

Medical Staff Update

This Issue: Our People Survey starts Monday; Physician On Call Program virtual conversation; New title for Clinical Assistants and Clinical Surgical Assistants; Medical Leadership Resource Guides; Nurse Practitioner Staff Rules; Upcoming training & webinars; and more.

AHS recognizes that our work takes place on historical and 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.

Topics:

Medical Affairs News

- [In case you missed it: Physician Leadership & Development video](#)
- [Be Heard: Our People Survey starts Monday](#)
- [Register for the Physician On Call Program conversation on Nov. 4](#)
- [New job title for Clinical Assistants & Clinical Surgical Assistants](#)
- [Save lives, immunize](#)
- [New Medical Leadership Resource Guides available on Insite](#)
- [Questions about Nurse Practitioner Staff Rules?](#)
- [Training available for Reporting & Learning System](#)
- [Register now for the 36th annual Cardiovascular Update](#)
- [Register for upcoming patient-centred webinars](#)

AHS Update

- Read the latest [AHS Update](#)

Resources for Physicians

- [Career opportunities](#)
- [Support for physicians](#)
- [Additional resources for physicians](#)

Medical Affairs News

In case you missed it: Physician Leadership & Development video

If you're a current medical leader or just interested in exploring what medical leadership is all about, don't miss this [Q&A video](#) between Dr. Peter Jamieson and Dr. Curtis Johnston on physician leadership and development. The video is broken down into chapters, so you can easily navigate to the topics that interest you the most.

Be Heard: Our People Survey starts Monday

Our People Survey starts Nov. 4. Have your voice heard, complete the survey. It takes about five minutes and is completely anonymous.

Look for an email from Gallup, the organization which conducts the survey for AHS, APL and Recovery Alberta. The survey asks about our patient safety culture and your engagement as a practitioner where you work most often. The more who participate, the more representative the results will be.

[Here's a story](#) on why it matters from two physician groups with high team engagement. Learn more on [Insite](#) and watch our [highlight video](#). Questions? Contact engage@ahs.ca.

Register for the Physician On Call Program conversation on Nov. 4

Do you have questions about the changes to the Physician On Call Program or the application process that was [communicated to medical staff on Oct. 10](#)? We would like to invite you to join us for a virtual conversation on Monday, Nov. 4 from 4-5 p.m. where we will provide an overview of the key changes, eligibility and the application process, while addressing as many questions as we can in the allotted time. [Please register to attend](#).

Please consider submitting your questions in advance via the [Zoom registration](#). There will also be opportunity for questions during the session. We will do our best to answer all questions, either during the conversation or after. We encourage you to review the current [frequently asked questions](#) prior to the meeting.

We will record the conversation and make it available on the [Medical Affairs Insite page](#) as soon as possible for those unable to attend.

New job title for Clinical Assistants & Clinical Surgical Assistants

Effective Nov. 1, 2024, AHS Clinical Assistants (CAs) and Clinical Surgical Assistants (CSAs) have been retitled to Associate Physicians. There are no changes to their scope of practice or any other terms of employment.

We value the important role Associate Physicians play in our healthcare system. This new title better captures the scope of work of these practitioners and is aligned with the title of similar employees in other jurisdictions in Canada. The change is also supported by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your acute care coverage department lead or Catherine.Keenan@ahs.ca. Associate physicians should reach out to their manager for further information, as needed.

New Medical Leadership Resource Guides available on Insite

AHS' Physician Experience team has developed several Medical Leadership Resource Guides, which are now available on the team's new [Insite](#) page.

These guides are an educational resource for “just in time” orientation to help medical leaders thrive in their roles. They were developed with input from current medical leaders and subject matter experts and cover provincial-level topics relevant to new and experienced medical leaders.

The guides currently available in this series are:

- [Your Role as a Medical Leader](#)
- [Working with your Dyad](#)
- [Overview of Medical Affairs](#)
- [Culture & Wellness](#)
- [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Leadership Conversations](#)
- [Disclosure, Patient Safety & Patient Concerns](#)

Future topics include Workforce Planning & Recruitment, Physician Issues & Concerns, Information Technology Essentials and more. If you have any

questions about these guides or the new Insite page, reach out to PhysicianExperienceDWD@ahs.ca.

Save lives, immunize

Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) seasonal immunization (influenza and COVID-19) clinics are open for walk-ins and appointments. Here are ways to get immunized:

- [Book](#) or call 811 to make an appointment.
- Attend a WHS walk-in clinic. See the [schedule](#).
- Check for a roving cart at your facility or a site champion on your unit.

You also have the option to receive an mRNA KP.2 COVID-19 vaccine at participating WHS clinics. If you have a copy of your last COVID-19 immunization records, please bring them with you to your appointment.

Questions? See [Seasonal Immunization for Workers](#).

Questions about Nurse Practitioner Staff Rules?

Since August, several information sessions about AHS Nurse Practitioner (NP) Staff Rules have been held. Before the rules take effect on Jan. 1, 2025, the final session, "Answering Your Questions" on Dec. 5 and 10 will address any outstanding questions, comments or considerations not covered in previous sessions.

[Submit questions](#) anonymously by Nov. 15, 2024. Register for sessions, watch recordings or learn more on [Insite](#). Email Prov.NPServices@ahs.ca if you have questions.

Training available for Reporting & Learning System

The [Reporting and Learning System \(RLS\)](#) upgrade is launching on Nov. 26. Benefits of the upgraded system include simplified reporting, improved information sharing and stronger data quality. Also, the upgrade offers flexible access - medical staff can submit RLS reports from any device, including a personal computer or mobile phone.

To prepare for launch, training is encouraged. Attend an education session to learn about the new features of the upgraded RLS. Weekly online sessions will start in October and continue through December. [You can see upcoming](#)

[sessions on Insite](#). Click “join the meeting now” to join on the date and time for each session. No registration is required. Visit [Insite](#) for more information.

Register now for the 36th annual Cardiovascular Update

The 36th Annual Cardiovascular Update for the Practicing Physician is taking place in Edmonton on Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024. [Register today](#) before it sells out.

This one-day course will provide participants with practical and up-to-date information on the management of cardiac problems in the primary care setting. Participants will engage in a combination of interactive case-based workshops and presentations.

This Group Learning program has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Alberta Chapter for up to 6.75 Mainpro+ credits. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

Register for upcoming patient-centred webinars

During Patient and Family Centred Care Week (Nov. 18-22), AHS’ Engagement and Patient Experience team is hosting two webinars for all staff and healthcare providers.

Bringing it all together: Engagement, equity and patient safety Nov. 18 | 12-1 p.m.

This session by Healthcare Excellence Canada will discuss how patient experience weaves together safety, equity and engagement and how they intersect into practice within health systems. [Register](#).

Precision health: The future of personalized care Nov. 20 | 12-1 p.m.

Join two AHS staff and recent graduates from the University of Calgary Precision Health Master’s program, Nicola Martens and Consuelo (Coty) Ong, to deepen your understanding of what precision health means for the future of patient-centred care and discover inspiring examples of how it’s being implemented right here in Alberta. [Register](#).

Learn more about AHS’ commitment to patient and family centred care by visiting [Insite](#) and reviewing our [Shared Commitments](#).

Resources for Physicians

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](#)
- [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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