

ACCREDITATION

Required Organizational Practice (ROP) of the Month

SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM

- The **Required Organizational Practice (ROP)** ensures the team demonstrates the required competencies to follow organizational procedures to prevent suicide.

What is Suicide Prevention?

- Patients/clients/residents are assessed and monitored for risk of suicide.
- Every year, approximately 4,500 people in Canada die by suicide.
- Many of these deaths could be prevented by early recognition of the signs of suicidal thinking and offering appropriate interventions.

This ROP formerly applied to select services. It now extends to **ALL** Health PEI programs and services.

AT HEALTH PEI:

- The newly created **Suicide Prevention Program Working Group** is adapting the current *Mental Health and Addictions Suicide Prevention* policy to support an **organizational approach** to suicide prevention.
- Patients/clients/residents are regularly **assessed for suicide risk** in higher risk areas such as, Mental Health and Addictions (MHA) programs, Emergency Departments, and in Long-Term Care (LTC). The new policy will require **ALL** programs and services to **assess suicide risk**.
- The **Suicide Prevention Program Working Group** is creating a **toolkit** to support all programs/services in meeting the organizational policy on suicide prevention.
- The organization uses **evidence-based suicide risk assessment tools** to assess patients/clients/residents during in-take/admission, at regular intervals during their admission/hospital stay, or as their needs change.
- Patients/clients/residents identified as high risk for suicide have **increased monitoring and adjusted care plans** which must be documented in their health record.
- The **Mental Health and Addictions Quality Improvement Team** monitors compliance of suicide risk assessment on admission in acute care and community programs.

Questions Surveyors May Ask Staff:

Tell me how a patient/client/resident is assessed for suicide risk?

How are immediate safety needs addressed for a patient identified as a risk for suicide?

What education/training have you received on suicide prevention?