

Accreditation: ROP of the Month

Required Organizational Practice: **Infection Rates**

WHAT ARE INFECTION RATES?

Surveillance, detection, and timely sharing of infection data helps prevent and control health care-associated infections. Sharing this information with staff, patients, families, and volunteers supports quality improvement and safety practices.

At Health PEI:

We are committed to:

- Identifying organisms to monitor
- Tracking and analyzing infection rate data
- Monitoring trends and identifying outbreaks
- Making recommendations for quality improvement initiatives
- Sharing findings with staff, leadership, physicians, and the governing body

How Are Infections Tracked?

- Surveillance is completed daily by the **Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC)** team.
- Data is analyzed over time to detect unrecognized trends or outbreaks.
- Data is regularly shared with Quality Improvement Teams and the Chief Public Health Office.

When an Outbreak Occurs:

- A local Outbreak Management Team leads the outbreak management; chaired by an ICP.
- Outbreak containment measures are communicated to reduce spread, including enhanced environmental cleaning.
- Recommendations from outbreaks are reviewed and implemented.

What Do We Monitor?

Infection Control Professionals (ICP) staff monitor the following organisms:

- Clostridium difficile (C. difficile)
- Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)
- Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus (VRE)
- Other seasonal and reportable infections (e.g., influenza, norovirus)



Accreditation Surveyors May Ask:

- How does the IPAC team monitor infections at Health PEI?
- How is infection data shared with your team?
- What's your role in preventing the spread of infections?
- Can you describe what happens when an outbreak occurs?