

# Specialty Access

CLEAR PATHWAYS.  
HELPFUL ADVICE.  
BETTER REFERRALS.

Specialty Access programs are co-designed with primary care, specialty care and patients.

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**FAST:**  
FACILITATED  
ACCESS TO  
SPECIALIZED  
TREATMENT

Simplifying the referral process via centralized intake.



**ALBERTA'S  
PATHWAY  
HUB**

Guiding the specialty care journey via clinical, referral and patient pathways.



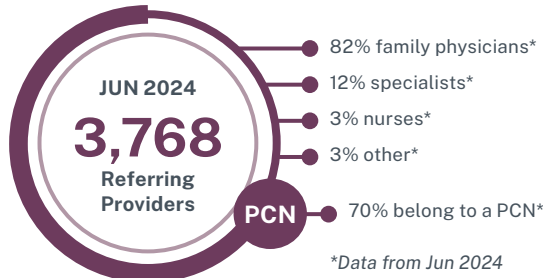
**SPECIALTY  
ADVICE**

Offering non-urgent specialist advice by phone and online.

## TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE, ONE REFERRAL AT A TIME.

Referring provider usage of FAST is growing.

Referrals are processed quickly.



\*\*Processing time excludes referrals that are declined, cancelled, deferred, incomplete or in clerical triage.

FAST aims to reduce administrative burden on referring and receiving providers.



Standardized referral requirements via Referral Pathways



From 207 to one central access fax number per zone (one per specialty in Edmonton Zone)



Support to address missing documentation on incomplete referrals

92.5% of incomplete referrals submitted between Jan-Jun 2024 were supported to completion



New functionality in eReferral to reduce declined referrals

Referrals can be redirected rather than declined



Referrals assigned by provider, site, or next available surgeon

FAST is expanding to all surgical specialties\*\*\*.

● Specialties working with FAST as of July 2024 ● Future FAST specialties  
Specialties shown in chronological order of joining FAST.



\*\*\*Specialties differ by zone.

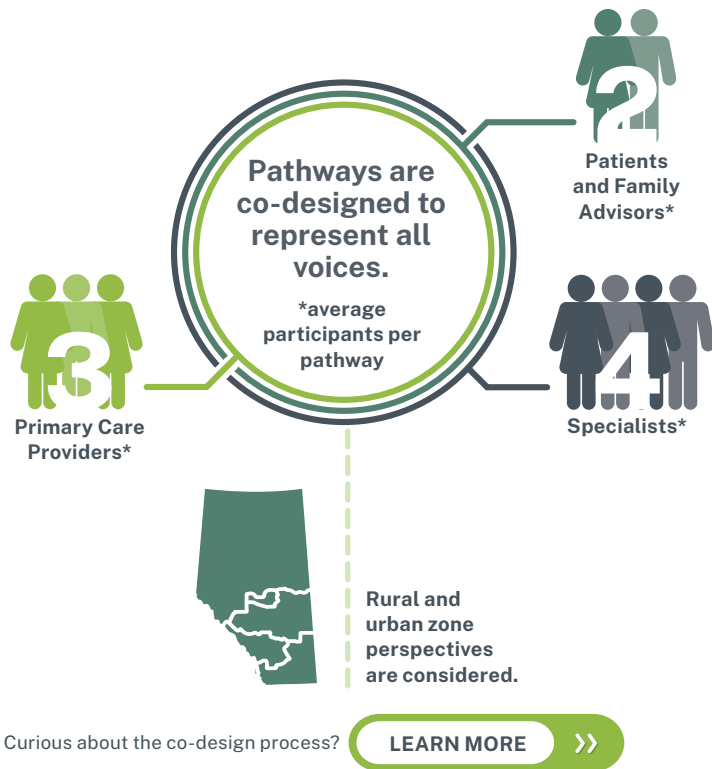
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Source: DWM dashboard on Jul 11, 2024. Data represents all FAST specialties (General Surgery, Gynecology, Orthopedics, Urology, and Vascular in all zones, and Otolaryngology and Plastic Surgery in Edmonton Zone only).

# Specialty Access

## TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE, ONE PATHWAY AT A TIME.

Provincial pathways provide clinical and procedural guidance to support consistent patient care and referrals across all zones.



**AlbertaPathways.ca**  
launched Fall 2022

[SEE PATHWAYS >>](#)



## TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE, ONE CONVERSATION AT A TIME.

Work is underway to make non-urgent specialist advice\* available across Alberta to answer providers' clinical questions in a timely manner, electronically or by telephone.



Unnecessary referrals reduced to prioritize patient care



Patient care supported in the community where appropriate



Non-urgent specialist advice available Monday to Friday



Available to family doctors and nurse practitioners

To learn more, visit [specialtyaccess.ca](https://specialtyaccess.ca)