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General News

Working with the new government

The AMA has identified the critical issues facing our profession with the new Minister of Health, particularly the crisis in family medicine and health human resources.

We are moving as quickly as possible to engage with government on these matters and to advance implementation of our agreement.

Micro-aggression training for physicians launches

Over the past few months, the AMA, the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta and Alberta Health Services have collaborated on a new online training course for Alberta's physicians on micro-aggressions.

The course launched on June 14 and is available to all regulated members through the [myCPSA virtual learning platform](#).

Connect Care surveys: results now available

The Specialty Care Alliance and Alberta Health Services recently conducted surveys to gauge information about physician/clinician satisfaction with Connect Care.

The results of both surveys are now available for review:

- [AMA Specialty Care Alliance Connect Care Survey](#)
- [AHS Connect Care User Satisfaction Survey](#)

A town hall meeting will be held in September 2023 to provide more information, receive feedback and direct further improvements. More details will be shared with members in August.

Thank a colleague! JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program

The JPAC Shine On Gratitude Program gives physicians the opportunity to thank their colleagues for their acts of kindness, big and small. The process is as quick and easy as sending an email.

Complete the [submission form](#) and we will make sure the message gets to the person you want to express your appreciation to.

Chronic Pain

6th Annual Canadian Global Care Pain Walk/Run

Join the Canadian Global Care Pain Walk/Run on July 30 at Edworthy Park!

Dr. Yasmin Majeed's Annual CGC Pain Walk/Run has turned into a sensation. The Chronic Pain Centre team is actively participating to support this event. The goal is to create awareness about chronic pain and raise funds for our vulnerable chronic pain patients.

What is Canadian Global Care?

Canadians for Global Care Society was founded in 2009 by Dr. Yasmin Majeed. This is a Calgary-based charity, with 0% administration costs. They are committed to improving the health and well being of the underprivileged populations locally and globally by creating health awareness.

You can visit the website www.canadianglobalcare.com for more information.

Why the CGC Pain Run?

One in five Canadians suffers from chronic pain. Chronic pain affects the ability of people to function effectively. They struggle with food insecurity and have significant financial stressors. Through this initiative, Canadian Global Care Society strives to create awareness and collect funds for this marginalized population. This is our 6th Annual Pain Walk/Run. Every year we collect thousands of dollars which are then donated to the Calgary Health Trust. All donations are kindly turned into gift cards/grocery coupons for our marginalized and deserving chronic

pain patients.

We can all play a part in making this invisible suffering **visible**. Supporting people suffering from Chronic Pain will go a long way in alleviating suffering. Join us for a fun family event for a worthy cause!

To reach the Section of Chronic Pain President, Dr. Arun Gupta, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Emergency Medicine

Updates

Good Faith Billings - The government is close to finalizing their submission to us and we will hopefully receive it in the next two to three weeks. We will then review the submission and determine if it is acceptable. The last submission had too many exclusions and would have been too hard to implement. Once we have received it, we will update section members.

ANDI - We anticipate we will be in the middle section for adjusted net daily income based on hours worked. We would not be adversely affected; however, we will also not receive a larger allocation either. We are pushing for an increase in after-hours modifiers as less and less specialties want to perform after-hours work in the hospitals.

ED Flow - We have pushed the government on improving our flow of patients to the wards and requested metrics be posted on time to consult to admission and average percentage of EIP's in the departments. EIP's peaked at 40% last fall and are currently sitting at 30%. Staffing challenges remain with respect to nursing and ancillary staff.

To reach the Section of Emergency Medicine President, Dr. Arun Abbi, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

General Surgery

Save the date – AAGS Review in the Rockies/Section of General Surgery AGM

Dates: November 3, 4 and 5

Location: Banff Springs Hotel

Guest speaker: Sharon Wood, the first North American woman to climb Mt. Everest!

Registration (opens early May): <https://www.aags.ca/>

Join us again this year for a great academic program and AGM. Focuses will include trauma updates, breast cancer updates, mountaineering, acute general surgery and additional topics.

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

Neurology

Save the date – Section of Neurology AGM

Dates: November 10 - 12

Location: Banff Springs Hotel

Further information: <https://sites.google.com/view/ama-section-of-neurology/home>

The section would like to thank Dr. Scott Wilson for his many years of work as section president. Dr. Wilson has been elected to the AMA Board of Directors and Dr. Kashmere will

serve as interim section president until the Annual General Meeting in November. We encourage all section members to become involved in the neurology executive.

To reach the Section of Neurology Interim President, Dr. Jodi Kashmere, please email [AMA Section Services](#).

Pediatrics

Accessing lab investigations

The Section of Pediatrics, with the support of the Section of Laboratory Medicine, the Section of Hospital Pediatrics at the children's hospitals, the Section of Community Pediatrics in both Calgary and Edmonton and many other physicians [have written a letter](#) to AHS highlighting the challenges that pediatric patients are facing when it comes to accessing lab investigations across the province, but especially in Calgary. We have asked for:

- Improved access and blocked pediatric appointment times.
- Identified and publicized pediatric friendly lab sites.
- Implementation of a commitment to improved patient comfort.
- Minimized wait times for pediatric patients.

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



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