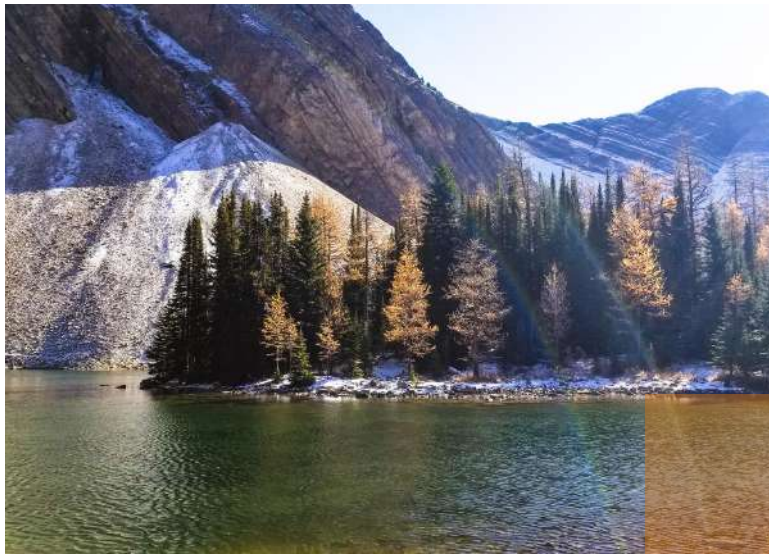


INPHARMATION UPDATE

Canadian Society of
Hospital Pharmacists
Alberta Branch



Société canadienne des
pharmaciens d'hôpitaux



November 2021

Issue 52

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President's Message



Dear members and supporters,

With fall upon us, we are happy to release our final edition of the Inpharmation Newsletter for 2021, as well as welcome in a new CSHP Alberta Branch Council! It feels fitting to use this space to reflect on and celebrate what we have achieved with CSHP over the past year and then give a sneak peek of what we have planned for all our members and supporters in this coming year.

Despite not being able to gather in person for the annual Banff Seminar this year, we had the unique opportunity to gather virtually with the nation-wide CSHP Together Conference. This eight day online conference combined the Banff Seminar, the Professional Practice Conference (PPC), and the Harrison Pharmacy Management Seminar and brought together nearly 1000 CSHP members from across the country. Many of our own Alberta Branch members were instrumental in making this a success, and we are looking forward to an even bigger event when CSHP hosts the second Together Conference in January-February 2022.

Locally, our own Branch hosted several educational events throughout the year, culminating with our CSHP Alberta Branch Symposium. Our Education Committee invited us all to “fill our cups” and take some time to recharge with our colleagues. Our other CSHP councillors and committee members were also hard at work throughout the year; CSHP volunteers put in countless hours to create exciting opportunities and resources for all our members and supporters. Some highlights include the very well received EBM reviews developed by the Research Committee and another successful Pharmacy Awareness Month hosted by our PAM Committee. We cannot thank our volunteers enough, and we are looking forward to building off their work as we plan our activities for the next year.

We plan to continue focusing on providing high value and sustainable benefits to all our members, from our educational content to our advocacy for hospital pharmacists and technicians. In the coming months, you will learn more about our new mentorship program, which will connect members with mentors in various areas. This program will start with those interested in research and will continue to expand to other areas of pharmacy practice. We are also hard at work to prepare valuable educational opportunities such as our session on the management of depression later this month. Additionally, we will be taking time to celebrate our members from across the province – watch for our member spotlight feature on social media over the next year.

We as a Society were able to accomplish much in 2021, and we are ready to continue building a community where our members and supporters can thrive. We have a lot in store and we are eager to create some exciting opportunities for you this upcoming year!

Joshua Torrance

President, External Portfolio
CSHP Alberta Branch
joshua.torrance@ahs.ca

CSHP AB Branch: Who's Who?

We asked CSHP AB Council Members, "Why am I a part of CSHP?"



President

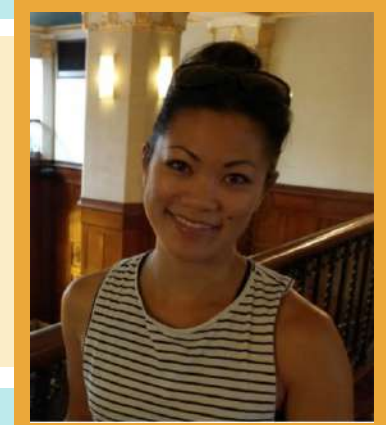
Joshua Torrance

I am part of CSHP because it represents a community who want to push and advance the profession. CSHP gives me an opportunity to advocate for what pharmacists can do for patients and society as a whole. It also provides opportunities for pharmacists everywhere to achieve more and reach their full potential.

Past-President

Lesley Beique

It's all about the community! The CSHP community has fostered friendships and provided connections to people across the country. It has supported me as I've navigated career turns and has helped me grow. The people in this community are amazing - I love working with like-minded people and am so grateful to be a part of it!



President-Elect

Cathy Biggs

I choose to be part of CSHP because I want to be part of an organization that advocates, educates and promotes the pharmacy profession.



Treasurer

Priya Samuel

I am excited to be volunteering with CSHP AB for another year! As a CSHP member I am able to meet and collaborate with colleagues across the province and country. I also love that, through CSHP, I can help advocate for, and shape, the future of pharmacy.



Secretary

Alex Bartman

I am a part of CSHP because I enjoy being able to meet colleagues from across the province as well as volunteer with an organization that supports and advocates for Hospital Pharmacists. I also enjoy the many opportunities CSHP offers its members including the hospital residency program and conferences/other education events.



CSHP AB Branch: Who's Who?

Education Chair

Ginny Cummings

I love that CSHP provides opportunities for pharmacists to gain leadership experience by volunteering for one of the many active committees. CSHP volunteers work hard to plan educational events, collaborate with other groups and, well, we have a little fun too! I am looking forward to the return of in-person networking – hopefully soon!



Communications Chair

Hazal Babadagli

I am part of CSHP because I get to work with a great community of like-minded and hard-working pharmacists who advocate for the profession. Hospital pharmacy practice has come a long way and it will continue to advance through the initiatives we take. CSHP is a great organization that provides leadership and contributes to the advancement of hospital practice, all the while supporting pharmacists across the country. The friendships I have made with other volunteers through this process have been incredibly meaningful!



Membership Committee

Stacey Ginther

I am part of CSHP because it's important as a profession that we support organizations that enable us to have a unified voice for progressing practice forward. CSHP is also an important advocacy group and relationship builder. To quote Peloton "Together we go far."



Research Chair

Bernadette Chevalier

I first joined CSHP in the early 90's after an amazing summer job experience with an enthusiastic mentor who introduced me to the world of hospital pharmacy. I decided to join as a Dalhousie pharmacy student, because I wanted to be part of an organization that focused on hospital pharmacy practice. I wanted to be connected to like-minded pharmacists country wide, take advantage of the great learning opportunities, for the professional camaraderie, and to get involved in our local chapter. These same reasons kept me active as a CSHP NS Branch member for many years including time on Council and later as a National Advocacy Chair. I kept my membership while in Australia completing my PhD, and took part in CSHP'S Excellence in Pharmacy program while down under. After returning to Canada as a seasoned pharmacist and researcher, I wanted to contribute to the AB Branch with my new skills and experience – so I joined the Research Committee.



CSHP AB Branch: Who's Who?

Awards Chair

Alex McGrath

I am part of CSHP because I think it is important to be involved in advocating for our profession and in helping to shape its future direction. Plus I get to meet and learn from many like-minded people!



Branch Delegate

Mary Gunther

I love the camaraderie and community that comes from working with pharmacists from across the country. It's always so cool to hear about what others are doing, and to think about what we can learn from their experience.



Banff Chair

Alice Chan

Truly for the advocacy, relationships and sense of community. Although hospital pharmacy is a small group compared to community, there is still quite a wide variation across sites, zones and provinces. Being a part of CSHP lets me tap into this large pool of expertise.



Pharmacy Awareness Month Chair

Pawan Gill

I am really excited to be the chair of the Pharmacy Awareness Month (PAM) Committee as it's an opportunity to connect and engage with others inter- and intraprofessionally. I'm hoping to put my photography and marketing interests to use to advocate for our profession with all the incredible volunteers on the PAM committee. I enjoy challenging myself and trying new things.



UofA Student Representative

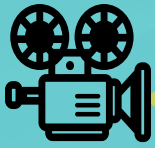
Carolina Ghio

I am part of CSHP because it gives students an opportunity to advance their clinical knowledge, build their careers, and develop new interests.

CSHP makes me feel connected to the profession by allowing me to explore pharmacy practice in various collaborative healthcare settings.

Being a CSHP student member inspires futures rich in learning, leadership, and patient-centered practices.





CABS 2021: The Highlight Reel

We were pleased to have such a great turnout for the CSHP Alberta Branch Symposium (CABS) on October 1st and 2nd. Our second branch virtual education event hosted over 100 attendees each day, including not only Alberta members, but also CSHP members from across the country.

This year's conference theme "**Fill Your Cup**" was highlighted throughout the presentations, including the Friday keynote address where Dr. Jillian Horton gave us all hope that we can survive Health Care Worker burnout. Friday evening was co-hosted with the Pharmacy Technician Society of Alberta (PTSA) and also included a fun cocktail video, trivia and the CSHP AB Award Ceremony.

Saturday morning's conference was jam-packed full of 2 concurrent streams of speakers! In addition to engaging topics on Trauma Informed Care, Qualitative Research, and Seamless Care, our virtual format also allowed for poster presentations from members of our local research community, as well as sponsorship stretch breaks. If you missed the conference, watch the CSHP AB website - links to speaker handouts and recordings will be posted there!



Until we are able to again plan to meet in person (hopefully CABS 2022 in Calgary!), we look forward to offering CSHP Alberta Branch members free virtual education events throughout 2022.

Stay tuned for the announcement of our Blue Christmas themed event in early December!

- The Education Committee -



CSHP AB gratefully acknowledges our Sponsors for their continued financial support of our events:

Platinum sponsor: Paladin Labs

Gold sponsors: Sterinova Inc, Pfizer, Pendopharm, Otsuka Canada, Novartis

Silver sponsors: North West Telepharmacy Solutions, Sterimax Inc, Fresenius Kabi, UCB, HLS Therapeutics





CSHP AB Branch Award Winners



Past President Award

Sponsored by Frensius Kabi

Lesley Beique

The 2020-2021 CSHP AB Branch Council would like to thank Lesley for being our pandemic president and making it look easy. She has always been able to find ways to provide value, community, and advocacy for our members, while still balancing the need to ensure CSHP AB remains sustainable. She never shied away from tackling the big problems that CSHP or the profession was facing and has been an excellent leader and mentor to all of us during her time as president. We are lucky we get to keep her for one more year in the past president role and look forward to her continued involvement in CSHP for years to come. Congratulations Lesley on having the honor of becoming a Past President of our local CSHP branch.



Mentorship Award

Sacha Romanchuk

The purpose of this award is to recognize members who have made significant contributions to the profession of pharmacy through teaching or mentorship in hospital practice. Sacha works at the Stollery Hospital with a specialty in pediatric medicine and is a supportive, open and inspiring mentor to both her students and her colleagues. She understands the importance of encouraging learners to begin to trust themselves and their process and her patience and support are instrumental in curating an educational experience that instills lifelong skills for practice.

Nominators: Navjot Singh & Marcel Romanick



Donna Pipa Meritorious Service Award

Sponsored by Frensius Kabi

Lesley Beique

This award is presented to a member of the CSHP AB Branch in recognition of exceptional contributions to CSHP at the branch level. Lesley has been an active member within the CSHP AB Branch for her entire career and has contributed her time and passion for pharmacy to each role she has held along the way. She served on the Educational Services Committee from 2011 - 2017, then switched to the position of Communications Chair from 2017 - 2019. She has also just completed a term as CSHP AB Branch President and will serve as Past President in the year to come. There is no other word that defines Lesley better than "Superstar". She is a role model that is infinitely likeable, hardworking, caring, smart and above all, dedicated to her staff, patient care and the profession as a whole.

Nominators: Cheryl Hill & Alexandra Charlton



CSHP AB Branch Award Winners

Practitioner Award Alexander Lee

This award is presented to a pharmacist in recognition of significant contributions to hospital pharmacy practice through exceptional patient care. Alexander works in the ICU at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and demonstrates exemplary patient care by tirelessly striving to ensure his critical care patients receive the best possible pharmacotherapy. He is a strong proponent of antimicrobial stewardship and recently completed a research project and poster on vancomycin dosing in the ICU along with an intensive care physician colleague. Further, Alexander consistently demonstrates a willingness to educate his colleagues as demonstrated by his creation and regular updating of a COVID-19 literature repository for the RAH pharmacy department. Alexander also is a regular preceptor, taking both a CSHP resident and a University of Alberta PharmD student in the past year.



Pharmacy Practice Residency Research Award

Sponsored by Pfizer

Jordan Kelly

The Pharmacy Practice Residency Award is awarded to a hospital pharmacy resident, whose major project is judged to be the most deserving in terms of representing a significant innovation, practical application and/or development in an institutional pharmacy practice setting. This year the award goes to Jordan Kelly for his research project *Current UTI Antibiotic Prescribing Practices in a Pediatric Emergency Department: Is it a problem worth Cefix-ing?*

CSHP Future Professional Award

Igor Zoric

This award recognizes one pharmacy student from each of the Western Branch Faculties of Pharmacy, who displays student professionalism and is viewed as a future leader. Igor graduated from the U of A PharmD program in 2021 and is currently a CSHP pharmacy resident! Not only does he now have a pharmacy degree but he also holds a masters in public health and a bachelor of science degree. He has already accomplished much as a new pharmacy practitioner; he has been active in both research and as a community volunteer, and is very deserving of this award. We look forward to seeing what he continues to accomplish throughout his career.



CSHP AB Branch Award Winners



Residency Preceptors of the Year Sponsored by Fresenius Kabi



This award recognizes pharmacy residency preceptors, who have served as role models and excelled in the training of residents.

Winners: **Alexander Lee & Luiza Radu**

Residents of the Year Sponsored by Fresenius Kabi



This award recognizes the top residents based upon the residents' overall years work.

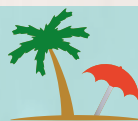
Winners: **Stephanie Metzger & Jordan Kelly**

CABS 2021 Research Poster Winners

Kosha Kantharia who presented "Describing the Alberta lymphoma population with a history of immunosuppressive therapy: a retrospective chart review."

Jessica Kuntz for her work on the "Incidence of new depressive episode after initiating metformin therapy for type 2 diabetes".

Click on their *name* to view the presentation!



Fresenius Kabi Travel Grant

These annual grants are provided to enable members or students to seek further education relevant to their pharmacy practice. Winners are randomly drawn from application forms submitted.

Recipients: **Sarah Drost, Xinqi Ji, Shanna Lawrence, Deana Sabuda, Rhonda Shkrobot**

2021 Pharmacy Technician Society of Alberta Award Winners

Professionalism Award: Jennifer Tuck

Technician of the Year Award: Stephanie Molyneaux



Recognition Awards 2021



Theme: "Essential and Ahead of the Wave"

Tania Mysak, Dana Lyons, Michelle MacDonald, Anthony Kapelke, Morgan Schultz, Karen Zurek, Jackson Stewart, Cecilia Lau, Hiromi Koriyama, Tammy White, Tracey Lawson, Ann Thompson, Jill Hall, Michelle MacDonald, Rene Breault, Teri Charrois and Stephanie Molyneaux



2021 CSHP AB Dissemination Grant Monica Zolezzi

College of Pharmacy, Qatar University in Doha, Qatar

This grant went towards publication costs for her team's paper, "Effect of Pharmacogenetic-Based Decision Support Tools in Improving Depression Outcomes: A Systematic Review".

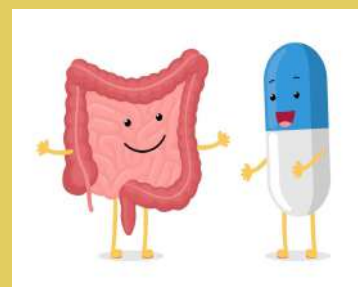
CSHP AB Research: Scientific Sessions

In the era of social media, circulating newly published papers allows for greater exposure and can lead to an increased number of citations for papers over time. The CSHP AB Research Committee will continue highlighting various articles published by YOU throughout the next year.

If you are aware of any recent publications or contributed to a published piece, please send the articles to:
cshpabresearch@gmail.com

Osmolality of Medications Administered in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Gauging the gut: Hyperosmolar oral products are associated with gastrointestinal complications in neonates including of necrotizing enterocolitis. Check out this osmolality analysis of 23 common medications by AB members **Amanda Leong, Alison Gordon & Deonne Dersch-Mills**.

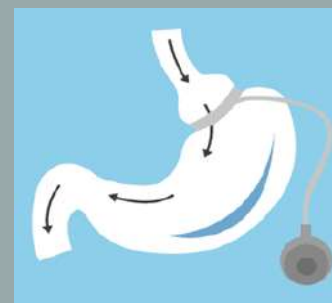


Pharmacist-led optimization of heart failure medications: A Systematic Review

The Art of Heart Failure: **Emily Cowley, Sheri Koshman** and colleagues examined the impact of advanced pharmacist practice activities within outpatient heart function clinics.

Medication Management and Pharmacokinetic Changes after Bariatric Surgery

ROUTE-and-why? CSHP AB member **Sabrina Lorico** provides practical recommendations for medication management after the various types of bariatric surgery.



Is Febuxostat Use Associated With Increased Risk of Cardiovascular Disease Events?

Doubts about Gout? The Answer Is Crystal Clear With limited options for gout, **Alexandra Charlton** and colleagues comment on a recent meta-analysis looking at febuxostat in cardiovascular disease.



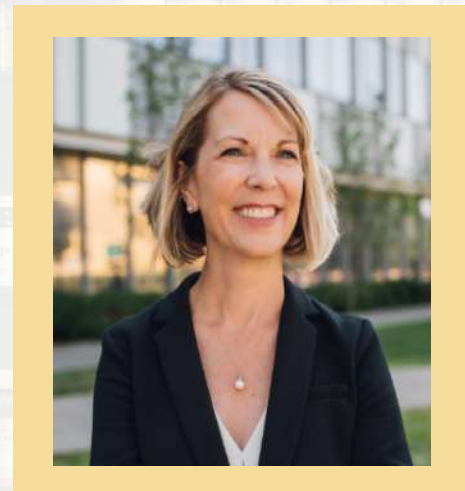
Faculty Update

Meet Dr. Christine Hughes

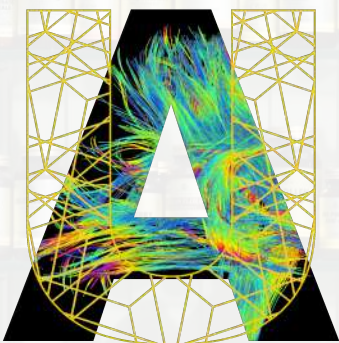


Welcome Back!

Students are back in person with most courses being delivered in person via a hybrid approach (students can attend live or via online zoom stream). Faculty, Staff, students and visitors to campus are required to provide proof of COVID vaccination status.



Dr. Christine Hughes has been appointed the interim Dean for a 2 year period starting July 1, 2021. She has been teaching and researching with the Faculty for over 20 years. Get to know her [here](#).



The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is now part of the **College of Health Sciences**, part of the academic restructuring taking place on campus. Almost all Faculties are amalgamated under three colleges: The College of Health Sciences, The College of Natural and Applied Sciences, The College of Social Sciences and Humanities. Five faculties that remain stand alone units: Augustana, Faculte Saint-Jean, Extension, Graduate Studies and Research, Native Studies.

short & snappy

-A CLINICAL OVERVIEW

Managing Heart Failure with SGLT2 Inhibitors: For Non-Diabetics Too?

Eric Duong, BSc, MSc, PharmD
Pharmacy Resident, Edmonton Zone

Case:

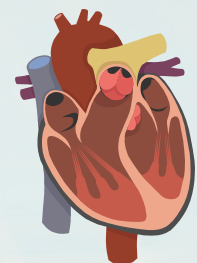
- 55M presented with a 4-week history of progressive dyspnea, peripheral edema and orthopnea.
- Past medical history included hypertension, gout and sleep apnea, with no history of diabetes.
- Home medications included telmisartan and allopurinol; patient had private drug coverage.
- Echocardiogram showed global hypokinesia and ejection fraction of 10-15%.
- Diagnosis of **heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF)** was made.

Clinical Question:

In patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction, do the benefits and risks of sodium-glucose co-transporter-2 (SGLT2) inhibitors differ with type 2 diabetes mellitus status?

Study	Outcome	All Patients n/N (%); [95%CI]	Patients with T2DM n/N (%); [95%CI]	Patients without T2DM n/N (%); [95%CI]
EMPEROR-Reduced(1, 2) - RCT - Empagliflozin 10mg vs placebo - Median follow-up: 16mo	Composite of CV death or hospitalization for HF	361/1863 (19.4) vs 462/1867 (24.7) HR 0.75 [0.65,0.86]	200/927 (21.6) vs 265/929 (28.5) HR 0.72 [0.60,0.87]	161/936 (17.2) vs 197/938 (21.0) HR 0.78 [0.64,0.97]
	Discontinuation due to Adverse Event	322/1863 (17.3) vs 328/1863 (17.6)	175/927 (18.9) vs 176/926 (19.0)	147/936 (15.7) vs 152/937 (16.2)
DAPA-HF(3,4) - RCT - Dapagliflozin 10mg vs placebo - Median follow-up: 18mo	Composite of CV death or hospitalization or urgent visit for HF	386/2373 (16.3) vs 502/2371 (21.1) HR 0.74 [0.65,0.85]	215/1075 (14.6) vs 271/1064 (25.5) HR 0.75 [0.63,0.90]	171/1298 (13.2) vs 231/1307 (17.7) HR 0.73 [0.60,0.88]
	Discontinuation due to Adverse Event	111/2368 (4.7) vs 116/2368 (4.9)	43/1073 (4.0) vs 57/1063 (5.4)	68/1295 (5.3) vs 59/1305 (4.5)
Meta-Analysis of EMPEROR-Reduced and DAPA-HF Trials(5)	Composite of CV death or hospitalization for HF	HR 0.74 [0.68,0.82]	HR 0.74 [0.65,0.84]	HR 0.75 [0.65,0.87]

Diabetes status was **not associated** with any change in SGLT2 inhibitor efficacy or adverse events; however, studies may be underpowered to detect a difference. Patients with diabetes are likely to be at higher risk of hypoglycemia and diabetic ketoacidosis.



Case Resolution: With a CrCl of 75 mL/min and stable vitals, metoprolol, spironolactone and empagliflozin were started, while telmisartan was changed to valsartan/sacubitril.

Bottom Line:

Empagliflozin and dapagliflozin significantly reduce **cardiovascular death** and **HF-related hospitalizations**, regardless of baseline diabetes status. Current Canadian guidelines recommend patients with HFrEF be treated with an SGLT2 inhibitor along with an ARNI/ACEI/ARB, β -blocker and MRA. However, use in those without diabetes may be difficult without Health Canada approval and appropriate drug coverage.

References can be found [here](#).

short & snappy

-A CLINICAL OVERVIEW

AHS Pharmacists' Role in Vaccinations for **Asplenic** Patients

Jes Buhler, PharmD
Pharmacy Resident, Calgary Zone

Background:

Patients who are asplenic (or have functional asplenia) are at an increased risk of serious infections, especially those caused by encapsulated organisms. Splenic macrophages play a major role in phagocytosing bacteria in the circulation.[1,2]

Case:

- 55F with a splenic infarct resulting in **functional asplenia**
- Patient requires vaccinations for appropriate prophylaxis due to increased risk of bacterial infections

Vaccines:

According to the Canadian Immunization Guide recommendations [3], the following vaccines are required to protect the patient from **encapsulated organisms** including Streptococcus pneumoniae, Haemophilus influenzae, and Neisseria meningitidis.

What Vaccines are Needed?

1. Pneumococcal 13-valent Conjugate (**Prevnar®**) - 0.5 mL IM
2. Haemophilus influenzae Type B Conjugate (**Act-Hib®**) - 0.5 mL IM
3. Meningococcal Conjugate (Groups A, C, Y & W135, **Menactra®** or **Menveo®**) - 0.5 mL IM
4. Meningococcal B (**Bexsero®**) - 0.5 mL IM

8 WEEKS LATER



5. Pneumococcal Polysaccharide (**Pneumovax® 23**) - 0.5 mL IM

*Vaccines 1-4 can be given on same day, at different injection sites, in different syringes.

**Vaccine 5 is often given as an outpatient. Patient has to call and set up this appointment themselves.

Timing of Immunizations [4]:

Planned Splenectomy: at least **2 weeks prior**, whenever possible for optimal vaccine response.

Emergency/Other: **2 weeks AFTER** splenectomy whenever possible for optimal vaccine response.

How Do You Get the Vaccinations for Your Patient?

Communicable Disease (CD) Control (*has been consolidated into a Provincial Unit since COVID-19):

Phone: 1-855-444-2324

- Let agent know you have a patient who **requires vaccinations for asplenia**. They will provide a form (via email or fax) and a return fax number depending on your AHS Zone.
- Vaccines can be initiated **inpatient** and will be delivered to the hospital unit
- Alternatively, patients can be referred to Public Health to receive the vaccines as an **outpatient**.

References:

1. Brigden ML. Detection, Education and Management of the Asplenic or Hyposplenic Patient. 2001;63(3):8.
2. Rubin LG, Schaffner W. Care of the Asplenic Patient. Solomon CG, editor. N Engl J Med. 2014 Jul 24;371(4):349-56.
3. Canada PHA of. Immunization of persons with chronic diseases: Canadian Immunization Guide [Internet]. aem. 2007 [cited 2021 Jan 11]. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/canadian-immunization-guide-part-3-vaccination-specific-populations/page-7-immunization-persons-with-chronic-diseases.html#p3c6a2>
4. AHS Standard on the Immunization of Individuals with Chronic Health Conditions and/or Immunosuppression. 2020:16. Available from: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/hp/cdc/if-hp-cdc-ipsm-chronic-conditions-immunosuppression.pdf>

Canadian Society of
Hospital Pharmacists
Alberta Branch



presents:

Let's talk about how to side step a
Blue Christmas

Put on your holiday sweater, pour a glass of eggnog and join us for a virtual education event with holiday cheer!

All I want for the holidays is more serotonin:
individualizing antidepressant therapy

Tracy Chin PharmD, BScPharm, ACPR - Clinical pharmacist AHS

Holiday Trivia and Festivities

Let's make the season merry and bright!

How to care for yourself in the midst of a
stressful holiday season; with festive
mindfulness and jolly self-compassion

Charmaine Patterson MSW, RCSW

30 Nov 2021

7-8:30PM MST

Registration
Link [HERE](#)

Complimentary for CSHP members
\$30 for non-members