In this issue:

Section of Generalists in Mental Health
Dr. Monica Hill, President
monicaanddaniel@shaw.ca
- Alberta Health - Recruiting for Mental Health Review Panel Roster

Section of Addiction Medicine
Krishna Balachandra, President
Krishna.balachandra@albertahealthservices.ca
- Events
  - Section meeting/dinner
  - 11th Annual Addiction Day Conference

Section of General Psychiatry
Dr. Melanie Marsh-Joyal, President
president@albertapsych.org
- Education/Events

Section of Laboratory Physicians
Dr. Brinda Balachandra, President
aslp@shaw.ca
- Hold on Edmonton Lab Hub causes uncertainty

Section of General Practice
Dr. Darryl D. LaBuick, President
gppres@albertadoctors.org
- Call for Interest – Physician Learning Program
- Trans gender health care practice tools released by TOP
- Tarrant Scholarship – Application deadline May 31
- SGP Bulletin(s) – April 15 – Name change feedback

Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Dr. Duncan J. McCubbin, President
dmccubpc@telus.net
- Section Update

Section of Generalists in Mental Health
Mental Health Review Panel Roster
Alberta Health is recruiting for physician and psychiatrist members to serve on the Mental Health Review Panel Roster, starting in fall, 2020.

The roster is an adjudicative body that considers applications pertaining to: cancellation of admission and renewal certificates for patients detained in designated facilities; return of a patient to a correctional facility after treatment; cancellation of community treatment orders; patient competence to make treatment decisions; and administration of treatment to patients who object to it under the Mental Health Act.

Physician posting
Psychiatrist posting

(EXTENDED) Application deadline: August 5

Section of Addiction Medicine

Events

Section of Addiction Medicine meeting/dinner
When: Thursday, June 6
Where: south Edmonton
(More event information to follow)

11th Annual Addiction Day Conference  (www.addictionday.ca)
When: Friday, June 7
Where: Executive Royal Inn, Edmonton International Airport
About the conference | Registration

Section of General Psychiatry
Virtual Learning Journey: Opioid Dependency Treatment

Join Dr. Rob Tanguay, Dr. Laura Evans and Dr. Krishna Balachandra as they take you on a Virtual Learning Journey through Opioid Dependency Treatment, with the following series of case presentation:

May 17        iOAT (IV) SROM
June 21       How do I taper my patient to completion of OAT?

These three-hour sessions (9 a.m. - noon) will give you an opportunity to learn from experts across the province about *Opiate Use Disorder (OUD) and **Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) through didactic presentations, de-identified case discussions, and Q&A periods.

Join via livestream: [https://livestream.com/accounts/3923953/events/8457082](https://livestream.com/accounts/3923953/events/8457082) (Note: Link active at time of session)

2019 Psychiatry Online Literature Review Course

**When:** February 4 - May 26
**Registration** is now open

**‘Highlights of 2018’**

The focus of the 2019 POLRC is 'Highlights of 2018'. As in previous years, the subject matter is seminal articles (published in 2018) from the areas of General Psychiatry, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Geriatric Psychiatry and Psychotherapy.

For more information:

POLRC brochure
POLRC course information and to register

Contact:

Thomas.raedler@ahs.ca
Thomas J Raedler, MD
Mathison Centre for Mental Health Research & Education - Hotchkiss Brain Institute
Department of Psychiatry, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

Event

20th Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Care Conference
**2019 Theme:** Concurrent Disorders
**When:** May 10-11

**Where:** Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel, 7551 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, B.C.

Section of Laboratory Physicians
‘Hold’ on Edmonton Lab Hub causes uncertainty

The recent provincial election was a reminder that health care is never far from the minds of politicians and every day Albertans alike.

It was also a reminder of how vulnerable some parts of the health care system are compared to others. The laboratory is one such vulnerable area. It is shrouded in myth, mystery and misinformation and so is more likely to be a victim of the whims of whomever is in charge. But the reality is that it is a complex and fast-moving pillar of medicine that cannot be reduced to a soundbite.

Laboratory physicians and the laboratory are the oil that keeps the machine of medicine running. The medical laboratories across the province are in serious need of investment. We are running out of space, equipment, technology and the staff to meet the tidal wave of change hitting our shores.

The formation of the Alberta Public Laboratories and infrastructure projects such as the Edmonton Lab Hub are supposed to address these serious issues. With the recent announcement of a ‘hold’ on the Edmonton Lab Hub project, the laboratory is yet again thrown into a state of disarray and uncertainty.

Physicians cannot put Patients First without the laboratory. We need the power of all physicians to become champions of the laboratory and ensure that the investment is made. We need our sisters and brothers of the AMA to advocate for the success, viability and longevity of the laboratory.

Dr. Brinda Balachandra
President, Section of Laboratory Physicians
President, Alberta Society of Laboratory Physicians

Section of General Practice
Call for Interest

Physician Practice Improvement - Recruiting 6-7 family physicians for Clinical Review Team

Dear Colleagues,

The Physician Learning Program, in collaboration with the Health Quality Council of Alberta, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Public Laboratories and the Alberta College of Family Physicians is leading a Physician Practice Improvement initiative regarding the use of laboratory services by family physicians.

We have created a Clinical Review Team with expertise in the field to develop individualized practice reports that will appear on the HQCA website and ultimately be included in the regular Physician Panel Reporting.

To assist in report design and development we are recruiting 6-7 family physicians to serve on a Clinical Review Team.
Transgender health care practice tools released by TOP

Towards Optimized Practice and Alberta Health have partnered with experts from Alberta’s trans health care community to adapt existing Canadian practice tools to the Alberta environment and address six critical clinical presentations.

The tools were developed by primary care providers, psychiatrists, endocrinologist and a wide range of surgical specialists to provide guidance for primary care providers who see themselves as non-experts in trans health care.

Key topics include:

- Tips on how to communicate respectfully with trans patients
- How to assess and support a patient who presents with possible gender dysphoria
- Key steps for the primary care provider to support trans patients before and after gender affirming chest or bottom surgery

Resources

Trans health care tools
TOP’s CPGs and related tools and resources
Join our CPG subscription list

Follow us on Twitter @TOP_AB
Visit us on YouTube TOPABDoctors [Watch] Subscribe
The 2019 Tarrant Scholarship opportunity is here!

Medical students can apply; practicing physicians can give back through donations

The Section of Rural Medicine is accepting applications for the 2019 Tarrant Scholarship, named in honor of the late Dr. Michael Tarrant, a dedicated family physician and champion of rural medicine undergraduate education.

The Tarrant Scholarship serves as a well-received and highly valued incentive for qualified third-year medical students to focus their undergraduate studies (and ultimately their careers) on rural medicine.

The Tarrant Scholarship is presented every fall to third-year medical students from University of Alberta and University of Calgary who demonstrate a strong interest in and dedication to rural medicine during their undergraduate years.

Since its inception in 2004, the Tarrant Scholarship has been awarded to 37 medical students and has provided over $400,000 in awards.

**Medical students can apply**

Medical students are eligible to apply for the scholarship if they meet the following criteria:

- Are a U of A or U of C medical student in clerkship in 2019.
- Are keenly interested in building a career in rural medicine in Alberta.
- Demonstrate a dedicated to rural medicine in your undergraduate work.

Physicians can donate to support the scholarship and rural medicine

In the past, SRM has partnered with the Canadian Medical Foundation and the AMA to enable members to contribute on a charitable basis to the Tarrant Scholarship program. A great response was received. The section would like to thank all who donated. Your contributions enabled the continuation of this important scholarship.

The section encourages you once again to consider a tax-deductible donation to help ensure the continued future of the Tarrant Scholarship as it works to sustain the educational development of future rural physicians.

**Application form and deadline**

Find out more about the Tarrant Scholarship and download the 2019 Tarrant Scholarship application form.

**Application deadline:** May 31
Name change feedback

Thank you to all who responded to the Bulletin announcing the proposed name change from Section of General Practice to Section of Family Medicine. We received a great deal of feedback! For the most part, a strong majority are in favour of the name change. … more

Section of Obstetrics and Gynecology