



Specialist Link: By the numbers

More than 22,000 tele-advice calls were logged in 2024-25 as Specialist Link continued to provide access to real-time advice from specialists and specialty groups.

The annual *By the numbers* report, which can be [downloaded here](#), revealed that hematology, endocrinology and obstetrics & gynecology were the three most requested telephone advice services of the 52 available via specialistlink.ca.

There were also more than 34,000 pathway downloads last year, with NAFLD, migraine and irritable bowel syndrome leading the way.

Specialist Link, which provides tele-advice, pathways and other resources to family physicians and nurse practitioners, has logged more than 143,000 calls since 2014.

Have your say: Specialist Link needs your help to ensure it meets the needs of primary care providers in the coming months and years. The Specialist Link survey takes about 10 minutes to complete, and all responses are anonymous. The results will be used to refine service standards, guide provincial discussions, and inform future planning and quality improvements. [Take the survey](#).

Measles exposure risk in South Zone

A standing measles exposure advisory has been issued for South Zone due to the large number of cases reported in the south of the province.

All individuals living, working or attending school in, or travelling to, the South Zone are advised to be aware of the significant current risk for measles disease and ensure immunizations are up to date. A total of 491 cases had been reported as of Thursday, May 29, compared to 12 in the Calgary Zone.

All practitioners in the Calgary Zone, but especially those working in communities near the South Zone, are advised to consider measles in under-vaccinated individuals presenting with a febrile illness. Locally acquired cases may not have a known source. Please read [the memo](#) from the Calgary Zone Medical Officers of Health.

Appointments for immunization are available within the week across the zone. A measles hotline was also launched earlier this month at 1-844-944-3434. Physicians can also report suspected and probable cases to the physician reporting line at 1-844-343-0971 (option 1).

Indigenous support line

Effective Tuesday, June 2, a support line for Indigenous patients and families will be expanded to Calgary and Edmonton.

Operated by Health Link in partnership with the Indigenous Wellness Core, the line connects callers with health professionals who understand Indigenous ways of knowing and traditional healing practices.

It can also be utilized by front-line healthcare providers to assist in providing culturally appropriate care. Providers can use the support line to learn about cultural support services, Indigenous ways of knowing, traditional healing practices, access to ceremony and other services that may assist their patients. The service is available at 1-844-944-4744 or 811. It is currently available only in North, Central and South Zones.

[More information.](#)

PCPCM payments

Physicians who began billing in April via the Primary Care Physician Compensation Model (PCPCM) are due to receive the first complexity-adjusted panel payments as early as Friday, May 30.

Details can be found in the PCPCM statement of account. Please reference [complexity-adjusted panel payments](#) or email pcpcm@albertadoctors.org for more information.

Reminder: AI scribe information

Canada Health Infoway is funding up to 10,000 one-year AI Scribe licenses for eligible primary care clinicians to help streamline documentation and reduce administrative burden.

Providers can sign up to be added to a list of interested clinicians. [More information.](#) As part of the initiative, a list of approved vendors has been selected. Some of those vendors are also collecting lists of interested clinicians. [More information.](#)

Quick links

PPIP webinars

specialistlink.ca

Last updated: 8:13 a.m., May 30, 2025

On Wednesday, June 4, from 6–7:30 p.m., the AMA’s Accelerating Change Transformation Team (ACTT) is offering the next webinar in a weekly series on Physician Practice Improvement Program (PIIP) activities. The next session is titled *Walking Through Conflict: Mastering the Process*. [More information](#).

PCPCM information session

On Wednesday, June 4, from 7:30–8:30 a.m., the next AMA-ACTT webinar in the PCPCM series focuses on access improvements. [Register](#).

Health ministries

The Government of Alberta’s Ministry of Health has been split into two ministries – the Ministry of Primary and Preventative Health Services, led by Adriana LaGrange, and the Ministry of Hospital and Surgical Health Services, led by Matt Jones. [More information](#).

Reminder: Schistosoma, Strongyloides serology

Effective Monday, May 19, Schistosoma and Strongyloides serology must be ordered via Connect Care or by using the Alberta Precision Laboratories serology and molecular testing requisition form. [Download it here](#). Please include relevant travel history and rationale. [More information](#).