

primary cares

News & updates from the Calgary Zone



Fecal calprotectin testing

All testing for fecal calprotectin will now be performed at the DynaLIFE base lab in Edmonton, which is expected to speed up turnaround times.

The change came into effect Wednesday, August 30. General community requisitions can continue to be used. Tests can also be ordered via Connect Care (test code: Fecal Calprotectin LAB5116). The method for measurement is different, so results from the base lab should not be compared to previous results.

Fecal calprotectin is a non-invasive marker of gut inflammation that can be used to help distinguish between irritable bowel disease (Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis) and irritable bowel syndrome or other diseases. Please reference Specialist Link's [chronic diarrhea pathway](#), which includes a section on using the test for irritable bowel disease.

[Read the memo.](#)

Community lab services: Alberta Precision Laboratories will deliver community lab services in Alberta as part of a phased transition over the next few months. Alberta Health announced that an agreement in principle has been reached to transfer staff, equipment and property from DynaLIFE by December 2023. [More details.](#)

Retroactive payments

Retroactive fee-for-service payments were made on Friday, August 18, for the period of December 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. Alberta Health issued a bulletin explaining the payments.

[Read the memo.](#)

Fall webinar: Alcohol use disorder

A new alcohol use disorder pathway for primary care physicians and teams will be the focus of an October webinar as the Calgary Zone's series returns this fall.

On Monday, October 16, from 6–8 p.m., Dr. Monty Ghosh will join co-hosts Dr. Rick Ward and Dr. Christine Luelo to discuss the pharmacological management options highlighted in the

pathway, which was developed by the Calgary Zone PCNs. The pathway is expected to be published later in September.

Musculoskeletal injections, introduced by Dr. Arun Gupta, and the fall 2023 immunization plan are among the other topics that will be featured in the webinar. [Register.](#)

Quick links

Connect Care discussion

On Tuesday, September 19 from 5–6 p.m., physicians are invited to take part in a discussion about Connect Care. [Register.](#)

Alzheimer's presentation

On Thursday, September 14 from 6–7 p.m., Mosaic PCN is hosting an Alzheimer Society of Calgary presentation. [Register.](#)

Reminder: Discounted rates for PIAs

Clinics have until Saturday, September 30 to make the most of time-limited [reduced rates](#) for Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs). The offer is aimed at clinics that have submitted a confirmation of participation form and now need to update their PIA. [More information.](#)