Medical Staff Update

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AHS Update

Read the latest AHS Update

Medical Affairs News

Measles Update for Healthcare Providers and Staff

Important changes have been made to measles case reporting for physicians, effective immediately, as well as information on how to appropriately transport lab samples.

Read the full message from Dr. Francesco Rizzuti on Insite.

Interim Chief Medical Officer of Health appointed

Alberta's government has named Dr. Sunil Sookram as interim Chief Medical Officer of Health. This temporary appointment ensures continuity while arrangements are finalized for a longer-term appointment.

Dr. Sookram currently serves as facility medical director and chief of medical staff at Strathcona Community Hospital. He is also a clinical professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Alberta and practises as an emergency physician at the University of Alberta Hospital.

He brings years of front-line experience and leadership to the interim role. He also has recent experience working within Alberta Health. Through this period of transition Dr. Sookram will also be supported by Zone Medical Officers of Health at Alberta Health Services. Read more.

National Physicians' Day - May 1

On May 1, AHS is celebrating National Physicians' Day to recognize physicians across Canada. May 1 was chosen to honour the birthday of the first woman to practice medicine in Canada and a founder of Canada's women's movement, Dr. Emily Stowe.

Physicians provide high-quality care to Albertans in every corner of the province and are critical to our healthcare system. They make a difference in the lives of those they help, providing not only medical care but also comfort and support. On National Physicians' Day, we celebrate not only your professional accomplishments but also the impact you have on the lives of others.

Showing appreciation for physicians and associate physicians can be as

simple as sending one of our National Physicians' Day <u>e-cards</u> or a short thank you note. Other ideas area available through Employee Appreciation.

Provincial Enterprise Imaging replacing IMPAX South Zone: May 27

Provincial Enterprise Imaging (PEI) is replacing IMPAX as the new Provincial Archive Communication System (PACS) in South Zone on May 27 and Calgary Zone on Sept. 23. North Zone implemented PEI on Nov. 12, 2024, Central Zone on Jan. 27 and Edmonton Zone on Apr. 8.

After PEI implementation, medical staff will view diagnostic images/reports via XERO viewer (see Workflow Reminder). Also, OrthoView will replace MediCAD, refer to OrthoView Info Sheet.

Before zone implementation, staff who need PEI Access will be invited to complete required training through MyLearningLink (MLL). Training is required to access the system. If South Zone users cannot see their PEI course in MLL, email ProvincialEnterpriseImaging@ahs.ca.

Training for Orthoview is available upon request by email to lmagingAppsSupport@ahs.ca.

Questions? See Insite.

Review revised Glycemic Management Policy Suite now in effect

The AHS <u>Glycemic Management Policy Suite</u> has been revised and is now in effect. It has some minor practice changes, including glucagon intranasal as a replacement for glucagon injection. For a summary of all updates to the policy suite please review this FAQ.

Provincial education is available to support implementation. Learn more at ahs.ca.

Questions? Email policy@ahs.ca.

Urine Cytology update: ordering criteria changing May 12

Urine cytology is no longer recommended for the initial work-up of hematuria or suspected bladder cancer. This aligns with new provincial pathways to reduce unnecessary testing and support consistent, high-value care.

Starting May 12, 2025, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) will cancel community urine cytology requests unless they are ordered or clearly recommended by a urologist. The test may still be appropriate in limited cases—such as bladder cancer surveillance or follow-up after a negative hematuria work-up—usually under a urologist's direction. If recommended, include the phrase "urine cytology recommended by urologist" in the Clinical History section of the requisition. We encourage physicians to follow the Provincial Hematuria Evaluation and Adult Urology Referral Pathways. Requisition forms can be found at here.

More information is available in this Lab Bulletin.

Medical Leadership & Development

Provincial Medical Leadership Educational Series: Moving Physician Wellness Forward Through Leadership

Join us for the May Provincial Medical Leadership Educational series, where we'll explore the topic "Moving Physician Wellness Forward Through Leadership" with our guests, Dr. Jane Lemaire, Dr. Nadia Salvaterra and Dr. Jennine Wismark.

There are two sessions available to pick from:

- May 14, 4-5:30 p.m. | Register
- May 15, 7-8:30 a.m. | Register

This engaging session will enable physician leaders to be able to:

- 1. Describe the links between leadership and physician wellness.
- 2. Recognize the importance of psychological safety.
- 3. Recognize leader behaviours that improve wellness in those they lead.

These sessions are CME accredited and are open to anyone who is interested. For more information, please email Mercypina.Gutierrez@ahs.ca or visit our Together4Health page (login is required).

Physician Wellness

Wellness4MDs Program

If you are seeking support to deal with stress, burnout, anxiety or depression, build resilience and maintain or improve psychological wellness, the Wellness4MDs program is for you.

Subscribe to Wellness4MDs to receive free daily cognitive behavioural therapy-based supportive text messages and mental health literacy information.

Text "WELLMD" to 1-855-947-4673 to subscribe. This program is available to physicians, post-graduate medical trainees and medical students.

Resources for Physicians

Physician learning

There are many learning and development opportunities outside of AHS offered to physicians. Here are some upcoming virtual opportunities from the Cumming School of Medicine:

- Medical Record Keeping June 13 to Sept. 11
- Clinical Reasoning Course June 4 to Sept. 10

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.

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Support for physicians

The <u>Physician & Family Support Program</u> (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 <u>resources</u> 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
- AHS Physician Experience
- Physician & Family Support Program 1-877-SOS-4MDS (767-4637)
- Physician Wellness Educational Resources: Well Doc Alberta
- Support Services: Well Doc Alberta
- 2025 APL Lab Bulletins

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 Otipemisiwak (Oh-teh-pim-swak) Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta and the eight Metis Settlements. We also acknowledge the many Indigenous communities that have been forged in urban centres across Alberta.



Healthy Albertans. Healthy Communities. Together.