

Improving Endoscopy Quality across Alberta

Highlights:

- **Alberta has a new provincial committee focused on quality in endoscopy and colorectal cancer screening**
- **Work is underway to improve quality of care for endoscopy**

The Digestive Health Strategic Clinical Network™ (DH SCN) and the Alberta Colorectal Cancer Screening Program (ACRCSP) have a new collaborative partnership to address quality in endoscopy. The partnership was founded on the shared goal of improving endoscopy and colon cancer screening quality in Alberta.

The aim of the partnership will be to ensure the overall safety, effectiveness, and outcomes of screening, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures occurring in Alberta endoscopy units. Both partners agree that improving the overall quality of care in digestive health will require long-term sustained action.

Currently, there is no standard provincial approach to assessing and monitoring the quality of endoscopy, including colonoscopy for colon cancer screening. The DH SCN and the ACRCSP have formed an 'Alberta Endoscopy & Screening Quality Management (AESQM)' committee that will create a quality framework for endoscopy quality in Alberta.

The committee is excited to have Dr. Dan Sadowski, an Edmonton gastroenterologist, and Dr. Dereck Mok, a general surgeon from Grande Prairie, leading this group to improve quality of endoscopy and to improve the patient experience in Alberta.

The goal of the AESQM committee is to form working relationships with all of the endoscopy sites in Alberta, including Zone- or site-based endoscopy quality councils, in order to elicit their support for the following quality initiatives:

- the adoption of the Canadian-Global Rating Scale (C-GRS©) at all endoscopy sites across Alberta
- consultation with the Connect Care team to facilitate partnerships for the collection and reporting of quality indicators for endoscopy
- provincial patient education resources for endoscopic procedures
- standards of care for endoscopy

Project leads from this committee will be connecting with 51 endoscopy sites in Alberta to increase quality collaborations and provincial connections.

If patients or clinicians are interested in finding out more about the new endoscopy quality initiatives, please email us at DigestiveHealth.SCN@albertahealthservices.ca