

# primary cares

News & updates from the Calgary Zone



## Monkeypox appointments

Appointments for the monkeypox vaccine are now available in Calgary for [eligible patients](#).

Imvamune (smallpox and monkeypox vaccine) has been authorized for adults in Canada who are determined to be at high risk for exposure. Vaccine supply is limited.

- **Booking an appointment:** Call Health Link at 1-866-301-2688
- **Information for physicians:** [Primary care provider info](#)
- **Information for patients:** Visit [alberta.ca/monkeypox](http://alberta.ca/monkeypox)
- **Close contacts:** If a patient is a close contact of a suspected or confirmed infection, they are advised to self-monitor for 21 days. If symptoms develop, they should self-isolate and seek care

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## Vaccine availability for children

The Moderna vaccine is now available for children aged six months to five years via the [Alberta Vaccine Booking System](#) and 811. Resources you may find useful are listed below:

- Information for parents: [ahs.ca/vaccinekids](http://ahs.ca/vaccinekids) | [FAQ](#)
- [Online booking](#)
- [Information: Children fearful of needles](#)

### Booster shots

A reminder that Albertans aged 18 and over can book appointments for a [second booster dose](#) of an mRNA vaccine. Patients are eligible five months or longer after receiving their first booster. It is recommended that patients wait at least three months after a COVID-19 infection before receiving a booster dose. Patients can [book online](#), call 811 or visit [select pharmacies](#) for walk-in appointments.

### Influenza immunization

The 2022-23 influenza immunization program is due to start mid-October. [More information](#).

## Calgary Zone webinar

The Calgary Zone's COVID-19 and mental health webinar series, co-hosted by Dr. Rick Ward and Dr. Christine Luelo, returns in September with an updated format.

On Monday, September 12, from 6–8 p.m., family physicians and team members are invited to join a discussion about hot topics related to primary care in the Calgary Zone. [Register](#).

With COVID-19 no longer dominating the healthcare landscape in the same way it did at the height of the pandemic, the webinar's updated format will include COVID-19 updates, as appropriate, but it will also focus on several other pressing topics related to primary care. The [mental health segment](#) will also return.

When registering, physicians will be asked if they'd like to attend virtually or in-person. Details about in-person attendance will be shared nearer the time. [Register](#).

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## Quick links

### Greg's Story screenings

On Thursday, September 15 at 8 a.m., the first of two upcoming free online screenings of *Falling Through the Cracks: Greg's Story* will take place. The 30-minute film documents Greg Price's journey through the healthcare system and focuses on the events that led to his unexpected and tragic death. The screening is followed by a Q&A with family members. [Register](#). A second screening will be held on Wednesday, October 12 at 9 a.m. [Register](#).

### Reminder: New a-fib pathway

A new primary care pathway for patients with atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter can now be downloaded from [Specialist Link](#). The most common sustained dysrhythmia, atrial fibrillation, affects about one in four over the age of 40, including about 59,000 Albertans. Untreated, it is associated with a three to six times increased risk of stroke or systemic embolism and a doubling of mortality rates. [Download the pathway](#).