

Medical Staff Update

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Feature Stories & News

Expanded ICU strengthens critical care

Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre recently celebrated the completion of its redeveloped Intensive Care Unit (ICU) space by opening additional rooms that increase the unit’s capacity and improve its ability to respond to surges in patient demand. Using shelved space within the ICU, the expansion project created three new rooms and fully outfitted five rooms in total. This added space allows the team to manage emergency surges without having to double-up patients in existing rooms, an approach previously used during periods of high demand. [Read more.](#)

Medical Affairs News

Review the new provincial standards for managing surgical waitlists

Acute Care Alberta released new [Standards and Best Practices For Managing Surgical Waitlists](#) to support accurate, consistent and transparent waitlist management across the province. These standards outline what's expected of frontline providers, including surgeons, medical office assistants, nurse navigators and operating room administrators.

Developed with input from surgeons, health service providers and patient and family advisors, the standards provide a unified provincial approach for managing scheduled surgery waitlists in Alberta's publicly funded surgical facilities. The standards will also form a new surgical waitlist management policy coming later this year.

Frontline providers are invited to review the standards and share feedback with the lead for this initiative, Eva.Jankowski@acutearealberta.ca.

You can access the standards and other resources on the [Surgical Waitlist Management](#) Insite page.

Medical Leadership & Development

“Does Compassion Still Matter in Contemporary Healthcare?” (Provincial Medical Leadership Educational Series)

Join us **Wednesday, April 15 from 4-5:30 p.m.** for the next Provincial Medical Leadership Educational Series, where we'll explore the topic “Does Compassion Still Matter in Contemporary Healthcare? The Evidence, Challenges, and Implications for Enhancing Compassion at a Patient, Provider, and Organizational Level” with Shane Sinclair, PhD. [Register to attend.](#)

By the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Define and delineate differences between compassion, empathy and sympathy.
- Describe the evidence and role of compassion in healthcare.

- Determine the evidence for measuring compassion as a key indicator of the patient experience.
- Consider whether compassion can be cultivated and the impact of compassion training on provider and patient outcomes.
- Identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats faced by healthcare leaders in creating compassionate healthcare organizations and systems.

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

Addiction & Mental Health Knowledge Bites lunch & learn series

Join us on Thursday, May 28 from 12:05-12:50 p.m. for “Suicides of Elderly Patients Connected to Mental Health Services from 1999-2024”, presented by Dr. Eric Chan. This event is free to attend over MS Teams or phone. [RSVP](#) by May 26 to attend.

There is more information on the [Knowledge Bites webpage](#). To be notified of future events in this series, subscribe to the [Knowledge Bites mailing list](#).

New learning module supports healthy births

A new online learning module supports healthcare providers regarding neonatal hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy, a type of brain injury caused by reduced oxygen and blood flow to an infant’s brain before or shortly after birth. It’s the leading cause globally for mortality, cerebral palsy and neurodevelopmental disability.

The module, “Preventing Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy: Fetal Heart Rate Case Based Teaching”, is available on [MyLearningLink](#) and provides realistic scenarios and meaningful practice in interpreting complex fetal heart rate tracings. It aligns with the Fetal Health Surveillance Canada refresher cycle and is accredited for CME credits.

Questions? Contact Shazia.Dharamsi@ahs.ca.

“Caregivers as Essential Care Team Partners” webinar (PPIP activity)

Complete a CPSA-required Physician Practice Improvement Program (PPIP) activity with a Caregiver-Centered Care Webinar on April 28 from 6-7 p.m.

In this presentation with Dr. Vivian Ewa and Dr. Elaine Bland, you will learn evidence-based strategies to engage, partner with and support family caregivers. [Register to attend](#).

Prerequisites: Participants must complete three, 20-minute, self-paced online modules available on the [Caregiver-Centered Care website](#). The webinar builds on this module content.

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](#).

Check out this current opportunity with Acute Care Alberta:

- [Interim ACA Physician Leader, Quality and Safety](#) (0.5 FTE)
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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.

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](#)
- [2026 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.