In the January 31, 2019 Edition:

- Business Plan Meetings - coming to your clinics soon
- Questions and concerns from members
- Diabetes Update: More Combination Meds
- Patient surveys begin this week
- Accredited Eating Disorder CME
- Identifying and Treating Opioid Use Disorder in Primary Care
- Strengthening Linkages Workshop
- Calling all Emerging Medical Leaders
- January Opioids Newsletter
- Urology to join Specialist LINK
- Influenza Update
- Improved access to the Alberta Referral Directory
- PCN resources for physicians
- Connect with us
Business Plan Meetings - coming to your clinics soon

The team has completed our 2019-2022 Business Plan. As you know we are required to produce a Business Plan every three years to maintain our grant agreement with the Government. The new Business Plan has not changed much from the version that was reviewed by Dr. McKnight at the AGM, and the version that was sent to you in November for feedback. Thank you to all of the physicians who provided feedback. We learned a great deal and incorporated your feedback into this business plan. The plan has now been approved by the Board and Governance Committee.

As part of our legal agreement with Alberta Health, all members are required to sign the Business Plan. To accomplish this and ensure that you have an opportunity to ask questions, we are booking meetings with all PCN physicians. Thanks to all who have facilitated this so far!

In preparation for the meeting, you will be provided with a Business Plan Summary and the full Business Plan. If you would like a paper copy of the entire Business Plan, please email Micheline Nimmock.

Not sure if your clinic has booked a meeting? Please email Tessa Boutin to schedule a meeting. We are targeting to have all signatures prior to March 1st. If you are unable to meet with us, we will follow up with you to obtain your signature.

Questions and concerns from members

I've heard about staffing changes to our clinics. Where do I go for more information?
All physician members and their clinic managers should have received an email memo from Regan Paddington yesterday. If you did not receive an email, please email communications@hpcn.ca and we will rectify the situation promptly.

We created a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document which answers some questions.

---

**Diabetes Update: More Combination Meds**

Alberta Health Services is working on a new website for Diabetes Educators. One of the completed pages, and most used, is the Complete Diabetes Medication Table. This table has been updated and a few more combination diabetes medications were added.

Steglujan®
Sitagliptin (DPP-4) + Ertugliflozin (SGLT-2)

Segluromet®
Ertugliflozin (SGLT-2) + Metformin

---

**Patient surveys begin this week**

As part of our commitment to continual improvements to our services and service offerings, and to meet our requirements for the Government, the Highland PCN will be asking patients to complete a short survey. Further information about the surveys have been sent to each clinic via email. Surveys will be provided to the clinics this week and next week. We expect them to be completed by March 15, 2019.
If you have any questions, please direct them to Julia Arndt, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Evaluation.

---

**Studies and Workshops**

**Accredited Eating Disorder CME**

For all family physicians and multi-disciplinary team members.
Topics include: anorexia nervosa, binge eating disorder, and bulimia nervosa

**Thursday, February 7**

12:30p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Location: Best Western Plus Village Park Inn

[AGENDA AND REGISTRATION](#)  
(Limited capacity)
Registration fee: $50

This CME is in direct response to a recent survey that asked family physicians across the Calgary Zone about what psychiatric conditions they feel should be managed 'in the medical home'. Eating disorders was identified as an area requiring further education and training, specifically anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorder.

This program will be case based, highly interactive, and led by leading local experts. There will be a wine and cheese reception following the CME, courtesy of Silver Linings Foundation and Lionheart Foundation, two patient advocacy groups who support patients and families in the community who are touched by eating disorders.

Learn more about this accredited CME here.

This Group Learning program has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Alberta Chapter for up to 5 Mainpro+ credits.
Identifying and Treating Opioid Use Disorder in Primary Care

A new year brings a great training opportunity with practical tools for family physicians and their teams.

After this **free 3 hour workshop**, you can **immediately apply** the following in your practice (with confidence):

- identify patients with, or at risk of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
- engage in a conversation with your patients about OUD and treatment options
- initiate Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) like buprenorphine/naloxone (and know what to do if/when it goes wrong)
- prepare for and respond to relapse

*This Group Learning program has been certified by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Alberta Chapter for up to 3 Mainpro+ credits.*

**Location:**
The Glenmore Inn & Convention Centre  
1000 Glenmore Court SE  
Calgary, Alberta T2C 2E6

**Two dates to choose from:**

**Friday February 8, 2019**
5:30 pm to 8:45 pm - Workshop  
(Dinner available from 5:00 pm)
[Register for Friday here.](#)

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**
9:00 am - 12:15 pm - Workshop  
(Breakfast available from 8:30 am)
[Register for Saturday here.](#)
Strengthening Linkages Workshop

Alberta Health Services is pleased to announce its ninth annual *Family Physicians and CancerControl: Strengthening Linkages Workshop* held on **Saturday, April 13, 2019**.

More information is available on the *[Save the Date]* poster, or by contacting Anna Fabbroni at 780-643-7140.

---

Calling all Emerging Medical Leaders

Calling all Family Medicine Residents, Family Physicians in the First Five Years of Practice, and Emerging Medical Leaders!

For the first time, the Alberta Medical Association (AMA) and Primary Care Networks (PCNs) are inviting emerging family physician leaders to a networking and mentorship event at the Primary Care Network (PCN) *Strategic Leadership Forum*.

The FREE networking event will be held on **Friday, February 22, 2019 from 5:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.** at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel West Edmonton and will allow emerging physician leaders to discuss the greatest challenges and opportunities facing primary health care in Alberta. Interactive discussions will be hosted by seasoned medical and administrative leaders. This unique opportunity will allow emerging physician leaders to gain skills, connections and opportunities for continued leadership development.

The Primary Care Network Strategic Leadership Forum is a preeminent setting for PCN leaders to converge, share knowledge and discuss emerging issues concerning PCNs, their partners, PCN physicians and allied health professionals. The learning and tools gained empowers participants to implement and manage changes at the provincial, zonal and local levels.
Emerging physician leaders who are interested in attending the entire PCN Strategic Leadership Forum **February 22-23, 2019** and would like to stay connected with the AMA on future leadership activities will have an opportunity to apply for sponsored attendance. Please see the link below for details.

Space will be limited. [Register today!](#)

If you have any questions, please email [Emily Johnston](mailto:emily.johnston@ama.ca).

---

**Calgary Zone Initiatives**

---

### January Opioids Newsletter

The January edition of the [Calgary Zone monthly Opioid newsletter](https://us3.admin.mailchimp.com/campaigns/preview-content-html?id=3388825) is now available. Designed to be a family physician's guide to tools and resources, this monthly newsletter features videos, Q&A's, training workshops and more.

---

### Urology to join Specialist LINK

Alberta Health Services has partnered with the Southern Alberta Institute of Urology (SAIU) to offer a single point of entry for all new adult urology referrals. Effective immediately, all new referrals are to be directed to Urology Central Intake (UCI) for processing. Family physicians will have a convenient, one-stop resource to connect patients to urologists at the SAIU. UCI will assign patients to an appropriate urologist, based on an intake protocol and information provided by the referring physician.

The intake referral form and further details regarding access to urology services and referral guidelines can be found at:
Influenza Update

Here is the influenza update for this week:

- Influenza activity continues to decline is well below this season’s peak activity. As compared to a week ago, lab confirmed influenza cases are down 36% provincially overall;
- So far this influenza season, there have been 4,994 lab-confirmed influenza cases, including 1,091 hospitalized cases (the latter number includes 128 ICU admissions and 24 deaths);
- Provincially, so far this season there have been 36 confirmed influenza outbreaks across all facility types (15 in Calgary, 12 in North, 6 in Edmonton, 3 in Central, 0 in South), with 6 of those outbreaks occurring in acute care facilities (5 in Calgary and 1 in Edmonton) and 6 in long-term care (2 in Calgary, 3 in Edmonton, and 1 in Central).

Improved access to the Alberta Referral Directory

Login requirements to search and view referral information at [albertareferraldirectory.ca](http://albertareferraldirectory.ca) have recently been removed. It is now easier to
use the Alberta Referral Directory (ARD) and quickly select the right services for your patients.

The ARD is Alberta Health Services' designated system of record for referral information. The ARD eases the complexities of the referral process by eliminating the need to search, update and publish documents in multiple places throughout the province. The directory is comprised of service and consultant demographics, referral guidelines, referral forms and detailed instructions to facilitate referral acceptance without delay.

Having updated referral information in a single source increases the likelihood of sending and receiving appropriate referrals with completed investigations. The ARD can help to reduce work load burden, save time, reduce operating costs and improve patient satisfaction and safety.

Alberta Health Services, Alberta Health and the Alberta Medical Association developed the ARD in 2010 and it is now administered by Path to Care. This program has dedicated resources to support ongoing ARD user experience enhancements, quality assurance initiatives, education and customer service support.

---

**Additional Resources**

**PCN resources for physicians**

We have created this section in our bi-weekly Thursday newsletter and on our website under [hpcn.ca/resources](http://hpcn.ca/resources) for physician members as a tool to access frequently used Highland PCN forms.
Health Improvement Program (HIP) - Online Referral Form

Health Improvement Program (HIP) - Print Referral Form

Chronic Pain Referral Form

Specialty Health Team Referral Form

Physician Service Invoice

---

Connect with us

Feedback regarding our Thursday newsletter can be directed to our communications team at communications@hpcn.ca

---

This email was sent to << Test Email Address >>

why did I get this? unsubscribe from this list update subscription preferences

Highland Primary Care Network · 101 - 217 Centre Avenue SW · Airdrie, Alberta T4B 0A1 · Canada
