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## March 2023

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### General News

#### **AMA launches public information program in advance of the coming provincial election**

Last week, the AMA launched a public information program to help ensure that health care remains front and center for Albertans in the coming provincial election. There are seven key issues identified by physicians and patients through our online patient communities as well as our 2022 [Care Deficit Assessment Series](#). Issues were vetted with the Joint Physician Advocacy Committee (JPAC) and the Representative Forum.

The first topic was [Care of the Elderly](#) and this week we turn our attention to [Health Human Resources](#). We will launch a new topic each week, updating our [Handle With Care](#) materials as we go. Each issue has an abstract/summary and two or three questions for

candidates and parties. The goal is to help Albertans consider their own expectations from the health care system so they can make an informed choice.

### **Diagnostic imaging reports available online for patients through My Personal Records**

As of March 20, 2023, Albertans are now able to view diagnostic imaging reports in MyHealth Records (MHR), the single access point for Albertans' personal health information. These reports will be viewable through the My Personal Records (MPR) application. This change was made to provide Albertans with more access to their health information, and as an additional safety net for patient care within the system.

Diagnostic imaging reports from all Alberta Health Services diagnostic imaging facilities and most community diagnostic imaging facilities are included in MPR. Now that the changes are in place, users are able to see reports from that date moving forward.

Patients now have immediate access to more of their own information. Providers may notice some changes in their patterns of work and may need to consider giving patients more information about the implications of different results when initially ordering a procedure. Physicians and other providers will continue to have access to reports through their usual channels, including Alberta Netcare.

To support Albertans, Alberta has created the MyHealth.Alberta web site, a trusted source of health information. To access click on the link [MyHealth.Alberta.ca](https://myhealth.alberta.ca) or type the URL <http://myhealth.alberta.ca>. MyHealth Records Support is available at 1-844-401-4016, 24 hours daily. Technical assistance is available between 8:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (MT), Monday to Friday, but a connection to 811 for health-related inquiries, including test results, is available at all times.

For more information about diagnostic imaging reports online, check out the [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

## **Family Medicine**

### **Call for Nominations for SFM Outstanding Service Award**

Each year, the Section of Family Medicine bestows the SFM Outstanding Service Award to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to promoting and enhancing primary care in Alberta. Nominations for the award are currently being accepted. Each nomination must be submitted in writing by active/voting members of the SFM and accompanied by a detailed letter of support outlining the reasons for considering the candidate.

The SFM Executive Committee will make its decision on the final recipient in May and the award will be presented at the SFM's Annual General Meeting in September. The recipient will be recognized in the *SFM Bulletin and AMA Section News*.

**The deadline for this year's nominations for the SFM Outstanding Service Award is 4 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2023.**

Please submit your nominations by email to [sfmpres@albertadoctors.org](mailto:sfmpres@albertadoctors.org).

To reach the Section of Family Medicine Acting President, Dr. Jon Hilner, please email [sfmpres@albertadoctors.org](mailto:sfmpres@albertadoctors.org)

## **General Surgery**

**SAVE THE DATE – AAGS Review in the Rockies/Section of General Surgery AGM**

**Dates:** November 3, 4 & 5, 2023

**Location:** Banff Springs Hotel

Join us again this year for a great academic program and AGM. Focuses include Trauma and Breast Updates, Mountaineering, Acute General Surgery and additional topics.

To reach the Section of General Surgery, President, Dr. Anthony Gomes, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

## Generalists in Mental Health

### Psychiatric Quarterly Updates: Perinatal Mental Health

**Date:** May 12, 2023

**Time:** 12:55 – 4:15 p.m.

**Location:** online

The purpose of the PQU: Perinatal Mental Health Conference is to disseminate knowledge about perinatal mental health challenges. The main objective of this conference is to provide current information about the identification, prevention, and intervention of mental health disorders in pregnancy and postpartum.

### Learning Objectives

At the end of this course, learners will be equipped to:

- Increase awareness of trauma-informed care by identifying practical communication, behavioural and procedural interventions that will integrate trauma-informed practice into routine perinatal care.
- Describe best practices and considerations for prescribing psychotropic medications beyond SSRIs and SNRIs in the perinatal population.
- List local community resources for perinatal mental health and how to access them.

### CME accreditation

This one-credit-per-hour Group Learning program meets the certification criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been certified by the University of Calgary Office of Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development for up to 3.25 Mainpro+® credits.

This activity is an Accredited Self-Assessment Program (Section 3) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and approved by the University of Calgary Office of Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development. You may claim a maximum of 3.25 hours (credits are automatically calculated).

For more information on fees and to register, please visit the [event website](#)

To reach the Section of Generalists in Mental Health, Past President, Dr. Monica Hill, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

## Pediatrics

### Pediatrics Fees

The Executive is looking for suggestions from section members about fees that they would like the section to review and possibly advocate on when it comes to possible fee changes. Please email Dr. Sam Wong at [sectionservices@albertadoctors.org](mailto:sectionservices@albertadoctors.org) with your suggestions and details on why the fee code you list needs to be reassessed for change.

To reach the Section of Pediatrics President, Dr. Sam Wong, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

## Rural Medicine

### 2023 Tarrant Scholarship Applications

The Section of Rural Medicine is now accepting applications for the 2023 Tarrant Scholarship!

Are you doing a third-year clerkship in 2023 through the University of Alberta or the University of Calgary? Do you have a particular interest in pursuing studies and career development in rural medicine? If so, you can [apply now for the Tarrant Scholarship!](#)

The Tarrant Scholarship provides funds for selected third-year medical students from the U of A and U of C who demonstrate a strong interest in developing their career in rural medicine. It is bestowed each year by the Alberta Medical Association's Section of Rural Medicine.

Established in 2004, the scholarship honors the late Dr. Michael Tarrant, a family physician and champion of rural medical undergraduate education and the development of physicians dedicated to delivering health care in rural Alberta.

#### You're eligible to apply if you:

- Are a University of Alberta or University of Calgary medical student in clerkship in 2023
- Are keenly interested in building a career in rural medicine in Alberta
- Have a strong connection to rural Alberta or another rural area
- Demonstrate a dedication to rural medicine in your undergraduate work
- Demonstrate a financial need (considered after the above criteria are assessed)

For more information, visit the [Tarrant Scholarship webpage](#).

If you have any questions or would like more information, please email: [srmpres@albertadoctors.org](mailto:srmpres@albertadoctors.org).

**The application deadline is June 1, 2023. Apply today! [Download the 2023 application form.](#)**

To reach the Section of Rural Medicine President, Dr. Samantha Myhr, please email [srmpres@albertadoctors.org](mailto:srmpres@albertadoctors.org).



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