

CMO SMOH Weekly Notice for AHS Medical Staff

February 5, 2021

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COVID-19 Case Status in Alberta

Many of Alberta's COVID-19 numbers continued to trend downward this past week, although we are also seeing an increasing number of cases involving more infectious variants of concern.

For a second consecutive week, all five zones of AHS are reporting fewer active COVID-19 cases than the prior week. As of Feb. 3, there are 6,588 active cases in the province, the lowest number since early November and 1,544 fewer cases than on Jan. 27 — a 19 per cent decrease.

The table below shows the number of active cases for each zone for the last two weeks.

	Active Cases (as of Feb. 3)	Active Cases (as of Jan. 27)	Per cent Change
Calgary	2,710	3,202	-15.4%
Edmonton	2,117	2,764	-23.4%
North	811	1,010	-19.7%
Central	645	710	-9.2%
South	288	336	-14.3%
Unknown	17	19	-10.5%

Meanwhile, there was an average of 415 daily new cases of COVID-19 for the week ending Feb. 3, compared to 477 cases the previous week, a 13 per cent decrease. Individuals ages 20 to 49 years represented half of all new cases over the past week.

Hospitalizations and ICU admissions

For the fifth consecutive week, there has been a week-to-week decline in the total number of individuals being treated for COVID-19 in Alberta's hospitals. On Feb. 3, there were 517 individuals

with COVID-19 in hospitals across the province compared to 612 on Jan. 27, a 15.5 per cent decrease. Also on Feb. 3, there were 93 individuals in intensive care compared to 113 on Jan. 27, a 17.7 per cent decrease.

The breakdown of hospitalizations by zone as of Feb. 3 is as follows:

	Hospitalizations	ICUs
Edmonton	215	32
Calgary	169	38
North	59	8
Central	38	7
South	36	8

Variants of concern

As of Feb. 3, Alberta Health has detected a total of 68 COVID-19 variant of concern (VOC) cases in the province. All 11 VOC cases identified on Feb. 3 are the B.1.1.7 strain, which first emerged in the U.K. Seven of these cases have no known links to travel, suggesting community transmission, though investigations still continue.

Other notable COVID-19-related information

- As of Feb. 3, a total of 125,672 cases of COVID-19 have occurred in Alberta and a total of 5,495 individuals have been hospitalized, which amounts to 4.4 individuals for every 100 cases. In all, 117,400 Albertans have recovered from COVID-19.
- As of Feb. 3, 1,684 individuals have passed away from COVID-19, including 78 over a seven-day period ending Feb. 3. We extend our condolences to the families of these individuals, and to all who have lost loved ones from any cause during this time.
- From Jan. 28 to Feb. 3, 70,694 COVID-19 tests were completed, an average of 10,099 tests per day. During this period, the daily positivity ranged from 3.53 per cent to 5.30 per cent. As of Feb. 3, a total of 3,213,391 tests have been conducted and 1,765,546 individuals have been tested.
- For the winter school term, as of Feb. 3, AHS has confirmed 851 individuals with COVID-19 were present at schools while infectious or acquired the disease in the school setting. A total of 398 out of 2,415 schools (16.5 per cent) in the province have reported an individual has attended their school while infectious or had in-school transmission.

COVID-19 Testing for Healthcare Workers — the Latest Numbers

We continue to update the testing data for healthcare workers in the [AHS Healthcare Worker COVID-19 Testing dashboard](#). These statistics provide the total number of AHS, Covenant Health (CH) and Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) employees and physicians tested, including a breakdown of the number of positive tests and those who have been confirmed to have been exposed in the workplace.

As of Feb. 3:

- 76,147 employees (AHS, APL, and Covenant combined) have been tested for COVID-19 and, of those tested, 4,492 (or 5.90 per cent) have tested positive.
- Of the 1,497 employees who have tested positive and whose source of infection has been determined, 457 (or 30.53 per cent) acquired their infection through a workplace exposure. An additional 2,995 employees who have tested positive are still under investigation as to the source of infection.
- 4,901 physicians (AHS, APL, and Covenant combined) have been tested for COVID-19 and, of those tested, 192 (or 3.92 per cent) have tested positive.

- Of the 57 physicians who have tested positive and whose source of infection has been determined, 8 (or 14.0 per cent) acquired their infection through a workplace exposure. An additional 135 physicians who have tested positive are still under investigation as to the source of infection.

We continue to see co-workers as the most common source of occupational infections, highlighting the importance of continued vigilance with respect to safety protocols in the workplace, such as continuous masking and proper PPE use, physical distancing, and hand hygiene.

The low rate of infections from patient exposure shows that our PPE guidelines are working and continue to be effective protection against COVID-19.

For more information, see the AHS Healthcare Worker COVID-19 Testing [infographic](#) and [dashboard](#).

COVID-19 Immunization Update

By the Numbers

As of 10 a.m. on Feb. 5, more than 113,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Alberta, including:

- 43,700+ healthcare workers
- 38,400+ long-term care (LTC) and designated supportive living (DSL) residents
- 30,100+ LTC/DSL staff
- 23,200+ Albertans who have received both Dose 1 & Dose 2

Update on Second Dose Appointment Rebooking

As of Feb. 5, more than 90 per cent of second-dose COVID-19 vaccine appointments have been rebooked for eligible healthcare workers in [Phase 1A](#). Appointments have been rebooked within the allowable window: 38 to 42 days after the first dose appointment.

We encourage those who still need to rebook their second-dose appointment to do so. Every day is critical to our current vaccine supply to ensure that all Albertans can be immunized according to the recommended timelines.

If you booked your appointment through the [online booking tool](#), you need to rebook by going to your COVID-19 immunization confirmation email from AHS Booking and clicking on the link at the bottom of the email to modify your booking, or visit ahs.ca/updatebooking. You will still see your current appointment in the online booking tool but it will not be accommodated. It needs to be rescheduled to a later date.

Those who were not booked through the online tool have been contacted by text and automated phone call, not email. These people are asked to contact Health Link (for Edmonton and Calgary Zone) or their zone public health in North, Central, and South zones to arrange second-dose appointment rebooking.

We know many people are anxious to be immunized for COVID-19 and that updates and information about the COVID-19 pandemic can change daily, including the immunization rollout process. We appreciate your patience during this time.

COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit & Other Resources

A [COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit](#) is now available on [Insite](#) and contains resources to help keep you updated on the latest information as it becomes available. This toolkit includes answers to frequently asked questions, links to additional resources, and more. These resources will be updated on an ongoing basis to reflect the latest updates.

While we wish everyone could be immunized right away, the reality is it's going to take many months to make it happen. As we work through this process, we are committed to communicating openly and transparently, and ask for your continued understanding and patience.

For information about the vaccine and the AHS vaccine rollout process, please visit: [COVID-19 Vaccine Key Messages](#).

- For a list of the top frequently asked questions about sequencing and eligibility, please visit: [Top COVID-19 Vaccine Sequencing Questions](#).
- [Vaccine Sequencing for Healthcare Workers](#) outlines sequencing considerations and the role of the COVID-19 Vaccine Sequencing for Healthcare Workers Committee.
- Physicians and staff can visit [Insite](#), our [staff FAQ](#) and [Alberta Health's Q & A for healthcare practitioners](#) for more information.
- Regular updates and more information can also be found at ahs.ca/covidvaccine.

How is AHS Tracking COVID-19 Immunization in Healthcare Workers?

For staff and physicians who have received their COVID-19 immunization, please fill out the Got My COVID-19 Immunization Form on [Insite](#). It's important employees report their immunization status after receiving their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. This information will be used by AHS to appropriately plan, manage and allocate resources in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak to protect our patients, families and healthcare workers.

Government, AMA Looking to Expand Vaccination Efforts

The Government of Alberta and the Alberta Medical Association [announced on Feb. 5](#) they will work together to examine opportunities for community physician offices to participate in COVID-19 vaccination when more vaccine becomes readily available for distribution.

What We Know About COVID-19 Variants of Concern

Several new "variant" strains of the SARS-CoV-2 virus have been identified in Alberta and around the world. These variants are similar to, but more infectious than the strain we've experienced so far.

Evidence is emerging on the effectiveness of our vaccines on these variants. It's important to remember the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are only a few months old, just like the variants. There is much we do not yet know, though researchers around the world are investigating.

Early investigations so far appear to suggest the current vaccines may be somewhat less effective against some of the new variants, in terms of preventing all symptoms of COVID-19. However, even against the variants, these vaccines still appear to be extremely effective at preventing severe cases, hospitalizations and deaths.

Research is emerging, and there are many vaccines being developed as we speak, so we will continue to watch the emerging literature closely. This is a positive sign. At the same time, it is also a reminder we all cannot simply wait for vaccines to arrive. We need to keep focused on following the measures in place and trying to limit in-person interactions whenever we can.

Verna's Weekly Video Message — More on COVID-19 Variants of Concern

Joining Verna on this week's vlog to talk more about the variants of concern are:

- Dr. Laura McDougall, AHS Senior Medical Officer of Health
- Dr. Lynora Saxinger, Physician and Medical Lead, AHS Antimicrobial Stewardship, North, and co-chair of the Scientific Advisory Group.
- Dr. Graham Tipples, Medical Scientific Director, Public Health, Alberta Precision Laboratories.

Laura, Lynora and Graham explain what the COVID-19 variants of concern are, their potential risk to the health system, and how we monitor and test for them.

Watch the vlog [here](#).

Scientific Advisory Group Rapid Review – Ivermectin in Treatment and Prevention of COVID-19

Following results of studies performed in monkey cells showing Ivermectin is able to stop the virus that causes COVID-19 from growing in cells, AHS Scientific Advisory Group conducted a review to explore using Ivermectin in treatment and prevention of COVID-19.

The review identified several studies evaluating Ivermectin in COVID-19, mostly for its use in treatment with a few exploring its use in prevention. All studies were of low quality, meaning it is uncertain if Ivermectin is of any use in COVID-19 treatment or prevention.

Based on the findings of this rapid review, at this time, Ivermectin should not be prescribed or taken to treat or prevent COVID-19 outside of a clinical trial. Future studies are underway, and will be important to determine whether Ivermectin is useful as treatment or prevention.

For more information, see the [Rapid Review](#).

Reminder: Please Stay Vigilant and Adhere to all Safety Measures

While the number of cases is trending down in our communities, we still have work to do. It is critical we all continue to take the required precautions to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

We cannot overstate the importance of staying home when sick. If you have new symptoms, or if your usual symptoms get worse, stay home, minimize contact with others and complete the [Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine your need for COVID-19 testing. We each have a role to play in protecting each other — patients, staff, physicians, volunteers and visitors. We must all be diligent in modelling safe work practices. Simple actions — such as adhering to all [personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#) measures (including [continuous masking and eye protection](#)), completing your daily [fit for work screening](#), [washing your hands](#) regularly and [physically distancing](#) — can slow the spread of COVID-19.

As we continue to monitor our COVID-19 response and the impact on AHS healthcare workers, we know transmission is continuing to occur within our workplaces. There is a significant risk for transmission of COVID-19 in common areas, such as break rooms, charting areas and open work spaces if appropriate control measures are not followed. By following all of the safety measures in place, we can help keep everyone safe. This is not merely an expectation; this is a requirement — and applies to all zones and all AHS or subsidiary facilities (clinical and corporate).

Please talk to your medical leader if you have questions or if you are unsure if your symptoms should require you to stay home. Thank you for your continued support and dedication.

Doc of the Week – Dr. Karla Gustafson

Dr. Gustafson, the Medical Officer of Health in the Calgary Zone, has been foundational in Calgary Zone's response to the pandemic. In addition to managing a wide variety of portfolios (COVID-19 case and contact management, long term care outbreaks, outbreaks in correctional facilities, community-based outbreaks), Dr. Gustafson has served as a key partner in AHS' relationship with the City of Calgary, municipalities in Calgary Zone, and school boards.

Dr. Gustafson has worked tirelessly almost every day since the pandemic began, and is a consistent, reliable and talented professional. Due to her humble and unassuming nature, Dr. Gustafson's work often goes unheralded. She is an exemplary member of AHS' medical staff.

Thank you, Dr. Gustafson, for your dedication to your colleagues and the care of Albertans.

Doc of the Week Call for Nominations

Do you know a physician who has gone above and beyond during the pandemic to shape and drive improvements for patients? Perhaps a physician colleague has gone above and beyond to help support others during a difficult day?

Each week, we would like to take a moment to celebrate and thank the amazing physicians working across the province to provide high-quality care to patients, staff and colleagues across the province. If you know someone who deserves to be celebrated, please email CMO@ahs.ca with your suggestion, and a brief description of why.

Physician Wellness Zoom Rooms

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 9, 5-6 p.m.

Topic of focus: What does support look like to you?

Co-Moderators: Dr. Debrah Wirtzfeld, Associate Chief Medical Officer (ACMO), Physician Health, Wellness and Diversity, AHS, and Dr. Jennine Wismark, ACMO, Physician Wellness & Development, Covenant Health

Zoom Link: [Here](#)

Date: Tuesday, Feb. 23, 5-6 p.m.

Topic of focus: Anti-bullying

Co-Moderators: Dr. Jennifer Williams, South Zone Medical, Physician Health, Wellness and Diversity, AHS, and Veronica de Freitas, Program Manager, Respectful Workplaces, AHS

*Aaron Russell will be graphic recording this discussion for release on Pink Shirt (Anti-bullying) Day

Zoom Link: [Here](#)

Infographics from past Physician Wellness Zoom rooms can be found at www.ahs.ca/mdwellness.

Homegrown Nanotechnology Enhances Alberta's Lab Testing for COVID-19

Alberta's provincial laboratory system has started using new made-in-Alberta technology for COVID-19 testing – creating jobs and providing a more secure supply of essential lab reagents needed to detect the disease in patients.

Edmonton-based Applied Quantum Materials Inc. (AQM) reached an agreement with AHS to provide nucleic acid extraction kits to Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) for use in the province-wide COVID-19 testing program. The kits are used to extract the genetic material from SARS CoV-2.

The kits use AQM's proprietary MagDx™ technology, including magnetic silicon-based nanoparticles that were developed as part of Canada's Call to Action to fight COVID-19. The agreement with AHS is AQM's first domestic supply contract, which strengthens Alberta's medical supply chain by making it less vulnerable to shortages from international lab suppliers.

For more information, please read the story [here](#).

Connect Care Waves Update

Due to the demands of the pandemic on our health system and province, a decision was made in December to alter the timing and scope of Connect Care's Wave 3, now launching in April 2021. Following that decision, updates have now been made to the scope and timing of the upcoming waves.

There will still be nine implementation waves in total, which got underway in late 2019 and will be completed in 2023. As previously announced, a modified Wave 3 is launching on April 10, 2021, primarily in North Zone. Waves 4, 5, 6 and 7 are as follows:

- Wave 4 will launch Nov. 7, 2021, and will include the Royal Alexandra Hospital and Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in Edmonton, the Alberta Children's Hospital and Peter Lougheed Centre in Calgary Zone, as well as Calgary Zone rural and urgent care sites and the clinics and services aligned with those, the Southern Alberta Forensic Psychiatric Centre, Central Production Pharmacy and all labs in the Edmonton Zone which have not already implemented Connect Care.
- Wave 5 will launch May 14, 2022, and will include the west area (former David Thompson Health Region) of Central Zone, Centennial Centre for Mental Health and Brain Injury in Central Zone, Richmond Road Diagnostic and Treatment Centre and Foothills Medical Centre in Calgary, Cancer Care (and associated pharmacy and lab services), Alberta Kidney Care South, all pharmacy services in Calgary Zone, and all lab services in the rural portion of the west area of Central Zone.
- Wave 6 will launch Nov. 6, 2022 and will include Grey Nuns Hospital, Misericordia Hospital and Alberta Hospital Edmonton in the Edmonton Zone, the east area (former East Central Health Region) of Central Zone, the Rockyview General Hospital and the South Health Campus in Calgary Zone, the associated pharmacy services in Edmonton, Central and Calgary zones, the lab services in the rural portions of the east area of Central Zone, and Alberta Precision Laboratories in the Calgary Zone.
- Wave 7 will launch in the spring of 2023 and will include the east side of the North Zone (former Aspen and Northern Lights Health regions), the South Zone, including the stand-alone long-term care sites, and the associated pharmacy and lab services for these sites and programs.

Details for waves 8 and 9 are still being determined and will be shared when available. For more detailed information, please see the [Wave Implementation Diagram](#).

Our commitment to Connect Care has not changed and its successful implementation remains an organizational priority. We are continually assessing what's happening across our organization and may need to make future adjustments to safely and effectively put Connect Care in place.

Influenza Immunization Update

As of Jan. 30, 2021, 1,527,367 doses of influenza vaccine have been administered in Alberta. Immunizations are up by more than 180,000 doses compared to the same time last year.

For the 13th week in row, there are no reported cases of seasonal influenza in Alberta.

Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) has tested 91,401 respiratory swabs for influenza from Aug. 23, 2020, to Feb. 2, 2021. Our labs are doing more weekly influenza testing than ever before, completing about 300 per cent more influenza tests than they would in a typical year.

February is Black History Month

We acknowledge racism and discrimination exist in our healthcare system and that we need to continue to take steps to foster inclusion, connection and collaboration. We know it will take all of us standing together to ensure our people and our patients feel safe, included and respected. If you experience or witness acts of racism or discrimination, please refer to the [Respectful Workplaces and Prevention of Harassment & Violence Policy](#).

In recognition of Black History Month, and with partnership between AHS Diversity & Inclusion, Ethnic Minorities Workforce Resource Group, and Talent Acquisition, a number of activities have been planned for Black History Month. Details on events are outlined below:

Have your say in guiding the work of the AHS Anti-Racism Advisory Group.

- This includes developing an anti-racism action plan for AHS. Your feedback is essential as we continue to look for ways to further address racism and discrimination at AHS. You can provide your input through an anonymous [survey](#) or by participating in a [focus group](#).
- For more information on the activities of the Anti-Racism Advisory Group or for resources on how you can contribute to a safer and more inclusive workplace at AHS, visit our [insite page](#) or email diversityandinclusion@ahs.ca.

Webinar: “Why Black History Month?”

- During this webinar you will learn about past and present reasons why we celebrate Black History Month in Canada.
When: Thurs, Feb. 1, 12-1 p.m.
Register: Email diversityandinclusion@ahs.ca

Our People Survey Lunch & Learn: Supporting Black History Month

- Topic: Significant Contributions of Black people to the Canadian Healthcare System: A Focus on Alberta.
When: Thurs, Feb. 25, 12-1 p.m.
Register: Go to [MyLearningLink](#) and search “Our People Survey” in courses and registrations.

Our People Podcast

- In these podcasts, we recognize Black History month by learning about the experience of Black People in AHS.

Part A: Feb. 19

Part B: Feb. 22

You can listen to these and all of **Our People Podcasts** [here](#).

New Messaging Guidelines for Virtual Care

AHS Virtual Health has developed a new resource, [Messaging Guidelines for Virtual Care](#), to help guide clinical practice when communicating with patients, or their alternate decision-maker, using messaging platforms (e.g., Connect Care or MyAHS Connect patient portal).

Find this resource on the AHS Virtual Health [insite](#) page under Virtual Health Recommendations, and the [external](#) page under Information for Health Professionals.

Contact the AHS Virtual Health team at VirtualHealth.Info@ahs.ca with questions about virtual care, or complete the [Virtual Health Intake Form](#) to request support integrating virtual care technologies into your practice.

Reminder - Connect Care Virtual Visit Type

Virtual care has accelerated at a rapid rate to better respond to the needs of patients during the pandemic. AHS Virtual Health is coordinating a standardized reporting approach to leverage data collected in Connect Care. This data will help AHS understand the utilization and impact of virtual care on service delivery in order to build and maintain a high quality system that ultimately benefits AHS physicians, staff and volunteers as well as the patients and families we care for.

The following standard Visit Types in Connect Care have been created to flag a virtual care visit, identify the technology used and the type of clinical encounter:

- Virtual – Telehealth Site New
- Virtual – Telehealth Site Follow Up
- Virtual – Telehealth Site Group
- Virtual – Home/Community New
- Virtual – Home/Community Follow Up
- Virtual – Home/Community Group
- Telephone – New
- Telephone – Follow Up
- MyAHS Connect Video Visit

The accuracy and quality of this reporting will rely on your program's adoption and use of these standard Visit Types when scheduling a virtual care visit in Connect Care.

By collaboratively using the same Visit Types, an accurate and high-quality data set will be developed, which will:

- Enable you to easily compare and sort through large amounts of data to compare virtual care activity across populations, programs or technology using Connect Care's Slicer Dicer
- Provide visual analytics in Tableau to help your program make informed decisions and improve patient outcomes
- Be consistent with coding virtual care for Canadian Institute for Health Information reporting

We thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Annual ANHIX/Digital Health Canada Winter Conference

The annual [Alberta Network for Health Information Exchange Society](#) (ANHIX)/Digital Health Canada Winter Conference is taking place virtually March 9-10, 2021. This conference focuses on technology used in health care.

March 9 – Day one: Focus on Alberta – Innovation in the Face of Adversity

This day will cover updates from AHS on Connect Care and new initiatives and challenges, establishing virtual care in Alberta, emergency response management in a pandemic, and Alberta's immunization strategy.

March 10 – Day two: Focus on BC – Ahead of the Curve

This day will cover activities in BC, including sustainability, vaccine delivery, tracking and data management, ongoing implementation of virtual care, and more.

Further details are available [here](#).

The ACFP's 2021 Virtual Family Medicine Summit

Hosted by the Alberta College of Family Physicians (ACFP), the Family Medicine Summit from March 5 – 7, is recognized as Alberta's premier conference for family physicians.

The Summit is the ACFP's signature event and offers continuing medical education and opportunities for family physicians to network with colleagues and share best practices in primary care.

Delivered virtually, topics for the 2021 Summit program include:

- An MSK pre-conference program presented by the AMA's Section of Sports Medicine,
- Antibiotic resistance,
- Dementia,
- Mental health impacts of COVID-19,
- ADHD in adults, and much more.

This one-credit-per-hour program has been certified by the College of a Family Physicians of Canada for up to 12.75 Mainpro+ credits.

Early bird pricing ends Feb 15! [Register for the ACFP Summit](#).

Update Voicemail to Reduce External Call Forwarding

AHS Telecommunications is restricting requests to use external call-forwarding on AHS desk phones to maintain phone system reliability and avoid any additional risks to our system capacity.

If you are working from home, please update the voicemail greeting on your AHS desk phone to guide callers to direct-dial your preferred out-of-office number rather than using external call forwarding.

Questions? See [Insite](#). Need support? Contact AHS.Telecom@ahs.ca.

Additional Resources for Physicians:

- [Acute Care Outbreak Prevention & Management Task Force](#)
- [AHS Immunization Information](#)
- [AHS Virtual Health](#)
- [COVID-19 FAQ for Clinicians](#): Includes immunization updates
- [COVID-19 Resources for Community Physicians](#)
- [COVID-19 Testing and Self-Isolation Criteria](#)
- [CPSA's physician portal](#)
- [Cumming School of Medicine Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) Resources](#)
- [Government of Alberta Vaccination Updates](#)
- [How to Access AHS Insite and Email](#)
- [How to do a Nasopharyngeal \(NP\) Swab](#) (New England Journal of Medicine)
- [IPC Emerging Issues](#)
- [Online Healthcare Worker Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- [Physician & Family Support Program](#) - 1-877-SOS-4MDS (767-4637)
- [Physician Wellness Educational Resources: Well Doc Alberta](#)
- [Spectrum](#) – A mobile app customized to deliver local antimicrobial stewardship guidelines, resistance data, dosing information, and AHS COVID-19 related content.
- COVID-19 Questions? Contact your local Zone Emergency Operations Centre (ZEOC):
 - ZEOC.South@ahs.ca
 - ZEOC.Calgary@ahs.ca
 - ZEOC.Central@ahs.ca
 - ZEOC.Edmonton@ahs.ca
 - PCH.ZEOCNorth@ahs.ca

For more information

- Visit the [COVID-19 Healthcare Professional information page](#) on the AHS website for more information or contact AHS.ECC@ahs.ca.
- Additional updates and information are being shared through the [College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta \(CPSA\)](#).

This update, provided every Friday, is intended to provide a summary of the key action items, information and decisions for AHS Medical Staff in relation to clinical policies and practices, and for the COVID-19 pandemic response. It is forwarded to physicians' preferred email inbox.

Do you have COVID-19 questions, information, or a physician or team who have gone above and beyond during the pandemic, that you would like to see covered in an upcoming edition of the COVID-19 CMO update? Let us know at CMO@ahs.ca.

Sincerely,

Dr. Francois Belanger

Chief Medical Officer and VP, Quality

Dr. Laura McDougall

Senior Medical Officer of Health

