



Acute Care
Alberta

Acute Care Alberta Accreditation Annual Report – 2025

March 2026



**Acute Care
Alberta**

This report has been prepared by:
Accreditation Oversight
Quality Management & Improvement
Acute Care Alberta

Contact:
Sheron Parmar
Director, Accreditation Oversight
Acute Care Alberta



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
Key Takeaways	1
Accreditation Status at a Glance	2
Background and Scope	3
Accreditation Oversight Role	4
2025 System-Level Accreditation Themes	4
Infection Prevention and Control.....	4
Emergency and Disaster Preparedness	4
Medication Safety and Management	4
Information Transfer and Documentation.....	5
Continuous Accreditation Readiness	5
Organization Summaries	5
Acute Care	5
Alberta Health Services	5
Give Life Alberta	6
Cancer Care Alberta	6
Covenant Health.....	6
Emergency Health Services (EHS)	7
Lamont Health Care Centre	7
Continuing Care	8
Assisted Living Alberta.....	8
Chartered Surgical Facilities	8
Laboratory and Diagnostic Services	9
Laboratory Services	9



Diagnostic Imaging	9
Neurophysiology Diagnostic Labs	9
Pulmonary Function Diagnostic Testing Labs	9
Sleep Medicine Diagnostics	10
Appendix A: AHS.....	11
Appendix B: Covenant Health	12
Appendix C: Emergency Health Services	13
Emergency Health Services.....	13
Emergency Medical Services Contracted Providers	14
Appendix D: Continuing Care	15
Assisted Living Alberta	15
Continuing Care Contracted Providers	15

Executive Summary

This report provides a system-level overview of accreditation activities conducted during 2025 across organizations operating within the Acute Care Alberta oversight structure. It also fulfills the requirement under the accreditation directive for Acute Care Alberta to report on the accreditation status of service providers operating within the acute care sector.

Accreditation reviews conducted during the reporting period assessed compliance with clinical service standards and foundational standards of Leadership, Emergency and Disaster Management, Infection Prevention and Control, Medication Management, and Service Excellence.

All organizations included in this report maintain accredited status through their respective accrediting bodies.

Survey findings across participating organizations primarily identified opportunities to strengthen documentation practices, monitoring of operational processes, and consistency in the application of established procedures. These findings are consistent with improvement observations commonly identified during accreditation cycles within complex healthcare systems.

Most findings represent routine follow-up activities addressed through established improvement processes and evidence submissions to accrediting bodies.

This report reflects accreditation results from Accreditation Canada surveys and CPSA-accredited diagnostic services (e.g., laboratory and diagnostic imaging).

Chartered Surgical Facilities are not currently fully integrated into provincial accreditation reporting and are included at a high level in this report.

Key Takeaways

- All organizations included in this report maintain accredited status through their respective accrediting bodies.
- Accreditation surveys conducted during 2025 primarily identified opportunities to strengthen documentation, monitoring, and consistency of established operational processes, consistent with observations commonly identified during accreditation cycles.
- Follow-up evidence submissions related to 2025 surveys will occur during 2026 as part of the normal accreditation process.

- Upcoming accreditation surveys scheduled for 2026 will include Central Zone rural hospitals, ambulatory care services, maternal and child health programs, home care services under Assisted Living Alberta, and Cancer Care Alberta services.
- Accreditation oversight continues to provide system-level visibility of accreditation activity and emerging themes across participating organizations.

Accreditation Status at a Glance

Organization		Accreditation Status	2025 Survey Activity	Next Survey
Alberta Health Services		Accredited	Spring and Fall surveys	2026
Cancer Care Alberta		Accredited	No survey in 2025	Fall 2026
Give Life Alberta		Accredited (through AHS)	Included within AHS survey activities	2026
Covenant Health		Accredited with Commendation	Fall survey	2027
Emergency Health Services	EHS	Accredited	Evidence submission	2027-2031 cycle
	Contracted Providers	Accredited	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing
Lamont Health Care Centre		Accredited with Commendation	No survey in 2025	Fall 2026
Continuing Care	Assisted Living Alberta	Accredited	Fall survey	Fall 2025
	Contracted Providers	Majority accredited	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing
Chartered Surgical Facilities		Accredited / Provisionally Accredited (CPSA)	2025 Activity: Ongoing assessments	Ongoing
Laboratory and Diagnostic Services		Accredited	Ongoing	Ongoing

Background and Scope

Acute Care Alberta prepares an annual system view of accreditation status, accreditation activities completed during the reporting period, and follow-up requirements associated with accreditation surveys.

Organizations included in this report operate within the Acute Care Alberta oversight structure:

- Alberta Health Services
- Give Life Alberta
- Covenant Health
- Cancer Care Alberta
- Lamont Health Care Centre
- Emergency Health Services

Programs that transitioned to Primary Care Alberta (including Primary and Public Health services) are not reflected, as they were not included in the accreditation data sources available for this reporting cycle.

Additional reporting is included for system visibility where accreditation is required through provincial service agreements:

- Emergency Medical Services contracted providers operating under Emergency Health Services
- Continuing Care contracted providers operating under Assisted Living Alberta

The report provides a high-level overview of accreditation status across participating organizations, summarizes survey activity during the reporting period, and highlights emerging system-level accreditation themes.

Data included in this report is based on information submitted through established reporting channels rather than a formal validation cycle for this product. Accreditation Canada data is compiled through Alberta Health Services processes, Lamont Health Care Centre submits independently, and Covenant Health provides data directly for inclusion.

Ministerial Directive

In February 2026, the Minister of Hospital and Surgical Health Services issued a directive, requiring Acute Care Alberta to oversee accreditation activities across the acute care health services sector.

The directive requires Acute Care Alberta to:

- advise the Minister on accreditation status of service providers
- ensure service providers participate in accreditation activities

- collect accreditation reports and status updates from service providers
- report accreditation status information in its annual reporting

This report fulfills the annual reporting requirement outlined in the directive.

Accreditation Oversight Role

Acute Care Alberta Accreditation Oversight provides system-level visibility of accreditation activity across participating organizations and identifies recurring themes emerging through survey findings.

In addition to monitoring accreditation status and follow-up requirements, the function supports cross-system learning by synthesizing accreditation insights and strengthening readiness across organizations participating in the provincial accreditation cycle.

2025 System-Level Accreditation Themes

Accreditation survey activities conducted across participating organizations during 2025 identified several recurring themes.

These findings primarily relate to strengthening documentation practices, monitoring processes, and consistency in the application of established operational procedures. Observations were generally localized to specific operational processes rather than indicating widespread system-level safety risks.

Infection Prevention and Control

Survey observations identified opportunities to strengthen documentation and monitoring of infection prevention practices, particularly related to environmental cleaning documentation, hand hygiene monitoring, and consistent application of infection prevention protocols.

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness

Survey findings highlighted opportunities to strengthen documentation and operationalization of emergency preparedness plans, including clearer evidence that emergency preparedness processes are regularly tested and reviewed.

Medication Safety and Management

Several survey findings related to medication management processes, including infusion pump monitoring, medication administration documentation, and alignment of medication procedures with updated accreditation standards.

Information Transfer and Documentation

Survey teams identified opportunities to strengthen documentation practices during patient care transitions to ensure critical information is consistently communicated between providers and services.

Continuous Accreditation Readiness

Accreditation Canada standards emphasize sustained readiness throughout the accreditation cycle rather than preparation immediately before survey visits. Organizations continue to strengthen internal monitoring and quality improvement processes to support this expectation.

Overall, survey findings across sectors largely reflected documentation and monitoring improvements within existing operational processes rather than systemic clinical risk.

Organization Summaries

Acute Care

Alberta Health Services

Alberta Health Services (AHS) is participating in the 2023-2027 cycle with Accreditation Canada. Accreditation Canada conducted unannounced surveys at approximately half of AHS sites participating in the *accreditation ready* process.

Two on-site accreditation surveys occurred in 2025.

The Spring survey assessed Provincial Correctional Health Services, Recovery Alberta¹, and North Zone rural hospitals. The Fall survey assessed inpatient rehabilitation services and long-term care facilities owned and operated by AHS and Assisted Living Alberta² (ALA), including subsidiaries, CapitalCare and Carewest.

AHS spring survey findings¹ identified opportunities to strengthen documentation, monitoring, and consistency of established operational processes, consistent with themes observed across the broader accreditation cycle. Follow-up evidence of

¹ Recovery Alberta is subject to a separate accreditation mandate governed by the Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction and is therefore excluded from this report.

² Assisted Living Alberta (ALA) is subject to a separate accreditation mandate governed by the Ministry of Assisted Living and Social Services. ALA is included in this report due to its recent launch (Sep. 1, 2025). ALA survey results can be found in the [Assisted Living Alberta](#) section below.

compliance for unmet Required Organizational Practices (ROPs) and high priority criteria is due in June 2026.

AHS fall survey findings² identified similar areas for improvement. Follow-up evidence of compliance for unmet ROPs and high priority criteria is due in December 2026.

Evidence of compliance from 2023 and 2024 surveys was submitted to Accreditation Canada in 2025. The majority of evidence was accepted; however, additional evidence is required to be submitted in 2026.

Additional survey details, including number of unmet ROPs and high priority criteria, are provided in [Appendix A](#).

AHS will participate in two accreditation surveys during 2026. The Spring survey will assess Central Zone rural hospitals and Ambulatory Care services. The Fall survey will include AHS Maternal and Child Health programs, ALA Home Care services, and Cancer Care Alberta services.

Give Life Alberta

Give Life Alberta operates as a provincial program within Alberta Health Services facilities and is included within the AHS accreditation scope.

As such, accreditation findings and activities related to Give Life Alberta are captured through AHS accreditation surveys and reporting processes. No separate accreditation survey activities were conducted specifically for Give Life Alberta in 2025.

Cancer Care Alberta

No accreditation activities occurred during 2025.

Cancer Care Alberta remains accredited until 2027 as a former program of AHS. Accreditation readiness activities are underway in preparation for the Fall 2026 Survey.

Covenant Health

Covenant Health completed its final on-site survey of the current accreditation cycle in October 2025.

Following the survey, Covenant Health received an accreditation decision of Accredited with Commendation, valid until 2029.

Covenant Health participated in one on-site accreditation survey in fall 2025. This survey assessed applicable clinical standards along with foundational standards.

Follow-up evidence of compliance for unmet ROPs and high priority criteria is due in December 2026.

Additional survey details, including number of unmet ROPs and high priority criteria, are provided in [Appendix B](#).

Covenant Health will begin its next accreditation cycle with survey anticipated in 2027.

Emergency Health Services (EHS)

Emergency Health Services

Emergency Health Services remains accredited until 2027 as a former program of AHS.

Evidence of compliance from the 2024 survey was submitted to Accreditation Canada in November 2025. The majority of evidence was accepted; however, additional evidence is required to be submitted in 2026.

Additional details are provided in [Appendix C](#).

Emergency Medical Services Contracted Providers

Emergency Health Services oversees accreditation across multiple operational components of the provincial emergency medical services system.

Ground ambulance operations and interfacility transfer services maintain Accreditation Canada accreditation.

Dispatch services established under the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo service agreement are progressing toward accreditation through the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch.

Air medical clinical teams maintain Accreditation Canada accreditation. Aviation providers supporting the air medical program operate under aviation regulatory frameworks.

Operational Detail and Status table is provided in [Appendix C](#).

Lamont Health Care Centre

Lamont Health Care Centre maintains Accredited with Commendation status for the 2022-2026 cycle.

No accreditation activities occurred during 2025. The next survey visit is expected in September 2026.

Continuing Care

Assisted Living Alberta

Assisted Living Alberta

Assisted Living Alberta (ALA) remains accredited until 2027 as a former program of AHS.

Long-term care facilities owned and operated by ALA, including subsidiaries, CapitalCare and Carewest, participated in the AHS Fall 2025 survey of long-term care services.

ALA fall survey findings identified opportunities consistent with themes observed across the broader accreditation cycle. Nine ROPs and thirty-one high priority criteria across eight standards require follow-up evidence submission due in December 2026.

Additional survey details are provided in [Appendix D](#).

Continuing Care Contracted Providers

Continuing care providers operating under Assisted Living Alberta participate in accreditation as required through provincial service agreements and Ministerial Directive D5-2008.

Service agreements require providers to maintain accreditation through recognized accrediting bodies. Providers that are not currently accredited must obtain accreditation by December 2026.

Approximately 87% of Continuing Care Homes and 79% of Home Care Programs are currently accredited.

Monitoring and follow-up activities will continue during 2026 to support providers in meeting the December 2026 accreditation requirement.

Additional details are available in [Appendix D](#).

Chartered Surgical Facilities

Chartered Surgical Facilities (CSFs) operate under accreditation oversight through the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) and are not currently fully integrated into Acute Care Alberta's established accreditation reporting processes.

Based on available information, there are approximately 30 active Chartered Surgical Facilities in Alberta. These facilities have either achieved full accreditation or hold provisional accreditation status through the CPSA accreditation program. Facilities with

provisional status are permitted to operate while completing final accreditation requirements.

During this reporting period, high-level information on CSF accreditation status has been included to support a more comprehensive provincial view of accreditation activity.

Further work is required to establish consistent reporting, validation, and integration processes for Chartered Surgical Facilities within provincial accreditation oversight reporting.

Laboratory and Diagnostic Services

Diagnostic services accreditation is conducted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and is included in this report as part of system-level accreditation oversight.

Laboratory Services

Thirty-two laboratory sites were assessed within the Central Zone in 2025. Most sites achieved full accreditation. Four sites received citations requiring updated responses by March 2026.

Diagnostic Imaging

Twenty-eight diagnostic imaging sites were assessed in 2025. Several sites received full accreditation following evidence submissions, while others are awaiting final accreditation decisions.

A mobile MRI assessment was conducted in November 2025, with evidence submitted in January 2026.

Ownership of Alberta Precision Laboratories will transition to Primary Care Alberta effective April 1, 2026, with reporting responsibilities transitioning accordingly.

Neurophysiology Diagnostic Labs

All public (AHS and Covenant Health) laboratories hold current CPSA accredited status.

One electrodiagnostic service underwent assessment in 2025 and is fully accredited.

Three Neurophysiology Diagnostic Labs will undergo assessment in 2026.

Pulmonary Function Diagnostic Testing Labs

No accreditation activities occurred in 2025. Seven Pulmonary Function Diagnostic Testing labs will undergo assessment in 2026.



Sleep Medicine Diagnostics

Four Sleep Medicine Diagnostic laboratories underwent assessment in 2025 with evidence of compliance submitted in February 2026. One lab was granted a postponement and will be assessed in 2026.

Appendix A: AHS

	Spring Survey	Fall Survey
Survey Date	May 2025	October 2025
Clinical Standards Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Department • Inpatient Services • Long-Term Care Services • Obstetrics Services • Palliative Care Services • Perioperative Services and Invasive Procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated People-Centred Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Program • Long-Term Care Services • Rehabilitation Services
Foundational Standards Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership • Emergency and Disaster Management • Infection Prevention and Control • Medication Management • Reprocessing of Reusable Medical Devices • Service Excellence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership • Emergency and Disaster Management • Infection Prevention and Control • Medication Management • Service Excellence
Follow-up Requirements	13 Required Organizational Practices 55 High Priority criteria	7 Required Organizational Practices 9 High Priority criteria
Evidence Submission Deadline	June 2026	December 2026

	Evidence Submission	
Survey	Fall 2023	Spring 2024
Evidence Submitted	December 2024 and June 2025	May 2025
Continued Follow-up Requirements	1 Required Organizational Practice	1 Required Organizational Practice 4 High Priority criteria
Additional Evidence Submission Deadline	February 2026	January 2026



Appendix B: Covenant Health

Fall Survey	
Survey Date	October 2025
Clinical Standards Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ambulatory Care• Long-Term Care• Mental Health and Addictions• Palliative Care
Foundational Standards Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership• Emergency and Disaster Management• Infection Prevention and Control• Medication Management• Service Excellence
Follow-up Requirements	10 Required Organizational Practices 2 High Priority criteria
Evidence Submission Deadline	December 2026
Accreditation Decision	Accredited with Commendation
Valid Until	2029

Appendix C: Emergency Health Services

Emergency Health Services

	Evidence Submission
Survey	Fall 2024
Evidence Submitted	November 2025
Continued Follow-up Requirements	5 Required Organizational Practices 10 High Priority criteria 1 Normal Priority criterion
Additional Evidence Submission Deadline	July 2026

Emergency Health Services continues to address the following areas:

Area of Focus	Description	Current Approach
Infection Prevention Practices	Opportunities to strengthen infection prevention processes across operational environments	Review and reinforcement of infection control procedures
Environmental Cleaning	Documentation and monitoring of environmental cleaning protocols	Standardization of cleaning procedures and monitoring
Infusion Pump Safety	Monitoring and documentation related to infusion pump use	Equipment safety review and compliance monitoring
Information Transfer	Documentation associated with patient care transitions and communication between providers	Improvements to handoff documentation and process clarity

Emergency Medical Services Contracted Providers

Service	Description	Accreditation Status
Ground Ambulance Services (31 contractors)	Provincial ground ambulance operations providing emergency response and patient transport	Accredited
Interfacility Transfer Services (2 contractors)	Scheduled and urgent patient transfers between health facilities	Accredited
Dispatch Services (1 contractor)	Emergency medical dispatch services coordinating ambulance response	Accreditation in Progress
Air Medical Crews (3 contractors)	Clinical teams providing medical care during air ambulance transport	Accredited

Appendix D: Continuing Care

Assisted Living Alberta

Fall Survey	
Survey Date	October 2025
Clinical Standards Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambulatory Care • Long-Term Care • Palliative Care • Rehabilitation Services
Foundational Standards Assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership • Infection Prevention and Control • Medication Management • Service Excellence
Follow-up Requirements	9 Required Organizational Practices 31 High Priority criteria
Evidence Submission Deadline	December 2026

Continuing Care Contracted Providers

Current contracted provider accreditation status is summarized below.

Status	Continuing Care Homes	Home Care Programs
Accredited	284 (87%)	75 (79%)
In Progress	27	10
Not Accredited / No Response	14	10
Total Providers	325	95

Several providers currently listed as “in progress” are completing accreditation reviews or transitioning services due to ownership changes or site relocations and remain within permitted accreditation timelines.