

# ACCREDITATION

## Required Organizational Practice (ROP) of the Month

### Antimicrobial Stewardship

- The **Required Organizational Practice (ROP)** for **Antimicrobial Stewardship** states that the organization adopts an **antimicrobial stewardship** program to optimize **antimicrobial** use.
- **Antimicrobials** are substances (drug or product) that kill or stops the growth of microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites.
- **Antimicrobial stewardship (AMS)** involves coordinated actions to ensure antimicrobials are used appropriately by selecting the best drug, dose, duration, and route for each patient.
- **Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)** occurs when microbes develop the ability to withstand medications that previously worked, making infections harder to treat and easier to spread.
- **AMS** is important because it directly addresses the growing threat of **AMR**, improves patient safety, and reduces healthcare costs.

#### AT HEALTH PEI:

- The mission of Health PEI's **AMS** program is to promote the optimal use of antimicrobials on PEI by providing accessible, up-to-date, evidence-informed guidance for treating common infections and advocating for responsible antimicrobial practices to protect the health of future generations.
- The **Provincial Drugs & Therapeutics Antimicrobial Stewardship Subcommittee** provides oversight regarding all matters relating to antimicrobial use within the province.
- Current **AMS** initiatives include:
  - Development and maintenance of antimicrobial guidelines for common infections.
  - Development of **AMS** tools (e.g. penicillin allergy de-labeling, IV to PO conversion guide).
  - Delivering staff education and training on **AMS** practices.
  - Collecting and analyzing antimicrobial usage data.
  - Evaluating new and current antimicrobial drug therapies.
- **Antimicrobial Stewardship** guidelines and resources are available on the Staff Resource Centre: [Antimicrobial Stewardship | Health PEI | Staff Resource Centre](https://www.healthpei.ca/staff/resource-centre/antimicrobial-stewardship) and on the Firstline App: [firstline.org/health-pei/](https://firstline.org/health-pei/).

#### Questions Surveyors May Ask Staff:

What is antimicrobial stewardship? Why is it important?

What tools/resources are available to you that help promote acceptable antimicrobial use? Can you show them to me?