

Date: May 31, 2021
To: Community & Contract Physiotherapy Providers
From: Alberta Health Services
RE: Extension to AHS Physiotherapy Contracts & Phased Implementation Plan

Dear Community & Contract Physiotherapy Providers,

On Dec. 15, 2020, we informed you of the decision to move toward a standard level of physiotherapy care for Albertans with similar needs province-wide and launch procurement opportunities for new contracts with AHS.

The standard level of physiotherapy care will support virtual or in-person AHS-funded physiotherapy at AHS sites and through contract providers for:

- Albertans with fractures or who are recovering from orthopedic surgery, including hip and knee replacements
- Low-income Albertans who have general joint or muscle injuries or conditions.

We are committed to rolling out this standard in the best interest of patients, organization and contract physiotherapy providers who will be supporting service delivery. For that reason, AHS will be extending contracts with current physiotherapy providers and phasing implementation by zone.

AHS is moving ahead with new physiotherapy contracts in Red Deer, Grande Prairie, Sexsmith and Fort McMurray to support service delivery for July 1, 2021. This will allow for trial of new systems and processes to prepare for Calgary and Edmonton Zone implementation in October 2021.

Physiotherapy providers with existing contracts in Calgary and Edmonton zones will be offered an extension to Oct. 31, 2021. This will help to ensure ongoing patient care, a conclusion to the procurement process and opportunity to train new physiotherapy clinics on the new system and process. Physiotherapy providers can continue to book patients until Sept. 30, 2021 and will have until Oct. 31, 2021 to complete episodes of care and billing.

Albertans will continue to have access to the Rehabilitation Advice Line 1-833-379-0563 for telecare assessment and general advice. The line will be a central triage to approve AHS-funded visits for general joint or muscle injuries or conditions starting July 1, 2021 in Red Deer, Grande Prairie, Sexsmith and Fort McMurray and Oct. 1, 2021 in Edmonton and Calgary areas.

More information regarding pelvic health physiotherapy will be available in late fall. Current providers may continue to contact their local zone community PT consultant or program lead.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Laura Manz, Director, Allied Health, Edmonton Zone
Darren Ness, Director, Allied Health, Calgary Zone
Elaine Finseth, Associate Chief Allied Health Officer
June Norris, Director, Physiotherapy, Allied Health
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