



Annual Report 2020

**CUMMING SCHOOL
OF MEDICINE**

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Department of Surgery
2020 Annual Report

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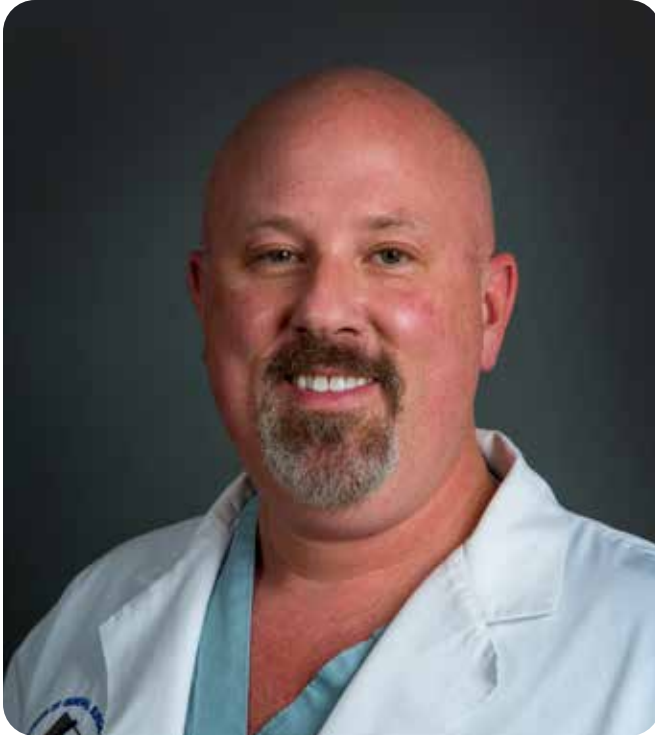
We wish to thank all surgeons, administrators, and other team members whose efforts made this report possible.

www.cumming.ucalgary.ca/departments/surgery

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LETTER FROM THE INTERIM HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Thank you to everyone for your hard work during the difficult times that marked the year 2020. I think we are all looking forward to, and hoping for, a less turbulent 2021. The past year saw an unprecedented worldwide pandemic, and we were forced to be incredibly nimble in the planning and implementation of surgical services in the Department of Surgery (DoS) and the Calgary Zone (CZ). The postponement of surgeries, the difficult management of waitlists, the inability to work, and the uncertainty of the upcoming months made it an incredibly challenging year.

However, this event also helped demonstrate how we can come together for a common cause. It showcased our selflessness, empathy towards each other, and the keen problem-solving skills surgeons bring forward when needed. The past year tested us in many ways, and you have demonstrated that you are an amazing group. I am proud to be a member of the Department of Surgery.

After leading us through the first wave of the pandemic, Dr. Sean Grondin stepped down from the position of Department Head. He has accepted two new leadership roles: Regent with the American College of Surgeons and President of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, both impressive and prestigious positions. Working closely with Dr. Grondin for the past three years, what stands out for me is his commitment to transparency, his principled decision-making grounded in fairness, and his dedication to doing what's 'right'. I believe he has left the DoS in a better position than he found it, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

After a competitive search, the Department Head Search and Selection Committee has completed their process, and Dr. Kevin Hildebrand has been selected as the next Department Head. Dr. Hildebrand is an orthopedic surgeon and brings considerable leadership experience to this position. We are very excited to work with him, so please join me in welcoming Dr. Hildebrand to his new role.

I would also like to recognize Shelly Bohn, our previous Department Manager. When Shelly joined the department two years ago, she quickly distinguished herself as a great advocate for the department and her employees, a kind person, and someone with an incredible capacity for hard work. We were sad to see Shelly leave, but we wish her the best in her new position with Alberta Health Services. We have since welcomed Michelle Jeong as the new Department Manager. Michelle comes to us from the Tom Baker Cancer Centre, where she was the Outpatient Clinic Manager. She brings more than fifteen years of experience in healthcare. We are fortunate to have her join our team, so please welcome Michelle to the department.

Surgical Activity

Operating room closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted surgical activity this year. CZ surgical teams performed 74,098 cases at the five urban and three rural hospital facilities and 18,712 cases in Chartered Surgical Facilities, for a total of 92,810 cases. These volumes represent a total decrease of 11.5% from the previous year's surgical case volumes. Plans are underway to make up the surgery backlog and bring waitlists to pre-COVID levels by late fall 2021.

Alberta Surgical Initiative

Over the past year, DoS leadership has collaborated with the operational leaders and the Alberta provincial government on the Alberta Surgical Initiative (ASI). The Calgary zone and Edmonton zone each received funding approval to hire a Deputy Department Head-Surgical Access Improvement, and we are pleased to announce that Dr. Francis Sutherland was chosen for this critical role in the Calgary zone. We anticipate a significant increase in resources in 2021 related to the Chartered Surgical Facilities, and Dr. Sutherland will work closely on this initiative.

Acute Care Coverage

Acute care coverage remains a significant issue due to the decreasing number of residents, work hour regulations, and a decrease in the extender budget related to recommendations in the EY Report. In conjunction with zone leadership and the Department of Family Medicine, we are working on a new program to fill these care gaps. These efforts are currently led by Dr. Neel Datta, Director of the Calgary Zone Surgery Workforce Strategy, along with department leadership.

Office of Surgical Education

The Director of the Office of Surgical Education (OSE), Dr. Artan Reso, has worked collaboratively with the Office of Postgraduate Medical Education around the implementation of Competence by Design for resident education. He has devoted himself to this office for the past five years and has supported and liaised extensively with all program directors and section chiefs. He has been instrumental in moving the DoS educational agenda forward. Dr. Reso will step down at the end of 2020. I would like to thank Dr. Reso for his excellent leadership. The DoS will welcome Dr. Steven Lopushinsky as the new OSE Director in early 2021.

Office of Surgical Research

In the 2019/2020 fiscal year, the Office of Surgical Research (OSR) awarded \$320,000 to members, which supported DoS faculty, research projects, and research infrastructure. They also awarded two research grants for COVID-19 surgical research in response to the unique surgical challenges associated with COVID-19. The OSR has also opened a new multi-year funding competition, the Pathway to Success Program, designed to support DoS research initiatives pursuing competitive external funding. Thank you to Dr. Monument, OSR Director, for all his hard work.

Office of Surgical Quality

The Office of Surgical Quality (OSQ) has focused on

74,098

*surgical procedures
at five urban and
three rural hospitals*

18,712

*cases at Chartered
Surgical Facilities*

11.5%

*decrease from
previous year's
surgical case volume*

the engagement of section and department leadership around reviewing core clinical metrics and developing a department-wide initiative to optimize opioid prescribing practices at discharge. The opioid project has received strong support from our section chiefs, and the initiative continues into 2021. The next phase will involve sections reviewing present opioid prescribing practices and identifying opportunities for improvement. Dr. Graham begins a one-year sabbatical mid-2021, and Dr. Kate Elzinga has been named the interim OSQ Director.

I want to thank everyone who has worked with me in this interim position over the past few months. It has been my pleasure and a fantastic opportunity to act as the Department Head during the transition period. I want to thank Dr. Fraulin, Dr. Reso, Dr. Sutherland, Dr. Laurie-Ann Baker, Shawna Syverson, and Holly Mackin for all the help they have provided while I have been the Interim Department Head.

Sincerely,

Elijah Dixon MD MSc BSc FRCSC FACS
Professor and Interim Head Department of Surgery,
Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary,
Calgary Zone Clinical Department Head,
Alberta Health Services

LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY DEPARTMENT HEAD — GOVERNANCE AND PHYSICIAN SERVICES



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The year 2020 will be remembered as a year of uncertainty in the Department of Surgery. We began the year expecting to deal with the proposed changes from Alberta Health based on the Ernst and Young review of Alberta Health Services clinical operations. We had a very successful retreat in Kananaskis the last weekend in February based on the theme of patient-centred care. Department leaders identified and discussed over 30 issues based on this central theme and the EY report. Though we did not appreciate it at the time, our world would change only one week later when the first case of COVID 19 would be announced in Alberta. Boom! Everything changed. The EY report moved to the background as we began dealing with the daily issues of COVID. Several terms were on the tips of our tongues hourly, and we learned some new terms: surgical triage, surgical postponement, ZEOC, ELT, PPE, COVID OR, COVID Unit, ethical

decision making, redeployment, screening, ZOOM, Fit for Work App, physician wellness, and so on. There were many new terms and many new plans, and that was just the first wave of the pandemic, from March to June.

I learned a great deal about our members during this time. Surgeons don't like to be idle – they want to find solutions, and they want to help. They are also incredibly compassionate. I am proud to have been a part of the Department of Surgery leadership team during this time. It was a pleasure working alongside Dr. Sean Grondin, Department Head, Shelly Bohn, Department Manager, and Dr. Elijah Dixon, Department COVID Lead. The Site Chiefs and Section Chiefs also went above and beyond, and we were lucky to have them working alongside us.

After getting through the first wave, some of the underlying physician services issues started to work their way back to the forefront. Alberta Health Services moved ahead with plans to streamline department leadership positions, and several sections had positions removed. In addition, eight surgical groups were notified that their clinical supplements would be discontinued on August 31, 2020. This plan was later delayed to March 31, 2021. Several sections also learned that their on-call stipend was being reassessed and would likely move to the provincial on-call program. We worked with several groups who developed expressions of interest and applications for clinical Alternative Relationship Plans (ARP). At year-end, there still wasn't a new surgical program started on a clinical ARP. The Pediatric General Surgery clinical ARP remains our only alternative funding plan at present.

I'm proud to have been part of the DoS leadership team during the first wave of COVID.

One bright spot in 2020 was the hiring of nine new surgeons and dentists, including Dr. Alisha Poonja (Podiatric Surgery PLC), Dr. Kenton Rommens (Vascular Surgery PLC), Dr. Kevin Robertson (Oral and Maxillofacial surgery PLC, ACH), Dr. Sandeep Dhesi (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery PLC), Dr. Emmanuel Illical (Orthopedic Surgery SHC), Dr. Hyea Min Yoon (General Surgery PLC), Dr. Nathan Evaniew (Orthopedic Spine Surgery FMC), Dr. Benjamin Hughes (Pediatric Dentistry ACH), Dr. Johnny Chau (General Surgery SHC). We also said goodbye and thank you to several surgeons who retired, including Dr. Paul Marck (Otolaryngology SHC), Dr. Stanley Smith (Ophthalmology RGH), Dr. Howard Gimbel (Ophthalmology RGH), Dr. Loren Kroetsch (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery), Dr. Ken Unger (Podiatric Surgery) and Dr. Robin Eccles (Pediatric General Surgery). We also lost a young plastic surgeon, Dr. Jonathan Lee, who died unexpectedly in the summer. We send our condolences to Dr. Lee's family. Jon will be greatly missed.

We became surgeons to take care of patients. If we keep the patient at the center of any planned changes, everything will turn out okay.

Another bright spot in 2020 was the development of the Department of Surgery Peer Support Team. Members were trained by Dr. Jane Lemaire and Well Doc Alberta

staff in September 2020. The team consists of 23 Department of Surgery members and four members from other surgical departments. The goal is for these members to be available as a resource to their colleagues, be supportive listeners, offer guidance, act as a liaison for outside resources, and ensure safety.

The Surgeon's day awards ceremony that takes place each June could not be held this year because of the pandemic. Instead, we held a virtual ceremony in December organized by Tammie Roy, Susan Isherwood, Ashley Ulmer, and Melissa Whidden. Even in this different format, it was a great opportunity to appreciate and celebrate our members, something I hope we can do more of in the future. Keep up the good work, and thank you for your contributions to our department.

As the year 2020 comes to an end, we are in the second wave of the pandemic. We enter 2021 with the hopes of a new department head, vaccines, a surgical recovery plan, stabilization of our leadership positions, alternative funding plans for certain groups, and new models for acute care coverage. Stay hopeful. Remember that we became surgeons to take care of patients. If we keep the patient at the center of any planned changes, everything will turn out okay.

Sincerely,

Frankie Fraulin MD FRCSC

**Clinical Associate Professor and Deputy Head,
Department of Surgery: Governance and Physician
Services**

**Department of Surgery, Cumming School of Medicine
University of Calgary, Alberta Health Services**

LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY DEPARTMENT HEAD - SURGICAL ACCESS IMPROVEMENT



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Alberta Surgical initiative (ASI) is now almost two years old. In 2019, the Government of Alberta announced a plan to reduce surgical wait times in the province. The reason for this was clear – only sixty percent of surgeries were meeting our ACATS targets (Alberta Coding Access Targets for Surgery), and wait times in Alberta were lagging behind most other provinces. The Alberta government outlined ambitious targets, including full ACATS compliance, with an additional 80,000 surgical cases to be performed by April 2023.

The initial ASI plan involved five strategies. We can think of these in two categories, the referral phase and the service phase.

1. Provision of specialist advice for primary care physicians, which started as phone advice as part of Specialist Link. There are plans to expand this to an electronic format, perhaps as part of Connect Care.
2. Improve consultations with a Central Access and Triage (CAT) program. Many groups working independently have been put together as part of the Specialist Access Bundle. This includes Access Improvement, Path to Care Team, Primary Care Network (Strategic Clinical Networks), and Accelerating Change Transformation Team (Alberta Medical Association). This group was created to provide a template and support system for sections to develop CAT.
3. Improved delivery of surgery. This involves the movement of surgeries out of main hospital operating rooms and into Chartered Surgical Facilities (CSF), formerly called NHSF or Non-Hospital Surgical Facilities, in the community. This would increase CSF activity from 15% to 33% of total surgeries. Rural hospitals are likely to be part of this program.
4. Surgical pathway development intent on supporting CAT.
5. Support the long-term viability of these changes.

While much work has been done, the COVID pandemic has delayed the rollout of this program.

In 2019, the Department of Surgery put forward a department plan to meet the Alberta government's ASI program. This initially included 18,000 additional cases in the Calgary Zone and the necessary ask in terms of resources (assistants, nurses, and equipment). The significant operating room closures over two waves of the pandemic have left us more than 11,000 cases behind. This has resulted in the initiative being converted into recovery. Presently, there are plans to make up the surgery backlog and bring waitlists back to pre-COVID levels by late fall 2021. It is hoped that ASI waitlist progress will occur in 2022/2023 and beyond.

While initial targets may be pared back, the overall initiative remains intact. As the COVID pandemic recedes, we can expect ASI/recovery activity to increase. While recovery activity will be broad-based, the initial ASI focus will be on three sections: Orthopedics, Urology, and Ophthalmology. The expansion of existing CSF contracts and new contracts for day procedures are starting. The movement of these day procedures to CSFs will allow hospitals to fill this time with other procedures that require an overnight stay. The Specialist Access Bundle program will be reaching out to these and other sections to initiate and expand existing CAT programs. It can be expected that recovery will also involve maximum utilization of existing acute care hospital operating rooms with backfilling as day procedures are moved out. The construction of new operating rooms and other facilities remains a possibility.

The Department of Surgery supports improving patient access to surgery and the development of patient-centred surgical care.

The Department of Surgery supports improving patient access to surgery and the development of patient-centred surgical care. Getting the appropriate resources to provide this care is likely to be an ongoing challenge given our fiscal climate. The health of our workforce is paramount, and expansion of activity will need strategic surgeon recruitment for the long term.

I look forward to working with our surgeons and sections on this challenging plan to move our surgical services forward.

I look forward to working with our surgeons and sections on this challenging plan to move our surgical services forward.

Sincerely,
Francis Sutherland MD FRCSC
Professor and Deputy Head, Surgical Access Improvement
Department of Surgery, Cumming School of Medicine
University of Calgary, Alberta Health Services

UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF SURGICAL EDUCATION



Mission

- Work to develop, improve, and share ideas, views, and activities at every level of surgical education.
- Lead the development of educational skills for faculty.
- Evaluate education activities in the Department of Surgery (DoS).
- Organize and chair meetings of surgical education groups to promote new ideas and best practices.
- Represent surgical education at leadership forums within the DoS and the Cumming School of Medicine (CSM).

COVID-19 brought major challenges in all aspects of our lives. Teaching and learning at every level of surgical education were significantly affected by the restrictions imposed due to the pandemic. Medical students' clinical clerkship rotations, observerships, and electives were cancelled, postponed, or rescheduled. Clinical exposure in general and student's direct involvement with patients was insufficient. The disruption of surgical education also extended to residents and fellows. Temporary postponement of elective surgeries and other clinical activities reduced

the number of available learning opportunities. The Royal College exams were postponed, and their format was rearranged. Conferences, congresses, meetings, and courses were cancelled, further reducing the opportunities for continuous education of trainees and faculty.

New online platforms quickly became the main instrument to deliver teaching at every level of surgical education. Faculty, residents, fellows, and medical students adapted quickly and efficiently to these new ways of teaching and learning. Everyone involved in surgical education within the DoS and CSM rose to the challenge. Faculty and learners worked together to overcome restrictions imposed by COVID-19 and succeeded. Thank you to our education directors, leads, and support staff for their hard work this year. Despite the challenges, we had a successful academic year.

Undergraduate Medical Education (UME)

Dr. Jeremy LaMothe, an orthopedic surgeon, is the DoS Clerkship Director. He worked tirelessly with the UME and DoS faculty to overcome the difficulties faced in 2020.

Surgery rotations for the class of 2021 commenced on January 13, 2020. The class has 163 clerks, with 20 University of Calgary Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (UCLIC) clerks. Eleven blocks were received by the department, with 19-23 clerks in each block. There was a return to four-week surgery rotations, including a three-week rotation in General Surgery and a one-week selective.

2020 was marred with academic instability and the need to frequently pivot to keep up with the constant changes in how COVID influenced surgical education. The UME is incredibly thankful for the extra efforts surgical educators made for clinical clerks. Despite the constant stress and uncertainty, the surgical clerkship rotation received one of its highest student evaluations in recent years! We updated the clerkship surgical examinations to improve the quality of questions and continue to change rotation schedules and caps to reflect the current teaching teams.

Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME)

2020 brought new challenges for the ten Residency Training Programs in the DoS. The program directors had to move academic half-days and other teaching

sessions to a virtual format. We had more than 90 DoS residents and 286 surgeons teaching in these programs. Five different teaching sites providing surgical education at every level of training.

Most of our residency programs went through successful internal reviews. This process is laborious and time-consuming, so thank you to all Program Directors, Program Assistants, and faculty involved in this process.

We successfully launched competence by design (CBD) programs for Orthopedics, General Surgery, and Plastic Surgery. New residents have gone through a CBD platform on their Surgical Foundation Program for the past two years (PGY1 and PGY2). However, the new cohorts started their journey on a five-year CBD platform. The road ahead will present challenges, but all of the sections have done a great job preparing for the CBD implementation.

We had 24 new (PGY1) surgical residents in the Surgical Foundations Program participate in a one-week Surgical Skills Boot Camp from July 6-10, 2020. COVID restrictions tested the organization of this important start to the incoming PGY-1 residents. The schedule was adapted, with residents attending CanMEDS sessions virtually and lab sessions in person. We thank the more than 30 faculty, staff, and the ATSSL who helped make the boot camp a huge success. A special thank you goes out to Jo-El Buerlen for her tremendous work organizing the online and in-person sessions.

Faculty, residents, fellows, and medical students adapted quickly and efficiently to new ways of teaching and learning. We worked together to overcome restrictions imposed by COVID-19 and succeeded.

Office of Surgical Fellowship (OSF)

Dr. Amin Kherani, ophthalmology, is the Director of the Office of Surgical Education. The OSF organizes the administration, financial, and educational processes for surgical fellows in cooperation with the Post Graduate Medical Education office, University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine. In 2020, there were over 30 fellows in the Sections of General Surgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, and Urology. The office has steadily grown to become an important and central unit for all DoS surgical fellowship programs.

91 *surgical residents*

9 *surgical extended residents*

30 *surgical fellows*

Teamwork within the OSF has fostered a rich energy for clinical and academic exchange. This has fueled our group of vibrant fellows to share knowledge, skills, and mentorship from the experiences of the surrounding faculty and surgeon educators. Despite the pandemic challenges, the professional development and network of this group have been excellent due to our stakeholders' commitment to surgical education. A special thank you to department leadership, surgical fellowship directors, and administrative staff for their support and dedication.

Continuing Medical Education (CME)

Dr. Derrick Randall, an otolaryngology-head and neck surgeon, took over as CME Lead in 2020. Despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, the CME remained active in providing CME opportunities for surgeons. Citywide grand rounds were cancelled from April 2020 to September 2020 due to COVID but resumed in the fall, with five sessions scheduled during the academic year. Additional annual subspecialty courses and faculty/trainee development courses supported by the department will resume in the spring of 2021, after a one-year hiatus related to COVID. In addition to content aimed at producing CME for surgeons, Dr. Randall is working with the CSM CME office to develop a one-day CME course of surgical topics for the primary care physician. It will be delivered by University of Calgary surgeons.

Dr. Artan Reso

**Director of the Office of Surgical Education,
Department of Surgery, Cumming School of Medicine,
University of Calgary, Alberta Health Services**

UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF SURGICAL RESEARCH



Vision

The Office of Surgical Research exists to help surgeons achieve research excellence.

Mission

By fostering and facilitating programs aligned with the four research pillars within the Department of Surgery, the Office of Surgical Research will educate, promote, and invest in surgeons working in teams on innovative and impactful research.

The Office of Surgical Research (OSR) exists within the Department of Surgery (DoS) to:

- Offer direction and support to researchers.
- Foster collaborations between thematically aligned institutes within the University of Calgary (UCalgary).
- Enhance internal grant review processes to increase the success of external funding competitions.
- Offer assistance in formulating research policy, direction, and goals within the DoS.

The Director of the OSR reports to the Head of the Department of Surgery. The OSR membership meets every third month to develop and monitor directives of the OSR. Directives include:

- Organizing internal research funding opportunities, including adjudication, accounting, and progress reports.
- Planning and executing the DoS annual Surgeon's Day Research Symposium.
- Providing statistical support for surgeons' research projects.
- Providing research facilitation services, including internal peer review, identification of DoS research needs, and coordination with research administration within the UCalgary and Alberta Health Services.

OSR Director

Dr. Michael Monument was appointed Director of the OSR in February 2020. Dr. Monument is an orthopaedic surgeon-scientist who runs a pre-clinical sarcoma immunotherapy research lab in the Cumming School of Medicine. His vision for the OSR is to increase DoS research productivity, support surgical innovation, and increase external funding successes for the department members. Strategic initiatives include providing multi-year catalyst funding for promising research programs in the DoS (supporting resident research, including supporting advanced research degrees), providing biostatistical support, fostering collaborations with the CSM research institutes, and building a systemic culture of research enthusiasm within the DoS.

Surgeon's Day

The 38th Annual Surgeons' Day Research Symposium, scheduled for June 2020, was cancelled in accordance with public health recommendations associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. A virtual Surgeons' Day Research Symposium will be held on June 4, 2021. As in previous years, Surgeons' day will also feature our live grant competition, "The Sharpest Knife." DoS members will compete in a live presentation format for a \$10,000 research grant.

By fostering and facilitating programs aligned with the four research pillars within the Department of Surgery, the Office of Surgical Research will educate, promote, and invest in surgeons working in teams on innovative and impactful research.

Grants & Awards

A total of eight OSR research grants were awarded in 2020:

- Six Open Access Fund grants totalling \$10,000 were awarded to cover fees associated with publishing in open access journals.
- Two COVID-19 research grants were awarded to Dr. Andrew Kirkpatrick and Dr. Derrick Randall for research projects addressing surgical care delivery challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

A new funding opportunity, the Pathways to Success award, has been developed by the OSR committee. This funding opportunity is geared towards DoS researchers and/or research groups that are striving towards obtaining stable, external funding to support their multi-year research initiatives. This funding opportunity will also encourage applicants to align with a CSM research institute and engage in formal internal peer review. This competition will be held in early 2021.

The OSR will also renew the Calgary Surgical Research and Development Fund (CSRDF) funding program. These awards (\$1000-\$5000) will support 5-6 smaller research projects.

Surgeon Scientist Program

Since 2001, the DoS and OSR have supported the Surgeon Scientist Program (SSP), which provides salary support to surgical residents to pursue dedicated research training and obtain a graduate degree (MSc or PhD). In 2020, Dr. Alysha Keehn from the Section of General Surgery was awarded the SSP award for her research study Predicting Outcomes Based on Individual Tumor Characteristics for Young Patients with Colorectal Cancer. She is supervised by Dr. Darren Brenner (Community

Health Sciences), Dr. May Lynn Quan (General Surgery), and Dr. Anthony MacLean (General Surgery).

The OSR believes that this funding opportunity is a valuable resource to encourage scholarly activity within the DoS. Surgical residents enrolled in thesis-based graduate programs provide high-quality research for DoS faculty while developing enthusiasm and critical skills required to pursue careers in academic surgery. The funding for this initiative is limited, and we estimate exhausting these funds by 2025. The OSR will collect detailed metrics of the output provided by this funding opportunity to leverage continued support of this initiative.

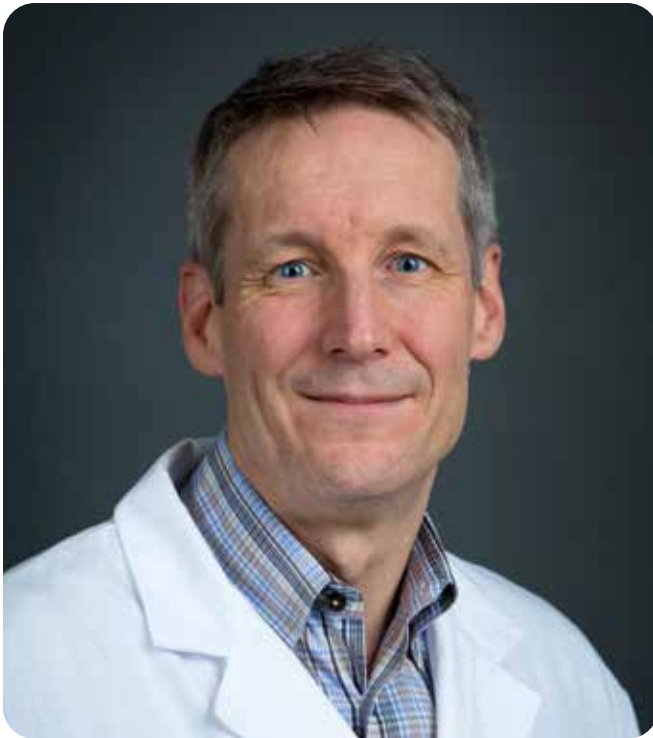
The Office of Surgical Research exists to offer direction and support to researchers, foster collaboration, enhance internal grant review processes, and provide assistance formulating research policy, direction, and goals within the Department of Surgery.

Statistical Support

In late 2020, the OSR hired Dr. Golpira Elmiassadzad, PhD, to provide statistical support to the DoS. Golpira brings extensive expertise providing statistical support in academic and industry environments. To date, she has received 12 requests for statistical consultation and support from DoS members, including faculty and residents. Faculty and residents can complete the following survey to request support www.surveymonkey.com/r/3XDYZP8. Golpira is a valuable asset to the OSR.

Dr. Michael J. Monument MD MSc FRCS(C)
Director of the Office of Surgical Research,
Department of Surgery, Cumming School of Medicine,
University of Calgary, Alberta Health Services

UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF SURGICAL QUALITY



Vision

A culture of continuous quality improvement within the Department of Surgery – Calgary Zone, resulting in an improved patient experience, enhanced clinical outcomes, optimized health care costs, and a positive caregiver experience.

Mission

The Office of Surgical Quality uses the three pillars of quality - effectiveness, efficiency, and safety - to develop a framework based on shared learnings, data integration, and identified core clinical metrics. The framework will be used to generate quality improvement projects, guide resource allocation, and establish a reporting map for surgical quality improvement initiatives in the Calgary Zone.

Values

An environment that promotes respect, transparency, collaboration, complete data sharing, and accountability. This caring culture of performance stresses improvement, not sanction.

Calgary Zone Surgical Quality Council

The Office of Surgical Quality (OSQ) was established in 2016 to coordinate and enhance the quality improvement efforts within the Department of Surgery (DoS). The OSQ established the Calgary Zone Surgical Quality Council (CZSQC) to address these goals. The CZSQC meets monthly and is comprised of a variety of stakeholders from various surgical programs and partnerships.

The section Quality Improvement Leads are: Dr. Ryan Rochon and Dr. Grant Moffat (General Surgery), Dr. Miller Smith (Oral Maxillofacial Surgery), Dr. Richard Ng (Orthopedic Surgery), Dr. Che Carrie Liu (Otolaryngology), Dr. Fabio Ferri de Barros (Pediatric Surgery), Dr. Kate Elzinga (Plastic Surgery), Dr. Karim Manji (Podiatric Surgery), Dr. Antoine Bouchard-Fortier (Surgical Oncology), Dr. Andrew Graham (Thoracic Surgery), Dr. Eric Hyndman (Urology), Dr. Kenton Rommens (Vascular Surgery). Ophthalmology is currently vacant.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Revamped the engagement strategy to provide more surgical section-focused support. A department-wide annual QI leadership priority setting meeting was established along with semi-annual section-specific meetings.
- Continued fostering strong relationships with the AHS Analytics Team. We welcomed Richard Schorn, Director of Strategic Analytics, Data Integration, Measurement, and Reporting, as our designated OSQ analyst. Richard and his team have been monumental in building and improving our Tableau OSQ Dashboard and our Opioid Dashboard, with completion expected in March 2021. We would also like to thank Skyla Lundgren for her support with ORIS codes, which allowed us to strengthen our analytics capacity.
- Received a large amount of support from Steve Peirce, Director of Process Improvement, regarding a key analytic tool, Statistical Process Control Charts. Steve presented an educational session on the use of Run and Control Charts in Quality Improvement, and it was a highlight of the CZSQC this year. This session fostered engagement from our members and increased their desire to incorporate these tools into their work.
- Created a secure SharePoint site to facilitate

sharing across the DoS. The site houses aggregate level data, reports, and archives of active and historic Surgical QI projects within the Calgary Zone, with specific information regarding short-term and long-term metrics. It also houses QI tools, resources, and a discussion board.

- To better support the OSQ's values of collaboration and complete data sharing, we successfully engaged stakeholders and obtained permission to share the following reports on our SharePoint site: DoS QI Reports, DoS Tableau Dashboard, NSQIP Reports, ERAS Reports, TQIP Reports, ABJHI Reports, and Cancer Surgery Reports. Thank you to our partners for supporting us in achieving our goal of data transparency.
- A foundational goal of the OSQ and the CZSQC is to understand and continuously monitor and evaluate our surgical clinical outcomes. To address this, we have developed baseline clinical metrics for each section within the Calgary Zone. Excellent progress was made over the last year. General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Otolaryngology, Podiatry, Oral Maxillofacial Surgery, Urology, Pediatric Surgery, and Thoracic Surgery, with the support of the AHS Analytics Team, have embedded clinical metrics in Tableau and now receive Surgical Quality Improvement Reports. These reports include a variety of tables and charts that present data by quarters on the number of procedures, average length of stay, return to OR, 90-day readmissions, 60-day mortality, and patient satisfaction. The OSQ has developed partnerships to leverage existing robust data systems with the Alberta Bone and Joint Institute, the TQIP program, and Cancer Surgery Alberta. The section of Vascular Surgery is working to finalize the reporting of core metrics via the VQI program for early 2021.
- The opioid crisis is a priority for AHS. To support this, the OSQ is leading a department-wide initiative to optimize prescribing practices of surgeons and improve the experience of surgical patients discharged on opioids. The Section of Thoracic Surgery successfully ran a pilot study of this initiative entitled Optimizing Opioid Prescribing Practices and Patient Supports Post Thoracic Surgery. The initiative was completed with the help of the Physician Learning Program who facilitated an audit and feedback session with the surgeons. Our QI Consultant then led the surgeons through activities to identify root causes and brainstorm solutions. As a first step of improvement,

the Thoracic Surgeons have implemented standard opioid prescribing practices for minimally invasive and open lung resections. Next steps include optimizing the discharge experience for patients and improving our patient education handouts on opioids.

The department has a social responsibility to report and review surgical clinical measures within the DoS to promote accountability, commitment, communication, and improvements.

2021 GOALS

- Spread and scale the learnings from the thoracic surgery opioid pilot project and develop section-specific improvement initiatives. The OSQ will complete project charters and run improvement initiatives tailored to individual sections and their identified areas of opportunities. Each section has selected target procedures, and work is underway with analytics to provide surgeons with individual and aggregate level data of their opioid prescribing practices.
- Provide further education and direct mentorship to department members on QI statistical methods and quality improvement methodologies by leveraging internal AHS expertise. The goal is to enhance data interpretation and support decision-making to focus QI resources most effectively.
- Continue our environmental scan to identify and share historic and ongoing Department of Surgery Quality Improvement Initiatives.
- Continue to strengthen engagement with QI Section Leads and Section Chiefs to review, discuss, and prioritize quality improvement work based on their core clinical metrics.

Dr. Andrew Graham

**Director of the Office of Surgical Quality,
Department of Surgery, Cumming School of Medicine,
University of Calgary, Alberta Health Services**

Melissa Whidden

**Clinical Quality Improvement Consultant
Department of Surgery, Calgary Zone**

UPDATE FROM THE EVIDENCE DECISION SUPPORT PROGRAM



Vision

The vision of the Evidence Decision Support Program (EDSP) is to foster clinician engagement, empowerment, and shared decision-making with AHS administrators to guide decisions on the responsible introduction of health technologies in context. The EDSP facilitates the integration of research-evidence into decision-making and improved health care delivery, with the ultimate goal of enhancing the patients' experience and outcomes, as well as increasing employee satisfaction, aiding recruitment and retention, and ensuring sustainability.

Mission

The EDSP Committee is tasked to systematically assess and evaluate new health technologies in surgery in the local Alberta context. New health technologies include, but are not limited to, devices, procedures, programs, and changes from current practice that have an increased cost, a different risk profile, require new training, and/or use a different surgical approach. New health technologies can be referred to the EDSP by any member of the surgical community in Alberta. The role of the EDSP is to provide the

decision-makers with recommendations based on the best available evidence. We do not make the ultimate decision.

Values

The EDSP Committee is an interdisciplinary team that helps make evidence-informed decisions regarding the introduction and management of new health technologies into the health system. It is a collaborative effort that brings all key stakeholders into the conversation about safety, effectiveness, resources stewardships, feasibility, quality improvement, innovation, training and credentialing, equity, and fairness. The EDSP is at the interface between evidence-based medicine, health economics, organizational impact, values, and decision-making processes for advancing the effective uptake of knowledge into clinical practice when introducing new health technologies.

As it was for many, 2020 was a year of change for the Evidence Decision Support Program with Dr. Paule Poulin, EDSP Research Scientist, Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Calgary, announcing her retirement after two decades in her role. As a founding member of the Local Surgery Health Technology Assessment Decision Support Program in the Calgary Health Region, Dr. Poulin developed the framework for systematic evidence collection and appraisal for new health technologies in surgery in the local context. She then oversaw the formal integration and adoption of this peer-reviewed process by Alberta Health Services and the Surgery Strategic Clinical Network (SSCN), giving rise to what is now the EDSP. Dr. Poulin led the evaluation of hundreds of new surgical technologies and procedures and laid the groundwork for the Provincial Advisory Council on Surgical Innovation (PACOSI). A retrospective and prospective report on this work is forthcoming in 2021.

In August of 2020, EDSP Co-Chairs Dr. Trevor Schuler (Edmonton) and Dr. Rob Hart (Calgary) welcomed Dr. Tara Klassen as Research Scientist and Scientific Lead of the EDSP and PACOSI. As a translational pathophysiology researcher, Dr. Klassen brings more than 15 years' experience collaborating with clinical innovators. Capitalizing on her professional interest in effective scientific communications, Drs. Klassen, Schuler, and Hart have streamlined and simplified the EDSP project intake, updates, and report structure to their

corresponding EDSP evaluation pathways. This initiative matches the EDSP deliverable to the future decision-making process, allowing the EDSP report to inform clinical, operations, and executive stakeholders at all levels in the Alberta surgical community in a timely fashion.

The vision of the Evidence Decision Support Program is to foster clinician engagement, empowerment, and shared decision-making with AHS administrators to guide decisions on the responsible introduction of health technologies.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- This year, the EDSP undertook seven health technology requests; four devices, two procedures, and one method of practice, with four Phase 1 evaluations completed in 2020. Phase 1 evaluations provide recommendations as to whether a technology should be implemented or further evaluated in a live trial. Phase 2 collects evidence and reports on clinical outcomes and operations as well as the impact pre and post-deployment to further inform AHS decision-makers.

Two procedures were recommended for Phase 2 implementation in the Calgary Zone:

- HTR200: Transanal Total Mesorectal Excision (TaTME) for Colon Cancer Surgery.
- HTR201: Medical Thoracoscopy for Undiagnosed Pleural Effusions.

One device received an interim recommendation to conduct a Phase 2 Health Technology Trial in the Calgary and Edmonton Zones:

- HTR202i: Sentimag with Magseed and Magtrace for Breast Cancer.

- The EDSP updated the AHS Adult Surgical Patient Skin Preparation in the Operating Room/Treatment Areas Practice Direction Manual with current best evidence.
- The EDSP introduced three new report styles corresponding to EDSP evaluation pathways:
 - A Health Technology Request (HTR) is generated for new health technologies in surgery undergoing a Full or Graduated EDSP Pathway with a clinical, cost-effective, and

budget impact analysis (singular innovation/ intervention). An urgent (single-use) pathway is also available on a per-case basis.

- An EDSP Evidence Package (EP) provides evidence assessment, guideline evaluations, and recommendations around a category of technology or interventions in the context of Alberta.
- A Technology Check (TC) is generated for new health technologies or classes of health technologies not requiring a Full EDSP evaluation. These include Health Canada Class I medical devices and technologies already in use in AHS/Covenant.

- The EDSP and Department of Surgery Calgary Zone were pleased to award the 2020 Health Technology & Innovation (HT&I) Annual Surgical Innovation Award to Dr. Anthony MacLean, Section Chief, General Surgery, AHS Calgary Zone, University of Calgary, for HTR200: Transanal Total Mesorectal Excision (TaTME) for Colon Cancer Surgery.

GOALS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Collaborate with the Office of Surgical Quality to create an EDSP Quality Improvement Project Evidence Report and develop an education awareness program for evidence collection and appraisal in surgical quality projects.
- Establish a central repository for EDSP Reports and Recommendations for easy access by surgical stakeholders and knowledge users across Alberta.
- Support and promote clinician-led research in new health innovations and technologies in surgery, including the implementation, management, and impact on patients, practitioners, and programs.

For more information, visit the AHS website (albertahealthservices.ca/scns/edsp.aspx) or the University of Calgary website (cumming.ucalgary.ca/departments/surgery/programs/evidence-decision-support-program). To customize your health technology request, please contact EDSP@ahs.ca or the EDSP Research Scientist tara.klassen@ahs.ca.

Dr. Robert Hart MD Msc. FRCSC

**Co-Chair and Clinical Lead Calgary, Central, South Zones – Evidence Decision Support Program
Department of Surgery, Cumming School of Medicine,
University of Calgary, Alberta Health Services**

SECTION OF DENTISTRY AND ORAL HEALTH

The Section of Dentistry and Oral Health consists of three divisions: The Division of Adult Dentistry, the Division of Pediatric Dentistry, and the Division of Community Dentistry/Public Health.

Our section provides comprehensive oral health services to adult and pediatric patients through the hospital and community health dental clinics. The service also provides ambulatory care services in partnership with the Riverview Surgical Centre through its Chartered Surgical Facilities contract.

The Section of Dentistry and Oral health is striving to be a valuable service to:

1. The hospital, cancer centre, emergency rooms, and multidisciplinary teams of the Calgary zone.
2. Our patients, some of whom represent the most vulnerable health sectors due to their complex medical conditions, unique dental and oral challenges, and social challenges.

The section continues to be actively involved in the ongoing planning of the new Calgary Cancer Centre Dental Clinic. We are looking forward to moving into this new facility in the next 24 months.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS Division of Adult Dentistry

- Foothills Medical Centre (FMC) Dental Clinic saw continued growth and care with four regular dentists. They managed to stay open through the early phases of the pandemic and adapted well to the Infection Prevention and Control needs for high-risk aerosol-generating medical procedures (AGMP) performed in the clinic.
- Kyla Craig and Crystal Ormond were welcomed as our new Patient Care Managers.
- Dr. Adham Fares provided an invaluable service as acting site lead for the FMC Dental clinic in 2020.
- Operating room cases increased, despite the slowdown and the increased restrictions that COVID-19 required. The FMC Dental Clinic provided 725 health care requested consults and completed over 3,124 procedures.
- Clinic staff look forward to the coming modernizations once the new clinic opens in the Calgary Cancer Centre in the next 24 months.

Division of Pediatric Dentistry

- The division is composed of 19 pediatric dentists. They have AHS clinical privileges at ACH and all Chartered Surgical Facilities.
- Dr. Benjamin Hughes is the newest addition to the Pediatric Dental team.
- Dr. Marie Claude Cholette is the Division Chief and Clinical Director and continues as an examiner for the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.



Dr. Graham Cobb
Section Chief of Dentistry and Oral Health

- The Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) Dental Clinic dental staff includes three part-time and five casual pediatric dentists, one orthodontist, and two oral and maxillofacial surgeons. All members are part of the division's after-hour emergency service.
- The clinic offers comprehensive dental, orthodontic and oral care to pediatric patients with medical complexities. Modalities include communicative behaviour guidance/non-pharmacological behaviour modification, nitrous oxide inhalation sedation, minimal/moderate oral sedation, and general anesthesia in the operating room. ACH dental specialists are also consultants for the Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Clinic, NAM Clinic, VPI Clinic, Orthodontic Clinic, OMFS Clinic, and TMJ Clinic.

Division of Community / Public Health Dentistry

- Public Health Dental Clinics (PHDC) continued to provide quality care during the COVID-19 Pandemic to socio-economically disadvantaged individuals; a referral system was in place for low-income and hospital emergency department patients with dental pain and infections.
- Staff was able to deliver 4,424 procedures, consultations and exams to our marginalized and high-risk population.
- Our Division Chief, Dr. Rabie, participated in research examining the use of these virtual

1,790 *in-person emergency exams in PHDC*

3,124 *procedures in the FMC Dental Clinic*

and therapeutic tools and the effects they may have had on issues, such as access to care and antibiotic and narcotic stewardship.

Education

- Due to COVID, ACH staff pediatric dentists suspended weekly visits from Family Medicine, Pediatric Residents, and University of Alberta dental students. Participation in half-day academic teaching to Family Medicine, Genetics, and Pediatric Residents was also suspended.
- Development of a one-year post-graduate Pediatric Dentistry residency program (GPR or Fellowship) is planned.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Long waitlists for Adult dentistry procedural sedation and access to the OR continue to be an ongoing challenge.
- Staffing levels for support of the Adult Dental clinic also continues to be challenging.
- Due to budgetary constraints, the ACH Dental clinic faces limitations in the growth of service as well as maintaining adequate professional staff and support staff. Recruitment is needed to meet patient needs and workforce planning.
- Transmission risk mitigation in community and public health clinics for dental AGMP procedures during the Covid-19 pandemic was challenging.
- Reduction in PHDC's workforce during the pandemic has led to ongoing recruitment for dentists.
- Pediatric Dentistry Workforce finds 9 out of 28 Pediatric dentists without AHS privileges due to limited Chartered Surgical Facility operating room funding. Development of a Calgary Zone workforce plan is needed to ensure all Calgary Pediatric Dentists have AHS privileges.
- ACH Dental Clinic continues to look for areas where specialized pediatric dentistry services can expand. Future areas of interest include:
 - Maxillofacial Prosthodontic Clinic
 - Saliva Control Clinic (multi-disciplinary)



The Section of General Surgery has 49 members and performs surgery at four adult Calgary hospitals, including the Foothills Medical Centre (FMC), Peter Lougheed Centre (PLC), Rockyview General Hospital (RGH), and South Health Campus (SHC). The section provides care in a variety of areas, including benign and malignant diseases of the head and neck, breast, liver, pancreas, adrenal glands, and gastrointestinal tract. The section also includes trauma services that provide care to trauma patients in Southern Alberta as well as acute general surgical urgent and emergent conditions.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Education

- 24 residents in the General Surgery Residency Training Program.
- Fellowship Training Programs in Colorectal Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Endocrine Surgery, Hepatobiliary Surgery, Upper GI Surgery, and Trauma Surgery.
- Dr. May Lynn Quan received the General Surgery Residency Teacher of the Year award.
- Dr. Paul McBeth received the Ectopic Educator of the Year award for the Department of Surgery.
- Dr. Wayne Rosen received the Jersey Award

for teaching and administration of the Medical Skills Course. He also received a Pandemic Hero Award from the Cumming School of Medicine.

- Dr. Nathan Zondervan received a Behind the Scenes Award for the pre-clerkship course Intro to Clinical Practice.
- Drs. Mike Kwan, Grant Moffatt, John Graham, Naomi Kasteel, Ameer Farooq, and Nathan Zondervan received UME Gold Star Awards in teaching.
- Drs. Artan Reso, Rohan Lall, Andrew Kirkpatrick, Don Buie, Estifanos Debru, Mike Dunham, Rene Lafreniere, Tamara Gimon, Evan Nelson, and Omar Al Busaidi received the UME Honour Roll for Medical Student Teaching Award.
- Drs. Artan Reso, Renelle Daigle, and Chris Armstrong received the McPhedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Education for the PGY 1 Surgical Bootcamp.
- Drs. Ryan Rochon, Lea Austen, John Graham, Neil Hagerman, Rohan Lall, and Steve Martin received Star Educator Awards in teaching excellence for the RGH.

Research

- The Section of General Surgery has demonstrated outstanding research productivity, having secured over \$1.5 million in new grants in 2020.
- Dr. May Lynn Quan led the section with a \$1.2 million CIHR grant.
- Members contributed 90 peer-reviewed publications in 2020.



Dr. Tony MacLean
Section Chief of General Surgery

- Dr. Andrew Kirkpatrick led the section with 38 peer-reviewed publications in 2020, followed closely by Dr. Chad Ball, Dr. Lloyd Mack, and Dr. May Lynn Quan.
- Dr. Oliver Bathe received the award for Outstanding Contribution in Basic Science Research from the Department of Surgery.

Medical Leadership and Administration

- Dr. Elijah Dixon is the Interim Department Head for the Department of Surgery.
- Dr. Artan Reso is the Interim Deputy Department Head-Clinical Services and Surgical Innovation.
- Dr. Lloyd Mack is the Deputy Academic Head of the Department of Oncology and the Interim Section Chief for the Section of Surgical Oncology.
- Dr. Don Buie and Dr. John Heine are the Site Chiefs-Surgery for the FMC and PLC sites. Dr. Mike Dunham is the Interim Site Chief-Surgery for SHC.
- Dr. Estifanos Debru, Dr. Lea Austin, and Dr. Michael Dunham are the General Surgery Site Leads at the PLC, RGH, and SHC sites.
- Dr. Indraneel Datta is the Director of Workforce Strategy for the Department of Surgery.
- Dr. Adrian Harvey is the Director of Faculty, Program, and Student Evaluation.
- Dr. Gwen Hollaar is the Assistant Dean of Global Health at the Cummings School of Medicine.

**OVER
10,000** cases, including over
25% cancer cases

**OVER
\$1.5M** in new
grants

- Dr. Paul McBeth is the Lead of Facilities Resource Allocation.
- Dr. Ryan Rochon and Dr. Grant Moffatt are the Co-Leads of Quality Assurance for General Surgery.
- Dr. Janice Pasieka was appointed to the board of TIRO (Thyroid international Recommendation Online). She is an executive board member for the International Guidelines for Parathyroid Disease and is an associate editor of the World Journal of Surgery. She was the keynote speaker at the Asian Association of Endocrine Surgeons.
- Dr. John Kortbeek received the Distinguished Service Award for SHC.
- Dr. Tony MacLean is the General Surgery Exam Chair for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and President of the Canadian Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Surgical wait times have been a challenge, which was exacerbated by the pandemic. With the oncology uplift time, increased OR resources, and fewer summer and holiday closures, we have made great strides in decreasing the surgical wait times for cancer and non-cancer patients.
- Acute care coverage at all sites is becoming more challenging with the contraction of the residency training program.
- Loss of the acute care surgery stipend will present upcoming challenges to our service delivery.
- Fostering research despite a lack of GFT positions and protected time in our section.
- We expect several retirements in the next five years, and quality recruitments will be critical to our ongoing success.
- Dr. Johnny Chau, a general surgeon, was recruited to the SHC. We also recruited Dr. Caitlin Yeo, an endocrine surgeon, to FMC. Dr. Yeo begins summer of 2021.



The Section of Ophthalmology provides clinical services through Alberta Health Services facilities, non-hospital surgical facilities, and private offices, as well as outpatient clinics at the Rockyview General Hospital and the Alberta Children's Hospital. The section has subspecialists in all areas related to the eye, including retina, cornea, glaucoma, ocular oncology, urgent eye care, neuro-ophthalmology, pediatrics, comprehensive ophthalmology, adult strabismus, thyroid disorders, and low vision.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Two residents were accepted in 2020, Dr. Kian Madjedi and Dr. Michael Kryshtalskyj.
- Dr. Paul Huang, our senior resident, received his Royal College Certification in June 2020.
- Dr. Stephanie Dotchin is the new President of the Eye Physicians and Surgeons Association of Alberta (EPSAA).
- Dr. Jit Gohill was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.
- Dr. Adam Muzychuk was promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor.
- Dr. Karim Punja is the Ophthalmology Fellowship Director, and Dr. Kherani has taken on the role of Director, Office of Surgical Fellowship, for the Department of Surgery.



Dr. Andrew Crichton
Section Chief Ophthalmology

43 *ophthalmologists in
the Calgary Zone*

10 *ophthalmology
residents*

40 *peer-reviewed
publications*

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- 2020 was a very challenging year, for everyone including Ophthalmology. Apart from urgent and emergent surgeries, operating rooms were temporarily shut down, and most of our offices were operating at markedly reduced volumes. The Emergency Clinic continued to run, and we continued to provide hospital consults. Elective surgery was shut down for a significant period of time. The urgent and emergent cases were handled at the Rockyview General Hospital, and all our surgeons cooperated very successfully. After the first wave, ophthalmologic care resumed at a reduced pace due to social distancing restrictions. I must commend all our ophthalmologists. They overcame fear and uncertainty and contributed to the continued functioning of our clinical services during this challenging time.
- The implementation of the Alberta Surgical Initiative has also presented challenges. A large number of additional cataract surgery cases were given to us in 2020, and despite this added workload, our group pulled together very well to complete the cases.
- Recruitment continues to be a challenge due to the policy of only recruiting upon retirement, but we are in the process of hiring a new recruit who will also become the Residency Program Director. This role is a huge undertaking, and I would like to thank Dr. Chris Hanson for doing a fantastic job over the last five years.
- We are also recruiting two additional surgeons, which will bring our section into a better position to help with the increased ASI allocation.

SECTION OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY



The section of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) has 13 active members and provides surgical services at the Peter Lougheed Centre (PLC), Foothills Medical Centre (FMC), Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH), and Chartered Surgical Facilities (CSF). The section specializes in the treatment of diseases, injuries, and defects in the head, neck, face, jaw, and the hard and soft tissues of the oral (mouth), maxillofacial (jaw), and face region.

Section members provide services at the Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic, Craniofacial Clinic, Dental Clinic, and Temporal Mandibular Joint/Rheumatology Clinic at ACH. Members also provide services at the Dental Clinic and Head and Neck Tumour Clinic at the FMC. Our section provides call coverage for all Calgary Zone hospitals and urgent care centres, as well as facilities in southern Alberta. The section is committed to advancing the specialty of OMFS and providing excellent quality care to patients.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Edwards is the Section Chief of OMFS in the Calgary Zone.
- Dr. Goos is the PLC Site Chief for OMFS, and Dr. Smith is the ACH Site Chief for OMFS.
- Dr. Cobb is the Section Chief of Dental and Oral Health in the Calgary Zone.
- Dr. Habijanac is responsible for the Chartered Surgical Facilities.
- Dr. Smith is the President and Dr. Cobb is the Alberta Regional Councillor for the Canadian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (CAOMS).
- Drs. Cobb, Smith, and Touchan are examiners for the Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC).



Dr. Richard Edwards
Section Chief of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

- Dr. Graham Cobb received the Outstanding Contribution in Leadership award from the Department of Surgery in 2020. Congratulations to Dr. Cobb on this well-deserved award.
- Drs. Cobb, Smith and Robertson continue their research projects on virtually planned free fibula reconstructions of the mandible and maxilla and alveolar bone graft pathways.
- Quality improvement projects include analysis of length of stay for orthognathic surgery and post-operative use of opioids in inpatient and outpatient OMFS patients.
- Plastic Surgery and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery residents rotated through the OMFS service.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Operating room access at PLC, FMC, and ACH.
- Increasing the scope of practice for OMFS in the treatment of oral cancer, obstructive sleep apnea, and temporal mandibular joint reconstruction patients.
- Budget for plates, screws, and equipment at PLC.
- Funding for custom-made TMJ prostheses and custom-made plating.
- Future risks include decreased access for

patients at hospital operating rooms and CSFs as well as decreased funding.

- Challenges will continue to be addressed with Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the Alberta Surgical Initiative (ASI) program.
- Dr. Sandeep Dhesi joined the section in 2020. Dr. Dhesi completed his OMFS residency at the University of Texas in Houston. He was a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, and he was deployed to Afghanistan, where he was exposed to significant facial injuries. He brings facial trauma expertise to the OMFS Section.
- Dr. Kroetsch retired from the section in 2020. Thanks to Dr. Kroetsch for his many years of service.
- Dr. Carl Young and Dr. Doug Vincelli continue to have surgical assisting privileges.

13 *surgeons in the Calgary Zone*

330 *surgical cases completed at the Peter Lougheed Centre*

785 *surgical cases completed in Chartered Surgical Facilities*

154 *orthognathic (jaw) surgery cases*

26 *temporal mandibular joint cases*

SECTION OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

The Section of Orthopaedic Surgery has 65 active members who deliver surgery at all four adult Calgary hospitals: the Foothills Medical Centre, Peter Lougheed Centre, Rockyview General Hospital, and the South Health Campus. In addition, we deliver specialized pediatric orthopaedic care at the Alberta Children's Hospital. We perform surgeries related to the musculoskeletal system, including joint replacement, spine surgery, and reconstruction.

There are 21 residents in the Orthopaedic Residency Training Program, and all sites are engaged in the education of orthopaedic trainees, which includes medical students, residents, and fellows.

The majority of our faculty members and trainees are involved in orthopaedic research, an important pillar of our academic mission. These research activities include laboratory/basic science, clinical, and health service delivery/policy. Our research partners include the Alberta Bone and Joint Health Institute, the McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health, and the Bone and Joint Health Strategic Clinical Network.

Section members provide key leadership roles for Alberta Health Services, the University of Calgary, the Bone and Joint Health Strategic Clinical Network, and regional, provincial, and national Orthopaedic Associations and Professional Societies.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

The Section of Orthopaedic Surgery is proud of its members' accomplishments over the past year, particularly during the many challenges provided by the COVID-19 pandemic. We collectively strive for excellence in the three realms of clinical care: delivery, research, and education.

- 65 active orthopaedic surgeons in the Calgary Zone across five acute care sites.
- 21 residents in the University of Calgary Orthopaedic Residency Training Program.
- Dr. Nicholas Desy was named Residency Training Program Director, and Dr. Peter Lewkonja was named Assistant Program Director.
- Dr. Marcia Clark was named Site Chief of Surgery at South Health Campus.
- Drs. Prism Schneider and Ryan Martin were named co-leads of the Orthopaedic Continuing Medical Education program.
- Section members published more than 115 peer-reviewed journal articles in 2020.
- Section members received more than 25 separate research grants in 2020 totalling more than \$1.8M.
- Dr. Prism Schneider was awarded a GFT position in the Department of Surgery, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary.



Dr. Jason Werle
Section Chief of Orthopedic Surgery

- Participation in Specialist Link began in April 2020, and it has rapidly become one of the busiest disciplines on the platform. This service provides telephone advice to primary care physicians in the zone.
- Transition to virtual care during the pandemic provided logistical challenges, but it has now been widely adopted by the surgeons and clinic staff. Many of these practices will remain post-pandemic.
- Ongoing quality improvement initiatives led by Dr. Richard Ng with a newly formed zone-wide QA/QI committee with membership from all acute care sites.
- Quality improvement efforts in hip fracture care zone-wide have resulted in a quicker time to OR across all sites and reduced mortality rates.
- Other quality initiatives include on-time antibiotic prophylaxis and the utilization of tranexamic acid for hip fracture patients.
- Retirement of Dr. Bob Bray from the Peter Lougheed Centre in the summer of 2020.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- COVID-19 pandemic has lengthened waitlists for all orthopaedic care in the zone, including consultation and surgery. The Alberta Surgery Initiative (ASI) and pandemic recovery/mitigation efforts will be key to improving access for the many patients waiting for surgical care.

65 *surgeons in the Calgary Zone*

21 *residents in the Orthopaedic Residency Training Program*

15,075 *surgical cases performed at five hospitals*

- Acute care call coverage at all sites with reduced resident numbers and a high volume of patients.
- Senior Surgeon policy development and uncertainty regarding its implementation in a diverse section spread across multiple sites.
- Sustaining leadership positions within the Section of Orthopaedic Surgery without adequate financial resources.
- Recognizing academic contributions without Cumming School of Medicine resources to support this work.
- Uncertainty regarding future value-add funding – a key component of the section's and department's academic success to date.
- Maintaining surgeon wellness given the above ongoing challenges to surgical care provision.
- Dr. Emmanuel Illical was recruited into the Arthroplasty Division at South Health Campus in January 2020.
- Dr. Nathan Evaniew was recruited into the Spine Division at Foothills Medical Centre in September 2020.
- Dr. Meghan Marien will join the Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery division at Alberta Children's Hospital in fall 2021.
- Recruitment in 2021 is proceeding for the following:
 - Arthroplasty/Trauma surgeon at Peter Lougheed Centre.
 - Arthroplasty/Trauma surgeon at Rockyview General Hospital.
 - Orthopaedic Sports Medicine surgeon at South Health Campus.
- The population demand for MSK surgical care is not currently being met, so future recruitment and OR resources will be required. It is hoped that the ASI will assist with this in a sustainable fashion.

SECTION OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

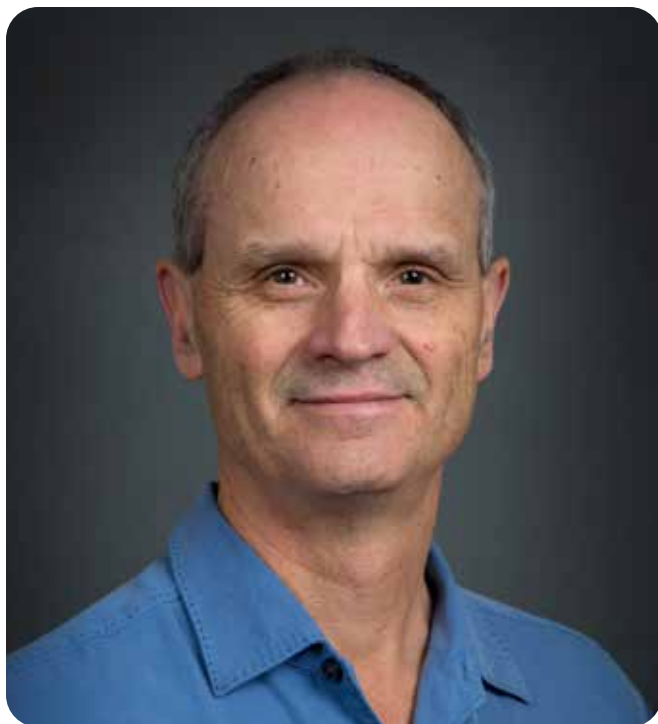


The Section of Otolaryngology delivers surgery to all five Calgary hospitals. Our surgeons specialize in providing comprehensive care across the spectrum of otolaryngologic disorders. These specialties include pediatric ENT (ears, nose, and throat), head and neck surgery and oncology, rhinology, skull-based surgery, otology, neurotology, facial plastic and skin cancer surgery, laryngology, and general otolaryngology.

Our section has a highly successful otolaryngology surgery residency training program and accepts one to two residents per year. The program currently has ten residents. We also support clinical teaching for undergraduate and postgraduates in various disciplines.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Vincent Lin, an Otolaryngologist/Neurotologist from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, Ontario, was the keynote speaker at the Annual Otolaryngology Resident Research Day in January 2020.
- Dr. Francisco Lee completed his Royal College certification in Otolaryngology in September 2020. He has subsequently established a General Otolaryngology practice in Nanaimo, British Columbia.
- Dr. James Brookes completed his term as the Otolaryngology Residency Program Director in November 2020, and he will



Dr. J. Doug Bosch
Section Chief of Otolaryngology
Head and Neck Surgery

3,486 *adult surgical cases*
in the Calgary Zone

1,829 *pediatric surgical cases*
in the Calgary Zone

29 *peer-reviewed*
publications

assume the role of Otolaryngology Site Lead at the Alberta Children's Hospital.

- Dr. Warren Yunker has taken on the role of Otolaryngology Residency Program Director, effective November 2020.
- Dr. Warren Yunker was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- The main challenge facing our section is meeting the demand for office consultations, and if required, surgical intervention. The most significant limitation is the availability of surgical resources, which limits our ability to recruit new colleagues.
- A section retreat was held in November 2019, and we discussed how to create a more efficient office consultation process. Excellent presentations were given by Specialist Link, eReferral Advice, and Alberta

Referral Directory groups. In 2020, we effectively used Specialist Link and eReferral to improve access to consultation in our section. Additional work is ongoing with the Alberta Referral Directory.

- The section is planning to recruit a GFT Head and Neck Surgeon/Researcher at the Foothills Medical Centre in 2021.
- Dr. Paul Marck retired from clinical practice in December 2020 after practicing at the Peter Lougheed Centre and South Health Campus.
- Dr. Justin Lui was successfully recruited into Dr. Marck's position and will start his Otology/Neurotology practice in July 2021 at the South Health Campus. He will complete his two-year Otology/Neurotology Fellowship at the University of Toronto in June 2021.



The Section of Pediatric Surgery delivers surgery to the Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH). Members are from pediatric general surgery, pediatric orthopedics, pediatric plastic surgery, pediatric otolaryngology, pediatric urology, and pediatric ophthalmology. The ACH's surgical services are complete with surgeons from the Department of Surgery's Section of Dentistry and Section of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, the Department of Neurosciences, and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Clinical Service

- Successfully rescheduled all COVID postponements by July 2020.
- Maintained restructured elective OR time to support daily Urgent Room Access.
- Increased virtual clinic capacity for pediatric plastic surgery patients.
- Developed various clinical pathways for treating cleft palate patients, alveolar bone graft patients, and craniosynostosis patients in the perioperative setting.
- Developed and implemented a Halo at Home care pathway.
- ACH Dental Clinic continues to provide comprehensive primary care by pediatric dentists. This includes dental specialty multidisciplinary clinics for Orthodontics, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, and Pediatric Dentistry. In addition, we have a TMJ/rheumatology multidisciplinary Clinic with a rheumatologist, orthodontist, OMFS, and Pediatric dentist.
- In-hospital delivery VPI speech appliances (2013- present).

- ACH Dental Clinic continues to offer NAM therapy (2005- present).
- Accreditation by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC).
- The pediatric neurosurgery MR-guided Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy (MRg-LITT) Epilepsy Surgery Program treated its first pediatric epilepsy patient in March 2020.
- Approved expansion of the Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology program to SHC. This is a late adolescent and young adult clinic for patients with complicated congenital and acquired abnormalities of the genitalia. A multidisciplinary transgender clinic was also developed.
- Reorganization of the Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Clinic at ACH, including enhanced virtual capability.
- Completed upgrade of Interventional Radiology (IR) suite with state-of-the-art radiology equipment.
- The pediatric general surgery neonatal Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) protocol was implemented.
- The Pediatric Oncology ERAS protocol was also readied for launch.

Education

- Dr. Don McPhalen, Pediatric Plastic Surgeon, is a member of the Master Teacher program with 90+ hours of UME teaching for the CSM, Co-chair of the Professionalism and Physician Health course for UME CSM, Medical Director for Alberta Parks Kananaskis Country mountain rescue team, Co-author of Mountain Rescue Training Challenges During the Pandemic, and a member of the International Commission for Alpine Rescue (ICAR).
- Dr. Ryan Frank is Co-chair of the Plastic Surgery Review Course for fifth-year Canadian Plastic Surgery Residents.
- Drs. Frankie Fraulin and Rob Harrop are



Dr. Paul Beaudry
Section Chief of Pediatric Surgery

Examiners in Plastic Surgery for the Royal College of Physician Surgeons of Canada.

- Dr. Warren Yunker became the Program Director for the University of Calgary Otolaryngology Residency Training Program and was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor.
- Dr. James Brookes received the Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Excellence in Teaching Award.
- Dr. Monica Hoy completed a Master of Science Community Health Sciences-Specialization in Medical Education.
- Dr. Derrick Randall became the CME Physician Lead for the Department of Surgery.
- Drs. Marie-Claude Cholette, Robert Barsky, Warren Loeppky, Tim Seto, and Michelle Thal are Examiners for the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.
- Drs. Christine Osborne and Kayla Nelson presented at the Contraception Update for Gynecologists and Primary Care Providers, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology City-Wide, Interdisciplinary Update, October 20, 2020.
- Dr. Jay Riva-Cambrin is the program director for the Neurosurgery Residency Training Program.
- Dr. Andrea Lo is the Program Director of the Pediatric Surgery Residency Training Program.
- The Royal College training program for pediatric general surgery is accepting one fellow per year.

8,660 *total cases*

1,860 *emergency cases*

Research

- Members of Section of Pediatric Surgery authored 35 publications in 2020.
- Dr. Mary Brindle continues to run the Health Sciences Research program, EQUIS, supported by the Brian and Brenda MacNeill Chair in Pediatric Surgery. She is also the Scientific Director of the Surgery Strategic Care Network, and she has CIHR funding to support ongoing research in Surgical Quality and Safety.

Medical Leadership and Administration

- Dr. James Brookes (Pediatric ENT) became the ACH Site Lead for Pediatric Otolaryngology.
- Dr. Bryce Weber (Pediatric Urology) became the ACH Site Lead for Pediatric Urology.
- Dr. Stephanie Dotchin (Pediatric Ophthalmology) became the President of EPSAA (Eye Physicians and Surgeons Association of Alberta).

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Key challenges faced by the section centred on achieving safe and efficient care for children with surgical issues despite the changes imposed by the COVID pandemic. Although the Pediatric Access Targets for Surgery (pCATS) have provided critical guidance, we need to continue to strive for a better understanding of how the allocation of surgical resources can most effectively improve the overall health of children in Alberta.
- Dr. Robin Eccles (Pediatric Surgery): retired after more than 28 years at ACH.
- Dr. Tito Daodu (Pediatric Surgery): recruited to Pediatric General Surgery (replaced Dr. Robin Eccles). Currently completing Master of Public Health at Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health in Clinical Effectiveness. Project: Impact of Socioeconomic Status on Emergency General Surgery Outcomes in Canada.
- Dr. Benjamin Hughes (Pediatric Dentistry): recruited to ACH Dental Clinic (August 2020).



SECTION OF PLASTIC SURGERY

The Section of Plastic Surgery consists of 32 plastic surgeons who provide care at Calgary's four adult acute care sites and the Alberta Children's Hospital. Our members focus on the care and surgical restoration of structures of the body that are affected, aesthetically or functionally, by birth defects, tumours, injuries, diseases, or the aging process. We operate on many anatomic regions of the body and work with many specialties to solve a variety of surgical problems.

Our section has a five-year resident training program under the leadership of Dr. Duncan Nickerson, which accepts two residents each year. After completing the residency, almost all residents go on to further fellowship training in various plastic surgery subspecialties.

We offer three subspecialty fellowships:

- Oncologic reconstruction – Program Director: Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle
- Microsurgical reconstruction – Program Director: Dr. Christiaan Schrag
- Hand surgery – Program Director: Dr. Justin Yeung

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Clinical Service

- Dr. Jennifer Matthews continues to coordinate the Calgary Chapter of Breast Reconstruction Awareness Day. This year's event took place on October 14, 2020, by videoconference. Patients and their partners had the opportunity to hear from surgeons and breast cancer survivors about the journey through breast reconstruction.
- Drs. Justin Yeung and Maleka Ramji have developed a virtual hand clinic and have been awarded

funding from the Institute of Health Economics to conduct an economic evaluation of this clinic.

- Successful ERAS pathways have been developed for breast reconstruction, head & neck reconstruction, and cleft lip and palate patients, with reduced lengths of stay and improved patient experience.

Members

- Dr. Aaron Knox leads the CBD initiative for plastic surgery at the University of Calgary. He is also the chair of the Clinical Competency Committee for the Plastic Surgery Resident Training Program.
- Dr. Don McPhalen serves as co-chair of the Well Physician Course for UGME.
- Dr. Jennifer Matthews continues to coordinate the annual Microsurgical Skills Simulation Course each spring for plastic surgery and otolaryngology residents.
- The D.C Birdsell Plastic Surgery Resident Research Day and Visiting Professorship was held virtually on November 19, 2020, with Dr. Kirsty Boyd (University of Ottawa) serving as visiting professor.
- Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle chaired the very successful Virtual Fellows Research Symposium in May 2020.
- Dr. Frankie Fraulin continues to serve as the Deputy Department Head – Governance and Physician Services, Department of Surgery.
- Dr. Jennifer Matthews continues in her role as Patient Concerns Coordinator, Department of Surgery.
- Dr. Duncan Nickerson continues to serve as Safety Lead (Adult), Department of Surgery.
- Dr. Kate Elzinga serves as Quality Improvement Lead for the Section of Plastic Surgery, studying outcomes from free flap breast reconstruction.
- Section members published 25 peer-reviewed publications in 2020.

Awards and Recognitions

- Dr. Rob Harrop received the 2020 Distinguished Service Award for the Alberta Children's Hospital.



Dr. Rob Harrop
Section Chief of Plastic Surgery

3,889 *surgical cases performed in the Calgary Zone*

14% *reduction in surgeries due to COVID-19*

- Dr. Duncan Nickerson received the 2020 Department of Surgery Award for Dedication to Patient Safety.
- Dr. Aaron Knox received the 2020 Department of Surgery Leadership Award for Outstanding Contribution by a New Faculty Member.
- Dr. Earl Campbell was elected (for the third time) to the position of President of the Alberta Society of Plastic Surgeons. He is also the Calgary Zone representative to the Alberta Medical Association.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- COVID significantly disrupted all surgeons' practices and resulted in a 14% reduction of plastic surgery cases done in the Calgary Zone (4,500 cases in 2019 vs 3,889 in 2020). However, there were some positive aspects of the pandemic for the section members. Several members developed new skills while others found increased time to spend with their families or on fitness activities.
- Increasing the number of academic plastic surgery faculty remains a priority for the Section of Plastic Surgery. Current efforts to achieve this goal are aimed at exploring novel funding models for such surgeons.
- Providing resident education in the area of aesthetic plastic surgery is required by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons but remains challenging for a variety of reasons. Drs. Paul Whidden, Duncan

Nickerson, Ryan Frank, and Rob Harrop continue to explore the concept of developing a Resident Aesthetic Surgery Clinic whereby residents, under the supervision of a staff plastic surgeon, would assess potential patients, participate in their surgery, and manage their postoperative care.

- Proposed surgical missions to Vietnam and Zimbabwe were cancelled in 2020 due to the global pandemic.
- Dr. Maleka Ladha is a new plastic surgeon on staff at the Peter Lougheed Centre (PLC). She trained in plastic surgery at McMaster University, followed by a hand fellowship at the PLC.
- We experienced the sudden and tragic loss of one of our colleagues, Dr. Jonathan Lee. He suffered a stroke and passed away on June 28, 2020, at the age of 42. Jon was a very accomplished individual. He attended medical school and did his residency in plastic surgery at the University of Alberta, followed by a hand and microvascular surgery fellowship at the New York University and a fellowship in aesthetic plastic surgery in Toronto, Ontario. In 2009, Jon was recruited to the Section of Plastic Surgery and was based at the Peter Lougheed Centre. He was highly regarded for his technical excellence in surgery. He had a kind and gentle demeanour that made it difficult for anyone not to like him. He leaves behind his wife, two children, and four stepchildren.

SECTION OF PODIATRIC SURGERY



The Section of Podiatric Surgery includes 12 surgeons who deliver surgery to all five hospitals in the Calgary Zone, with section members treating disorders of the foot and ankle.

Prevention and advanced wound care of foot ulcerations is a large part of the practice, in addition to providing patient education around toolsets to decrease the amount of pressure on the foot when standing or walking. The section also specializes in limb preservation surgery, ranging from draining a foot abscess, to larger debridements of nonviable tissue, to performing amputations. Due to the complexity and multifactorial health conditions of diabetic foot ulcerations, we work closely with the Section of Vascular Surgery to ensure optimized blood flow and enhanced healing. We also consult with other specialties as required, including infectious disease, general internal medicine, endocrinology, orthopedic surgery, and plastic surgery.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

The Zivot Limb Preservation Clinic at the Peter Lougheed Centre continues to focus on bringing the diabetic foot and its complications to the forefront of healthcare in Alberta. With the assistance of a very generous donation, we have purchased new equipment that will help keep our institute as a centre of excellence in Western Canada. The clinic had over 7,400 patient visits in 2020.

Our section performed over 2,100 cases in the minor surgery clinic and main operating rooms at the Peter Lougheed Centre in a year where surgery cancellations were a regular occurrence due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, over 800 surgical cases were performed at Chartered Surgical Facilities. Section members also provided call coverage for the five acute care facilities in Calgary, urgent care facilities, RAAPID, and Specialist Link for the Calgary Zone.

Last year, one of our members, Dr. Karim Manji, published an article in the Journal of the American Podiatric Medical Association titled Reduction in Diabetes-Related Major Amputation Rates After Implementation of a Multidisciplinary Model: An Evaluation in Alberta,



Dr. John Toole
Interim Section Chief

12 surgeons in the
Calgary Zone

7,100 visits to the Zivot Limb
Preservation Clinic

2,100 cases at the Peter
Lougheed Centre

800 cases at Chartered
Surgical Facilities

Canada. This Cohort study showed that over 11 years, there were 45% fewer major lower extremity amputations in the Calgary Zone compared to the Edmonton zones. This shows the direct benefit Podiatric Surgery has in the health system as the Podiatric Surgery Limb Preservation program is only available in the Calgary Zone.

Over the past nine years, our section has been self-reporting post-operative complications and issues at Chartered Surgical Facilities, and complications are then discussed at section meetings. This allows surgeons to learn from one another, share ideas on how to improve the system, and set up protocols to prevent complications.

Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, all educational activities continued throughout 2020, though some activities did move to a virtual format. Each year, our section presents to the family medicine residents on pathologies involving the foot and pathways for referrals. We also present to the Vascular Surgery residents on Diabetic limb-related complications and surgical reconstruction options. The Vascular Surgery residents also spend two blocks with our section. We are now becoming more involved with the Cumming School of Medicine. New third-year students are now spending

one-week clerkships in the Zivot Limb Preservation Clinic as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are a centre for clinical rotation of the podiatry school in the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR), in Trois-Rivières, Quebec. Fourth-year podiatry students can spend a block of time with our section concentrating on comprehensive care of the diabetic foot. This rotation was paused in 2020 due to COVID-19, but we expect it to resume in 2021.

For this upcoming year, we have accepted the Vascular Surgery Fellow from the University of Toronto for a rotation to learn surgical techniques in Limb Preservation.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there were a number of challenges at the Minor Surgery Clinic at the Peter Lougheed Centre: decreased patient numbers in the Zivot Limb Preservation clinic, altered ability to see and care for our patients in the clinic and the wards, and decreased access to the operating room for our patients.

Dr. Alisha Poonja, an academic podiatric surgeon, joined our section in 2020.



SECTION OF SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

The Section of Surgical Oncology delivers surgery to five hospitals in the Calgary zone, including the Alberta Children's Hospital, Foothills Medical Centre, Peter Lougheed Centre, Rockyview General Hospital, and South Health Campus. The section performs surgeries related to cancer, including breast, colorectal, endocrine, head and neck, hepatobiliary, lung, melanoma, urological malignancy, and sarcoma.

The section consists of a multidisciplinary group of surgeons dedicated to cancer care as their primary goal. Four members are located full-time in the Tom Baker Cancer Centre. Two of these members have primary-appointments to the Department of Oncology, with a cross-appointment to the Department of Surgery. All other members are primarily appointed to the Department of Surgery and located at various sites.

In addition to being full members of other sections, notably General Surgery and Plastic Surgery, our surgical oncologists also function in leadership

positions in the Tom Baker Cancer Center and in multiple tumour clinics, including cutaneous, breast, sarcoma, and advanced G.I. clinics.

The General Surgical Oncology Residency is through the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and several members of the Section of General Surgery support this program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- The General Surgical Oncology Residency Program successfully underwent an internal review by Postgraduate Medical Education at the University of Calgary. It currently consists of two active secondary residents.
- Dr. Antoine Bouchard-Fortier was promoted to Program Director for General Surgical Oncology, Clinical Assistant Professor, and appointed to the Calgary Zone Surgical Quality Council.
- Dr. Gregory Knapp completed the General Surgical Oncology Residency and is now a faculty member at Dalhousie University.
- The Surgical Oncology Fellowship is now active with two fellows. There is also an ongoing Plastic Oncologic Reconstruction Fellowship and an American Association of Endocrine Surgeons Accredited Fellowship.



Dr. Lloyd A. Mack
Interim Section Chief

4 *surgeons at Tom Baker Cancer Centre*

9 *surgeons support the General Surgical Oncology Training Program*

29 *surgeons in the Calgary Zone*

96 *peer-reviewed publications*

- The section thanks Dr. John Arlette for generous, significant financial support of the surgical oncology residency/ fellowship programs.
- Dr. May Lynn Quan and the Alberta Cancer Outcomes Research Network (ACORN) group have successfully expanded health services research with major new grant success.
- Dr. Lloyd Mack is the Deputy Academic Department Head for the Department of Oncology, Head of Cancer Surgery Alberta, and Acting Division Chair for Surgical Oncology within the Department of Oncology.
- Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle has continued to engage in multiple education projects, including the Breast Implant Associated – Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma (BIA-ALCL) information project for patients and new surgical techniques, such as prophylactic lymphovenous anastomoses for lymphedema prevention.
- Dr. Oliver Bathe's research continues to grow and thrive, including the development of patents and commercialization of his work.
- Dr. Adrian Harvey remains the CBD Lead for General Surgery and the Endocrine Fellowship Director. He has also taken on a new role with Undergraduate Medical Education as Director of Program, Faculty, and Student Evaluation.

- Dr. Janice Pasioka was the Program Director of the International Association of Endocrine Surgery Post Grad Course in November 2020. She is also an Associate Editor of the World Journal of Surgery.
- Dr. Greg Mckinnon is stepping down as Section Chief in January 2021. The section thanks him for his leadership.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Dr. Caitlin Yeo is an upcoming recruit in endocrine surgery/ surgical oncology for August 2021.
- Although the Section of Surgical Oncology has had various roles and successes over the years, all members belong to another section within the Department of Surgery. Most members are within the Sections of General Surgery and Plastic Surgery, and they primarily support the General Surgical Oncology Training Program. Due to this relationship, there is a proposal to change the Section of Surgical Oncology into a Division within the Section of General Surgery. All members of the section would continue to have cross-appointments to the Department of Oncology.
- This proposed change will hopefully not diminish the work of members throughout the Department of Surgery. It may allow a re-invention of purpose and activities supported by the Department.



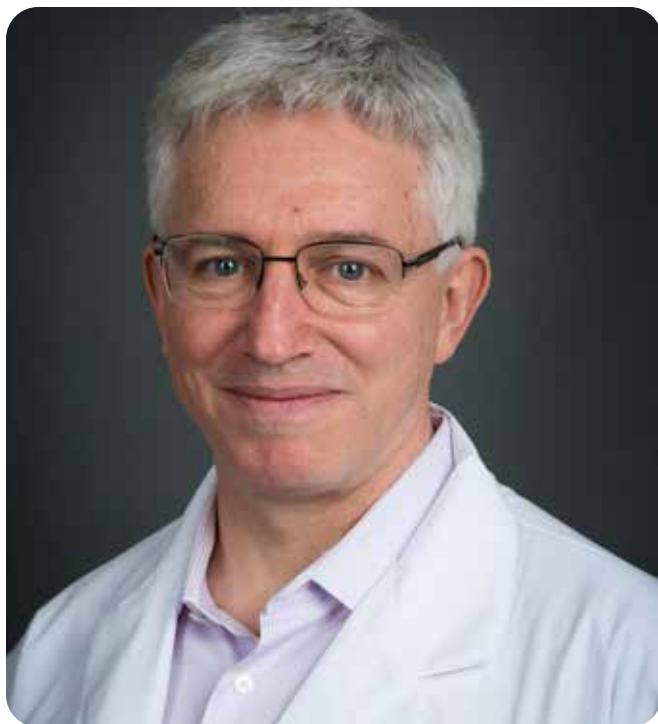
SECTION OF THORACIC SURGERY

The Section of Thoracic Surgery delivers surgery at the Foothills Medical Centre and serves all of Southern Alberta. Our six surgeons provide all aspects of thoracic surgery care, except lung transplantation. We are affiliated with the Tom Baker Cancer Centre and provide multidisciplinary care for lung and esophageal malignancies. Our section provides high-quality surgical care to the patients of southern Alberta.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Clinical Service

- The section has worked hard this year to optimize opioid prescribing after thoracic surgery. We worked collaboratively with the assistance of the Physician Learning Project to introduce a standard approach to opioid management. The program is based on CATS guidelines and will commence another round of audits and feedback in six months.
- Educational Case rounds have taken a step up as we have introduced run and control charts, with the guidance of Dr. Graham. This has brought a terrific new perspective expanding our group's experience with these important QI analytic tools.
- The group worked collaboratively to introduce a new post-lung resection management protocol with the goal of consistent clinical care and reduced length of stay.
- Dr. Edwards has been advancing an application process for a proposed multi-disciplinary medical pleuroscopy program in cooperation with IPM.



Dr. Sean McFadden
Section Chief of Thoracic Surgery

Education

- Covid-19 posed several challenges for the residency training program that were worked through with strong support from all section members. Currently, all formal instruction, rounds, and seminars are completed via videoconference.
- Dr. Colin Schieman continues his educational work as the Thoracic Surgery Residency Program Director. Dr. Schieman received the Department of Surgery's Educator of the Year award for 2020.
- Dr. Janet Edwards is the Undergraduate Medical Education lead for the Section of Thoracic Surgery. In this role, she sits on the Surgery Undergraduate Education Committee. She also participates in the new Career Coaching Program with medical students.
- Dr. Evan Barber was successfully matched to the Thoracic Surgery Residency Program for 2020.
- Dr. Navjit Dharampal successfully completed the Royal College Certification in Thoracic Surgery.
- The 2020 Internal Review was successfully completed and submitted to the PGME

Research

- Dr. Colin Schieman remains a co-investigator for the CIHR funded Randomized Controlled Trial to determine whether administration of colchicine compared with placebo reduces the incidence of perioperative atrial fibrillation within 14 days after major thoracic surgery. Conen D, et al.
- Dr. Janet Edwards was invited to speak at the World Conference on Lung Cancer in Barcelona, Spain. Dr. Edwards also had three abstracts accepted by the European Society of Thoracic Surgeons (ESTS) and the Canadian Association of Thoracic Surgeons (CATS).

Medical Leadership and Administration

- Dr. Colin Schieman remains the Lead of the CLEAR Score Process, which tabulates clinical, leadership, education, administration, and research activities. It is undergoing continued adoption and improvement by the Department of Surgery as a way to measure the activities of its members.
- Dr. Edwards is on several national and international committees, including the General Thoracic Workforce with the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) and the Western Thoracic Surgical Association (WTSA), Early Lung Cancer Committee for the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC), and the Research Committee for the Canadian Association of Thoracic Surgeons (CATS).
- Dr. Sean Grondin stepped down at the end of 2020 from his role as the Department Head of Surgery. He is continuing his love of medical leadership as Regent with the American College of Surgeons and President of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons.
- Dr. Andy Graham continues as the Director of the Office of Surgical Quality.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- For several years, the section was being considered for an Academic Medicine and Health Services Program (AMHSP), which is an alternative funding mechanism. Due to budget constraints, this plan has been stalled. The section has instead been encouraged to pursue a clinical alternative relationship plan (cARP). We will continue to follow through on the clinical ARP application.
- Recruitment is not planned at this time.

6 *surgeons in the
Calgary Zone*



SECTION OF TRANSPLANT SURGERY

The Section of Transplant Surgery delivers surgery at all five hospitals in Calgary, though primarily at the Foothills Medical Centre and the Alberta Children's Hospital. Our three transplant surgeons perform almost 100 kidney and pancreas transplants in Calgary every year.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Clinical Service

- The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on our section's activities due to the suspension of elective surgeries and because of our high-risk patient population (immunosuppressed transplant patients and patients with renal failure, hypertension, diabetes, etc.). Despite these challenges, we were able to implement a triage system for peritoneal dialysis (PD) catheter insertions, in collaboration with Nephrology, to ease the burden for the Hemodialysis units at high risk of COVID-19.
- We moved to virtual consultation platforms in our clinics, and it has worked well. For the patients who required a face-to-face consultation due to their complexity, use of the Complex and Complicated Cases Clinic (CCCC) has been the perfect environment.
- Despite the limitations noted above, we managed to complete almost the same number of transplant and dialysis surgeries as the previous year.
- The section continues to provide uninterrupted clinical services in kidney transplants, pancreas transplants, and dialysis surgery (vascular access for hemodialysis and placement of catheters for peritoneal dialysis). We



Dr. Anastasio Salazar
Section Chief of Transplant Surgery

3 surgeons in the
Calgary Zone

88 transplants
performed

54 multi-organ
donations

also perform multi-organ cadaver donation, including donation after cardiac death and after brain death.

- Our area of practice is primarily southern Alberta, though we collaborate with other centers in Canada, and on occasion, the United States, to procure livers, kidneys, and pancreases for transplant. We also evaluate and prepare live donors for other centers in the country.

Education

- The section continues to train fellows in transplant surgery. We currently have a second-year fellow training with our team.
- This year, for the first time, we have a vascular surgery resident rotating with us as part of a collaboration with the Section of Vascular Surgery. We look forward to continuing this initiative.
- We also train general surgery residents in the general aspects of transplant surgery and some general surgery techniques (PD catheters) and vascular access procedures (A-V fistula anastomosis and transplant vessel anastomosis).
- We provide training for elective medical students, nursing staff, and new Human Organ Procurement and Exchange program (HOPE) personnel.

Research

- Due to COVID-19, there have been restrictions on travelling and other collaborative work. However, research projects are still ongoing from previous years. Section members continue to participate in several projects: a multicenter cohort study on perioperative complications after living donor nephrectomy, a project that evaluates postoperative wound management with a suction device, a project that studies markers for long term graft survival, and a project that works with a computer simulation program on an artificial immune system (IMMUNO).

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- The section has been working on a Clinical Alternative Relationship Plan (CARP) application, which will help address our staffing and sustainability issues. However, at this time, we continue to wait for feedback from Alberta Health regarding acceptance and possible implementation of this alternative funding plan.



The Section of Urology is based at the Rockyview General Hospital at the Southern Alberta Institute of Urology (SAIU). The team of 14 adult urologists and three pediatric urologists serves patients at all acute-care sites in Calgary, providing care to individuals with a variety of urological conditions.

The section offers specialized programs, including the Acute and Chronic Kidney Stone Clinics, vesia [Alberta Bladder Centre], Men's Health Program, and Prostate Cancer Rapid-Access Clinics.

Our team values contributions to teaching and research, and our members provide clerkship teaching and supervision. The section runs three fellowship programs: pediatric urology, reconstructive and functional urology, and urologic oncology. Members are involved in a variety of clinical trials, basic science research, and quality improvement projects.



Dr. Kevin Carlson
Section Chief of Urology

4,238 *urology cases completed*

1,593 *urology cancer cases completed*

29 *publications*

OVER \$5.7M *received in grants*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr. Carlson will be stepping down as the Section Chief of Urology after a 10-year term.
- Dr. Bryce Weber became the Pediatric Urology Site Lead at the Alberta Children's Hospital.
- The section submitted an expression of interest to the Alberta Government for a clinical ARP for services covered by the second on-call Urologist.
- Members played a critical role in developing province-wide order sets for urology for Connect Care.
- Our NSQIP team has been working on decreasing the rate of patient surgical-site-infections through a variety of initiatives. To date, these efforts have been successful.
- We continue to expand our research program, with a focus on translational research and health services research.
- Section members received grants totalling over \$5.7 million.
- Dr. Kevin Carlson received the Department of Surgery Distinguished Service Award for the Rockyview Hospital.
- Dr. Darren Desantis received the McPhedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching.
- Dr. Bimal Bhindi received the CUASF New Investigator Research Scholarship.

- Dr. Richard Baverstock was chosen as a Top 10 Canadian Urological Association Journal (CUAJ) Peer-Reviewer.
- Drs. Geoffrey Gotto and Kamaljot (Kam) Kaler received UME Star Educator Awards from the University of Calgary.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant strain on our section. Urologists and staff had to postpone cases, change service delivery from in-person clinic visits to virtual visits, secure PPE for clinics, and work under circumstances that put surgeons and staff at a higher risk of COVID-19 infection.
- The need for additional clinical, non-physician support is ongoing, especially as the section will no longer receive certain clinical stipends for second-call service after March 2021.
- Increased effort and engagement are required to prepare for Connect Care.
- Urology Central Intake requires continued refinement and enhancement with the involvement of all section members and site leadership.
- The section has been short-staffed, as one member has been on medical leave since the spring of 2020.

SECTION OF VASCULAR SURGERY

The Section of Vascular Surgery has eight members who deliver vascular surgical care primarily at the Peter Lougheed Centre. The section also provides emergency and urgent vascular surgery at the Foothills Medical Centre, Rockyview General Hospital, South Health Campus, and Alberta Children's Hospital. Ambulatory venous surgery is performed at the Canmore General Hospital. Our members see outpatients and provide elective surgery for aneurysms, extracranial carotid disease, peripheral vascular disease, and lymphatic disease. The section participates in multicentre, multinational, clinical, and FDA trials.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Clinical Services

- Total of 10,000 outpatient visits per year.
- Over 1,000 elective surgeries:
 - 350 minor vascular procedures, including surgical management of varicose veins, A-V fistula creation, and indwelling chemotherapy access catheters.
 - 650 major vascular procedures including abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA), thoracic aortic aneurysm (TAA), visceral aneurysms, carotid endarterectomy, lower extremity revascularizations (aorta bi-femoral bypass, axillary bi-femoral bypass) and infra-inguinal bypass.
 - 20-40 combined procedures for complex oncologic resection and reconstruction and complex spine exposure.

- Over 240 emergency surgeries:
 - 50-70 ruptured AAAs and 20-30 TAAs and aortic dissections.
 - 150 acute ischemic limbs.
 - 20-40 vascular traumas.
 - 20-30 iatrogenic injuries in support of other surgical services.
- Elective AAA is performed as day surgery.
- Approximately 50% of all endovascular aneurysm repairs can be discharged within 4 hours post-procedure.
- Vascular Surgery, Cardiac Surgery, Anesthesia, Cardiology, and Interventional Radiology have formed a multi-disciplinary clinic for the management of complex diseases of the aorta.
- Vascular Surgery participates in the Specialist Link Program consulting on 300 calls per year.

Education

- Vascular Surgery's training program has two streams: a traditional two-year fellowship following a complete General Surgery residency and a direct five-year residency in Vascular Surgery.
- Vascular Surgery has eight to twelve off-service residents who rotate through annually.
- Clerkships include 20-30 University of Calgary students and 10-15 visiting clerkship electives from across Canada.
- Observerships in Vascular Surgery for first and second-year medical students are popular with 20 -30 students per year. Med 440 students make up an additional eight-ten observerships.
- Didactic lectures are taught to every medical student during their surgical clerkship.
- Weekly Vascular Surgery half-day and multiple General Surgery half-day lectures are conducted by section members.



Dr. Gregory Samis
Section Chief of Vascular Surgery

Research

- Clinical and basic science research is on-going in the Section of Vascular Surgery. Vascular Surgery trainees participate in these research projects, and some trainees choose to include an additional research year in their program.
- Partnerships between Vascular Surgery and Bio-Medical Engineering have been very productive and are championed by Dr. Randy Moore.
- On-going clinical trials include FDA-sponsored device trials led by Drs. Moore, Samis, Nutley, Clark, Cattle, and Petrsek.
- Multinational, multicentre clinical trials for carotid surgery are led by Dr. Samis and the Division of Stroke Neurology.
- Bioengineering studies regarding explanted endovascular devices have led to several publications for Drs. Nutley and Samis.
- Vascular Surgery joined Interventional Radiology in FDA phase two and phase three trials with novel endovascular technology, such as drug-eluting stents and balloons.

Members

- Section members are represented on the Senior Surgeon Policy Committee, Calgary Zone Surgical Quality Council, Surgical Undergraduate

8 surgeons in the
Calgary Zone

10,000 outpatient visits
per year

1,000 elective
surgeries

Education Committee (SUGEC), Surgical Executive Committee, Surgical Suites Advisory Committee, Peter Lougheed Centre (PLC) Leadership Committee, and Transfusion Committee.

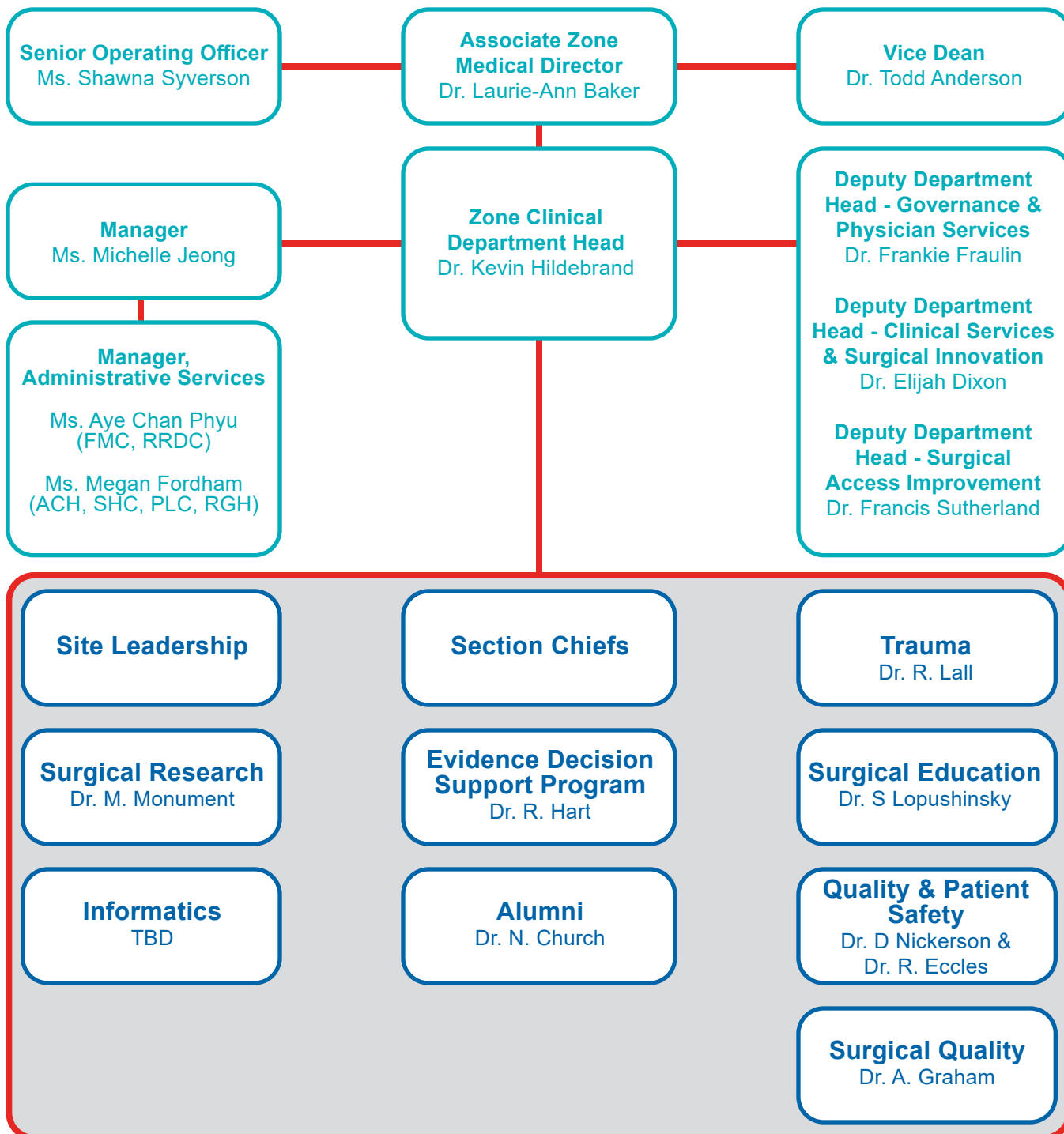
- Vascular Surgery is represented in Connect Care with area trainers, super users, and a Medical Informatics Lead for Surgery in the Calgary Zone. They also participate in the Surgery Area Council and as Clinical Content Experts.
- Dr. Paul Petrsek has a leadership role in the Surgery SCN and has been Vascular Surgery's representative at the AMA. Dr. Petrsek is also on the Executive of the Canadian Society of Vascular Surgery.
- Dr. Marie-France Guimond has been the Chief Examiner at The Royal College of Canada, Vascular Surgery, for eight years.
- Dr. Paul Cattle is an Editor of The Journal of Endovascular Management of Trauma.

CHALLENGES AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

- Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, Vascular Surgery's ambulatory clinic visits and major and minor elective case numbers were reduced by 30-40 %. Urgent and emergency case volumes were unchanged.
- A new "Model of Care" was introduced in the spring of 2020 in response to the pandemic. Minimizing exposure of the small team to prevent multiple staff quarantining at one time was necessary. This was accomplished by surgeons working in groups of two or three when covering the urgent outpatient clinics, urgent/emergency ORs, and responding on call.
- Our section adapted to virtual care platforms and decreased exposure to clinic staff, and more importantly, our highly comorbid patient population.
- Dr. Kenton Rommens joined the section in November 2019 after completing a Helios Sponsored Fellowship in Complex Aortic Surgery in Houston, Texas.

LEADERSHIP

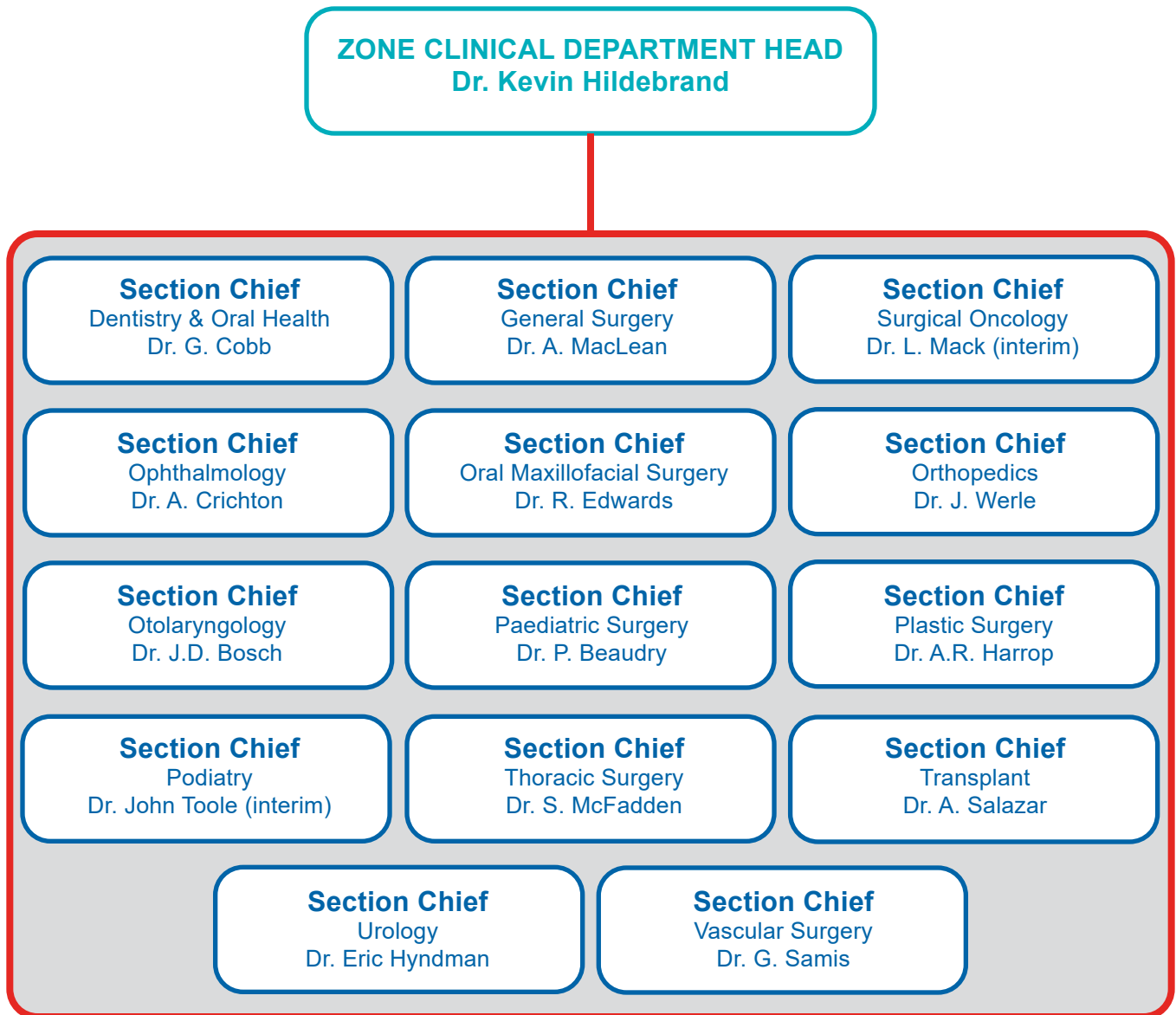
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



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SECTION CHIEFS

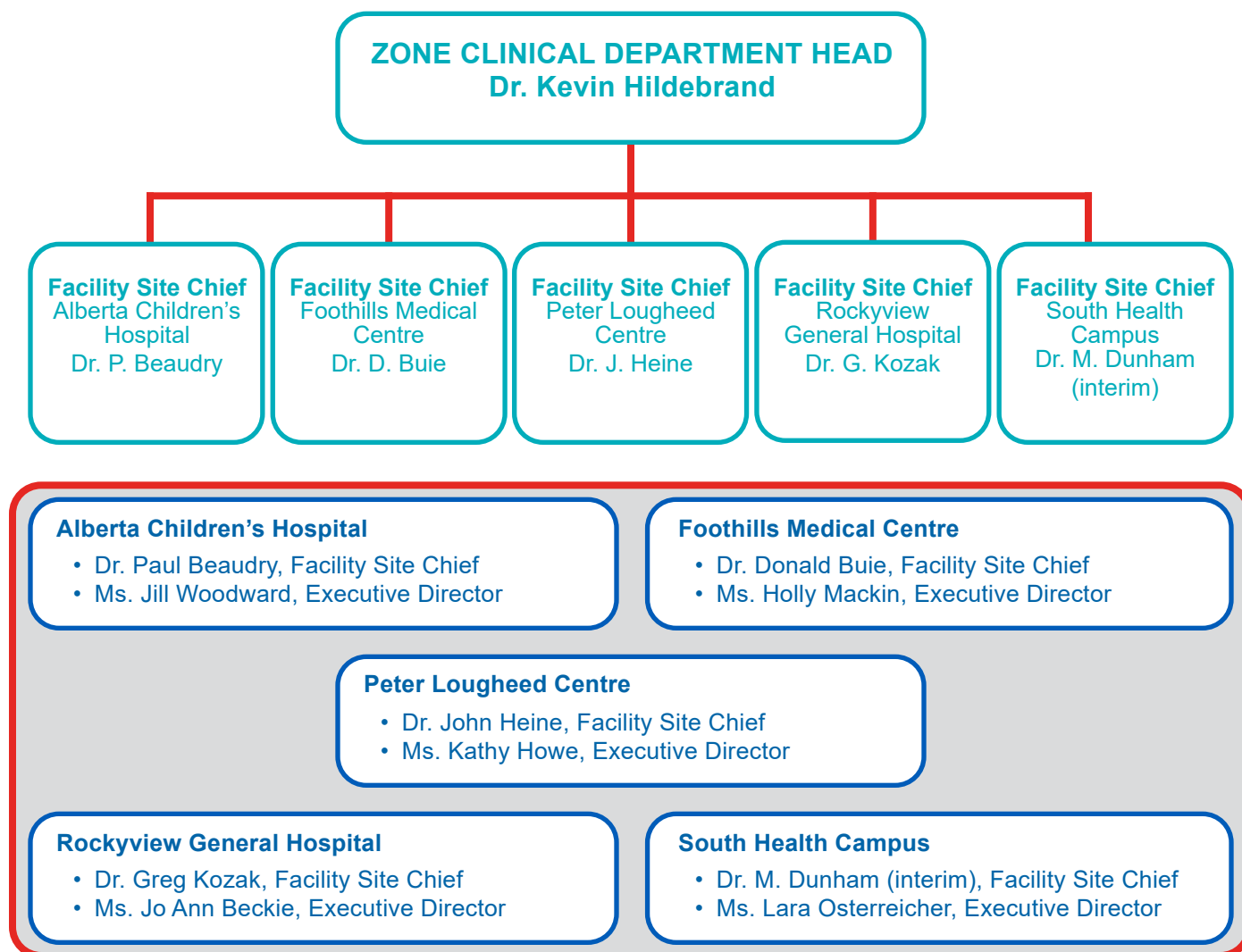
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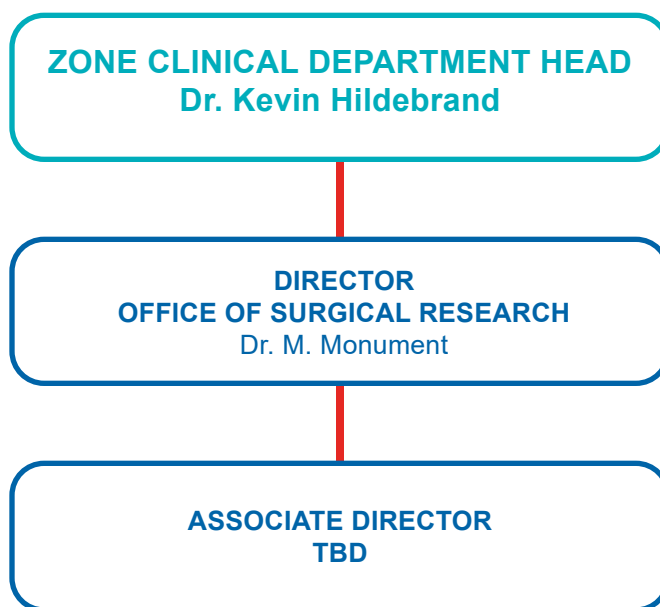
SITE LEADERSHIP

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



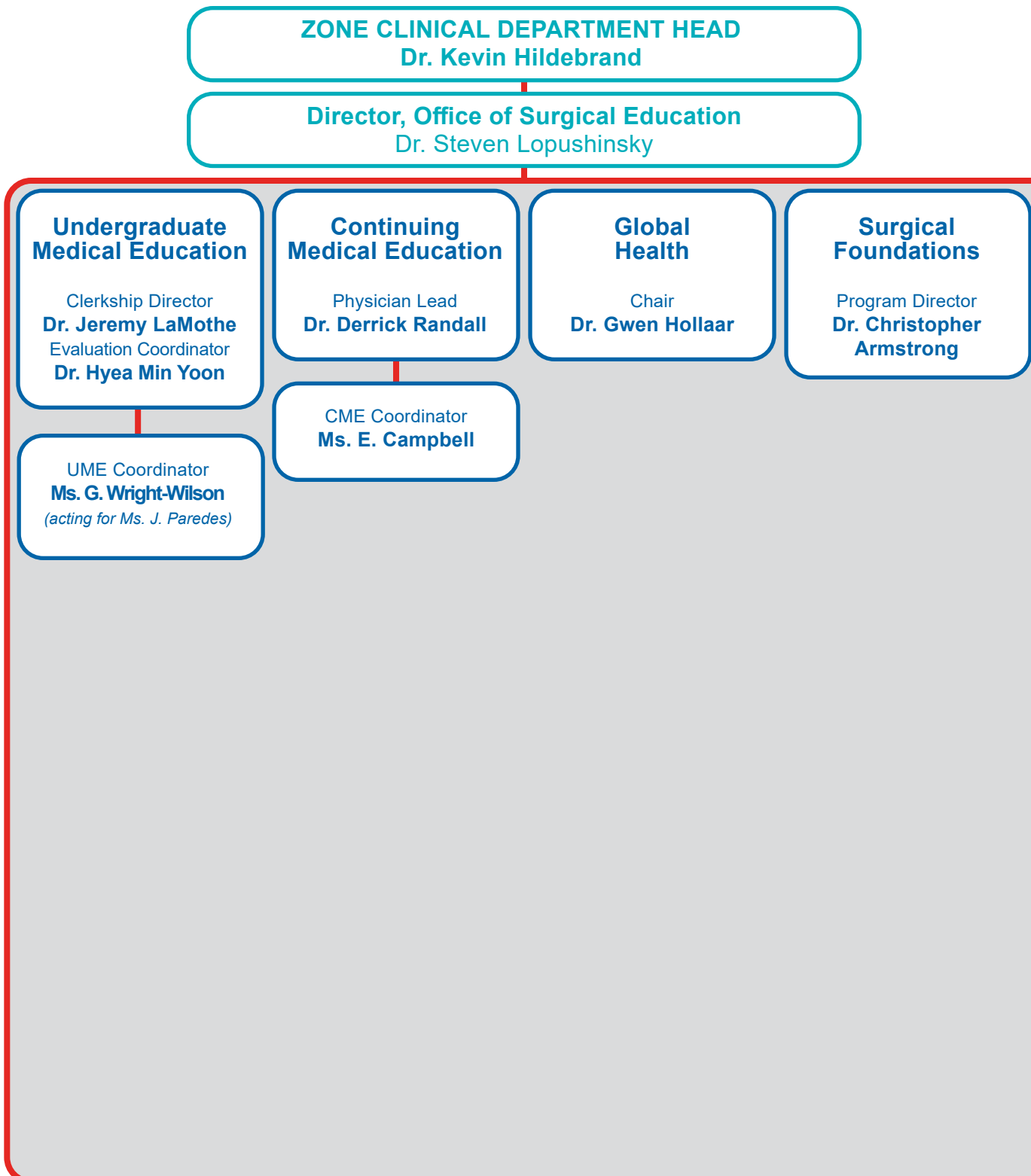
Updated April 1, 2021

SURGICAL RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Updated April 1, 2021

SURGICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



Updated April 1, 2021

Post Graduate Surgical Training Committee

Chair
Dr. Steven Lopushinsky

Residency Program	Program Director
Colorectal Surgery	Dr. W. Donald Buie
Dentistry and Oral Health	Dr. Graham Cobb
General Surgery	Dr. Ryan Rochon
Ophthalmology	Dr. Chris Hanson
Orthopaedic Surgery	Dr. Nicholas Desy
Otolaryngology	Dr. Warren Yunker
Paediatric General Surgery	Dr. Andrea Lo
Plastic Surgery	Dr. Duncan Nickerson
General Surgical Oncology	Dr. Antoine Bouchard-Fortier
Thoracic Surgery	Dr. Colin Schieman
Vascular Surgery	Dr. Jeff Clark

Office of Surgical Fellowship

Director
Dr. Amin Kherani

Fellowship Program	Program Director
Gen. Surgery – Endocrine	Dr. Adrian Harvey
Gen. Surgery – HPB	Dr. Francis Sutherland
Gen. Surgery – Surgical Oncology	Dr. Antoine Bouchard-Fortier
Gen. Surgery – Trauma	Dr. Paul McBeth
Gen. Surgery – Upper GI	Dr. Neal Church
Ophthalmology – Ocular Oncology	Dr. Ezekiel Weis
Ophthalmology – Glaucoma	Dr. Patrick Gooi
Ophthalmology – Oculoplastics	Dr. Karim Punja
Ophthalmology – Retina	Dr. Amin Kherani
Ophthalmology – Retina	Dr. Geoff Williams
Orthopaedic – Arthroplasty (Joint Reconstruction)	Dr. James Powell
Orthopaedic – Upper Extremity	Dr. Ian Lo

Fellowship Program	Program Director
Orthopaedic – Foot & Ankle	Dr. Jeremy LaMothe
Orthopaedic – Hand & Wrist	Dr. Gurpreet Dhaliwal
Orthopaedic – Paediatric Spine	Dr. Fabio Ferri-de-Barros
Orthopaedic – Trauma	Dr. Robert Korley
Otolaryngology – Advanced Head & Surgical Oncology	Dr. Robert Hart
Plastic Surgery – Hand, Wrist & Peripheral Nerve	Dr. Justin Yeung
Plastic Surgery – Microsurgery	Dr. Christiaan Schrag
Plastic Surgery – Oncology	Dr. Claire Temple-Oberle
Transplant	Dr. Mauricio Monroy-Cuadros
Urology – Oncology	Dr. Geoffrey Gotto
Urology – Paediatrics	Dr. Bryce Weber
Urology – VESIA/Reconstructive & Functional Urology	Dr. Richard Baverstock
	Dr. Kevin Carlson
Vascular Surgery	Dr. Jeffery Clark
	Dr. Gregory Samis

Updated April 1, 2021

PROMOTIONS

The Department of Surgery is pleased to report the following clinical and GFT promotions. Please join us in congratulating our members as we recognize their hard work and achievements.

Mary Brindle, Pediatric General Surgery, Professor
Andrew Dodd, Orthopedic Surgery, Clinical Assistant Professor
Jitendra Gohill, Ophthalmology, Clinical Associate Professor
Eric Hyndman, Urology, Clinical Associate Professor
Anthony MacLean, General Surgery, Clinical Professor
Paul McBeth, General Surgery, Clinical Associate Professor
Adam Muzychuk, Ophthalmology, Clinical Assistant Professor
Artan Reso, General Surgery, Clinical Associate Professor
Alex Rezansoff, Orthopedic Surgery, Clinical Assistant Professor
Iain Russell, Orthopedic Surgery, Clinical Associate Professor
Prism Schneider, Orthopedic Surgery, Associate Professor
Ken Thomas, Orthopedic Surgery, Clinical Professor
Warren Yunker, Pediatric Otolaryngology, Clinical Associate Professor

AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Rob Harrop, Alberta Children's Hospital
Serdar Yilmaz, Foothills Hospital Centre
Greg Samis, Peter Lougheed Centre
Kevin Carlson, Rockyview General Hospital
John Kortbeek, South Health Campus

LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTION AWARDS

Graham Cobb, Outstanding Contribution in Leadership
Duncan Nickerson, Dedication to Surgical Quality
Tony MacLean, Surgical Innovation Award
Aaron Knox, Outstanding Contribution of a New Faculty
Chirag Shah, Surgical Citizenship
Peter Huang, Underserved Populations in Canada and Abroad
Jim Powell, Underserved Populations in Canada and Abroad

EDUCATION AWARDS

Paul McBeth, Ectopic Educator of the Year
Colin Schieman, Educator of the Year
James Stewart, Excellence in Teaching: Senior Faculty
Nicholas Desy, Excellence in Teaching: New Faculty
The Surgery 'Boot Camp' Team: Artan Reso, Chris Armstrong, Andrea Lo, Darren Desantis, Renelle Daigle, McPhedran Award for Innovation in Surgical Teaching

RESEARCH AWARDS

Prism Schneider, Outstanding Contribution in Clinical Research
Oliver Bathe, Outstanding Contribution in Basic Science





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