

# FAST Facts



**FAST:**  
FACILITATED  
ACCESS TO  
SPECIALIZED  
TREATMENT

## FAST IS YOUR REFERRAL PARTNER

Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST) is a central intake and distribution program for surgical referrals. The program improves patient access to specialty care by centralizing referral intake, ensuring referrals are complete, and distributing referrals to specialists for triage. For more information, visit [ahs.ca/fast](https://ahs.ca/fast).

## SIMPLE PROCESS, BETTER REFERRALS

As part of the [Alberta Surgical Initiative](#), FAST strives to reduce surgical wait times and ensure patients receive their scheduled surgeries within clinically appropriate targets.

### BENEFITS FOR REFERRING PROVIDERS

- One fax number for all surgical referrals (or one per specialty in Edmonton Zone).
- Referrals are assigned to next available provider, a named provider, or an out-of-zone specialist.
- [Referral Pathways](#) list standard referral requirements (e.g. labs, diagnostic imaging).
- Accurate wait time data available for your zone.
- Referral status available in [Netcare eReferral](#).

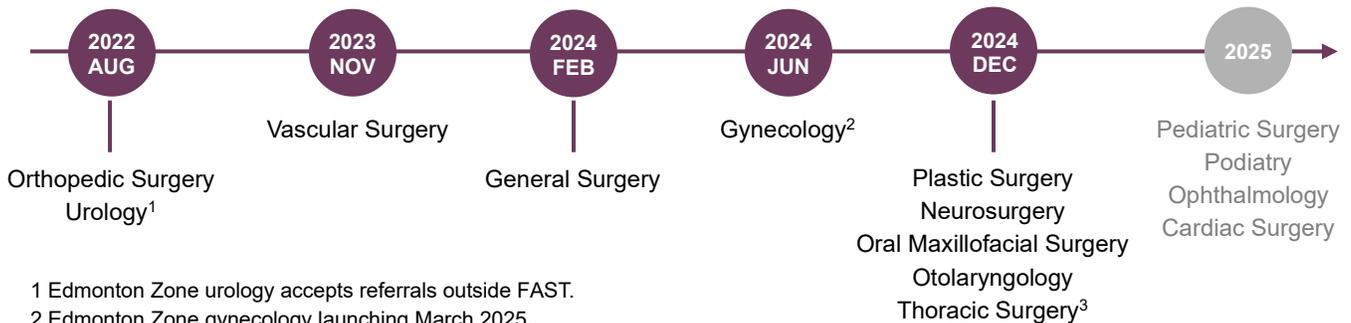
### BENEFITS FOR SPECIALISTS

- Referrals are checked for completeness.
- Referrals are assigned by name or based on specialist's capacity to book consultations.
- Referral requirements are standardized and consistent across the province.
- Wait time data supports improvements to surgical referral process and patient care.

## SPECIALTIES WORKING WITH FAST

The FAST program will expand to all surgical specialties by late 2025.

- Specialties currently partnered with FAST.
- Future partnerships.



1 Edmonton Zone urology accepts referrals outside FAST.  
2 Edmonton Zone gynecology launching March 2025.  
3 Thoracic surgery accepts referrals outside FAST.

## CONTACT FAST

Zone FAST Teams: 1-833-553-3278 (Monday – Friday) | General inquires: [abfast@ahs.ca](mailto:abfast@ahs.ca)  
Referral Instructions by Zone: [North](#) | [Edmonton](#) | [Central](#) | [Calgary](#) | [South](#)