



CMO UPDATE

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Vice President, Quality & Chief Medical Officer

This Issue: Celebrating rural physicians during Alberta Rural Health Week; New Tip Sheet for Documentation of Disclosure; Mental Health Act in Practice Webinars; AHS Pharmacy Project Presented at Symposium; Career Opportunities; 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

- Celebrating rural physicians during Alberta Rural Health Week
- New tip sheet for documentation of disclosure in Connect Care
- Mental Health Act in Practice Webinar series
- AHS Pharmacy project presented at 2023 CADTH Symposium
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- New tip sheet for documentation of disclosure in Connect Care
 - CEO video message – providing the ‘Right Care’ in Alberta
 - Register for the Evolution of Zoom, a Virtual Health webinar
 - Join us on June 13 for AHS Improvement Way (AIW) Day Event
 - Register for our Building a Feedback Culture webinar
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Medical Affairs News

Celebrating rural physicians during Alberta Rural Health Week

Today marks the final day of [Alberta Rural Health Week](#). Rural physicians and healthcare providers bring high-quality skills and knowledge that is not only valuable to their communities, but also to the organization. Rural healthcare has its own unique set of opportunities and challenges, and we are committed to continuing to support you as best as we can.

We know that many rural physicians have also been involved in the recent wildfire responses. You have helped with the evacuation of health facilities and provided care to affected patients. Some of you have been personally impacted by the fires yet remain committed to providing care to your patients and communities during an extremely challenging time. Thank you.

Please join us in thanking the many physicians and healthcare providers that look after the health and wellbeing of Albertans in rural communities across the province, every single day.

New tip sheet for documentation of disclosure in Connect Care

AHS has standardized documenting disclosure of harm through an electronic process within Connect Care. A Smart Phrase can now be used to document immediate and ongoing disclosure of harm conversations. To learn more, review the newly created tip sheet [here](#).

Immediate disclosure conversations should be done with patients and/or families within 24 hours after a clinical adverse event, following AHS’ [Disclosure of Harm Procedure](#), and documented in the patient care record.

Mental Health Act in Practice Webinar series

[Register Here](#) for Mental Health Act in Practice Webinar Series, June 13-22.

Three distinct webinars will be offered: Designated Facilities, Community Outpatient Sites/Non-Designated Facilities & Community Treatment Orders. Feel free to attend any or all that apply to your practice.

Pre-requisite video (9 minutes): [Key Terms: MHA](#)

Visit our website: [Mental Health Act](#) or our Insite page: [Mental Health Act | Insite](#)

Email MHAandCTO.Enquiries@ahs.ca for more information.

AHS Pharmacy project presented at 2023 CADTH Symposium

Ondansetron Oral Disintegrating Tablet (ODT) Appropriateness and Stewardship Initiative, a clinical appropriateness project led by Pharmacy, supported by [Improving Health Outcomes Together \(IHOT\)](#), presented as a [poster](#) at the [CADTH 2023 Symposium](#) in Ottawa. The project improves formulary adherence with education and implementation of system-wide changes, leveraging technology and collaboration. The [poster](#) highlighted engagement with 13 stakeholder groups and revision of 93 Connect Care order sets. Interim results show decreased relative use of ondansetron ODT. [Learn more about other Pharmacy Drug Utilization and Stewardship work.](#)

Support for physicians

The [Physician & Family Support Program](#) (PFSP) continues to offer CONFIDENTIAL services on an individual basis that you can access by calling the 24-hour assistance line at 1-877-767-4637.

AHS also has resources aimed at offering support to physicians. These are 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](#).

Physician opportunities in Long Term Care – Calgary urban sites

Have you ever considered working a half/whole day a week with vulnerable and frail patients in Long Term Care? This is a very rewarding area of practice of great opportunity and professional satisfaction. Patients have significant medical needs, and the skills, knowledge and compassion of our physician colleagues are transformative in their lives. Here are some of the practice advantages:

- Scheduling and patient load flexibility
- Supportive care teams
- Mentorship and on-boarding
- Ready access to consulting resources e.g., Seniors Health Outreach Programme/Geriatric Mental Health Consulting Services/Palliative and Hospice Consulting Services
- City wide after hours on call

- Zero overhead expenses
- Reimbursement choices (e.g., sessional payment ARP and FFS)

If you are interested, click on the link to advertised positions on [DoctorJobs](#).

Additional resources for physicians:

- [AHS Virtual Health](#)
 - [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](#)
 - [Support Services: Well Doc Alberta](#)
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June celebrations:

- [Alberta Rural Health Week](#) (May 29 – June 2)
- [National AccessAbility Week](#) (May 28 – June 3)
- [What Matters to You Day](#) (June 6)
- [National Indigenous Peoples Month](#)
- [Pride Month](#)

To see more AHS celebrations, visit the [Celebrating Health page](#).

From the AHS Update

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

Wildfire Update

AHS teams continue to step up

As wildfires continue to impact Albertans, I am heartened to hear stories of kindness and compassion. [\(more...\)](#)

Action on Our Priorities

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

- Reducing emergency medical services (EMS) response times.
- Decreasing emergency department wait times.
- Reducing surgery wait times.
- Improving patient flow and continuity of care.

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

Reducing surgery wait times

[Surgical wait-list update](#)

Your Wellness

Counselling for Indigenous staff

Culturally appropriate [counselling](#) is available through the [Employee and Family Assistance Program](#) for Indigenous staff. [\(more...\)](#)

Mental Wellness Moment — helping family or friends during a disaster



Dr. Nicholas Mitchell says listening is key when helping family members or friends as they deal with a disaster or emergency. [\(more...\)](#)

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

Latest News

COVID-19 status and cases in Alberta

Information on variants of concern and wastewater surveillance. Other COVID-19 data unavailable at source this week. [\(more...\)](#)

National Indigenous Peoples Month celebrations underway

Throughout June, AHS staff and sites will be celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Month. Learn more [here](#). [\(more...\)](#)

Service Hub coming June 12 for HR, IT services

Service Hub, a new user-friendly system for Human Resources and Information Technology support, launches June 12. [\(more...\)](#)

New tip sheet for documentation of disclosure in Connect Care

A 'smart phrase' can now be used to document immediate and ongoing disclosure of harm conversations. Review the new [tip sheet](#). [\(more...\)](#)

CEO video message – providing the 'Right Care' in Alberta



A discussion on how Right Care Alberta helps ensure Albertans receive the most appropriate care. [\(more...\)](#)

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

Register for the Evolution of Zoom, a Virtual Health webinar

Join the Virtual Health team on June 21 to discuss new and improved Zoom features. [Register today](#). [\(more...\)](#)

Join us on June 13 for AHS Improvement Way (AIW) Day Event

[Register now](#) for a day of engaging presentations designed to inspire you in your quality improvement journey. [\(more...\)](#)

Register for our Building a Feedback Culture webinar

Join us on June 7 at noon for a webinar that explores strategies to manage patient feedback. [Register today](#). [\(more...\)](#)

Wrapping up

To end this AHS Update, I wish to thank you for your ongoing efforts in our wildfire response, recognizing that many of you are also directly affected by this disaster. Please reach out for any support you may need. Contact the Employee and Family Assistance Program at 1-877-273-3134 any time or download the [e-AP](#). If you are impacted by the wildfires, see these [additional supports on Insite](#). Physicians can contact the [AMA Physician and Family Support Program](#), a confidential 24/7 support line, at 1-877-SOS-4MDS for options and support.

With enduring gratitude and appreciation,

Dr. Francois Belanger

Vice President, Quality & Chief Medical Officer



Healthy Albertans.
Healthy Communities.
Together.