

CALGARY INTERNAL MEDICINE COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

MEOC Bulletin

Date: May 10, 2020

Transition to DoM Bulletins

Medical Emergency Operational Command (MEOC) was launched by the Department of Medicine on March 27, 2020 in response to the imminent threat of health service load breakage posed by the novel COVID-19.

As of April 23, 2020, public health measures, including physical distancing have reduced apparent doubling times, and prevented catastrophic burdens on the health system.

In the interim, policies, and procedures have been developed by the entire MEOC workforce, led by 6 Officers and their working groups, which have prepared the Department of Medicine with scalable, sustainable, and safe plans for future surges.

Given the current advanced stage of preparation and likely long term COVID-19 persistence with surge potential, now is an opportune time to reorganize MEOC into extant Department of Medicine infrastructure and nomenclature.

As such, this will be the final issue of the MEOC Bulletin. Starting on Friday, May 15, 2020, the Department will transition to weekly DoM Bulletins. The Bulletins will continue to be distributed by DOM Announcements (DOM.Announcements@ahs.ca). If you currently receive the MEOC Bulletin, you will also receive the weekly DoM Bulletins.

Please send any questions or feedback to the Department of Medicine Communications Team at DOM.Announcements@ahs.ca.

Calgary Zone COVID Case Report and Testing Summary – May 10, 2020*

Case Summary				
Confirmed Cases	Probable Cases	Deaths	Currently Hospitalized	Currently in ICU
3,784	466	82	44	5
Surveillance				
Persons Under Investigation	Total Investigations	Tests Performed	People Tested	Tests Performed Yesterday
158	5,315	84,576	78,612	1,997

Calgary Zone Capacity Assessment – May 10, 2020*

Urban Inpatient Sites	Current Hospitalization	Currently in ICU
ACH	2	0
FMC	12	2
PLC	15	3
RGH	10	3
SHC	9	1
		Average Occupancy: 83%
Rural Inpatient Sites	Current Hospitalization	Currently in ICU
Oilfields Hospital	1	0
		Average Occupancy: 86%

Calgary Zone Historic Summary (From the past 5 days)*

	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10
# COVID+ admitted	57	57	53	52	49
Total ICU Cases	13	12	11	9	9
In use ventilators (covid/total)	17/45	11/50	13/40		

* Data from Calgary Zone Emergency Operation Center (ZEOC) – COVID-19 Pandemic Response Situation Placemat, Date: 10 May 2020 Time: 1600hrs

Important Resources and Information for Healthcare Providers

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

[FOR INFORMATION ONLY from Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\): Update: Information on Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) \(May 10, 2020\)](#)

Government of Alberta

Help prevent the spread for COVID – Download the ABTraceTogether mobile app [here](#). Have questions? Visit the [ABTraceTogether FAQ](#) webpage.

[COVID-19 Assessment tool for Health Care Workers \(HCW\) and Those Involved in Public Health Enforcement \(PHE\)](#)

COVID-19 Testing for Healthcare Workers and Health Link Physician Advice Line

As a healthcare worker, you will be tested for COVID-19 if you have any of fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, sore throat or a runny nose. If you are experiencing symptoms please take the [online assessment tool for Healthcare and Shelter Workers / Enforcement Personnel / First Responders](#).

- This will help you determine if you need to be tested for COVID-19 under the new requirements and how long you need to [self-isolate](#) if you may have been exposed or are experiencing symptoms.

Health Link has set up two phone lines for physicians to call with concerns about themselves.

- **It is critical these phone numbers be used by physicians only and not members of the general public or physician family members.** During this time of increased pressure on the health system, we are using these numbers to help ensure physicians get the advice they need quickly.
 - South of Red Deer: 587-284-5302
 - Red Deer and North: 780-910-0385

AHS COVID-19 Staff & Physician Resources

- [Healthcare Worker / Staff Q&A novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) (updated May 9, 2020)
- [COVID-19 Daily Update for AHS Medical Staff](#) (May 8, 2020)
- [Patient-Family Virtual Visits – AHS Staff User Guide](#) (May 5, 2020)
- [COVID-19 Return to Work Guide for Community Physicians and Teams](#) (May 5, 2020)
- [COVID-19 FAQs for Community Physicians](#) (April 24, 2020)

AHS Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) Approved Communications

- [Harm Reduction and COVID-19 Printable Handouts](#) (May 9, 2020)
- [Seniors Wellness in Challenging Times](#) (May 9, 2020)
- [Memo – VTE Prophylaxis for Admitted COVID-19 Patients](#) (May 8, 2020)
- [Memo – Supporting Abstinence from Smoking/Vaping During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (May 8, 2020)
- [Care of COVID-19 Patients with Nicotine Dependence](#) (May 8, 2020)
- [Thrombosis and Coagulopathy Guidance in COVID-19](#) (May 8, 2020)
- [Maternity Care Pathway](#) (May 7, 2020)
- [Canadian Blood Services NEBMC Recovery Phase Advisory](#) (May 6, 2020)
- [COVID-19 and people living with dementia](#) (May 6, 2020)

Patient Discharge from Hospital

- [Provincial Pandemic Flowsheet – Patient Discharge from Hospital](#) (April 29, 2020)
- [COVID-19 Safe Discharge Checklist](#) (Form 21622 (2020-04))
- [Safe Discharge Checklist Appendices](#) (updated May 7, 2020)

Discharging Aboriginal Patients with or without COVID 19 diagnoses

On behalf of the Indigenous Task Force and MoH, please be aware that Indigenous patients being discharged with or without a COVID-19 diagnosis may be faced with challenges returning home due to limited opportunities to isolate in the First Nation or Settlement or due to community restrictions on entry. Similarly, if these individuals normally live in the urban setting there may be obstacles for returning to their usual residence.

The Ask: In discharge planning for Indigenous patients, could you please include consultation with the site Indigenous Health Lead if there is any question about their ability to move into an appropriate environment? The Indigenous Liaison can assist in customizing contacts or providing links to resources as needed.

Rockyview Aboriginal Liaison
 Brant Simons 403-943-3139, Pager 04174, brant.simons@ahs.ca
 Aboriginal Liaison consult available through SCM.

Scrubs Updates

Foothills Medical Centre

- [Memo: AHS Issued Attire – Scrub Distribution for COVID-19 Designated Units](#) (May 4, 2020)

South Health Campus

- [Memo: Scrubs for ICU/ED/COVID+ Units](#) (May 7, 2020)

Scientific Advisory Group Rapid Response Reports

[Recommendations for anti-microbial use for secondary infections in patients with COVID-19](#) (May 8, 2020)

ZEOC Calgary / Calgary Zone Communications

[ZEOC Calgary – COVID-19 Pandemic Response Situation Placemat](#) (May 10, 2020)

[ZEOC Calgary – COVID-19 Pandemic Response Situation Placemat](#) (May 9, 2020)

[ZEOC Calgary – COVID-19 Pandemic Response Situation Placemat](#) (May 8, 2020)

[ZEOC Calgary – COVID-19 Pandemic Response Situation Placemat](#) (May 7, 2020)

[ZEOC Calgary – COVID-19 Pandemic Response Situation Placemat](#) (May 6, 2020)

Webinars

[SCM Physician Training](#)

Final SCM Physician Training session will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm.

This SCM training would be useful to anyone who might be admitting COVID patients on the COVID wards. The SCM Team will go over COVID admission order sets and how to use tokens and notcetera. Highly recommend as it should save you some typing time.

COVID Corner Webinars

Ambulatory Care of the Chronic Condition

May 13, 2020

Visit <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/cme/COVID-19-Resources/COVID-Corner> for more information and to register.

Recordings, handouts, and resources from previous COVID Corner webinars can be found at <https://ecme.ucalgary.ca/covid-19-cme-resources/covid-corner/>

Help CME&PD provide ongoing COVID-19 education, training and resources for healthcare professionals by donating here: <http://c-fund.us/rkg>.

Physician Town Hall

AHS Medical Staff are invited to weekly virtual town hall sessions every Thursday morning from 7 – 8 a.m. on Zoom, regarding COVID-19 and Alberta's response. The May 14 session will focus on work done with the community to better integrate patient care during the COVID19 pandemic response. Please [click here](#) to register.

Thank you to the nearly 400 physicians who attended our COVID-19 physician town halls on May 5 and 7. A recording of the May 5 session is [now available online](#). A recording of the May 7 session will be available soon. Discussion topics include

physician safety, AHS' Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) strategy and physician wellness.

Zoom for Virtual Care Webinars & Open Office Hours

AHS Virtual Health is now hosting [regular webinars and office hours](#), every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., to provide staff, clinicians and physicians with tips and tricks for using Zoom to connect with colleagues and patients.

Wellness Tip: Are you wondering about how to talk to your children about COVID-19?

Check out this blog from Joule CMA for helpful tips and guidance tailored to parents who are healthcare providers. <https://boldly.joulecma.ca/blog/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-covid-19>

[Resilience, Wellness and Mental Health Resources guide](#) (April 23, 2020)

[WHS Wellness Seminar Series Schedule](#) (April 20, 2020)

MEOC Resources Website

MEOC Resources website: www.departmentofmedicine.com/meoc-resources/

Sensitive content that is not meant for public consumption has been password protected. The password is **COVIDmed20**. Please share this information with your physician colleagues; however, please **do not post or publicly share** this password.

Save Time, Be Safe: Use the Online Tool for Daily Fit for Work Screenings

The Tool is available at: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17076.aspx>
It is quick, easy, and does not require paper. Login using your AHS network user name and password.

Green screen at the end = fit for work (valid for entry within 2 hours of completion)

Red screen at the end = NOT fit for work.

The tool can be completed before leaving home or from the parking lot and will help expedite entry to the site. Please ensure your *AHS Identification Badge* is visible when approaching the Screening Desk.

Think you rock at PPE?

Prove it! PPE simulations strongly recommended!

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/cme/courses/PPE>

[Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) – Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[PPE and Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures \(AGMPs\)](#)

N95 Fit Testing Information

[Calgary Zone N95 Fit Testing Sessions](#)

[FMC N95 Fit Testing Sessions](#)

- Fit testing for additional models of N95 masks (8210, 8110S) is underway on a clinical priority basis (ICU, CVICU, CICU, NICU, ED, Units 64,54,36,72,81,82)

- There is availability for tests so please avail of the following options :
 - Sign up through <https://signup.com/go/qZYkYo>
 - Email Anne Chang (Anne.Chang@ahs.ca)
 - WHS drop-in session
<https://insite.albertahealthservices.ca/main/assets/hr/tms-hr-whs-calgary-zone-n95-fit-testing-sessions-2020.pdf>

[PLC N95 Fit Testing Sessions](#)

COVID-19 DOM Research Opportunities

Are you a DOM member looking to enrol patients or health care workers in your COVID-19 Research Project? Please email sofia.ahmed@ahs.ca with:

Name of PI:

Title of Project:

Study Contact email:

Please indicate if you are looking to enrol patients or health care workers.

For information on COVID-19 research being conducted at UCalgary: <https://research.ucalgary.ca/covid-19/collaboration>

Your feedback helps us prioritize!

KEEP GIVING US FEEDBACK – we listen, respond, and adapt!
FEEDBACK: <https://tinyurl.com/Covidfeedback>

Sincerely,
The MEOC Team