



This Issue: EOI for Physician Advisors, Reporting clinical adverse events using RLS, Renowned stroke physician receives Order of Canada, News from the AHS Update and more.

We would like to recognize that our work takes place on historical and contemporary Indigenous lands, including the territories of Treaty 6, Treaty 7 & Treaty 8 and the homeland of the Métis Nation of Alberta and eight Metis Settlements. We also acknowledge the many Indigenous communities that have been forged in urban centres across Alberta.

Note: Recognizing some medical staff use an alternate email address instead of an AHS email address, some information is duplicated from the AHS Update to ensure all AHS medical staff have all up-to-date organizational information that may impact their practice.

Topics:

Medical Affairs News

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Medical Affairs News

Expression of Interest for Physician Advisors for the Physician On Call Program Review

AHS is requesting expressions of interest (EOI) for four Physician Advisors (Specialist Physician, Family Physician, Academic Physician and a Physician working in Laboratory Medicine, CancerCare or a Medical Officer of Health) to participate as members on the Physician On Call Program Advisory Committee.

The estimated time commitment is approximately eight hours per month from February 13 to June 30, 2023. Successful candidates will receive remuneration as per the AHS CMO Committee Remuneration Policy (if eligible).

The successful applicant must have an AHS Medical Staff Appointment, hold an MD or its equivalency and shall be eligible certified with the Canadian College of Family Physicians or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (as applicable) and shall be licensed with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.

The deadline for submission of the EOI is **January 31, 2023** and can be sent to Joanna.Pannekoek@albertahealthservices.ca.

Physicians can report clinical adverse events using RLS

In order to identify patient safety problems and make improvements, it is important to report hazards, close calls and clinical adverse events (CAEs).

AHS has a single, province-wide system for patient safety reporting called the [Reporting & Learning System for Patient Safety](#) (RLS). Anyone with AHS login credentials can access the RLS to report patient safety events.

All physicians have a responsibility to report patient safety events. When you report a CAE, close call, or hazard through RLS, the submission is reviewed, trended and shared to help us learn as an organization. Reporting helps to identify patient safety problems and to make improvements.

We encourage you to consistently submit CAEs and other patient safety problems using [RLS, available on Insite](#).

Register today: Virtual conference for healthcare providers

Health Professions Strategy & Practice Conference: Together in '23 will explore what connects us and how we can nurture, grow or recover connections with one another.

From March 13 to 17, hear from speakers daily that will ignite new perspectives and inspire you to connect more deeply with yourself and those around you.

One-hour sessions will be held daily through Microsoft Teams. This year, providers can register by session (for as many as they'd like).

[Register, view the schedule or learn more.](#)

Renowned Stroke physician receives Order of Canada

Dr. Michael Hill has been appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada. The national honour was granted for “his major contributions to the advancement of acute stroke care and treatment at the provincial, national and international levels.” Dr. Hill is a neurologist and stroke clinician at the Foothills Medical Centre, a professor at the Cumming School of Medicine, a researcher and the current president of the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation. Congratulations to Dr. Hill!

Support for Physicians

The [Physician & Family Support Program](#) (PFSP) continues to offer services on an individual basis that you can access by calling the assistance line at 1-877-767-4637.

AHS has also developed new resources aimed at offering support to physicians. These are now available online:

- [Webinar](#)
 - [Resource Guide](#)
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Career Opportunities

Practice opportunities across a broad range of specialties are available. All vacant AHS physician practice opportunities are posted on our physician recruitment website, [Doctor Jobs Alberta](#).

Additional Resources for Physicians:

- [AHS Virtual Health](#)
- [COVID-19 Healthcare Professional information page](#)
- [COVID-19 Immunization Information](#)

- [COVID-19 Resources for Community Physicians](#)
- [CPSA's Physician Portal](#)
- [Cumming School of Medicine Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) Resources](#)
- [How to Access AHS Insite and Email](#)
- [IPC Emerging Issues](#)
- [MD News Digest](#)
- [Physician & Family Support Program](#) - 1-877-SOS-4MDS (767-4637)
- [Physician Wellness Educational Resources: Well Doc Alberta](#)

From the AHS Update

You can read the [full version online](#).

Opening Message of Gratitude

Jan. 30 will mark the third anniversary of the beginning of Alberta's COVID-19 response. In this video, Dr. Laura McDougall offers a message of gratitude for your dedication. [\(more...\)](#)

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

In related news, Dr. McDougall was presented the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal earlier this week in recognition of AHS's COVID-19 response. [\(more...\)](#)

Action on Our Priorities

We are working to urgently address four key priorities. They are:

- Improving EMS response times.
- Decreasing emergency department wait times.
- Reducing wait times for surgeries.
- Improving patient flow through our sites and programs.

Much of this work is underway. We will continue to use this update to highlight actions being taken to urgently address our priorities.

Improving EMS response times

[Action plan to address EMS recommendations](#)

Reducing wait times for surgeries

[New vendors to provide orthopedic surgeries for Albertans](#)

[Surgical wait-list update](#)

Work continues on other AHS priorities, including:



Rural & Indigenous Initiatives and Engagement

[Survey helps understand vaccine hesitancy](#)

[Oyen Community event begins important conversation](#)



Community members from Oyen and the surrounding area gathered at the AHS engagement session about daily, 12-hour closures of the local emergency department.

Your Wellness

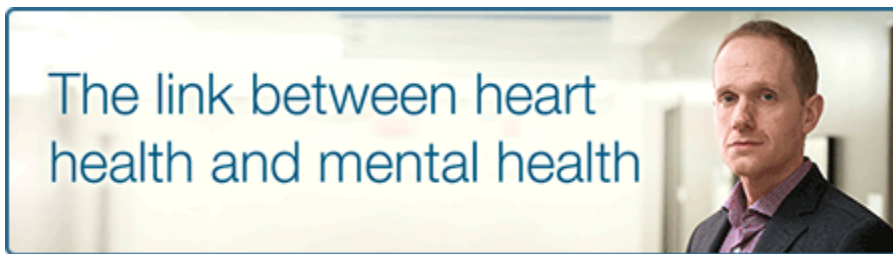
Learn more about your physical, emotional health

Want to learn more about your health? Try the Employee and Family Assistance Program [health risk assessment](#). [\(more...\)](#)

Support for those distressed by residential school investigations

[Support](#) is available for those distressed by the findings of two residential school investigations, released this week. [\(more...\)](#)

Mental Wellness Moment — link between heart health, mental health



February is Heart Month and, in this Mental Wellness Moment, Dr. Nicholas Mitchell talks about how heart health can affect mental health. [\(more...\)](#)

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

Latest News

COVID-19 status and cases in Alberta

Latest hospitalizations, ICU update and information on variants of concern and wastewater surveillance. [\(more...\)](#)

You can report clinical adverse events using RLS

It is important to report hazards, close calls and clinical adverse events in order to identify patient safety problems and make improvements. ([more...](#))

Ebola Virus Hemorrhagic Fever (Sudan strain) outbreak declared over

The World Health Organization has declared Uganda's Ebola Virus Hemorrhagic Fever (Sudan strain) outbreak to be [over](#). ([more...](#))

Physical distancing still recommended

Physical distancing continues to be recommended in all AHS settings, and our [continuous masking policy](#) remains in place. ([more...](#))

Interim CEO video message – spotlight on RAAPID



We discuss RAAPID's role in the healthcare system and how it supports staff and physicians when patients need to move between facilities. ([more...](#))

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

Clinical Ethics Lunch 'n' Learn: when you suspect elder abuse

Join the second session of the [series](#) that explores a case study based on suspicions of elder abuse. ([more...](#))

Register today — virtual conference for healthcare providers

March 13 to 17, hear from speakers who will ignite new perspectives and inspire you to connect more deeply with yourself and others. ([more...](#))

Stroke physician receives Order of Canada

Dr. Michael Hill, a neurologist and stroke clinician at the Foothills Medical Centre, has been appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada. ([more...](#))

As mentioned earlier, we are entering our fourth year of pandemic response and recovery. I want to close off by offering my gratitude and appreciation for your ongoing efforts and sacrifices, and encouraging you to seek support if you need it. Call the [Employee and Family Assistance Program](#) (EFAP) intake line at 1-877-273-3134. Physicians can contact the [AMA Physician and Family Support Program](#) at 1-877-SOS-4MDS for options and support.

We are making progress on our key priority areas, and some of the capacity pressures on our sites are lifting slightly. I'm grateful for all your ongoing work.

Thank you for everything you do, each and every day.

Dr. Francois Belanger

Vice President, Quality & Chief Medical Officer

