

Provincial Adult Gynecology Referral Pathway

About this Pathway

Referral pathways help referring providers know where to send referrals and what information to include. These guidelines were created, updated, and co-designed with primary care, specialty care and patients.



We value all feedback to improve referral pathway. Please share your comments via [Online Survey](#) or scan the QR code.

Request Urgent Advice

(when patient may need same day intervention and/or diagnostics without hospitalization; not life threatening)

Call **RAAPID** urgent tele-advice:
RAAPID North: 1-800-282-9911.
RAAPID South: 1-800-661-1700.
Gynecology on Call via Hospital Switchboard

Request Emergency Consultation

(when patient needs to be seen immediately)

Call **RAAPID** or send to **Emergency Department via 911** as appropriate.

Review Clinical Pathway

(for guidance on referral process, if available)

A **clinical pathway** may be available to guide care options for your patient's condition:

Provincial

- [Provincial Abnormal Uterine Bleeding Clinical Pathway](#)
- [Provincial Post-Menopausal Bleeding Clinical Pathway](#)

Calgary Zone

- [Bleeding After Pregnancy Clinical Pathway](#)
- [Female Urinary Incontinence Clinical Pathway](#)

If you have any questions while using a clinical pathway or if a clinical pathway is not available, please request non-urgent advice.

Request Non-Urgent Advice

(when uncertain whether to submit a referral)

If you have been directed to seek Advice or need to connect with a Specialist:

By electronic advice (Response within 5 calendar days):

Use **Alberta Netcare eReferral Advice Request** and submit requests. For more information, go to: albertanetcare.ca/eReferral.htm

By telephone advice:

North & Edmonton Zones - (calls returned within 48 hours): Call **ConnectMD** at 1-844-633-2263 or go online to pcnconnectmd.com for more information.

Calgary Zone – (calls returned within 1 hour): Visit specialistlink.ca to request tele-advice, and for more information. Tele-advice is available Monday to Friday (except statutory holidays).

Request Non-Urgent Consultation

(when patient requires non-urgent referral)

Submit a referral as per the process below:

- Complete the [FAST Adult Gynecology Referral Form](#) or referral letter.
- Attach all mandatory information to the referral.
Tip: review the [QuRE Referral Consult Checklist](#) for high-quality referral guidelines.
- Fax the completed referral to the FAST (Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment) central access and intake program as listed in the Program Contacts section.

If you have questions about a previously submitted but unassigned referral, call the FAST office at 1-833-553-3278. If you have questions about an assigned referral, please contact the specialist office directly.

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Program Contacts

	North Zone	Edmonton Zone	Central Zone	Calgary Zone	South Zone
Urgent Advice or Emergency Consultation	RAAPID North Tel 1-800-282-9911	RAAPID North Tel 1-800-282-9911	RAAPID North Tel 1-800-282-9911 RAAPID South Tel 1-800-661-1700	RAAPID South Tel 1-800-661-1700	RAAPID South Tel 1-800-661-1700
Non-Urgent Advice	Connect MD Online request Tel 1-844-633-2263 pcnconnectmd.com	Connect MD Online request Tel 1-844-633-2263 pcnconnectmd.com	Coming Soon	Specialist Link Tel 1-844-962-5465 specialistlink.ca	Coming Soon
Zone FAST* Team	North Zone FAST Team Tel 1-833-553-3278 ext. 1 Fax 1-833-627-7025	Edmonton Zone FAST Team for COLPOSCOPY ONLY Tel 1-833-553-3278 ext. 2 Fax 780-643-1491	Central Zone FAST Team Tel 1-833-553-3278 ext. 3 Fax 1-833-627-7022	Calgary Zone FAST Team Tel 1-833-553-3278 ext. 4 Fax 1-833-627-7023	South Zone FAST Team Tel 1-833-553-3278 ext. 5 Fax 1-833-627-7024

*FAST (Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment) central access and intake program.

CERVICAL FOR COLPOSCOPY				
Reason for Referral	Access Target	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources
Cervical Lesion Suspected Benign		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Calgary: Refer to Calgary Colposcopy Clinic at Calgary Women’s Health Centre Edmonton Zone: Refer using Edmonton FAST Colposcopy Form 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description of cervix abnormalities¹
Cervical Lesion Suspected Malignant Solid, Friable, Fungating	2 weeks			
ABNORMAL FINDINGS ON PAP SMEAR FOR COLPOSCOPY				
ASCUS on Pap Smear with Positive HPV Test (ASCUS HPV +)	6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Calgary: Refer to Calgary Colposcopy Clinic at Calgary Women’s Health Centre Edmonton Zone: Refer using Edmonton FAST Colposcopy Form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pathology Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description of cervix abnormalities¹
ASCUS on Pap Smear (Includes Persistent)	6 months			
LSIL on Pap Smear with Positive HPV Test (LSIL HPV +)	6 months			
LSIL on Pap Smear (Includes Persistent)	6 months			
ASC-H On Pap Smear (ASC-H)	6 weeks			
Atypical Glandular Cells on Pap Smear (AGC)	6 weeks			
HSIL on Pap Smear (HSIL)	6 weeks			
Adenocarcinoma In Situ of Cervix (AIS)	6 weeks			

¹ If unable to complete pelvic exam, please include reason. Please refer to [Trauma Informed Exam Guide](#) .

GENITOURINARY			
Reason for Referral	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources
Urinary Incontinence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CLINICAL PATHWAY: FEMALE URINARY INCONTINENCE South/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Calgary Zone: Send referral to Calgary Pelvic Floor Clinic at Calgary Women's Health Center Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pelvic Ultrasound with PVR. Previous treatment initiated (if any). Within course of illness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urinalysis Urine Culture Pelvic Exam findings² including a description of findings such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description of vulva When patient coughs is there leakage? Description of prolapse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide If unable to complete a trauma informed pelvic exam, indicate reasoning, and provide additional information in a referral letter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intact hymen Severe vaginismus. Post trauma informed discussion, patient still experiencing severe anxiety around pelvic examination.
Pelvic Organ Prolapse		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pelvic Exam findings² including a description of findings such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Size of prolapse Relevant findings Previous treatment initiated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide If prolapse is stage 4 (uterus is grapefruit to basketball size) order creatinine to rule out post-renal obstruction
Vesico-Urethral Fistula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Calgary Zone: Send referral to Calgary Pelvic Floor Clinic at Calgary Women's Health Center Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed History <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgery Obstetrical History Pelvic Intervention Pelvic Exam findings² including a description of findings such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abnormal appearing vaginal mucosa Evidence of female genital cutting Description of findings No imaging required for referral. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide Any imaging will be ordered by specialist as necessary
Mesh Complications (From Previous Prolapse Repair or Incontinence Repair)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pelvic Exam Findings² including a description of findings such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description: exposed foreign body or mesh. Patient symptoms (if any) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide Surgical history and OR report if available

² If unable to complete pelvic exam, please include reason. Please refer to [Trauma Informed Exam Guide](#) .

MENSTRUAL/UTERINE ABNORMALITIES			
Reason for Referral	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources
<p>Abnormal Uterine Bleeding (AUB) Includes: Menorrhagia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CLINICAL PATHWAY ABNORMAL UTERINE BLEEDING Refer to CLINICAL PATHWAY POST-MENOPAUSAL BLEEDING South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pelvic Exam Findings³ CBC/Ferritin Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁴ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide Pap Test STI Screening Endometrial biopsy (if available) > 40 years old or < 40 year old with significant risk factors present.
<p>Amenorrhea</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CLINICAL PATHWAY PCOS (Coming Soon) South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pelvic Exam Findings³ or Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁴ if no pelvic exam completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prolactin, TSH, β-HCG, total testosterone with SHBG to calculate free androgen index or Free Testosterone. FSH/LH/Estradiol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideally bloodwork occurs on day 3 of menstrual cycle. Treatments to date (progesterone challenge)
<p>Adenomyosis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. If related to Infertility, please refer to the reason for referral for process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available Imaging results CBC/Ferritin if abnormal bleeding Pelvic Exam Findings³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide
<p>Dysmenorrhea</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁴ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBC, Ferritin if heavy menstrual bleeding.

³ If unable to complete pelvic exam, please include reason. Please refer to [Trauma Informed Exam Guide](#)

⁴ If transvaginal ultrasound not available/ appropriate, then trans abdominal pelvic ultrasound is acceptable.

MENSTRUAL/UTERINE ABNORMALITIES			
Reason for Referral	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources
Oligomenorrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CLINICAL PATHWAY PCOS (Coming Soon) South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pelvic Exam Findings⁵ or Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁶ if no pelvic exam completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prolactin, TSH, β-HCG, total testosterone with SHBG to calculate free androgen index or Free Testosterone. FSH/LH/Estradiol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideally bloodwork occurs on day 3 of menstrual cycle. Treatments to date (progesterone challenge)
Pelvic Mass (Suspected Malignancy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Gynecology Oncology as per current zonal practice. 		
Post Menopausal Bleeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CLINICAL PATHWAY POST-MENOPAUSAL BLEEDING South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pelvic Exam Findings⁵ Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁶ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endometrial biopsy is not required. If available, please send results. CBC/Ferritin
Uterine Fibroid Symptomatic and Clinically Concerning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per local zone processes If related to Infertility, please refer to the reason for referral for process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁶ CBC/Ferritin if abnormal bleeding. Pelvic Exam Findings⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide
Uterine Polyp			

⁵ If unable to complete pelvic exam, please include reason. Please refer to [Trauma Informed Exam Guide](#)

⁶ If transvaginal ultrasound not available/ appropriate, then trans abdominal pelvic ultrasound is acceptable

CHRONIC PAIN			
Reason for Referral	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources
<p>Pain in the Pelvis Chronic (>6months) and not related to menses, if related to menses refer to dysmenorrhea</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pain history <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example: previous treatments, duration, and results. Pelvic Exam Findings⁷ Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁸ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide <p>Additional Resources while awaiting consult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider pelvic floor physiotherapy. Promote to your patients if appropriate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Power Over Pain Portal Alberta Virtual Chronic Pain Program
<p>Vulvar Pain Disorders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pain history <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example: previous treatments, duration, and results. Pelvic Exam Findings⁷ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁵ Refer to Trauma Informed Exam Guide <p>Additional Resources while awaiting consult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider pelvic floor physiotherapy. Promote to your patients if appropriate: The National Vulvodynia Association

⁷ If unable to complete pelvic exam, please include reason. Please refer to [Trauma Informed Exam Guide](#)

⁸ If transvaginal ultrasound not available/ appropriate, then trans abdominal pelvic ultrasound is acceptable

OVARIAN			
Reason for Referral	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources
Adnexal Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symptoms Transvaginal Ultrasound Report⁹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tumor markers not routinely indicated and may be ordered by specialist as appropriate. Refer to <u>Choosing Wisely</u>
Management of Primary Ovarian Insufficiency (Premature Ovarian Failure) <i>*EXCLUDING INFERTILITY ISSUES</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSH >40 x2 (minimum one month apart) for initial diagnosis TSH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent of symptoms
Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Refer to reason for referral that aligns with patient's symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to CLINICAL PATHWAY PCOS (Coming Soon) For <u>Amenorrhea</u>, please refer to the reason for referral for process. For <u>Oligomenorrhea</u>, please refer to the reason for referral for process. For <u>Infertility</u>, please refer to the reason for referral for process. 		
Cancer Risk Reducing Gynecological Surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal or Family history of cancer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed high risk mutation (ie: BRCA) Genetics report if available
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH			
Contraception Includes: Birth control, request for tubal ligation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. Or Patient self-referral to sexual & reproductive health clinic if available within zone. See <u>Alberta Referral Directory</u> for information of services provided. 		
Infertility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: For General Gynecology care refer to Zone FAST Team. Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. For Fertility Specialist care refer as per local zonal processes. 		

⁹ If transvaginal ultrasound not available/ appropriate, then trans abdominal pelvic ultrasound is acceptable.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH					
Reason for Referral	Process		Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources	
<p>Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Definition: 2 or more losses and includes non-consecutive and biochemical losses (excludes: ectopic and molar pregnancies).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South/Central/North Zone: For General Gynecology care refer to Zone FAST Team. • Calgary Zone: Refer to Early Pregnancy Assessment Central Access and Triage. • Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. • For Fertility Specialist care refer as per local zonal processes. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pregnancies and outcomes 		
VULVOVAGINAL					
Reason for Referral	Access Target	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources	
<p>Vaginitis Includes: Recurrent bacterial vaginosis (BV).</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. • Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaginal Swab Results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous treatment and number of treatments and response 	
<p>Vulvar/Vaginal Abnormalities Includes: Anatomic abnormalities, Labia hypertrophy (symptomatic), Obstetrical trauma, Agglutination</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to Gynecology Oncology as per current zonal processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of physical exam findings¹⁰ 	
<p>Vulvar Lesion (Confirmed Malignancy) Pathology confirms malignancy</p>					
<p>Vulvar Lesion (Suspected Malignancy)</p>	<3weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. • Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of physical exam findings¹⁰ 		
<p>Vulvar Skin Abnormalities Includes: Rash, Lichen, Skin Discoloration, Pigmentation changes</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include description of skin abnormality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biopsy results if available 	

¹⁰ If unable to complete pelvic exam, please include reason. Please refer to [Trauma Informed Exam Guide](#)

TRANSGENDER CARE			
Reason for Referral	Process	Mandatory Information	Extra Information and Resources
Transgender Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. • Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 		Additional Resources include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skipping Stone • Rainbow Health Ontario • Sherbourne Health Trans Health Care - Sherbourne Health
Reconstructive Affirming Hysterectomy			
Post Reconstructive Concerns			
MENOPAUSE			
Atrophic Vaginitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. • Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	• Description of physical exam findings ¹¹	• Treatments to date
Vasomotor Symptoms		• Treatments to date	• Recent mammogram, please order if not up to date.
OTHER			
Consult for Gynecology Surgery (Other)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South/Calgary/Central/North Zone: Send referral to Zone FAST Team. • Edmonton Zone: Refer direct to gynecology as per current zonal practice. 	• Include QuRE Quality referral letter to describe reason for referral	

¹¹ If unable to complete pelvic exam, please include reason. Please refer to [Trauma Informed Exam Guide](#) .