

Provincial Laboratory Services



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Health PEI
One Island Health System

World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (November 18 – 24, 2020)

PD&T Antimicrobial Stewardship Subcommittee – November 17, 2020

This information applies to: Island Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Dentists, Nurse Educators, Nurse Managers, Nurse Clinical Leads, and Pharmacists

November 18 – 24, 2020 is **World Antimicrobial Awareness Week**
Antimicrobials: handle with care!

Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest threats to global health and it can affect anyone, of any age, in any country. Check out the [World Health Organization \(WHO\) website](https://www.who.int/antimicrobials-aw) to see how people across the globe are learning more about World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2020.

Participate with us!

- 1) PEI is launching Spectrum app! We will join much of Canada, including the other Atlantic Provinces, by providing access to our local adult guidelines via Spectrum (see attached) and keep you aware of developments without the use of emails or memos. Newly added recommendations include **IV to PO conversion, duration of antimicrobial therapy, and COVID-19 guidance**. Spectrum will be a desktop link on most Health PEI computers, and be available for download on any smartphone.



To learn more:

- Attend the [QEH Critical Care Series on Nov. 18th](#) from 12:00-12:30pm.
 - Check your email inbox or visit <https://spectrum.app> to have a sneak peek.
 - Nov. 18th and after, visit <https://spectrum.app/health-pei> to download the app and access our content.
 - We can come to you, in person or via zoom, if you have questions or need assistance with the app!
- 2) Join Dr. Greg German's "[50 Antimicrobial Questions in 50 hours Marathon](#)" on Twitter @drgreggerman starting at 8am on Wednesday, November 18th. Bring your or your patient's questions about antibiotics and antibiotic safety and win prizes for contributing!

Participate with the rest of Canada!

- 1) Take the Antibiotic Quiz at antibioticwise.ca
- 2) Obtain antibiotic resistance awareness resources from the [Public Health Agency of Canada](https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/antimicrobial-stewardship/antibiotic-resistance-awareness-resources.html)
- 3) Learn simple things you can do to reduce unnecessary antibiotic use at [ChoosingWiselyCanada.org/antibiotics](https://www.choosingwiselycanada.org/antibiotics)
- 4) Be aware of the overuse of antibiotics for suspected bladder infections among the elderly with the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI) Canada's [Symptom-Free Pee: LET IT BE](https://www.symptom-free-pee.ca/) campaign.

Although this week is the official world antimicrobial awareness week, all of us – health care professionals, animal health care professionals, public etc. - should practice good antibiotic stewardship every day of the year. Remember, antimicrobials are a precious resource and should be handled with care!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE PD&T ASSC

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