

Medical Staff Update

This Issue: Measles Update; Addiction and Mental Health Announcement; Participate in Shared Decision Making eLearning Course Survey; Career Opportunities; Resources and Supports for Physicians; News from the AHS Update and more.

AHS recognizes that our work takes place on historical and contemporary Indigenous lands, including the territories of Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8, and the homeland of the Métis Nation of Alberta and eight Métis 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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From the AHS Update

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Medical Affairs News

Measles update

Although no cases of measles have been identified in Alberta in 2024, outbreaks are occurring around the world and Albertans may contract the disease through

travel if they are not immune. AHS is advising anyone with symptoms of measles to stay at home, avoid contact with others and call 811 before visiting any hospital, clinic or healthcare provider.

Symptoms include:

- fever 38.3°C or higher
- cough, runny nose, or red eyes, and
- a red, blotchy rash appearing three to seven days after fever starts, beginning behind the ears and on the face and spreads down to the body and then to the arms and legs.

The best protection against measles is immunization with two doses of a measles-containing vaccine. Immunization is the only strategy to prevent individual cases and community outbreaks. The virus is highly contagious and can stay in the air for up to two hours, so other public health measures like masking and distancing won't be effective at reducing the spread.

Actions for Healthcare Providers:

- Ensure you and your staff are immune to measles. Healthcare providers should confirm that they have received **2 doses of measles containing vaccine**, regardless of their year of birth. Options include checking proof of immunity records, [MyHealth Records](#), or calling 811.
- Recommend all patients born in 1970 or later check their immunization records and get caught up on routine measles immunizations.
- Encourage patients to follow additional immunization guidance before traveling to areas where measles is circulating, as recommended above. More information is available here: [07.270 Measles Mumps Rubella Vaccine Biological Page \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](#)
- **Report all suspected cases immediately to the MOH on-call*** prior to ordering testing. Do not send patients for testing without discussion with the MOH on-call to avoid unwanted exposures.
- Arrange for **testing** of clinical specimens as outlined in the Provincial laboratory guidance, available here: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/wf/plab/if-provlab-laboratory-testing-for-measles.pdf>

For more information:

- On measles, immunization and severity, please see <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/topic/immunization/pages/Measles.aspx>
- On routine childhood immunizations, including for measles, visit ahs.ca/immunize
- To receive information about measles, text 'measles' to 88111

Addiction and Mental Health announcement

The creation of [Recovery Alberta: Mental Health and Addiction Services](#), announced earlier this week, will mean a greater focus on mental health and addiction.

It is anticipated all AHS Addiction & Mental Health and Correctional Health Services (AHS AMH and CHS) staff will transition to the new mental health and addiction organization this summer, pending approval of the new Act by the Alberta Legislature. Over the coming months, AHS AMH and CHS staff will be engaged in conversation about next steps in the transition; however, the day-to-day work of staff will not change.

Participate in Shared Decision Making eLearning course survey

The Improving Health Outcomes Together (IHOT) team is looking to develop an eLearning course on [Shared Decision Making](#) for Physicians.

We are inviting physicians to participate in a short, anonymous 3-5 minute survey. The responses will guide us to developing a virtual course based on physicians' preferences and learning goals on Shared Decision Making.

You can fill out the survey [here](#).

The survey will close on April 30. If you have any questions, please email: i.hot@ahs.ca.

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](#).

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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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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From the AHS Update

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

Our Priorities

See the HWS Highlight on the Q3 Report

The Health Workforce Strategy (HWS) Q3 report is now available on Insite. Learn about our progress over the last quarter. [\(more...\)](#)

AHS, Red Deer Polytechnic sign reciprocal agreement

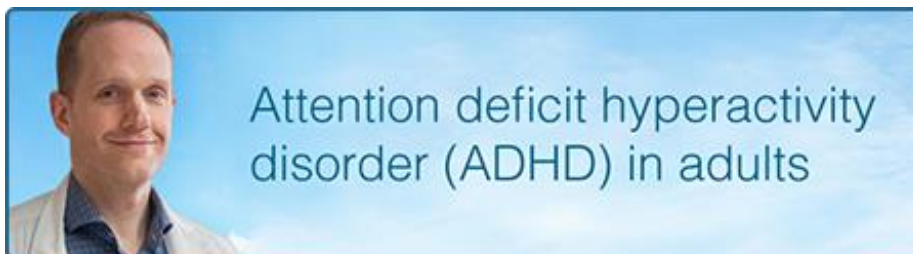
AHS and Red Deer Polytechnic have signed an agreement that will benefit nursing students, staff and healthcare as a whole. [\(more...\)](#)

Your Wellness

Take charge of your mental well-being with headversity

Download this resilience app, designed to support you and your family with the resources, tools and guidance to navigate challenges. [\(more...\)](#)

Mental Wellness Moment — ADHD in adults



Dr. Nicholas Mitchell explains why more adults are being diagnosed with ADHD, and how it presents differently in adults and children. [\(more...\)](#)

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

Latest News

Use new Fit Test lookup tool

Workplace Health and Safety created a lookup tool to make it easier for you to check your Fit Test status. ([more...](#))

New tool empowers allied health preceptors

The [Allied Health Preceptor Centre](#) offers a growing suite of resources for preceptors to provide an optimal learning experience. ([more...](#))

Innovations and best practices in nursing and virtual health

Join this upcoming Virtual Health webinar where we'll discuss the role of nurses in using virtual health innovations and best practices. ([more...](#))

[Register Now](#)



Healthy Albertans.
Healthy Communities.
Together.