

primary cares

News & updates from the Calgary Zone



Fibromyalgia webinar moved to July 3

A Calgary Zone webinar on fibromyalgia management in the medical home – originally planned for Monday, June 24 – will now take place on Wednesday, July 3.

The online event, which is from 6–8 p.m., will outline an evidence-based treatment approach for supporting patients with fibromyalgia. The date was changed due to a clash with Game 7 of the Stanley Cup final. Those who previously registered for the June 24 webinar do not need to register again.

The webinar will include a discussion about the [fibromyalgia](#) pathway recently published on Specialist Link. In addition, there will be updates on an inpatient eating disorder program and physician pilot health. [Register](#).

Clinic pathway pilot

Is your clinic interested in taking part in a pilot project to automate care pathways within EMRs?

The groundbreaking initiative, a collaborative effort between Mikata and local Primary Care Networks, will see pathways integrated into everyday practice. The pilot, which will focus on headache and migraine and maternity pathways, will start in June or July, with testing and feedback underway by August.

Funded through an Alberta Innovates grant, clinics are being sought that use Telus Med Access, PS Suite, or QHR Accuro. Enrolled clinics would be asked to offer feedback. Physicians will receive remuneration for taking part. Review this [one-pager](#) for more information. You can also [fill out the form](#), or email emily@mikatahealth.com.

Bariatric clinic referrals

The Calgary Adult Bariatric Specialty Clinic is asking referring providers to complete its [referral form](#) or to send a letter that includes patient demographics, provider information, specialists involved in care, BMI, weight, highest adult weight, medical and bariatric surgery history and any special requirements.

Patients will be contacted to come to the clinic to complete screening tools after a referral is received. Referring providers will be sent a referral receipt and notice of triage outcome. Referral criteria is listed in the form. Post-sleeve [gastrectomy follow-up guidelines](#) have also been amended. [More details](#).

Reminder: FAST program pauses spine referrals

Spine surgery referrals sent to Alberta Health Services' [Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment](#) (FAST) program are no longer being accepted in the Calgary Zone.

The FAST program – a central access and intake initiative that is designed to improve referral and consultation processes as well as surgical wait times – is returning new referrals to providers in Calgary and the surrounding areas. Physicians, nurse practitioners and clinics are being asked to revert to their original process of sending those referrals directly to the spine clinic or surgeon of their choice, just as they did prior to the FAST launch in October 2022. Please reference the updated [orthopaedic access pathway](#).

Referrals for all other non-urgent orthopedic surgical consults, as well as urology, vascular surgery and adult gynecology, should continue to go through FAST. Questions and concerns should be directed to the Calgary Zone FAST team at 1-833-553-3278 ext. 4 or emailed to abfast.calgary@ahs.ca.

Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis vaccine

Effective Monday, July 1, adults can receive routine doses of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine from a pharmacy. In addition, fully immunized adults who present with tetanus prone wounds can be referred to a pharmacy if only a Tdap booster is required.

Adults with tetanus prone wounds, who have an unknown immunization history or incomplete tetanus immunization series, should be referred to public health where tetanus immune globulin is available. Tdap vaccine distribution to medical clinics is expected to resume this fall. All children requiring a tetanus-containing vaccine should continue to be referred to public health.

Pneumococcal vaccine: Alberta Health is changing its invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) vaccines and is now using pneumococcal 15-valent Conjugate Vaccine (Vaxneuvance or Pneu-C15) for children under 18 as part of routine vaccine program, and pneumococcal 20-valent conjugate vaccine (Pneumar 20 or Pneu-C20) to replace previous offerings.

Updated routine immunization schedule: Alberta's routine immunization schedule has been updated. [More information](#).

Quick links

PCN Pain Rounds: Pain and trauma relation to migration

On Thursday, July 18, from 5:30–7 p.m., Dr. Seyi Akinola will lead a PCN Pain Rounds webinar on *Pain and Trauma Related to Migration: Another New Normal in Canada*. [Register](#).

Rural Virtual Conference series

On Tuesday, September 10, a weekly series of online professional development sessions organized by the Cumming School of Medicine gets underway. More [information](#).

Panel training

The AMA-ACTT team is offering updated Panel in Action training for clinic managers, clinic staff and panel managers. It is available online and on-demand. [More information](#).