

primary cares

News & updates from the Calgary Zone



Notifications impacted as Connect Care comes to Calgary area

This weekend's Connect Care rollout at selected sites in the Calgary area may affect how some physicians and clinics receive admit and discharge notifications.

The Peter Lougheed Centre (PLC) and rural acute and long-term care and urgent care in Airdrie, Okotoks, Cochrane and at Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre and South Calgary Health Centre are among the local sites scheduled to be involved in the Saturday, May 28 launch. See the [timeline](#) for more details.

The biggest change primary care providers will notice is that deceased notifications will cease immediately at all sites. Admission and discharge notifications for sites not connected to the Connect Care launch – including Foothills Medical Centre, Rockyview General Hospital and South Health Campus – will not be affected, and clinics will continue to receive notifications by fax.

Effective this weekend, admission and discharge notifications for PLC and rural acute will be received as follows:

- Providers or clinics on CII/CPAR are not impacted and will continue to [receive eNotifications](#) as usual
- Those on eDelivery will receive admission and discharge [notifications through eDelivery](#)
- Providers not on eDelivery will receive those notifications via fax, as usual

For more information about Connect Care, consult the [Connect Care Identifiers memo](#) or reference the [clinical documentation FAQ](#). For questions about how to manage clinical documents in your EMR, please contact your service provider. Questions about AHS notifications can be directed to servicedesk.embris@ahs.ca.

Evusheld added to COVID-19 treatment options

A new medication for the prevention of COVID-19 in patients who are highly immunocompromised is now being offered to Albertans.

Evusheld, a combination of two long-acting antibodies (tixagevimab and cilgavimab), binds to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 to prevent it from entering cells in the body.

Provided through a third-party provider, it is not a replacement for vaccination. Eligible patients must wait 14 days after vaccination or COVID-19 infection recovery before taking the medication.

Patients who are immunocompromised and unlikely to mount an adequate immune response to vaccination – and have the highest demonstrated risk of severe outcomes – could potentially benefit from Evusheld. More resources are below:

- [Read the memo](#)
- [Evusheld product details](#)
- [Patient FAQ](#)
- [Provider FAQ](#)
- [Outpatient treatment options](#)

Paxlovid information: A [step-by-step prescribing guide](#) is available to primary care providers who are interested in prescribing Paxlovid. Please note information about [Rapid Antigen Test Requisition](#). The outpatient COVID-19 treatment program can be reached at 1-844-343-0971.

Continuous masking: AHS is maintaining its continuous masking procedures in AHS facilities. All visitors, staff, physicians, volunteers and designated support people are asked to wear masks in patient care areas and other common spaces.

Last chance to register: Anxiety and Paxlovid webinar

A new anxiety pathway and six Paxlovid prescribing case studies will be featured in next week's Calgary Zone COVID-19 and mental health webinar.

The virtual event, scheduled for Monday, May 30 from 6-8 p.m., will be hosted by Dr. Christine Luelo and Dr. Rick Ward and will feature physicians from the COVID-19 outpatient treatment program. Dr. Jia Hu will also provide an update on COVID-19.

The mental health moment – a discussion about caring for patients with anxiety in the medical home – will be led by Dr. Rachel Han and Dr. Margie Oakander.

[Register.](#)

Refugee health support

Dr. Annalee Coakley, from the Mosaic Refugee Clinic, will be sharing practical tips about refugee health billing and coverage, interpretation supports, community resources, and where to find answers to any clinical questions at an upcoming free virtual webinar on Wednesday, June 8, from 7–8 p.m.

With the Calgary area acting as one of two main hubs for Afghan refugees arriving in Canada, the webinar will provide an overview of refugee classification and corresponding program eligibility.

To register, email cme@mosaicpcn.ca, including your full name and PCN affiliation. A webinar link will be emailed a few days prior to the event.

[More details.](#)

A reminder that physicians are needed to help support the health needs of Afghan refugees who are arriving in the Calgary area. If you're interested in learning more about how to help, Mosaic PCN has developed an [information sign-up page](#).

Quick links

Monkeypox information

Lab testing is available for monkeypox through the public health laboratory. For all cases of suspected monkeypox, physicians are advised to consult with the on-call virologist and the AHS Medical Officer of Health. Contact, droplet and airborne precautions should be taken, and patients suspected of having monkeypox should be provided with a surgical or procedure mask on arrival and placed in a separate room with the door closed. [Read the memo](#).

Webinar: Compassion in health care

On Tuesday, June 7, from 12–1 p.m., the Calgary Zone's Patient and Family Centred Care Grand Rounds hosts a webinar on the importance of compassion in health care. Physicians and clinic staff are invited to attend. [Register](#).

Reminder: AMA privacy webinar training

On Tuesday, May 31, the Alberta Medical Association is offering free privacy training for physicians, privacy officers and clinic staff. Learn about new tools and resources and pose questions to a privacy officer. Two sessions are available: [12–1 p.m.](#) and [5:30–6:30 p.m.](#) [More information](#).