

# Medical Staff Update

*This Issue: Message from the CMO about changes to health-related Ministries and Ministers; Acute Care Alberta Q&A video; Research and innovation drive healthcare improvement; Medical leadership and development courses; and more.*

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## Topics:

### Medical Affairs News

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## Medical Affairs News

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New health-related Ministries created; new Ministers appointed:  
Message from the CMO

Last week, the Government of Alberta [announced](#) changes to Cabinet that will help us continue to move forward in healthcare refocusing. The key change is that the Ministry of Health has now been split into two new Ministries:

- 1) Ministry of Primary and Preventative Health Services (Minister Adriana LaGrange)
- 2) Ministry of Hospital and Surgical Services (Minister Matt Jones)

There is now a Ministry and Minister responsible for each of the four new provincial health agencies. You can see more information about which Ministry will be responsible for various programs and organizations in the [AHS CEO's message](#), posted on Insite.

As a fellow physician and leader, I want to acknowledge that I know continuous changes and uncertainty can create stress. I'm also hearing many of you feel communication and engagement could be stronger during this time.

I hear your concerns. In my role, I remain committed to doing my best to share what I can, when I can, with your leaders or with you directly. I'm also committed to more direct engagement with you, and I'm looking at opportunities to visit more AHS facilities across the province to meet with you in person. I deeply respect you all and want to ensure your voices are reflected in what we do at AHS.

The work you do every single day for Albertans is deeply valued and respected. You are vital to our healthcare system, and that will not change. We can all continue to focus on ensuring our patients have the high-quality care they need, when and where they need it. That's a goal we all share, and it's something we can lean on while we wait for the rest to settle.

As always, if you need support, please reach out to someone you trust. Support is also available through the [Physician & Family Support Program](#).

Sincerely,

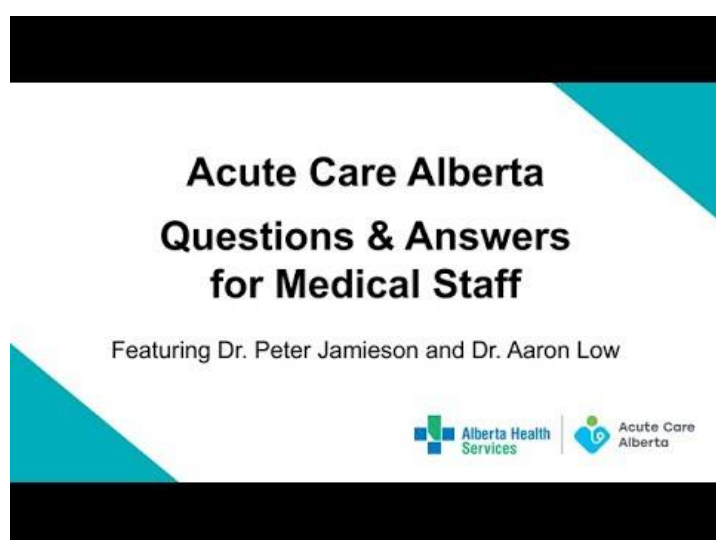
Peter Jamieson  
Chief Medical Officer and Vice President, Clinical Operations and Quality

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[Acute Care Alberta Q&A video with Dr. Aaron Low](#)

Earlier this month, Interim Chief Medical Officer of Acute Care Alberta, Dr. Aaron Low, joined me over Zoom to answer some questions that we have been hearing from medical staff now that Acute Care Alberta has become operational.

We talked about a few key topics, including the role ACA plays in healthcare refocusing and what AHS' future looks like. While there are still many questions and changes ahead, this conversation might help you better understand our roles and how we'll continue to work collaboratively to ensure we're delivering the same high-quality care that our patients need, when and where they need it.



I encourage you to watch the video in its entirety, or by navigating to the topics of interest below.

Time	Topic
00:06	Introduction
00:45	Overview of transition
03:20	The difference between ACA and AHS
04:50	Comparison to other provincial models
05:47	What will AHS do once ACA is fully operational?
09:30	Plan for the first 100 days
12:30	Introduction to patient-focused funding
15:20	Closing remarks

I want to thank Dr. Low for taking the time to answer some questions.

Dr. Peter Jamieson

Chief Medical Officer and Vice President, Clinical Operations and Quality

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## Transfer of positions to Provincial Health Agencies

Yesterday, AHS' Interim CEO and President, Andre Tremblay, announced that over 4,300 positions will transfer from AHS to Assisted Living Alberta (ALA) and Primary Care Alberta (PCA) effective July 1, 2025. This includes our Medical Officer of Health colleagues, who will transfer to the Ministry of Primary Care and Preventative Health Services.

Most of the Public Health portfolio will move out of AHS to PCA, and public health policy, health marketing and public health inspections will transfer to the Ministry of Primary and Preventive Health in the future.

Other key changes include:

- Aspects of chronic disease management and some Indigenous wellness is moving to PCA.
- Provincial Seniors Health and Continuing Care, including the Continuing Care funding team and CPSM team, are moving to ALA.

If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to read the [full message](#) on Insite.

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## Research and innovation drive healthcare improvement

Clinical Trials Day on May 20 and Canadian Innovation Week, May 26-30, remind us how research and innovation are twin engines of healthcare improvement in Alberta.

As an evidence-driven learning organization, AHS has long demonstrated its commitment to research and innovation. Those activities make up a vital part of what staff and physicians do every day. Research creates evidence upon which to make decisions, including decisions at the interface of care and decisions at the system level. All high-performing health delivery systems use the best evidence to provide high quality care.

Clinical trials, such as the recent [trial investigating bacteriophage therapy](#), give patients access to the latest experimental treatments and provide hope

when options may be limited. At any given time, there are [more than 5,000 active research studies](#) taking place across the province.

Innovation contributes to improved patient safety and outcomes and is essential to providing a patient-focused, quality health system. AHS evaluates promising new technologies and processes and, where appropriate, introduces them into care for the benefit of Albertans.

To learn more about research and innovation in Alberta, visit:

- [Participate in Research \(AHS\)](#)
- [Canadian Innovation Week \(AHS Insite\)](#)
- [Alberta Cancer Clinical Trials](#)
- [Be The Cure](#)

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## Medical Leadership & Development

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### Provincial Medical Leadership Educational Series: Mindfulness and Self-Compassion

Join us for the June Provincial Medical Leadership Educational Series, where we'll explore the topic "Mindfulness and Self-Compassion" with Dr. Charlie Chen.

There are two sessions available:

- June 18, 4-5:30 p.m. | [Register](#)
- June 19, 7-8:30 a.m. | [Register](#)

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

1. Describe the core components of Mindful Self-Compassion and their relevance to medical practice and leadership.
2. Differentiate self-compassion from self-criticism and burnout, particularly in high-stakes healthcare environments.
3. Recognize the role of self-compassion in fostering psychologically safe and supportive team cultures.
4. Apply foundational Mindful Self-Compassion practices to enhance personal resilience and leadership presence.

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

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## Register for Critical Leadership Conversations Course Part 2: Accountability Conversations and Managing Physician Concerns

Join us for the second offering of Part 2 of our Critical Leadership Conversations course, running virtually from **Sept. 11 to Nov. 20**.

This course includes five one-hour virtual lectures with large group discussions over 10 weeks, focused on accountability conversations in the context of being a medical leader in AHS. Participants will also meet in small peer groups to reflect on key learnings.

The session details and registration information are as follows:

- Session 1: Sept. 11, 4:30-5:30 p.m. | [Register](#)
- Session 2: Oct. 2, 4:30-5:30 p.m. | [Register](#)
- Session 3: Oct. 16, 4:30-5:30 p.m. | [Register](#)
- Session 4: Oct. 30, 4:30-5:30 p.m. | [Register](#)
- Session 5: Nov. 20, 4:30-5:30 p.m. | [Register](#)

This course is eligible for Section 3 CME credits. For more information, please contact Lori Paul at [Lori-Ann.Paul@ahs.ca](mailto:Lori-Ann.Paul@ahs.ca).

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## Resources for Physicians

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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](#).

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### 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.

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#### 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.**