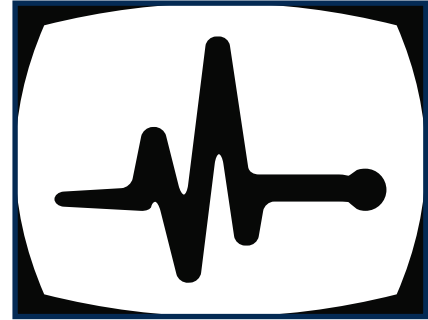


Alberta's Strategic Clinical Networks

Emergency Clinical Policy Review

The Goal

The Emergency Strategic Clinical Network (ESCN) Clinical Policy Working Group was formed in April 2014 to standardize emergency care guidelines and protocols across the emergency department (ED) and urgent care centres (UCCs) in Alberta Health Services. EDs and UCCs in the previous health care regions had each developed their own guidelines, policies and protocols. The project will create one provincial standard so patients receive the same emergency care no matter where they are in the province.



The Process

Nearly 1200 documents from the previous health care regions were identified and reviewed. The working group discovered widespread duplication because, in many cases, each of the five health zones had developed their own documents. Where possible, the ESCN will harmonize guidelines, policies and protocols to one provincial standard.

The Outcome

The first four major guidelines and protocols to be standardized are ready for approval. Once endorsed by operational leadership, and approved by ESCN executive, each guideline and protocol will be adopted across the province to support best-practice in all EDs and UCCs

1. Assessment and Reassessment of Patients in EDs and UCCs
2. Suspected Ischemic Chest Pain
3. Acetaminophen for Treatment of Pain and/or Discomfort Due to a Fever
4. Ibuprofen for the Treatment of Pediatric Patients who are Experiencing Pain or Fever

The Team

The working group has members representing emergency care from across the province which includes rural, small urban and large urban areas. This project is led by the ESCN.