



Now Available

North Zone: Centralized Referrals for Orthopaedics & Urology

As part of the Alberta Surgical Initiative (ASI), a new central access and intake system for managing referrals launched in the North Zone on **Monday, August, 15, 2022** for urology and orthopaedics. The program is called **Alberta Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST)**.

What North Zone referring providers need to do as of August 15
Change the fax numbers for sending non-urgent urology and orthopaedic referrals to:
1-833-627-7025

FAST Facts:

- All non-urgent orthopaedic and urology referrals require submission to the FAST team starting Aug. 15; other specialties will be added over time.
- One toll free fax number for non-urgent urology and orthopaedics referrals: 1-833-627-7025
- When referring, you can choose:
 - Next available provider with the shortest waitlist
 - A specific provider by name
 - An out-of-Zone referral to a specialist in a different part of the province
- Each referral will be checked for completeness and sent to a surgeon's office within the Zone accepting FAST referrals. This roll-out is in continued development and your feedback to improve the processes is greatly appreciated.

Need to refer once FAST launches? Here are three easy steps:

1. Review the Referral Pathway at ahs.ca/pathways. Use it to understand what information is required with your referral.
 2. Fax your usual referral form or letter* to the FAST office: 1-833-627-7025.
 3. Specify if you want a next-available provider with the shortest waitlist, a named provider (e.g., Dr. Smith) or an out-of-Zone provider.
- If you need to send non-urgent orthopaedic and urology surgery referrals to other Zones, include the name of a preferred provider or clinic at this time.
 - Edmonton Zone urology will continue with their current process of receiving referrals via Alberta Netcare eReferral. If you require assistance, please reach out to the FAST team. If you want to arrange eReferral training, please reach out to the eHealth Netcare Support Services team at 1-855-643-8649.

*You can continue to use your usual referral form or letter at this time. New provincial referral forms will be released in fall 2022 and included in community Electronic Medical Records (EMRs).

Staff from the FAST office will provide phone and email support Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Phone: 1-833-553-3278 (833-553-FAST) **Email:** ABFAST.North@ahs.ca

➤ More information: Visit ahs.ca/specialtyaccess

Edmonton Zone FAST Expanding to Orthopedics

As part of the Alberta Surgical Initiative, the existing Edmonton Zone Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST) program now includes all non-urgent, adult orthopedic referrals.

Send all non-urgent orthopedic surgery referrals to

780-670-3221

FAST will continue to accept referrals sent to the existing 780-643-1235 fax number for elbow, hand and wrist referrals.

FAST facts

- All non-urgent, adult orthopedic referrals require submission to the FAST team starting Oct. 31.
- Each referral will be checked for completeness and sent to a specific surgeon or specialty clinic within the Zone accepting FAST referrals.
- This roll-out is in continued development and your feedback is greatly appreciated.
- FAST is being implemented province wide this fall, and Edmonton FAST will be part of an Alberta-wide FAST program. FAST aims to create a consistent referral experience everywhere in the province and ensure that patients see the right provider within clinically appropriate timelines.
- Information for urgent and emergency advice/referrals can be found in the Referral Pathways at ahs.ca/pathways.

Easy steps to refer

1. Please use Referral Pathways at ahs.ca/pathways to understand what information is required with your referral.
2. Specify in your referral letter a reason for referral according to the Referral Pathway and if you are seeking:
 - Next-available provider with the shortest waitlist,
 - A named provider (e.g., Dr. Smith), clinic or site, or
 - An out-of-Zone referral to a specialist in a different part of the province.
3. Fax your referral to the fax numbers provided above.

New provincial referral forms will be released in fall 2022 and included in community Electronic Medical Records (EMRs).



Specialties included in FAST

FAST continues to be the central intake in Edmonton for referrals to:

- General surgery
- Plastics
- ENT/otolaryngology
- Gynecology - colposcopy only
- Orthopedics



Contact

FAST office

Phone: 1-833-553-3278 (833-553-FAST),
Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Email: ABFAST.Edmonton@ahs.ca

More information: ahs.ca/specialtyaccess

Central Zone: Centralized Referrals for Orthopedics and Urology Through FAST

As part of the Alberta Surgical Initiative, a new central access and intake system for managing referrals launched in Central Zone on Monday, August 29, 2022 for urology and orthopedics. The program is called **Alberta Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST)**.

What your office needs to do:

Change the fax numbers for sending non-urgent urology and orthopedics referrals to:

1-833-627-7022

Follow these easy steps to refer:

1. Review the Referral Pathway at ahs.ca/pathways. Use it to understand what information is required with your referral.
2. Fax your usual referral form or letter* to the FAST office: 1-833-627-7022.
3. Specify if you are seeking:
 - Next available provider with the shortest waitlist,
 - A specific provider, clinic or site, or
 - An out-of-Zone referral to a specialist in a different part of the province

*You can continue to use your usual referral form or letter at this time. New provincial referral forms will be released in fall 2022 and included in community Electronic Medical Records (EMRs).

FAST facts:

- The FAST team will accept **non-urgent** referrals for urology and orthopedics; other specialties will be added over time.
- Each referral will be checked for completeness and sent to a surgeon's office within the Zone accepting FAST referrals.
- The FAST processes are iterative, and your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Contact

FAST office

Phone: 1-833-553-3278 (833-553-FAST), Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Email: ABFAST.Central@ahs.ca

More information: ahs.ca/specialtyaccess

Calgary Zone: Centralized Referrals for Urology, Orthopedics and Spine

As part of the Alberta Surgical Initiative, a new central access and intake system for managing referrals called Alberta Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST) launched in the Calgary Zone on **Tuesday, October 11** for all urology referrals and non-urgent orthopedics and spine referrals (excluding oncological and pediatrics orthopedic).

Please change your fax numbers for all urology referrals and non-urgent orthopedics and spine referrals (excluding oncological and pediatrics orthopedic) to:

1-833-627-7023

Follow these easy steps to refer:

1. Fax your usual referral form or letter* to the FAST office: **1-833-627-7023**
2. Specify if you are seeking:
 - Next available provider with the shortest waitlist,
 - A specific provider, clinic or site, or
 - An out-of-Zone referral to a specialist in a different part of the province
 - If you need to send referrals to other Zones, please include the name of a preferred provider or clinic at this time
3. Please continue using specialistlink.ca for referral and advice information

*You may continue to use your usual referral form or letter at this time. New provincial referral forms will be released in Dec. 2022 and included in community Electronic Medical Records (EMRs).

FAST facts

- All urology referrals and non-urgent orthopedics and spine referrals (excluding oncological and pediatrics orthopedic) require submission to the FAST team; other specialties will be added over time.
- Each referral will be checked for completeness and sent to the requested surgeon/site or the next available surgeon.
- Calgary's Urology Central Intake (UCI) program is now part of FAST. Please replace UCI fax numbers with the FAST number: **1-833-627-7023**
- The FAST processes are iterative and your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Urgent and emergency advice

- For urgent phone advice: Call RAAPID South at 403-944-4486 or 1-800-661-1700
- For emergency consultation: Refer directly to the emergency department or call RAAPID South at 403-944-4486 or 1-800-661-1700



Contact

FAST office

Phone: 1-833-553-3278 (833-553-FAST), Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Email: ABFAST.Calgary@ahs.ca

More information: ahs.ca/specialtyaccess

South Zone: Centralized Referrals for Orthopedics & Urology Through FAST

As part of the Alberta Surgical Initiative, a new central access and intake system for managing referrals called Alberta Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST) is now available for all non-urgent urology and orthopedic referrals.

Please change your fax numbers for urology and orthopedic referrals to:
1-833-627-7024

Follow these easy steps to refer:

1. Review the Referral Pathway at ahs.ca/pathways. Use it to understand what information is required with your referral.
2. Fax your usual referral form or letter* to the FAST office: 1-833-627-7024.
3. Specify if you are seeking:
 - Next available provider with the shortest waitlist,
 - A specific provider, clinic or site, or
 - An out-of-Zone referral to a specialist in a different part of the province

*You may continue to use your usual referral form or letter at this time. New provincial referral forms will be released in fall 2022 and included in community Electronic Medical Records (EMRs).

FAST facts:

- Non-urgent urology and orthopedic referrals are now accepted by FAST; other specialties will be added over time.
- Each referral will be checked for completeness and sent to a surgeon's office within the Zone accepting FAST referrals.
- The FAST processes are iterative and your feedback is greatly appreciated.

➤ Contact

FAST office

Phone: 1-833-553-3278 (833-553-FAST), Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Email: ABFAST.South@ahs.ca

More information: ahs.ca/specialtyaccess