

Calgary Zone: Centralized Referrals for Urology, Orthopedics and Spine

As part of the Alberta Surgical Initiative, a new central access and intake system for managing referrals called Alberta Facilitated Access to Specialized Treatment (FAST) launched in the Calgary Zone on **Tuesday, October 11** for all adult referrals for urology and non-urgent, adult referrals for orthopedics and spine – excluding orthopedic oncological.

Please change your fax numbers for adult referrals for urology and non-urgent, adult referrals for orthopedics and spine – excluding orthopedic oncological – to:

1-833-627-7023

Follow these easy steps to refer:

1. Fax your usual referral form or letter* to the FAST office: **1-833-627-7023**
2. Specify if you are seeking:
 - Next available provider with the shortest waitlist,
 - A specific provider, clinic or site, or
 - An out-of-Zone referral to a specialist in a different part of the province
 - If you need to send referrals to other Zones, please include the name of a preferred provider or clinic at this time
3. Please continue using specialistlink.ca for referral and advice information

*You may continue to use your usual referral form or letter at this time. New provincial referral forms will be released in Dec. 2022 and included in community Electronic Medical Records (EMRs).

FAST facts

- All adult referrals for urology and non-urgent, adult referrals for orthopedics and spine – excluding orthopedic oncological – require submission to FAST; other specialties will be added over time.
- Each referral will be checked for completeness and sent to the requested surgeon/site or the next available surgeon.
- Calgary's Urology Central Intake (UCI) program is now part of FAST. Please replace UCI fax numbers with the FAST number: **1-833-627-7023**
- The FAST processes are iterative and your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Urgent and emergency advice

- For urgent phone advice: Call RAAPID South at 403-944-4486 or 1-800-661-1700
- For emergency consultation: Refer directly to the emergency department or call RAAPID South at 403-944-4486 or 1-800-661-1700



Contact

FAST office

Phone: 1-833-553-3278 (833-553-FAST), Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Email: ABFAST.Calgary@ahs.ca

More information: ahs.ca/specialtyaccess