

Catherine

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## Connect Care Updates

Hi Folks,

Just wanted to share a couple of **Connect Care Updates** we just received today. Let me know if you have any questions or issues.

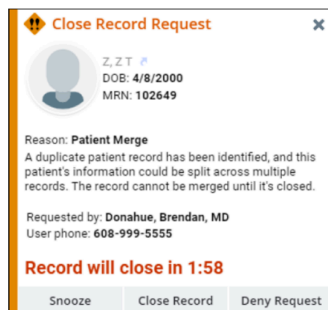
James

## MHA eForms Updates



- Go-live June 17
- When an MHA Form is signed, the name of the signer will auto-populate in the "Add Signer Name" field above the e-signature
- For Form 1 and Form 2, the Add Signer Name field will replace the Provider name field in the left panel.
- Less relevant to ED:
  - Two new MHA forms: Mental Health Patient Advocate Request Form, Competency at time of Admission/Renewal Form
  - Two new workflows: Release of Information Workflow, Corrections, Amendments and Addendums
- Blog post: [//insite.albertahealthservices.ca/Main/assets/cis/tms-cis-mental-health-act-improvements.pdf](https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/Main/assets/cis/tms-cis-mental-health-act-improvements.pdf)
- Tips/resources: <http://support.connect-care.ca/2025/06/13.html>.

## Anonymous Patient Workflow Pilot

- Go-live June 23, **FMC only**
- A new workflow implemented by HIM to update the identity of unidentified patients during the admission rather than after discharge
- Updates will be coordinated by HIM during business hours (M-F, 09:00-15:30), during a time when the patient doesn't have planned medications/procedures, etc.
- HIM is unable to merge the records when another user is in the chart. HIM can trigger a Close Chart Request message to users that are actively working in the chart, so they can continue with the merge:



- It will take between 2-10 minutes to complete the merge.
- Upon Merge and Demographic update, MRP (current Attending Provider) tasked to review chart for clinically significant impacts including Admission medication reconciliation, Allergy history, Warnings, and other clinically significant changes. This will be sent to their In Basket.
- Task is rescinded if patient is discharged.
- Tip sheet: <https://share.albertahealthservices.ca/Main/assets/cistr/tms-cis-tr-pilot-anonymous-patient-demographic-update-tip-sheet.pdf>

- Current workflow: <https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/Main/assets/cistr/tms-cis-ed-registrar-anonymous-patients.pdf>
- Pilot plan:  [Anonymous Patient Identification Pilot Plan.pdf](#)
- FMC pilot presentation:  [FMC Pilot - Updated Anonymous Patient Workflow.pdf](#)

## Discharge/IFT Gateway

- Go-live June 26
  - Complete redesign and optimization of the interfacility/discharge navigators
  - Tip sheet and update to PLY pending (I will send when available).
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## PACS Changing - TRAINING REQUIRED

Provincial Enterprise Imaging (PEI) is replacing IMPAX as the new Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) for Alberta Health Services. This transition is scheduled for implementation in the Calgary Zone in **September 2025**.

With the province-wide rollout of Connect Care and the availability of diagnostic images through XERO, broad access to PACS is no longer necessary. Access to PEI is now restricted to specific user groups, including **emergency providers**.

To gain access to PEI, all users must complete a **1-hour eLearning module** available on **My Learning Link**. Please note that this module will not be accessible to Calgary Zone learners until **June 30th, 2025**.

You should have received an email to you ahs email with details about this from

[Identity.Management@AlbertaHealthServices.ca](mailto:Identity.Management@AlbertaHealthServices.ca)

(Mine was received in Jan 2025 so you may have to search back)

If you did not, please reach out to [ProvincialEnterpriseImaging@ahs.ca](mailto:ProvincialEnterpriseImaging@ahs.ca)

Catherine

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## Grand Rounds, Journal Club and Clinical Pearls

Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds

Thursday June 19, 2025 (0900—1000) (1.0 Education Credits)

**Room:** Theatre 4 (HSC)

**Zoom Link:** <https://albertahealthservices.zoom.us/j/65876053204?pwd=jSOpQ9sLKif0kH5eSs2whSG6pZp6EM.1>

**Meeting ID:** 658 7605 3204

**Passcode:** 817531

**Speaker:** Dr. Niklas Bobrovitz FRCPC R2

**Title:** Minor treatment trials and tribulations: evidence-based management of lacerations, peritonsillar abscesses, and distal finger injuries

**Description:** We will review evidence for the management of lacerations, peritonsillar abscesses, and distal finger injuries. We will also discuss variations in practice and the evidence-to-practice gap for these presentations.

[DEM Academic Grand Rounds Evaluation](#)

**Grand Rounds Archive**

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## Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology Pearl of the Week

This week's Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology pearl is on [Rattlesnake Antivenom](#).

The habitat of the Prairie rattlesnake includes South and Southeastern Alberta. Venom from this snake can cause tissue injury and coagulopathy.

The Clinical Pharmacology (CP) physician consultation service is available Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm, excluding stat holidays. The on-call physician is listed in ROCA on the AHS Insite page. CP consultations are also available through Netcare e-referral, Specialist Link, and RAAPID. You can also find us in the [Alberta Referral Directory](#) (ARD) by searching "Pharmacology" from the ARD homepage. Click [HERE](#) for more details about the service.

The Poison and Drug Information Service (PADIS) is available 24/7 for questions related to poisonings. Please call 1-800-332-1414 (AB and NWT) or 1-866-454-1212 (SK). Information about our outpatient Medical Toxicology Clinic can be found in [Alberta Referral Directory](#) (ARD) by searching "Toxicology" from the ARD home page.

More CPT Pearls of the Week can be found [HERE](#).

Mark Yarema

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# Department News

## Kudos Corner – Patient Commendation

### Dr. Watt, Nurse Stephanie, Dr. Carey and RGH Emergency Department Team

During my recent visit to the Rockyview Hospital Emergency Department, I received exceptional care from Dr. Watt, who astutely investigated and diagnosed a pulmonary embolism, and from Nurse Stephanie, whose compassionate and thorough explanations provided great reassurance to me and my family. From physicians to porters, every staff member, including Dr. Carey who provided me with detailed discharge instructions contributed to a level of care that exceeded expectations, and I am deeply grateful for their professionalism and dedication.

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## Meet the New Residents 2025-2026

Please give our new residents a very warm welcome. Encourage and support them as they grow with our team. Their bios and photos can be viewed below:

- [CCFP-EM – Bios of residents](#)
- [FRCPC – Bios of residents](#)
- [Emergency Composite 2025-2026](#)

We are thrilled to have our new residents join us and look forward to their unique perspective on the challenges ahead!

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## How to Refer a Patient to the Anticoagulation Management Services (AMS) Clinic

This is meant to serve as a reminder regarding how to refer to the Anticoagulation Management Services. There have been several near or complete misses recently with the way AMS referrals have been entered on Connect Care which could lead to significant patient safety concerns.

Please refer to the tips below as it is critical for patient safety that appropriate referral and connection has been made. **Most importantly, it's the ambulatory referral to anticoagulation (NOT warfarin management services enrollment).** The referrals sent to warfarin management services enrollment DO NOT come to AMS – they will be lost in a pool of unknown!

There are **three** ways to refer to AMS (inpatient connect care, ambulatory connect care, community setting):

1. Referral from inpatient connect care setting:
  - a. External Orders → **Ambulatory Referral to Anticoagulation**
2. Referral from ambulatory connect care setting

- a. Orders → **Ambulatory Referral to Anticoagulation**
- 3. Referral from community setting
  - a. ARD [Anticoagulation Management Services Referral \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](https://albertahealthservices.ca)

Please read the full [How to Refer to AMS Clinic](#) with images for each step above.

Tania Pannu MD FRCPC DRCPC

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## Medical Officer of Health (MOH) Consultation Guidance for Calgary Zone Emergency Physicians

The following guidance remains in effect for all Emergency and Urgent Care sites within Calgary Zone. [Read the full memo on consultation guidance for:](#)

1. Blood and Body Fluid Exposures (BBFEs)
2. Animal Exposures for Rabies Risk Assessment
3. Tetanus-Prone Wounds

During daytime hours, Public Health staff will respond to calls and consult with the MOH as necessary.

Catherine

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## Announcement – New Administrative Assistant Supporting Department Head Dr. Catherine Patocka

We are pleased to announce that **effective June 16, 2025, Stephanie (Steph) Alcock** will be supporting Dr. Catherine Patocka as her new Administrative Assistant.



Since joining the department over these past few months in a term position, she has displayed a dedicated work ethic and teamwork skills supporting the Off-Service & Residents Program, Grand Rounds, Simulation, amongst other tasks covering for Monica Lee who is on a parental leave.

Steph will continue supporting these programs until a suitable candidate is selected to take over the role, covering during the remainder of Monica's maternity leave.

Prior to joining our team, Stephanie served in a variety of roles at AHS over the past 12 years. She started in housekeeping at ACH and then moved over to RGH and worked as a porter, and working leader for approximately seven years. While she was working as a porter she did her business degree at SAIT, with a major in Human Resources. Stephanie graduated in June 2020, right as COVID was taking off, which led to a position at AHS as an admin assistant with the COVID testing centers. From there she moved over to Connect Care as Admin Support and then Project Coordinator for the CC Implementation Team, and the Corrections Implementation Team in the Calgary Zone. Once Connect Care was fully launched, Stephanie joined the Emergency Department team, and she's eager to work hard to support our physicians and add value wherever possible.

Stephanie is highly motivated, self-directed, a great team player, multitasker, creative, respectful to others, hard working and has a positive attitude. She is very passionate about achieving new goals in healthcare administration. She is approachable, focused, determined, and believes in building strong relationships, and is looking forward to giving her best by assisting residents, physicians, and other staff in the Department of Emergency Medicine.

When not at work, Stephanie is fairly introverted and likes to participate in quiet activities in smaller groups. She loves to read and host a book club with her sister, she loves animals, and has a dog named Frida. She is currently learning to knit, as well as learning the German language!

**Stephanie's contact details are as follows:**

Email: [Stephanie.Alcock@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Stephanie.Alcock@albertahealthservices.ca)

Phone: 403-944-1596

Scott

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## Teaching Opportunities

### We are looking for preceptors for the EM Clinical Clerk Key Concept Rounds!

Starting in **Sept 2025** the SIM and Key Concept Rounds are moving to the first Monday of their rotation. These are two hour session, from **11:30 to 13:30**, and run after the morning SIM session.

Preceptors are compensated for their time and you can make the decision if you want it to be in person or virtually from the comfort of your house! Cases are supplied with a preceptor key.

To sign up, please use the google sheet link:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xa7k\\_IUk\\_BZECVAYJFm0kt1oScfEWAo9x5Q8XHqjHzk/edit?tab=t.0](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xa7k_IUk_BZECVAYJFm0kt1oScfEWAo9x5Q8XHqjHzk/edit?tab=t.0)

For more information please contact me: [lrleinwe@ucalgary.ca](mailto:lrleinwe@ucalgary.ca)

Landon

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# Research

## Kudos – Publications

Congratulations to Drs. Watt, Lang, Patocka and Tracey Chin (ED pharmacist) for their publications below:

- 1 [CONSORT 2025: raising the bar for transparency in randomized trials.](#)  
Atkinson P, Lang E, Stiell I.  
CJEM. 2025 Jun;27(6):418. doi: 10.1007/s43678-025-00926-1.  
PMID: 40522601 No abstract available.
- 2 [Navigating discourses of feedback: developing a pattern system of feedback.](#)  
Patocka C, Cooke L, Ma IWY, Ellaway RH.  
Adv Health Sci Educ Theory Pract. 2025 Jun;30(3):755-775. doi: 10.1007/s10459-024-10376-6.  
Epub 2024 Sep 25. PMID: 39320542 Free PMC article.
- 3 [Preoxygenation via noninvasive ventilation compared to oxygen masks for critically ill patients prior to endotracheal intubation.](#)  
Chisholm C, Lategan C, Lang E.  
Intern Emerg Med. 2025 Jun;20(4):1265-1267. doi: 10.1007/s11739-025-03957-9. Epub 2025 Apr 28. PMID: 40295390 No abstract available.
- 4 [Multicenter review of antimicrobial stewardship in the emergency department through pharmacist-led culture review and follow-up programs in Alberta.](#)  
Nhan I, Chin T, Rennert-May E, Brownlee T, Guirguis M, Rajakumar I.  
CJEM. 2025 Jun 3. doi: 10.1007/s43678-025-00940-3. Online ahead of print.  
PMID: 40461926
- 5 [Health system utilization following medical advice from Alberta's Virtual MD: a descriptive analysis.](#)  
Golonka R, Modayil MV, Mansouri R, Kurji F, Huang JQ, Zhao W, Watt D, Hayward J, Chambers P, Grolman C, Seidel J, Walker RL.  
CJEM. 2025 Jun 4. doi: 10.1007/s43678-025-00928-z. Online ahead of print.  
PMID: 40465166
- 6 [The effect of take-home naloxone kits on opioid-related deaths in Alberta, Canada: An ecological analysis.](#)  
Spackman E, Premji S, Woroniuk A, Lang E, Milaney K, McBrien K.  
Can J Public Health. 2025 Jun 3. doi: 10.17269/s41997-025-01056-y. Online ahead of print.  
PMID: 40459670



7 [A Better Way to Care for Long-Term Care Residents in Times of Medical Urgency: An Implementation Intervention Using a Stepped-Wedge Design to Reduce Unnecessary Acute Care Transfers.](#)

Munene A, Wyer L, McLane P, Ewa V, Lang E, Faris P, Reid S, Penconek T, Cummings G, Chen G, Walsh J, Spackman E, George M, Holroyd-Leduc J.

J Am Med Dir Assoc. 2025 Jun 6:105716. doi: 10.1016/j.jamda.2025.105716. Online ahead of print. PMID: 40490023

Kathryn

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## Conferences, Workshops and Courses

### 2SLGBTQIA+ Health & Cultural Humility in Emergency Medicine Course

The course was developed in partnership with 2SLGBTQIA+ community members, the Community Based Research Centre, 2SLGBTQIA+ emergency physicians and other experts in 2SLGBTQIA+ health. It is:

- accredited for both FRCPC and CCFPs
- free
- available online
- can be completed at your own pace asynchronously
- available in both French and English
- appropriate for physicians, physician trainees, EM nurses and other EM allied health staff
- 3 modules (~ 1 hour each)

Course link: <https://caep.ca/cpd-courses/2slgbtqia-in-emergency-medicine/>

Dr. Murdoch Leeies

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## Alberta SIMPosium 2025 – October 7 & 8, 2025

Join us for Alberta's premiere healthcare simulation event, where innovation meets inspiration. Whether you're a seasoned simulation professional or just diving into the world of healthcare simulation, this year's SIMposium has something for everyone. The theme for the conference is *Under the SIMfluence: Shaping the Future of Healthcare Simulation*. It will highlight the profound impact of simulation-based education—shaping how we train, collaborate and innovate to improve patient care and healthcare systems.

**What to Expect:**

- Incredible Plenaries – Hear from our homegrown SIMfluencers: Dr. Shaun Cowan, Dr. Peter Brindley and Dr. Krystina Ediger.
- Hands-On Workshops – Gain practical skills and strategies to immediately apply in your practice.
- Networking Opportunities – Collaborate with like-minded professionals and co-create the future of simulation in Alberta.
- Dive into sessions that are driving innovation and transforming education.

This year's event will be held in person at the Royal Alexandra in Edmonton as well as virtually. [Learn more and register here](#). **Early-bird deal closes July 1st!**

Anthony

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## Updated Newsletter Process

Submissions can be sent to: [natalie.sun@ahs.ca](mailto:natalie.sun@ahs.ca) and CC Ruchi Sharma ([ruchi.sharma@ahs.ca](mailto:ruchi.sharma@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
- Deadline is **Tuesday at noon**
- **Late** submissions will run in the next edition

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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