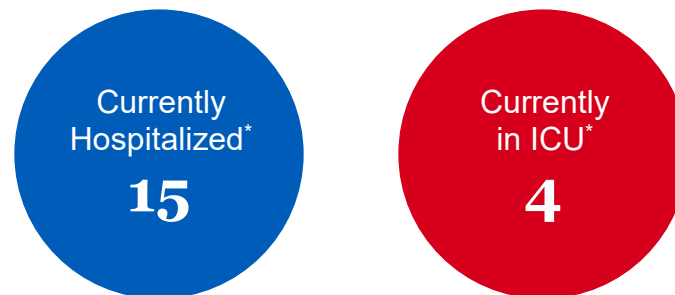


Department of Medicine

Information Bulletin

September 1, 2020

Calgary Zone COVID Case Report – August 31, 2020



Calgary Zone Capacity Assessment – August 31, 2020*

Urban Inpatient Sites	Current Hospitalization	Currently in ICU
ACH	0	0
FMC	3	1
PLC	6	2
RGH	1	0
SHC	3	1
Vulcan Community Health Centre	2	0

COVID 19 Daily Actual Number of Occupied Hospital Beds (previous 5 days)*

	August 27	August 28	August 29	August 30	August 31
Acute Care (Includes ICU)	15	13	14	16	16
ICU	1	2	2	3	4

* Data from [Provincial COVID 19 Hospitalizations: Daily Census Counts Tableau Database](#) updated to: 2020-08-31 11:59 pm

COVID-19: New / Updated Resources and Information

AHS COVID-19 Staff & Physician Resources

Acute Care COVID-19 Expanded Testing

- **UPDATED** [Acute Care COVID-19 Expanded Testing Algorithm](#) (Posted 1 September 2020)
- **UPDATED** [Communicable Disease \(Respiratory\) Initial Screening](#) (Form 21615(Rev2020-08))

- **UPDATED** [Discontinuation of Contact and Droplet Precautions for Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19](#) (Form 21624(Rev2020-08))

UPDATED [COVID-19 Healthcare Worker / Staff Q&A](#) (31 August 2020)

COVID-19 Designated Family/Support and Visitor Guidance

- **UPDATED** [Acute Care Visitor & Volunteer Screening Questionnaire](#) (28 August 2020)
- **UPDATED** [Continuing Care Visitor & Volunteer Screening Questionnaire](#) (28 August 2020)
- **NEW** [PPE for Family/Support Person\(s\), Visitors and Patients](#) (uploaded 21 August 2020)

UPDATED [COVID-19 FAQ for Community Physicians](#) (28 August 2020)

UPDATED [RGH N95 Fit Testing Schedule](#) (28 August 2020)

UPDATED [Memo: COVID-19 Guidance for Researchers – Resuming research at AHS facilities](#) (27 August 2020)

NEW [Community Physician COVID-19 Screening and Testing Algorithm](#) (27 August 2020)

UPDATED [AHS, Covenant Health and APL Healthcare Worker COVID-19 Testing](#) (26 August 2020)

UPDATED [Patient Refusal to Wear Face Coverings during COVID-19: Guidance for Community Physicians and Teams](#) (26 August 2020)

UPDATED [COVID-19 Patient Resources: A guide for Albertans](#) (25 August 2020)

UPDATED [CancerControl Alberta's Cancer Treatment Prioritization Framework for Systemic Therapy, Radiation Therapy, and Supportive Care](#) (August 2020)

NEW [Managing Employee Questions on Back-to-School Considerations during COVID](#) (24 August 2020)

NEW [How to Support Mask Wearing: COVID-19 Worker Supports](#) (25 August 2020)

NEW [AHS PPE Taskforce Guidance: Continuous Masking and Patient Care](#) (21 August 2020)

NEW AHS Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) Memo: Communicating timing of COVID-19 test results to the public (20 August 2020)

COVID-19 testing of Albertans continues to average more than 8,000 completed tests per day, and is expected to increase further in the coming weeks. The ongoing efforts of all healthcare staff doing this critically important work are very much appreciated.

It is imperative that we continue to ensure public understand the testing process and related timelines.

To ensure public expectations on test result timelines are appropriately informed, please be sure that all front-line healthcare staff conducting swabbing advise individuals being tested that:

- **Positive test results are typically relayed to patients within 24 to 48 hours from the time of swabbing until the result is available; and negative test results can take five to seven days to be relayed to patients.**

This same messaging is being communicated through AHS' COVID-19 webpage, including the online booking tool, as well as through AHS social media.

With your continued support, we can ensure Albertans are well-educated on turnaround times and reduce unnecessary concern about test result information.

UPDATED [IPC PPE Table for Emergency Departments and Urgent Care Centres during COVID-19](#)
(6 August 2020)

There is currently a directive from AHS for all staff in the ED to wear eye protection with patient contact, in addition to continuous masking. This is regardless of the COVID screening status of the patient. The rules are outlined in the [IPC PPE Table](#).

Our IPC colleagues have stated that “Currently the intent of the continuous eye protection is to provide additional protection in areas where we may not know what the underlying illnesses are of the patients. In ED/UCC, the presenting complaint may not always elucidate a full picture of the patient status. As such, the instruction to wear continuous eye protection in addition to the continuous mask reduces the risk of being exposed should a patient be later identified as having COVID-19”.

This means that consultants or trainees going to ED to see a patient must also abide by this rule. Eye protection is available in ED. When working in other areas of the hospital, eye protection is only required if indicated by the isolation status of the patient.

Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL)

NEW Travel Related COVID-19 Testing and Documentation Requests (28 August 2020)

Key Message:

Many countries and airlines are requiring documented COVID-19 nucleic acid/PCR tests for international travel. The time requirements vary among airlines and countries. Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) is receiving requests for proof of a negative test taken 1-5 days in advance of time of travel. At this time, Canadian airlines are not requesting proof of negative tests for travel within Canada.

Why this is important:

APL has developed an intake process to respond to travel related testing requests, to help manage expectations and meet patient needs.

There is no priority or separate queue for travelers requiring travel related tests or documents. Testing priorities are outlined on the Alberta Health Website (<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-testing-in-alberta.aspx>). AHS and APL cannot guarantee that swabbing, testing and provision of results will be provided within the specified timeframe to meet the travel requirements. Albertans planning travel should allow at least seven days from the time they are swabbed for COVID-19 to having access to printable test results.

Information will be posted on the AHS/APL Websites and on social media to help travellers familiarize themselves with COVID-19 testing requirements and how to get their printed laboratory reports. Information can be found [here](#). Patients asking about travel related COVID-19 testing should be directed to this information.

Patients with questions/concerns can contact APL.ClientServices@albertaprecisionlabs.ca or APL at 1-855-570-3600.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Dr. Nathan Zelyas, Medical Microbiologist, APL – Public Health Laboratory
Nathan.Zelyas@albertaprecisionlabs.ca

NEW Laboratory Bulletin: [Visualization Process for Priority COVID-19 Specimen Identification](#) (27 August 2020)

Scientific Advisory Group (SAG)

NEW [What risk factors \(such as age, medical conditions, or lifestyle factors\) are associated with the development of severe outcomes in COVID-19?](#) (21 August 2020)

NEW [What Role Might Children Play in Community SARS-CoV-2 Transmission? What Measures Might Mitigate Potential Additional Risk of Transmission of COVID-19 Related To School & Daycare Reopening?](#) (7 August 2020)

NEW [Evidence of Harm from Mask Use for Specific Populations](#) (21 August 2020)

Sunrise Clinical Manager (SCM)

SCM Updates August 2020

SCM Orders

- **NEW** COVID-19 SEROLOGY
- **NEW** MIFEGYMISO KIT
- **UPDATED** Respiratory Infection Panel (Viral) and COVID-19 Testing

Order Sets

- **UPDATED** Misoprostol Protocol
- **NEW** Viral Respiratory Infection Testing

Good to Know!

- Results Delegate Maintenance

Fit for Work

Please remember to complete your [fit for work screening](#) before coming into work. Also, simple actions such as staying home when you are sick, [physical distancing](#), [washing your hands](#) regularly, and [continuous masking](#) helps keep everyone safe. For more information, visit ahs.ca/fitforwork.

Leaders are responsible for ensuring their staff complete screening before they arrive at work. Options for fit for work screening are available through our [COVID-19 Daily Fit for Work Screening Protocol](#).

Research Office

Survey on COVID-19 Research from AHS/AH

Health researchers must learn and innovate to address the COVID-19 pandemic and its sequelae through research and quality improvement efforts. Alberta is well-positioned to take a coordinated, provincial approach to address this need by understanding what patients, clinicians, researchers and health care administrators see as research priorities during this pandemic.

AHS has already been notified of 150+ current studies that seek to enrol people affected by COVID-19, especially patients who have experienced infection. We want to help Alberta researchers to create the best information possible. However, we also need to balance this against the need to protect our potential research participants from an undue burden of requests...especially overlapping requests from multiple groups.

If you are doing, or plan to do, research, clinical and/or quality improvement work related to COVID19, we ask you to take part in this 5-minute needs assessment survey. The questions ask about what type of research/quality improvement work you plan to do, whether you seek to contact individuals directly, and your thoughts on provincial coordination in this area.

LINK TO SURVEY:

<https://survey.albertahealthservices.ca/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=8IL04o96L#>

If you have any questions about this survey or strategy, please contact the survey leads:

Dr. Jia Hu, Medical Officer of Health, Alberta Health Services (jia.hu@ahs.ca)

Dr. Kiran Pohar Manhas, Assistant Scientific Director with the Neurosciences, Rehabilitation & Vision (NRV) Strategic Clinical Network™, Alberta Health Services (kiran.poharmanhas@ahs.ca)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!!

Office of the Associate Dean Research, Cumming School of Medicine

CIHR Project Grant Launch

As you may have seen the CIHR Project Grant for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 has [now launched](#). The [Project Grant program](#) is designed to capture ideas with the greatest potential for important advances in fundamental or applied health-related knowledge, health care, health systems, and/or health outcomes by supporting projects or programs of research proposed and conducted by individual researchers or groups of researchers in all areas of health. **The deadline for registration for Fall 2020 is September 16th at 6pm.**

To assist you in the preparation of your registration and application we are once again offering a number of different resources and tools. For this stage of the competition you can access the [Guide for Registering](#) and [information on the Peer Review Committees](#), including a list of individuals at UofC who have recently reviewed for each committee.

We will be hosting two opportunities to learn more about the preparation of your registration and full application, the content will be similar in both sessions. **Please register by emailing Sara Mahjor (smahjor@ucalgary.ca).**

- **September 9th, 10:00am – 11:30am Register**
- **September 21st, Noon - 1:30pm Register**

I encourage anyone interested in applying this year to start their Internal Peer Review (IPR) process as soon as possible, if you haven't already. Please register for IPR (<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/research/services/internal-peer-review>) and work with your respective research institute to establish your committee. On the [IPR site](#) you will also find a number of additional resources including sample successful applications, an updated budget calculator, Guide for Registering, Peer Review information, and in the coming days an updated Guide for Applying for the full application.

Further information will be forthcoming on the full application so please keep an eye on emails and notifications from our office. As always if you have any questions about the competition or internal supports please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Jenna Slobozian^{Cert RA} | Manager, Grant Development

OADR Grant Development Office | Cumming School of Medicine | University of Calgary
G351A, Health Sciences Building | 3280 Hospital Drive NW, Calgary, AB, T2N 4Z6

Phone: 403.210.7299; **Cell:** 403-389-6638 | **E-mail:** j.slobozian@ucalgary.ca

AHS Pride

The AHS Calgary Pride Committee is pleased to invite you and your teams to the AHS Calgary Pride Drive.

When: Thursday, September 3, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Various sites throughout Calgary

We all can feel isolated during this time of physical distancing, which is why we have developed a safe way to celebrate AHS Pride in Calgary. This is one of the ways we can continue to recognize our diverse AHS family and community to support them to feel safer and bring a sense of well-being through this connection.

Route (estimated times):

10:15 a.m. Peter Lougheed Centre

11:05 a.m. Alberta Children's Hospital

11:50 a.m. Sheldon Chumir Health Centre

12:25 p.m. Rockyview General Hospital

12:50 p.m. Southport Tower

1:35 p.m. South Health Campus

Together, we can demonstrate our commitment to create a safer and more inclusive healthcare system for everyone.

While we encourage you to cheer the Pride Drive on, please remember to observe physical distancing and public health guidelines. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information on the Pride Drive, please contact Debby at Debby.Banister@ahs.ca.

You can also show your pride by:

- Attending our two educational webinars:
 - **LGBTQ2S+ 101: History, Terminology and Tools for Allyship**
Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2020. [Learn more and register now.](#)
 - **Learning from our LGBTQ2S+ Community through the Power of Lived Experience**
Friday, Sept. 11, 2020. [Learn more and register now.](#)
- Sharing the rainbow with our newly designed AHS Pride recognition [e-cards](#).
- Wearing your [AHS branded pride gear](#).

Share your gratitude with each other, show your pride in where you work and celebrate those who are LGBTQ2S+ and their allies.

We look forward to gathering as a group and community in the future. Until then, please share the pride. For more information, see [Insite](#).

Sincerely,

Calgary Pride Committee

Communications Team

Department of Medicine

Alberta Health Services – Calgary Zone and Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

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