

Medical Staff Update

This Issue: New Antimicrobial Stewardship Program; Empower Patients to Ask Questions with My Next Steps; Shared Commitments introductory webinar now online; and more.

AHS recognizes that our work takes place on historical and contemporary Indigenous lands, including the territories of Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8, and the homeland of the Métis Nation of Alberta and eight Métis Settlements. We also acknowledge the many Indigenous communities that have been forged in urban centres across Alberta.

Note: Recognizing some medical staff use an alternate email address instead of an AHS email address, some information is duplicated from the AHS Update to ensure all AHS medical staff have all up-to-date organizational information that may impact their practice.

Topics:

Medical Affairs News

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- [Now available: Connect Quality – tools to help physicians meet CPSA requirements](#)
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AHS Update

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Medical Affairs News

New antimicrobial stewardship program launched to improve patient care

AHS launched a new Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) focused on integrating and optimizing antimicrobial stewardship practices in AHS acute care sites across the province.

Antimicrobial misuse and overuse contribute to poor patient outcomes and antimicrobial resistance, a known global health threat as declared by the World Health Organization. Through the new ASP, AHS is taking concrete steps to address this threat and improve the care of our patients.

Visit [Antimicrobial Stewardship Program](#) to learn more.

Now available: Connect Quality – tools to help physicians meet CPSA requirements

Connect Quality is an initiative organizing resources, training, reporting tools, and the documentation required to meet College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) Physician Practice Improvement Program (PPIP) requirements, in one spot. When you work through a Connect Quality project, you will improve the quality of care for your patients, improve your own proficiency in using Connect Care and meet your CPSA requirements. The first project that is available focuses on improving In Basket turnaround time and uses [Signal](#) for data requirements. More projects will be added shortly, including Problem List maintenance and Adverse Reaction maintenance. See the [Connect Quality section](#) of the Connect Care Manual for more details and to sign up.

Empower patients to ask questions with My Next Steps

Help patients feel more confident about being discharged from hospital by giving them a resource called [My Next Steps: Getting Ready to Leave the Hospital](#). Developed by patient advisors and providers, My Next Steps supports patients in becoming partners in care—an element of AHS' [Shared Commitments](#).

My Next Steps lists resources and coaches patients on questions to ask providers. “It covers things like medications, home care and wound care—which patients should be thinking about before discharge,” says AHS patient advisor Karen Moffat, who helped design My Next Steps.

Part of [Home to Hospital to Home Transitions](#), My Next Steps is on the Safe Discharge Checklist on Connect Care, and fits into the discharge readiness orientation. By helping discharge processes go more smoothly, My Next Steps can improve transitions in care and keep patients from returning to hospital.

More information:

- [Interchange story](#)
 - [Backgrounder](#)
 - PHC.IntegrationNetwork@ahs.ca
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Shared Commitments webinar, new leader rounding guide

The [Introduction to Shared Commitments webinar](#) is now posted. The webinar highlights why Shared Commitments were created, what they are and who has a role in implementing them. Team members also answer some participant questions. Many of the questions will be added to our staff and provider [frequently asked questions](#) document.

AHS has also developed a guide to support Shared Commitments conversations during [leader rounding](#). It provides leaders with questions and conversation starters to help teams understand how patients are experiencing Shared Commitments during their care. It was developed with feedback from the Leader Rounding Community of Practice.

Learn more about [Shared Commitments](#).

Tap-badge access for consulting prescribers to Emergency Departments

As the use of Imprivata tap-badge technology (i.e., tap-badge access for Connect Care) requires a user license, only select AHS departments have been approved for deployment of this technology. Consulting prescribers in the Emergency Department (physicians, physician assistants, residents, fellows or nurse practitioners) who log in to any AHS Emergency Department computer at least 15 times per month are eligible to request Imprivata access. If you meet these criteria, see the [tip sheet](#) for instructions on how to request.

Physician learning

There are many learning and development opportunities outside of AHS offered to physicians. Here are some upcoming opportunities:

- [Alberta Sexual Assault Course and Conference](#) – June 8, 2024
 - [International Conference on Physician Health](#) - Oct. 17-19, 2024
 - Registration opens in June.
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Career opportunities

Practice opportunities across a broad range of specialties are available. All vacant AHS physician practice opportunities are posted on our physician recruitment website, [Doctor Jobs Alberta](#).

[Become a CPSA assessor](#): The CPSA are planning on having two family medicine PCA assessor trainings in June to help with the influx of new sponsors. If physicians are interested, please review the PCA assessor qualifications and complete an [assessor application](#).

Support for physicians

The [Physician & Family Support Program](#) (PFSP) continues to offer CONFIDENTIAL services on an individual basis that you can access by calling the 24-hour assistance line at 1-877-767-4637.

AHS also has [resources](#) aimed at offering support to physicians.

Additional resources for physicians:

- [AHS Virtual Health](#)
 - [CPSA's Physician Portal](#)
 - [Cumming School of Medicine Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) Resources](#)
 - [How to Access AHS Insite and Email](#)
 - [IPC Emerging Issues](#)
 - [MD News Digest](#)
 - [Physician & Family Support Program](#) - 1-877-SOS-4MDS (767-4637)
 - [Physician Wellness Educational Resources: Well Doc Alberta](#)
 - [Support Services: Well Doc Alberta](#)
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Healthy Communities.
Together.