

primary cares

News & updates from the Calgary Zone



Recording: Calgary Zone webinar

A recording of the Calgary Zone's Primary Care Hot Topics webinar can now be watched online.

The virtual event, which took place on Monday, November 14, was watched live by more than 300 physicians, team and staff. It featured the following:

- Borderline vs. ADHD vs. Bipolar, with Dr. David Tano ([skip to 3:52](#))
- Breast cancer screening, with Dr. Lisa Stevenson ([skip to 31:08](#))
- Hepatology access, with Dr. Steve Congly ([skip to 1:01.22](#))
- Iron deficiency anemia, with Dr. Yael Shrom ([skip to 1:09.56](#))
- Primary care hot topics, with Dr. Christine Luelo ([skip to 1:38.49](#))
- Modernizing Alberta's Primary Healthcare System, with Dr. Janet Reynolds ([skip to 1:44.54](#))

A physician Q&A is also [available here](#).

Up next: On Monday, January 16, 2023, from 6–8 p.m., the next webinar in the series will include a spotlight on orthopedics in the Calgary Zone. [Register](#).

Iron deficiency anemia pathway

As previewed in Monday's Calgary Zone webinar, a new [iron deficiency anemia pathway](#) can now be downloaded from Specialist Link.

The clinical care pathway explores investigative approaches and patient management based on type of anemia, as well as information about starting iron therapy (including intravenous iron).

[Download the pathway](#).

Geriatric medicine pre-operative clinic

Referrals are being accepted for a geriatric medicine pre-operative clinic at Rockyview General Hospital.

The clinic offers frailty and values-based assessment to determine if surgery should be considered. Full cognitive, functional and mood reviews are conducted, as well as capacity around surgical decision making.

Patients are being seen quickly; the urgency of the referral can depend on the surgery date. The pre-operative clinic referral form can be [downloaded here](#) and faxed to 403-955-1514.

[Geriatric medicine access pathway](#).

Lab transition to DynaLIFE

On Tuesday, December 5, collections and testing for Calgary Zone patients, as well as lab operations, will transition to DynaLIFE from Alberta Precision Laboratories.

As referenced in [Monday's webinar](#), Patient Service Centres will come online in Okotoks and Strathmore, with other hospitals continuing to service patients attending outpatient clinics.

Existing appointments will transition to [DynaLIFE's Q.Me system](#); test menu and requisitions will be added to EMRs in the coming months. Mobile lab requisitions can be sent using the old forms, to a new number: 403-777-5222. For information, call 403-770-3351

[More information](#).

Influenza, virus updates

With influenza case numbers rising sharply in the Calgary area, in addition to COVID-19 and other respiratory conditions circulating, resources are available to support primary care providers.

More than 2,000 Influenza A cases [had been confirmed](#) in Alberta as of Saturday, November 12, with 694 of those coming from the Calgary Zone.

- [Viral respiratory testing guidance](#)
 - [Cold standard toolkit](#)
 - [AHS influenza information for providers](#)
 - [Chief Medical Officer of Health statement](#)
-

Free palliative care course

PCN member physicians and team can sign up for a free online *Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative Care* (LEAP) course.

Featuring 15 modules of self-learning and six hours of interactive webinars, it is aimed at providers who care for patients with life-threatening and progressive life-limiting disease.

Those interested in participating should email stacey.shier@ahs.ca and indicate which PCN they are affiliated with. Credits are available.

[More information.](#)

Overuse of tests

Choosing Wisely Canada and the Canadian Institute for Health Information have released their [second joint report](#) on overuse of tests in Canada.

The study examines tests and treatments across community, emergency and hospital settings.

[Read the report.](#)

Reminder: Cultural competency videos

A video series on cultural competency in health care is now available to watch on [Specialist Link](#). In four short videos (less than 15 minutes), clinical ethicist Helgi Eyford discusses how cultural competency can affect providers' encounters with patients:

- Video one: [Cultural competency in health care](#)
 - Video two: [Unpacking the culture of your patient](#)
 - Video three: [The importance of language](#)
 - Video four: [The dynamic of power distance](#)
-

Quick links

Suicide prevention course

A *Suicide Prevention, Risk Assessment and Management* (SPRAM) online learning course has been launched. The course aims to develop foundational competence in suicide prevention, risk assessment, and managing individuals at risk for suicide. [More information.](#)

Reminder: Simplified guide to pain

On Wednesday, November 23, from 5:30–6:45 p.m., Dr. Tina Korownyk and Adrienne Lindblad will present a new *PEER Simplified Guideline for Pain* as part of the Primary Care Pain Rounds series. [More information.](#) [Register.](#)