

Description of Service

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Medical Staff who are specialists in General Surgery (or its associated subspecialties) and have privileges in AHS facilities provide safe, high-quality care for patients across the Province. The specialty of General Surgery embraces the principles and techniques of safe and effective surgical care of the whole person of any age, and is the parent discipline of all surgical specialties. The General Surgeon is an eclectic surgical specialist whose practice deals mainly with the alimentary tract, trauma and critical care, endocrine and breast diseases, cancer surgery and endoscopy. By virtue of training, special interest or circumstance the practice of General Surgery may be narrowly focused or may extend to diseases or injuries affecting virtually any system of the body. Modern general surgical practice includes competence in communication and collaboration, teaching and research, health care management and advocacy, professionalism and continuing professional development.¹

Privileges in General Surgery will include the ability to assess, stabilize, and determine the disposition of patients with emergent conditions consistent with medical staff policy regarding emergency and consultative call services. General Surgery privileges may include admitting, evaluating, diagnosing, treating, and providing consultation to patients in the inpatient, outpatient, or Emergency Department settings in conformance with applicable policies. Privileges for Specialists may also include the opportunity to provide technical assistance in the operating theater as a Surgical Assistant.

Zone Medical Staff Organization

Zone	Department(s)	Section(s)
South	Surgery	General Surgery
Calgary	Surgery	General Surgery
Central	Surgery	General Surgery
Edmonton	Surgery	General Surgery
North	Hospital Health	Surgery - General Surgery

¹ Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) Objectives of Training in the Specialty of General Surgery version 1.0, 2010

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) Requirements

The CPSA grants practice permits but does not grant any additional practice approvals for specific procedures or specialties beyond those stated on the practice permit.

A practice permit from the CPSA does not guarantee that an individual will be granted an AHS Medical Staff appointment or privileges. It is AHS's role and responsibility to screen and evaluate the qualifications of Practitioners in relation to the specific procedures and patient care services they will be providing at specific sites before granting an appointment and clinical privileges.

Physicians with expertise in a particular area of practice may require a CPSA approval process separate from the CPSA licensure and AHS privileging process for specific services. These services typically fall into the non-invasive diagnostics group. Please refer to the CPSA website for a list of practice areas requiring approval

<http://www.cpsa.ca/accreditation/physician-approvals/>.

Minimum Education and Training Requirements

The "Minimum Education and Training Requirements" set out in the AHS List of General Surgery Clinical Privileges are as follows:

1. Appropriate licensure with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta,

AND

2. Credentials satisfactory to the Zone Clinical Department Head (ZCDH), Zone Application Review Committee (ZARC) and/or the Chief Medical Officer (CMO), including:
 - o Successful completion of a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) accredited residency program and fellowship in the RCPSC (FRCPC); OR
 - o Equivalent combination of education, training and experience satisfactory to the ZCDH, ZARC and/or CMO.

These are minimum requirements. The ZCDH, ZARC and/or the CMO may determine that additional education, training or experience is required. The ZCDH, ZARC and/or CMO may also determine that an individual has developed competency in a particular area, without having completed a fellowship in that area, through an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. In addition to the minimum requirements listed above, additional education, training, experience and certification may be required to be granted certain clinical privileges. These specifics are identified in the attached clinical privileges list.

Privileges Requiring Additional Education, Training and Experience

The list identifies privileges that require additional specialty training and documentation of evidence that the practitioner has received recognized postgraduate education, training or an appropriate level of experience to safely provide the service.

Clinical Privilege List and Medical Staff Bylaws

The AHS Medical Staff Bylaws state that the clinical privileges granted to a Practitioner define the diagnostic or therapeutic Procedures or other Patient care services a Practitioner is deemed competent to perform, the Facility(ies) and Zone(s) within which the Practitioner is eligible to provide care and services to Patients; and the specified AHS Programs and Professional services...that the Practitioner is eligible to access.²

*No recommendation on Clinical Privileges is meant to prevent any licensed Practitioner from performing any medical procedure on any person in an emergency situation where failure to perform that procedure may result in death or serious injury or harm to the person.*³

Nothing in this document or the attached List of Clinical Privileges replaces the processes or requirements set out in the AHS Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules. This document and its attachments are intended to supplement and more fully describe the application of the AHS Bylaws and Rules in the context of General Surgery Clinical Privileges.

The AHS Medical Staff Bylaws and Rules can be found on the AHS website at <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/hp/phys/if-hp-phys-bylaws.pdf>

Interpretation of the Clinical Privilege List

The following list describes and reflects the categories/types of patient services included in the scope of General Surgery privileges available to members of the AHS Medical Staff with the necessary and required education training and experience. When granted, General Surgery privileges include the capability to perform the noted procedure using various techniques and approaches as appropriate for the patient, unless a specific technique or approach is specified. The Zone Clinical Department Head's recommendation regarding specifics of an individual's privileges and any associated techniques will be provided to ZARC and the CMO for their consideration.

The Medical Staff Rules define the minimum review period for the privilege list.⁴

² AHS Medical Staff Bylaws 3.0.2

³ AHS Medical Staff Rules 3.4.3(e)

⁴ AHS Medical Staff Rules, 3.4.3(f)(ii).

Sites of Clinical Privileges

A delineation of the sites of clinical activity is a required component of clinical privileges (AHS Medical Staff Bylaws, 3.2.1(c) and 3.2.7).

Clinical privileges will reflect the site (or sites) where the Physician physically provides the clinical services. A Physician privileged in the specialty may have clinical privileges at multiple sites if they travel to multiple sites to provide clinical services as approved by the ZCDH, ZARC and/or the CMO. Privileges granted may only be exercised at the site(s) and/or setting(s) that have sufficient space, equipment, staffing, and other resources required to support the privilege.

	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	Site E
Privilege 1					
Privilege 2					
Privilege 3					
Privilege 4					

The table above indicates what privileges are available at which sites:

- Privilege 1 is available at all sites
- Privilege 2 is available at sites A, C,D and E
- Privilege 3 is available at sites A and C
- Privilege 4 is available at sites B, D and E

Proctoring Requirements

The Zone Clinical Department Head may determine that a period of proctoring is required in certain situations. Proctoring can be defined as follows:

“The term *proctor* is often used to mean observe, supervise, mentor, monitor, or directly assess...*proctoring* reflects a process by which an individual is reviewed and evaluated over time to ensure competence, and proctor identifies the person performing the assessment.” *The Medical Staff Handbook, A Guide to Joint Commission Standards, Second Edition.*

“Proctoring is a process of direct observation that allows for the focused evaluation of current physician competency in carrying out actual clinical care and takes both cognitive and procedural abilities into account. If the proctor observes potential or imminent patient harm during the proctoring process, it may be ethically appropriate for him or her to intervene.” *Proctoring and FPPE: Strategies for Verifying Physician Competence, Second Edition. Robert J. Marder, MD, CMSL, and Mark A. Smith, MD, MBA, CMSL.*

General Surgery Clinical Privilege List

Clinical Privilege	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Admitting privilege (includes; assessment, evaluating, consulting, diagnosing, treating and surgical assistance)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consultation privilege (Includes; conduct history and assessment for the purpose of making recommendations related to care and treatment.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Surgical Assist privilege (at the direction of the surgeon, provides aid in technical functions in the OR)
Abdominal Wall	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hernia - All Types
<input type="checkbox"/>	Panniculectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Paracentesis
Ano-Rectal	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Abscess – incision and drainage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anal Dilation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fissure-In-Ano Repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fistula-In-Ano Repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hemorrhoid Banding
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hemorrhoid Treatment by Scarification
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hemorrhoidectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pilonidal Abscess Drainage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pilonidal Cyst – Excision/ Marsupialization
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rectal Prolapse Repair
Bariatrics	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sleeve Gastrectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gastric Bypass
<input type="checkbox"/>	Laparoscopic Band Placement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revisional Bariatric Surgery
Biliary Track & Pancreas	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cholecystectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cholecystostomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choledochostomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Bile Duct Exploration
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hepatic Resections
<input type="checkbox"/>	Liver Biopsy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pancreas Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Distal Pancreatectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pancreatic Debridement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pancreaticoduodenectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pancreatic Cyst Enterostomy

<input type="checkbox"/>	Surgical Management of Chronic Pancreatitis
Blood Vessels	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Varicose Vein Treatment
Breasts	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Abcess - Incision & Drainage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Axillary Node Dissection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Breast Biopsy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Total Mastectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Segmental Mastectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sentinel Node Biopsy
Chest	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TubeThorascostomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thoracentesis
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thoracotomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thoracotomy/Thoracostomy – Diaphragmatic Surgery – non hiatus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Videoscopic Pleuroscopy
Emergency General Surgery/Trauma	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cardioversion, Defibrillation, Pacemaker Insertion, Pericardiocentesis & Related Advanced Life Support Procedures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Control & Repair of Major Vascular, Neck, Truncal & Extremity Injury
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drainage of intra-abdominal abscess/retroperitoneal abscess
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Gastrointestinal & Genitourinary procedures including repair/resection of kidneys, Bladder, Uterers, Ovaries, Uterus & Perineal Injuries, Liver, Bowel, Rectum
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Mediastinal Surgery including the Heart & Pericardium
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fracture Stabilization
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cerebral Decompression
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Thoracic Procedures including repair of chest wall & Lung injury
Endocrine	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adrenalectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parathyroidectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thyroglossal Duct Excision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thyroidectomy
Endoscopy	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bronchoscopy , B.A.L & Protected Brushing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gastroscopy (includes biopsies, hemostasis, and foreign body removal)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Esophagoscopy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Management of non-variceal bleeding
<input type="checkbox"/>	Management of variceal bleeding
<input type="checkbox"/>	Colonoscopy (includes biopsies, polypectomy, hemostasis, foreign body removal)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complex Polypectomy (large or flat)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dilation of Colonic Stricture
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flexible Sigmoidoscopy - with or without biopsy

<input type="checkbox"/>	Rigid Sigmoidoscopy/Anoscopy - with or without biopsy
Esophagus	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Esophagectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Esophageal Diverticulotomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Esophageal Myotomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traumatic Repair
Gastro-Intestinal Tract	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Colon Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creation and Reversal of Enterostomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Diagnostic Laparoscopy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fundoplication
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gastric Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gastrostomy – open or endoscopic
<input type="checkbox"/>	Laparoscopic Diaphragmatic Hernia Repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pouch Procedures for IBD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rectal Tumor Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Bowel Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transanal excision of mass
Gynecology	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hysterectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hysteroscopic Tubal Occlusion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oophorectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Salpingectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tubal Ligation - Abdominal
Head and Neck	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Branchial Cleft Excision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neck Dissection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Salivary Gland Excision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tonsillectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tracheotomy
Lymph Nodes	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional Lymphadenectomy, Lymph Node Biopsy (Groin, Cervical, Axillary)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Retroperitoneal Node Dissection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biopsy or Excision - Deep
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biopsy or Excision - Superficial
Miscellaneous	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arterial Line Insertion & Monitoring, Percutaneous or Cut Down
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bone Marrow Biopsy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carpal Tunnel Release
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Venous Line Insertion & Monitoring, Tunnelled Lines

<input type="checkbox"/>	Intubation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Aspiration
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lumbar Puncture
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mechanical Ventilation & Related Airway Procedures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thoracentesis, Paracentesis, Pleurodesis, Peritoneal Lavage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wedge Excision - Toenail
Oncology	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adrenalectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	En Bloc Resection of Adjacent Organs & Tissues for GI; Soft Tissue; Endocrine; & Head, Neck & Retroperitoneal Malignancies
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sarcoma Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pelvic Exenteration/Sacrectomy
Orthopedics	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amputations - Minor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amputations - Major
Pediatrics (These privileges typically focus on patients age 12 and under)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Circumcision
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inguinal Hernia
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orchidopexy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pyloromyotomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tonsillectomy
Skin & Subcutaneous Tissues	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Treatment of Burns - 1st Degree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Treatment of Burns - 2nd Degree - Minor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fasciotomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flap Closure (advancement, transpositional, rotational, axial)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Free Grafts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Split-Thickness Skin Grafts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full-Thickness Skin Grafts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Removal of Foreign Body
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sentinel Node Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Skin Cancers and Melanoma Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Simple Subcutaneous Tumor Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soft tissue Tumor Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Incision, Drainage of Superficial Abscesses and Evacuation Hematomas
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suturing and Debridement Major Trauma Wounds
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tissue Biopsy
Spleen	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Splenectomy or Splenorrhaphy
Urology	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Circumcision

<input type="checkbox"/>	Cystoscopy with or without Ureteric Stent Placement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrocoelelectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orchiectomy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orchiopexy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partial Bladder Resection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suprapubic Catheter Placement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vasectomy

Privileges requiring additional education, training and experience: the below listed privileges require education, training and experience in addition to the successful completion of the Fellowship/Residency program.

Clinical Privilege		Required additional education, training and experience
<input type="checkbox"/>	Procedural Sedation	Compliance with the AHS Procedural Sedation Policy (PS-21) and Procedure (PS-21-01) ⁵ . Demonstrated combination of education, training AND/OR experience in conscious sedation to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Endoscopic Ultrasound	Post fellowship training or equivalent in advanced endoscopic techniques which includes endoscopic ultrasound and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatogram (ERCP) with or without Biliary Stent placement	Post fellowship training or equivalent in advanced endoscopic techniques which includes ERCP and/or demonstrate training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Esophageal or Duodenal Stent placement	Fellowship training or equivalent in advanced endoscopic techniques and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Capsule Endoscopy and Interpretations	Fellowship training or equivalent in advanced endoscopic techniques and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	PEG Tube Placement (Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy)	Fellowship training or equivalent in advanced endoscopic techniques and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Colonic Stent placement	Fellowship training or equivalent in advanced endoscopic techniques and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery	Fellowship training or equivalent in advanced endoscopic techniques and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ablative Liver Surgery – (Radiofrequency/ Cryoablation)	Fellowship training or equivalent in advanced Cryoablation/Radiofrequency hepatobiliary surgery and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Caesarian Sections	Fellowship training or equivalent in operative obstetrics and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	HIPEC and Peritoneal stripping	Demonstrated combination of education, training and/or experience in HIPEC and peritoneal stripping to satisfy the ZCDH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump	Demonstrated combination of education, training and/or experience in Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump insertion to satisfy the ZCDH.

⁵ Procedural Sedation Policy, Procedure and Education Materials <http://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/9227.asp>
November 2015

Pediatric Surgery Subspecialty Privileges		
Clinical Privilege		Required additional education, training and experience
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gastroschisis Repair	RCPSC Certified Pediatric Surgery Subspecialist or equivalent and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH
<input type="checkbox"/>	NUSS repairs of chest wall deformities	RCPSC Certified Pediatric Surgery Subspecialist or equivalent and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Omphalocele Repair	RCPSC Certified Pediatric Surgery Subspecialist or equivalent and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA) ligations	RCPSC Certified Pediatric Surgery Subspecialist or equivalent and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pediatric Laparoscopic and Open Ovarian surgery	RCPSC Certified Pediatric Surgery Subspecialist or equivalent and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tracheoesophageal Atresia repair	RCPSC Certified Pediatric Surgery Subspecialist or equivalent and/or demonstrated training and experience to satisfy the ZCDH