

Overview of COVID-19 PCN Incident Response Task Force

A COVID-19 PCN Incident Response Task Force has been created to ensure a coordinated provincial response to the virus. The Task Force plays a key role in integrating Primary Care Networks (PCNs) into provincial emergency management efforts.

The Task Force is involved in COVID-19 planning on items including:

- Personal protective equipment supplies
- Primary care communications
- Precautions for infection, prevention and control
- Potential assessment clinics

The PCN response is aligned with the provincial emergency response being coordinated by Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services.

Process for Communicating to PCNs

The Task Force develops communications to address issues specific to PCNs. These communications are supplementary to critical updates distributed through the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and other channels.

Task Force updates will be sent to PCN providers in the following ways:

- Distributed to each PCN through the Executive Directors, who will then distribute in their PCNs
- Posted on the "[Information for Primary Care Providers](#)" page on ahs.ca/covid

Note: All communications from the Task Force is approved by the AHS Emergency Coordination Centre before being distributed.

Communicating Information Relevant to PCNs

PCN providers will likely receive information through the Task Force as well as through other channels. The Task Force aims to only communicate information relevant to primary care; however, in our efforts to ensure all PCN providers in Alberta have the information they need, there may sometimes be duplication.

Task Force Membership

The Task Force is comprised of representatives from all zones and includes PCN Physician Leads, a PCN Executive Director, AMA and AHS. Please contact a Task Force representative from your zone if you have questions about PCN response efforts or want to raise issues impacting you. Feedback from providers is important to ensure a provincial response focused on issues that impact primary care the most.

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Here is a full list of members:

Area of Representation	Name
AHS Primary Health Care Program	Rob Skrypnek (chair), Dr. Linda Slocombe, Dr. Nick Myers
AHS Emergency Coordination Centre	Dr. Chris Sikora
North Zone	Gregory Cummings, Sandra Herritt, Lisa Kemp, Wendy McLean, Dr. Helen Akosile-Xulu
Edmonton Zone	Dr. Chris Sikora, Dr. Justin Balko, Stephanie Donaldson
Central Zone	Andrea Thain Liptak, Dr. Jordan Larue
Calgary Zone	Dr. Mike Spady, Dr. Ernst Greyvenstein
South Zone	Grant Walker, Dr. Fredrykka Rinaldi
PCN Network of Executive Directors	Doug Craig
AMA	Christine deMontigny

Ad hoc: Medical Officers of Health – Dr. Jia Hu, Dr. Kristin Klein

Ad hoc: Alberta Health - Martin Tailleux

Task Force Governance

The COVID-19 PCN Incident Response Task Force has been formed as part of the AHS/PCN Joint Venture Council disaster response approach. During emergencies, such as a pandemic threat, PCN Incident Response Task Forces are formed to enable the primary care system in Alberta to effectively respond and recover.

The Task Force is linked to the broader AHS and Alberta Health response as the AHS Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) is represented on the Task Force. The Task Force and ECC share information and align efforts.

More information

Visit ahs.ca/covid for the most up-to-date COVID-19 information and resources. The “[Information for Primary Care Providers](#)” page includes updates from PCN Incident Response Task Force.

Medical questions should be directed to the [Medical Officer of Health](#) in your zone.

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