



## CMO UPDATE

Dr. Francois Belanger

*Vice President, Quality & Chief Medical Officer*

*This Issue: Critical Leadership Conversation Course Registration; Celebrating Canadian Women Physicians' Day; DI Test Result Release Changes; Access to MoCA; Strengthening Linkages Workshop Registration; News from the AHS Update and more.*

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*We would like to recognize that our work takes place on historical and contemporary Indigenous lands, including the territories of Treaty 6, Treaty 7 & Treaty 8 and the homeland of the Métis Nation of Alberta and eight Metis Settlements. We also acknowledge the many Indigenous communities that have been forged in urban centres across Alberta.*

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*Note: Recognizing some medical staff use an alternate email address instead of an AHS email address, some information is duplicated from the AHS Update to ensure all AHS medical staff have all up-to-date organizational information that may impact their practice.*

### **Topics:**

#### **Medical Affairs News**

- Critical Leadership Conversations Course Registration
- Celebrate Canadian Women Physicians' Day
- Diagnostic Imaging Test Results Release to Patients is Changing
- Get Access to Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
- Register for the Strengthening Linkages Workshop
- Still time to register for the HPSP Conference: Together in '23
- Support for Physicians
- Career Opportunities
  - Highlighting Low FTE and Remote Opportunities
- Additional Resources for Physicians

#### **From the AHS Update**

- Action on Our Priorities
- Your Wellness
- COVID-19 Status and Cases in Alberta
- 90-Day Report highlights AHS progress

- AHS recognized as a 2023 top employer
  - Updates to continuous masking requirements in non-clinical areas
  - Booster dose guidance updated
  - Interim CEO video message – addressing taboos in women’s health
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## Medical Affairs News

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### Critical Leadership Conversations Course Registration

You are invited to participate in our first Critical Leadership Conversations course that will be delivered in a unique format to optimize learning, practice and reflection.

Facilitated by Dr. Curtis Johnston and Heather McMorrow, the format of this course will be a series of six one-hour virtual lectures and large group discussion sessions delivered over about 11 weeks where you will learn the skills necessary for planning, delivering, and concluding a critical conversation.

Register below:

Dates	Time	Registration Link
April 13	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
April 27	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
May 4	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
June 1	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
June 15	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
June 29	4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<a href="#">Register Here</a>

To find out more about participation expectations and benefits, please contact [lori-ann.paul@ahs.ca](mailto:lori-ann.paul@ahs.ca) for more information.

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### Celebrate Canadian Women Physicians’ Day

Created in 2021, Canadian Women Physicians’ Day (CWPD) recognizes women’s contributions and achievements in medicine. We celebrate CWPD on this date because it marks a significant milestone: It was on March 11, 1875, that Dr. Jennie Trout became the first woman licensed to practice medicine in Canada.

Ways that you can help celebrate CWPD:

- Say “Thank you!” to a woman physician
  - This can be as simple as a card or a short thank you note. Other ideas area available through [Employee Appreciation](#).
- Thank a woman physician on social media using the hashtag #WomenDocsCAN

Read the [March edition](#) of the MD Culture Shift newsletter to learn more.

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## Diagnostic Imaging Test Results Release to Patients is Changing

Starting March 20, diagnostic imaging (DI) test results from all sites in Alberta will be available to patients in My Personal Records and MyAHS Connect at the same time as they are sent to the ordering provider. An FAQ for providers is available [here](#).

Webinars are scheduled to provide information about this change.

- Real time release of DI results to patients: What this means to you
  - March 13, 12:30-1:30 p.m. [registration link](#)
  - March 16, 8-9 a.m. [registration link](#)

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## Get Access to Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)

AHS clinicians and those providing services on behalf of AHS and/or its subsidiaries can now access this training and certification using an AHS-specific code. Non-AHS providers can contact MoCA directly to inquire about free access to their training. Visit [Insite](#) to access the code.

Questions? See the [FAQ](#) or contact [Practice.Consultation@ahs.ca](mailto:Practice.Consultation@ahs.ca).

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## Register for the 12th Annual Strengthening Linkages Workshop

The Annual Family Physicians and Cancer Care Alberta: Strengthening Linkages Workshop on April 22 brings together family physicians, health professionals, and oncology specialists to discuss cancer-related topics. The purpose of the workshop is to provide family physicians and health professionals the opportunity to build linkages between oncology and primary care communities of practice.

The workshop is held virtually, via Zoom. Registration is required before April 18. Visit the [website](#) to learn more.

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## Still time to register for the HPSP Conference: Together in '23

It's not too late to register for the Health Professions Strategy & Practice Conference: Together in '23.

From March 13 to 17, hear from speakers that will ignite new perspectives and inspire you to connect more deeply with yourself and those around you.

Three new session topics have been added to the [schedule](#). Be sure to register for these sessions if you haven't already.

Can't make the sessions? Register anyway for limited-time access to the recordings.

Register, view the schedule or learn more on [Insite](#).

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### **Support for Physicians**

The [Physician & Family Support Program](#) (PFSP) continues to offer CONFIDENTIAL services on an individual basis that you can access by calling the 24-hour assistance line at 1-877-767-4637.

AHS also has resources aimed at offering support to physicians. These are available online:

- [Webinar](#)
  - [Resource Guide](#)
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### **Career Opportunities**

Practice opportunities across a broad range of specialties are available. All vacant AHS physician practice opportunities are posted on our physician recruitment website, [Doctor Jobs Alberta](#).

### **Highlighting Low FTE and Remote Opportunities**

- [Anesthesia Champion](#)
    - Grande Prairie Regional Hospital
    - 0.1 FTE
  - [Medical Leader, Family Medicine](#)
    - Leduc Community Hospital
    - 0.1 FTE
  - [Emergency Provincial Physician Trainer, Connect Care](#)
    - Remote
    - 0.2 FTE
  - [Ambulatory Provincial Physician Trainer, Connect Care](#)
    - Remote
    - 0.2 FTE
  - [Surgery Provincial Physician Trainer, Connect Care](#)
    - Remote
    - 0.2 FTE
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### **Additional Resources for Physicians:**

- [AHS Virtual Health](#)
- [CPSA's Physician Portal](#)
- [Cumming School of Medicine Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) Resources](#)
- [How to Access AHS Insite and Email](#)
- [IPC Emerging Issues](#)
- [MD News Digest](#)
- [Physician & Family Support Program](#) - 1-877-SOS-4MDS (767-4637)

- [Physician Wellness Educational Resources: Well Doc Alberta](#)
- [Support Services: Well Doc Alberta](#)

## From the AHS Update

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You can read the [full version online](#).

## Action on Our Priorities

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We are working to urgently address four key priorities. They are:

- Improving EMS response times.
- Decreasing emergency department wait times.
- Reducing wait times for surgeries.
- Improving patient flow throughout the healthcare continuum.

Much of this work is underway. We will continue to use this update to highlight actions being taken to urgently address our priorities.

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### **Improving patient flow throughout the healthcare continuum**

[Health Link launches new line for child development concerns](#)

[Acute care resources added to help AHS meet EMS hospital time target](#)

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### **Improving EMS response times**

[EMS activities identified to support patient transfers](#)

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### **Reducing wait times for surgeries**

[Surgical wait-list update](#)

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Work continues on other AHS priorities, including:

### **Mental Health and Addiction Recovery**

[Child, adolescent mental health centre opens Monday in Calgary](#)



Clockwise from left: Blackfoot Elder Sheila Penny Fox, Youth Advisory Council member Julia Caddy, and AHS Official Administrator Dr. John Cowell, Jason Copping, Minister of Health, and Nicholas Milliken, Minister of Mental Health and Addiction were on hand for the pre-opening of The Summit: Marian & Jim Sinneave Centre for Youth Resilience in Calgary.

## Your Wellness

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### **Personalized wellness resources available**

You can get personalized wellness support through PulseCheck, offered by the Employee and Family Assistance Program. ([more...](#))

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### **Register for meaning at work webinar on March 27**

Discuss meaning at work, hear inspiring stories from AHS staff and physicians, and discover helpful tools and resources. ([more...](#))

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### **Mental Wellness Moment — mental health and addiction**



Dr. Nicholas Mitchell – Provincial Medical Director of Addictions and Mental Health – discusses the link between mental health and addiction. ([more...](#))

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

## Latest News

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### COVID-19 status and cases in Alberta

Latest hospitalizations, ICU update and information on variants of concern and wastewater surveillance. [\(more...\)](#)

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### 90-Day Report highlights AHS progress

Last week, AHS Official Administrator Dr. John Cowell shared his 90-Day Report on ongoing progress and action in our four priority areas. [\(more...\)](#)

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### AHS recognized as a 2023 top employer

AHS has been named one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers and one of Alberta's Top Employers. [\(more...\)](#)



### Updates to continuous masking requirements in non-clinical areas

Continuous masking is now optional in areas with no direct patient contact. [\(more...\)](#)

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### Booster dose guidance updated

Bivalent Omicron-targeting mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are now the preferred booster products [\(more...\)](#)

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### Interim CEO video message – addressing taboos in women's health



We discuss the importance of women's health and how we can work to eliminate taboos some women experience when seeking care. [\(more...\)](#)

Watch Video 

Listen as a Podcast 

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## **Edmonton Oilers 50/50 supports Operation Frontline Impact**

Tickets are on sale for the Edmonton Oilers' Mega 50/50 raffle in support of Operation Frontline Impact and Wounded Warriors Canada. ([more...](#))

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This past Sunday, Alberta marked the third-year anniversary of the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in the province. This week's COVID-19 update shows the virus continues to take a toll on the health of Albertans, and I would like to thank all of you — those providing front-line care and those who support front-line care — for your overwhelming efforts and sacrifices over the past 36 months to care for patients and their families during this stressful and unprecedented time.

### **Dr. Francois Belanger**

Vice President, Quality & Chief Medical Officer

