

Medical Staff Update

This Issue: Finding efficiencies to boost the front lines; Review available point-of-care tools and resources; CPSA Practice Readiness Assessors; New Critical Leadership Conversations Course; ARCH Symposium; 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:

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AHS Update

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Medical Affairs News

Finding efficiencies to boost the front lines – message from the CEO

We're continuing to identify opportunities to reduce administrative burden so we can improve the delivery of care for Albertans.

To date, more than 350 opportunities, both large and small, have been identified by staff and leaders. Front-line healthcare workers are already sharing in our [Together4Health forum](#).

We're committed to listening and translating new ideas into action. A working group, representing all voices across our organization, is here to support the process to gather and assess all ideas with the aim to achieve maximum, positive impact that will save you time, and ultimately enable our front-line teams to continue delivering high-quality care to patients and their families.

For example, we've heard ways to improve clinical operations, such as streamlining how products are procured, and approval processes, reducing meeting frequencies and time commitments for committees. Other ideas shared to date cover improvements that could be made to our corporate processes, including legal, HR, finance and audit activities, to reduce burden, as well as IT and Connect Care.

To bring these ideas to life, we need to consider several factors, including time, capacity, costs and potential risks, such as health and patient safety. We've created an assessment tool to accelerate the analysis of each idea and to seek further review where needed.

We have already had success in reducing administrative burden associated with required organizational learning, including a shift to role-based training for Workplace Hazardous Materials Information Systems and updated Patient- and Family-Centred Care 101 course to better meet the needs of our people. We're also making changes to remove extra steps for leaders and provide easy access to scheduling, as well as simplifying the payroll processes.

These efforts will enable our leaders and their teams to focus on patient care across the organization.

Thanks to those who have already provided input – know we are listening and we are acting on those opportunities that hold promise for reducing administrative burden.

I encourage all staff, physicians and volunteers to continue to share [your ideas](#) through our Together4Health forum and through your leaders. I look forward to providing further updates on this important work.

Sincerely,

Athana Mentzelopoulos
AHS President and CEO

MyAHS Connect hits milestone

The MyAHS Connect patient portal for Connect Care has achieved a new milestone — with more than 500,000 Albertans now able to access their health information online. More than 4,000 people sign up for MyAHS Connect every week.

AHS healthcare providers are strongly encouraged to offer MyAHS Connect access to every patient aged 14 years or older who receives services at an AHS site or program that has Connect Care.

Any staff member or prescriber using Connect Care can also share MyAHS Connect activation instructions with patients 14 or older by printing the After Visit Summary (AVS). This will automatically set the patient's MyAHS Connect account to "pending" from "inactive."

Staff can watch one of these videos for a lesson in how to activate someone's MyAHS Connect account:

- [How to Activate MyAHS Connect \(Ambulatory\)](#) (3.5 minutes)
- [How to Activate MyAHS Connect \(Inpatient\)](#) (under 5 minutes)

For additional resources, visit [MyAHS Connect](#).

Register for early bird prices for i4 2024 conference

Join us Nov. 6 and 7 for the [i4 2024 conference](#). Connect with forward-thinking leaders and engage in transformative discussions, such as AI and mental health. Enhance your design-thinking skills and share your innovations and impactful work by applying for [Illumination Academy](#) and [Inspiration Showcase](#) by Aug. 30. Early bird registration for i4 2024 closes Sept. 2. Register [here](#) to secure your spot and join the innovation journey.

Library Services: Review available point-of-care tools and resources

AHS has a number of point-of-care tools and evidence-based resources available through [Knowledge Resource Service](#). You can:

- Use [DynaMed](#) for up-to-date summaries of the evidence for diagnosis, treatment and management.
- Access [resource links](#) directly in Connect Care.
- Request a [literature search](#) to answer any clinical or research question.
- Get [articles](#), [medicine eBooks](#), [journal and topic alerts](#) on demand.

Access the information you need quickly and conveniently on your mobile device or any computer with your AHS login.

Questions? Email krs@ahs.ca or visit [KRS.ahs.ca](https://krs.ahs.ca).

CPSA Practice Readiness Assessors

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) is currently recruiting urban, rural & regional physicians to join its pool of Practice Readiness Assessors for Preliminary Clinical Assessment (PCA) in Family Medicine. The Preliminary Clinical Assessment (PCA) is the first part of the two-part practice readiness assessment with CPSA that leads successful candidates to independent practice roles. Want to know more about Practice Readiness Assessors? [Visit the CPSA website today](#).

Interested?

Are you a family physician on CPSA's General Register, who works in an urban, rural or regional location in any of these scopes: clinic/acute care in-patient/emergency department/long term care, and low-risk obstetrics? The CPSA would love to hear from you. Please review the PCA Assessor Qualifications under [Registration assessors](#) and then complete the online [PRA PCA Assessor Application & Practice Profile form](#).

Learn how to include virtual care to support patients

Join AHS' Virtual Health team for an upcoming webinar, Increasing Your Virtual Care Footprint: Moving Your Clinic Forward to Include More Virtual Care. In this webinar, the team will provide an overview of best practices in virtual care, considerations to take when introducing virtual care, common barriers and potential mitigation strategies and available resources for clinicians, patients, families and caregivers.

[Register to attend](#) this event, scheduled for Sept. 25 from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Critical Leadership Conversations course part 4

The focus of our fourth course in the Critical Conversations series will be on mastering large group conversations. We will cover topics such as how to run a great meeting, solution-focused facilitation in large groups, communication strategies, vision development and casting, and change management.

There will be five one-hour virtual lecture sessions between Sept. 19 to Nov. 28, 2024. In between sessions, you will meet three times with two colleagues in a triad to share experiences of these types of conversations, what you have learned, debrief, and offer advice and support to one another. This course is eligible for Section 3 CME credits.

Dates	Time	Registration links
Thursday Sept. 19	4:30-5:30	Register here
Thursday Oct. 3	4:30-5:30	Register here
Thursday Oct. 17	4:30-5:30	Register here
Thursday Nov. 7	4:30-5:30	Register here

Thursday Nov. 28	4:30-5:30	Register here
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For more information, please contact Lori Paul Lori-Ann.Paul@ahs.ca.

RAH Hospital Medicine Update – Sept. 21 & 22, 2024

Join us for the 9th Annual RAH Hospital Medicine Update on Saturday, Sept. 21 and Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024. This two half-day virtual and non-pharma conference brings together experts to update participants in various areas of practice.

Hot topics in this year's [program](#) include nutrition in the hospitalized patient, managing newer diabetic medications for inpatients, post ICU syndrome, updates in CHF, COPD, acute renal failure and more.

Relax in the comfort of your home or office and learn the latest and greatest from 14 experts delivered online through Zoom. Each talk is 25 minutes followed by a live five-minute question and answer period. The conference is available to you live and online for three months. [Visit our website](#) for more information and to register.

ARCH Symposium – Sept. 25, 2024

On Sept. 25, at the Robbins Learning Centre at the Royal Alexandra Hospital the Addiction Recovery and Community Health (ARCH) program will be hosting their annual symposium to learn, engage and celebrate the ten years of health excellence in addiction recovery.

The ARCH program provides patient-centered, evidence-based, and trauma-informed care by using a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach supporting patients at every step in their recovery journey.

This full-day event will include a catered breakfast and lunch, and a featured lineup of different speakers and community discussions including a panel of individuals with lived experience and a Keynote presentation with Dr. Jeremy Weleff.

Register for the event [here](#).

Call for Abstracts

We are accepting abstract submissions from individuals and groups on innovative research projects, acute care programs, and community initiatives. Presentation will take the form of a visual display or poster. We welcome projects at all stages of development – whether completed, in progress, or in the planning stages. The deadline to submit your abstract is Sept. 4 at 11:59 p.m. Submit your abstract [here](#).

Physician learning

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

- [Micro-Aggression Training for Physicians](#) – Online, ongoing
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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](#).

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 Albertans.
Healthy Communities.
Together.