

primary cares

News & updates from the Calgary Zone



MAPS town hall

A town hall was held on Wednesday to share updates on the progress of the Modernizing Alberta's Primary Health Care System (MAPS) implementation plan, as well as the transition of PCNs to regional networks. Highlights included:

- The new Primary Care Provincial Health Agency, previously referred to as the Primary Care Organization, will be stood up in the fall. It will be responsible for strategic leadership, planning, funding and oversight for primary health care in Alberta.
- The new agency and Alberta Health will jointly plan the transition of PCNs to regional networks. That work will include a review of PCN funding.
- Consultation meetings have been held with all 39 PCNs. A second round of consultations with PCNs and zones will begin in August, with design workshops scheduled for October.
- As part of the stakeholder consultation plan, a physician survey is set to be conducted in August and September.
- A plan for transitioning to regional networks is due to be completed in December. Not all PCNs will transition at the same time.

Read the [summary document](#).

Connect Care document, results routing

Connect Care will soon be able to deliver more clinical documents to providers at specific locations or clinics.

Effective Sunday, August 25, documents and results can be sent to clinics or locations where providers see the patient, rather than a single default community location.

To support this change, providers who work at more than one location or clinic and/or have eDelivery direct to their EMR inbox have been sent a letter via fax or mail to the location AHS has on file as their primary location. Providers are asked to confirm results delivery methods and locations by Monday, August 19.

[More information](#).

CanREACH fall sessions

Registration is now open for fall CanREACH sessions for the popular mini-fellowship on patient-centred mental health in pediatric primary care.

The course kicks off with conference dates on Friday, September 13 and Saturday, September 14, followed by 12 one-hour clinical case sessions. Mainpro+ credits are available.

[More information.](#)

Dermatology tele-advice

[Specialist Link's](#) dermatology tele-advice is temporarily unavailable.

The advice line, which offers advice on non-urgent, semi-urgent and urgent dermatological conditions, will resume normal service on Tuesday, August 6. In the meantime, non-urgent requests can be directed to community dermatologists. You can also submit an [eConsult request](#).

Listeria guidance

A clinical guidance memo has been published following a listeria outbreak, which has been linked to plant-based beverages. Those most at risk for infection include the following:

- Neonates
- People over 60
- Pregnant people
- Those who are immunosuppressed

[Read the memo.](#)

Reminder: Duplicative lab requisitions

Requisitions for the same test submitted by two or more providers are now being merged by Alberta Precision Labs, whenever possible.

Separate specimens will not be collected for requisitions that seek the same tests. Instead, labs will only collect enough blood for one test and the results will be sent to all the providers who ordered the test. Community providers will be listed as an authorizing provider or coordination of care recipient on result documents. All ordering providers remain clinically responsible and will receive a call about critical test results.

[More information.](#)

Quick links

PPIP webinar

On Thursday, August 22, from 6:30–8 p.m., the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta is hosting a Physician Practice Improvement Program (PPIP) webinar on the virtual care standard of practice. [Register.](#)

Section of Family Medicine election

The AMA's Section of Family Medicine is holding an election for the role of president and member-at-large. Voting is open until 4 p.m. on Friday, August 23. [More information.](#) The SFM annual general meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 19 at the Hyatt Regency in Calgary.

Fibromyalgia webinar

A recording of the Calgary Zone's latest webinar, which focused on fibromyalgia and eating disorders, can now be [watched online.](#) The next webinar in the series, which will focus on neurodiversity and skin cancer, is scheduled for Monday, September 23, at 6 p.m. [Register.](#)

Wildfire information

Resources are available to support patients who are affected by the current wildfire situation in Alberta. [Latest updates](#), a [wildfire dashboard](#) and the [Alberta Emergency Alert](#) (alerts and advisories) are tools you may find helpful.

Reminder: Practice facilitator training

The Alberta Medical Association is hosting practice facilitator core training in the Calgary area. The next series starts with a virtual welcome session on Thursday, October 3 (1–2:30 p.m.) followed by all-day, in-person sessions on Thursday, October 31, Wednesday, December 4 and Thursday, December 5. [More information.](#)