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Features & Stories

Sturgeon's new simulation centre sharpens skills and teamwork

The newly opened \$1-million clinical simulation centre at the Sturgeon Community Hospital will be used to simulate scenarios replicating practical situations specific to the needs of different departments and programs across the hospital, including emergency, labour and delivery, surgery and medicine units. [Read more.](#)

Minimally invasive clot removal procedure a game changer

A new minimally invasive, non-surgical procedure is now available for post-operative patients who develop potentially life-threatening blood clots in their lungs. The new procedure uses continuous X-ray imaging to guide a catheter inside a vein to travel through the heart and reach the lungs to remove dangerous blood clots. [Read more.](#)

Medical Affairs News

Updated COVID-19 vaccine eligibility for physicians and other healthcare workers

On Aug. 22, the Government of Alberta (GoA) announced a two-phase rollout for its fall COVID-19 vaccine program. Under Phase 1, eligible healthcare workers (HCWs) — including physicians — can receive the COVID-19 vaccine free of charge.

Starting Oct. 1, vaccines will be available at Workplace Health & Safety clinics and public health clinics until the end of the campaign, depending on vaccine availability. Eligible HCWs are encouraged to get their COVID-19 immunization at their earliest opportunity.

Eligible HCWs include:

- Physicians
- [Individuals actively registered with one of our colleges](#)
- Members of UNA, HSAA, AUNP

- Members of AUPE working in public health, acute care or continuing care homes and seniors supportive living accommodations
- Healthcare students who are training in health facilities (for example, hospitals, pharmacies, clinics, LTC)
- Healthcare aides who are on the provincial registry

HCWs who are members of a registered college or union must bring proof of enrollment or association, as they will be required to validate their membership with the frontline provider

This expanded eligibility supports planning for our internal Seasonal Immunization Campaign for Workers. **Details on how to book your influenza and COVID-19 appointment, and clinic availability, will be shared soon.**

For more information about the vaccine program, visit the GoA [website](#).

Update: KNOWN hazard medication alert in Connect Care

On May 5, 2025, an alert within Connect Care (phase one) went live to identify patients receiving hazardous medications.

On Aug. 6, updates to phase one were made based on staff feedback:

- POTENTIAL and REPRODUCTIVE hazard medications alerts will no longer be identified on Storyboard or Rover.
- Storyboard will now show only KNOWN hazard medication alerts, visible in both encounter and non-encounter views.
- Rover alerts will be updated for Linen & Environmental Services and nursing staff.
- For inpatients and patients that had received a KNOWN hazard medication at home or in the community, the system will use the admit date as the assumed last dose date to calculate the precautionary period timeline.

On Aug. 26, the KNOWN Hazard Medication Alert within Connect Care was expanded to ambulatory settings (phase two).

For additional information, including screen shots, review the [Connect Care Hazardous Medication Storyboard Alert FAQ](#). Questions? Contact hazardousmedication@ahs.ca.

Review revised Medication Reconciliation Policy

The [Medication Reconciliation Policy](#) has been revised to align with the new Accreditation Required Organizational Practice (ROP) and came into effect Aug. 14, 2025.

Key additions include:

- Direction on reporting patient safety incidents and information sharing.
- Ensuring medication reconciliation continuous learning activities and improvement initiatives are available for staff.
- Healthcare staff are to offer medication reconciliation education/resources to patients and their families.

For resources and support visit [Insite](#).

Help Privacy identify decision-making resources for legislation change

The Government of Alberta recently passed the [Access to Information Act](#) (ATIA) and the *Protection of Privacy Act* (POPA) – replacing the *Freedom of Information and Protect of Privacy* (FOIP) Act. ATIA now requires that all public bodies make accessible to the public any manuals, handbooks or guidelines that are used by staff or physicians to make decisions that affect the public.

Previously, these documents would have been accessible through an ATIA (FOIP) request — now, they will be available to the public without a formal request.

ACTION: Medical leaders are asked to complete this [survey](#) by Sept. 12 to help Policy & Privacy identify resources created or used by staff and physicians that may meet these requirements.

An example could be documents used to determine the eligibility of a member of the public to receive services.

More details are available in this [FAQ](#). You can also learn more about the ATIA on [Insite](#).

Submit applications to the 2025 i4 Inspiration Showcase

On Nov. 5 and 6, the [i4 conference](#) is celebrating 10 years of innovation, inspiration and impact in Canadian healthcare. As part of i4, the Inspiration Showcase is your chance to exhibit creative and impactful work in the healthcare space and inspire change. Selected submissions will be featured on the i4 virtual platform for attendees to explore throughout the conference.

Applications are now open, but space is limited. Applications close Sept. 19. Learn more and apply [here](#).

Consider sharing the Health Link 811 survey with patients

Health Link 811 is gathering feedback from Albertans who have called Health Link 811 or accessed Health Link resources online. **Please consider sharing this [survey](#) with your patients and other healthcare professionals.** Feedback will be used to improve Health Link 811 services.

For more information, go to ahs.ca/811.

Zone Highlights

Provincial Enterprise Imaging replacing IMPAX in Calgary Zone

Provincial Enterprise Imaging (PEI) is replacing IMPAX as the new Picture Archive Communication System (PACS) in Calgary Zone on Sept. 23, 2025.

After PEI is live, staff will view diagnostic images and reports using [XERO viewer](#) (read this [Workflow Reminder](#)), and [OrthoView](#) will replace MediCAD for orthopedic templating.

Staff who need PEI access will complete training through [MyLearningLink](#). Training is required to access the system. If Calgary Zone users cannot see their PEI course in MLL, email ProvincialEnterpriseImaging@ahs.ca. Training for OrthoView is available upon request to dibusinesssupport@ahs.ca.

Medical Leadership & Development

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.

Each participant must register for a minimum of three sessions. 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.

Mistakes were made (mostly by me): A candid look at medical leadership (Provincial Medical Leadership Educational series)

Join us for the September Provincial Medical Leadership Educational series, where we'll explore the topic "*Mistakes were made (mostly by me): A candid look at medical leadership*" with Dr. Curtis Johnston.

Two sessions are available to pick from:

- Sept. 24, 4-5:30 p.m. | [Register](#)
- Sept. 25, 7-8:30 a.m. | [Register](#)

This session will enable physician leaders to be able to:

1. Identify common medical leadership mistakes encountered, drawing from personal and observed experiences.
2. Analyze the impact of these mistakes on individuals, teams and organizational culture.

3. Apply practical strategies to avoid similar pitfalls and transform mistakes into opportunities for growth and improved leadership effectiveness.

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 Learning

Support available for the Physician Practice Improvement Program

If you're an Alberta physician who needs to meet the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta's (CPSA) [Physician Practice Improvement Program](#) (PPIP) requirement, there are some resources available to support you.

The University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development office has developed [SUPPORT for PPIP](#), an accredited program that guides physicians step by step through the requirements. The program provides:

- Up to 15 certified CME credits (CFPC Self-Learning or RCPSC MOC Section 3)
- A clear pathway to complete all three PPIP activities
- Practice data tools aligned with CPSA Standards of Practice
- Expert facilitator guidance via interactive webinars (with asynchronous options coming soon)

The Alberta Medical Association Accelerating Change Transformation Team (AMA-ACTT) is also offering several free webinars to help guide physicians through the completion of PPIP activities. [Learn more](#) and sign-up to attend.

Resources for Physicians

Career opportunities

Practise opportunities across a broad range of specialties are available. All vacant AHS physician practise 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:

- [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)
- [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.