

# primary cares

News & updates from the Calgary Zone



## Panel size webinar

A new webinar series aims to share practical tips on how physicians can improve the accuracy of their panel size estimate.

On Tuesday, September 3, at 7:30 a.m., and Wednesday, September 4, at 5:30 p.m., former PCN physician lead Dr. Ernst Greyvenstein will present the first installment of a three-part webinar series aimed at family physicians and rural generalists.

Hosted by the Alberta Medical Association's Accelerating Change Transformation Team (ACTT), it aims to support improved panel size accuracy, a key component of future Panel Management Support Program (PMSP) payments, as well as potentially the new Physician Comprehensive Care Model (PCCM). Physicians can register for *Take Control of Your Panel Size* on either [September 3, at 7:30 a.m.](#) or [September 4, at 5:30 p.m.](#)

**Calgary Zone webinar:** Skin cancer and neurodiversity will be among the hot topics discussed in the next Calgary Zone webinar. On Monday, September 23, from 6–8 p.m., Dr. Rick Ward and Dr. Christine Luelo return with a panel of guests. [Register](#). A recording of the July webinar on fibromyalgia and eating disorders can also be [watched online](#).

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## Coming soon: New tele-advice services

Suspected child abuse and neglect and pediatric palliative care are set to be the latest tele-advice services to be added to Specialist Link.

Effective Wednesday, September 4, the non-urgent advice lines will be available to family physicians and nurse practitioners in the Calgary area.

The suspected child abuse and neglect (SCAN) line can help with the following:

- Concerns that a child may have experienced abuse and you are not sure of next steps
- A parent or child has disclosed abuse and you are not sure about next steps
- A child has a physical finding that is suspicious and you would like to discuss with a child maltreatment specialist
- You have a patient you think needs a sexual abuse examination

Please note that SCAN is not suitable if a child needs counselling for abuse (see Alberta Referral Directory for referral information).

Pediatric palliative medicine tele-advice offers non-urgent advice and support to providers who have patients with complex palliative symptoms and needs that include:

- Pain
- Nausea
- Dyspnea
- Constipation
- Opioid toxicity
- Delirium
- Depression, anxiety and grief

The service can also support clarification of treatment goals and management plans, decision-making approaching end of life and access to pediatric hospice and family support.

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## **Mpox lab testing**

Mpox lab testing is available in Alberta and can be carried out on the same viral swabs sent for herpes simplex virus or varicella zoster virus.

The World Health Organization declared the spread of the Mpox virus on the African continent a public health emergency of international concern. It has a higher mortality rate than previous strains identified in Canada.

Testing is recommended for individuals of all genders presenting with acute rash or ulcers with or without systemic symptoms – fever, headache, myalgia, arthralgia, back pain, or lymphadenopathy – who in the last 21 days had one or more of the following risk factors:

- Sexual contact with new, anonymous or multiple partner(s)
- Sexual contact with a person(s) who had sexual contact with new, anonymous or multiple partner(s)
- Significant contact with a person who had skin lesions such as macules, papules, pustules, vesicles or ulcers with no known alternate cause
- Contact with a known or probable case of Mpox
- Visiting or recently returned from a country with high rates of Mpox virus circulation

[Read the lab bulletin.](#)

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## **IPOP clinics not accepting referrals**

AHS long COVID Inter-Professional Outpatient Program (IPOP) clinics at Rockyview General Hospital, Peter Lougheed Centre and Community Accessible Rehabilitation are no longer accepting referrals.

Temporary funding for the program has concluded. Patients undergoing active treatment will receive a treatment plan, while those on the wait list will be notified by the end of the month and given a list of self-care resources and encouraged to contact Health Link or their primary care provider.

Available resources for health professionals include the [COVID pathway](#) and toolkits. Patient resources include the rehabilitation advice line (1-833-379-0563), a [patient resources](#) website page, [videos](#) and [MyHealth.Alberta](#) resources.

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## CanREACH fall sessions

Registration is open for fall CanREACH sessions for the popular mini-fellowship on patient-centred mental health in pediatric primary care.

The course kicks off with conference dates on Friday, September 13 and Saturday, September 14, followed by 12 one-hour clinical case sessions. Mainpro+ credits are available.

[More information.](#)

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## Reminder: Connect Care

Connect Care will soon be able to deliver more clinical documents to providers at specific locations or clinics.

Effective Sunday, August 25, documents and results can be sent to clinics or locations where providers see the patient, rather than a single default community location.

To support this change, providers who work at more than one location or clinic and/or have eDelivery direct to their EMR inbox have been sent a letter via fax or mail to the location AHS has on file as their primary location. Providers are asked to confirm results delivery methods and locations by Monday, August 19.

[More information.](#)

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## Reminder: Duplicative lab requisitions

Requisitions for the same test submitted by two or more providers are now being merged by Alberta Precision Labs, whenever possible.

Separate specimens will not be collected for requisitions that seek the same tests. Instead, labs will only collect enough blood for one test and the results will be sent to all the providers who ordered the test. Community providers will be listed as an authorizing provider or coordination of care recipient on result documents. All ordering providers remain clinically responsible and will receive a call about critical test results.

[More information.](#)

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## Quick links

### **Webinar: Seniors and driving**

On Tuesday, October 22, from 7–8:30 p.m., Calgary West Central PCN is hosting a virtual webinar on *Resources on Seniors and Driving*. Dr. Vivian Ewa will share her expertise, while the Calgary Seniors' Resource Society will share information on their volunteer driving assist program. [Register](#).

### **Proactive care coordination assistant program webinar**

Starting on Wednesday, September 25, from noon–12:45 p.m., the Physician Learning Program and Edmonton Southside PCN are hosting a seven-part webinar series on the proactive care coordination assistant (PCCA) program. [Register](#).

### **Reminder: Clinic pathway pilot**

Is your clinic interested in taking part in a pilot project to automate care pathways within EMRs? The groundbreaking initiative, a collaborative effort between Mikata and local Primary Care Networks, will see pathways integrated into everyday practice. Clinics are being sought that use Telus Med Access, PS Suite, or QHR Accuro. Enrolled clinics would be asked to offer feedback. Physicians will receive remuneration for taking part. Review this [one-pager](#) for more information. You can also [fill out the form](#) or email [emily@mikatahealth.com](mailto:emily@mikatahealth.com).