



## Accreditation: ROP of the Week

### Required Organizational Practice: Antimicrobial Stewardship

#### WHAT IS ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP?

- Antimicrobial stewardship promotes the appropriate selection, dose, route and duration of antimicrobial therapy.
- The primary focus of an antimicrobial stewardship program is to optimize the use of antimicrobials to achieve the best patient outcomes, reduce the risk of infections, reduce or stabilize levels of antibiotic resistance, and promote patient safety.

Inappropriate use of antimicrobial agents may lead to toxicity, selection of pathogenic organisms (e.g. *C-difficile*), and the development of antimicrobial resistant organisms (e.g., MRSA)

#### AT HEALTH PEI:

- The multidisciplinary **Provincial Drugs & Therapeutics Antimicrobial Stewardship Subcommittee** provides oversight regarding all matters relating to antimicrobial use within the province. Membership includes representatives from microbiology, pharmacy, infection prevention and control, Chief Public Health Office, nursing and physicians.
- **The Antimicrobial Stewardship Program's initiatives include:**
  - Providing recommendations regarding antimicrobials agents and their utilization;
  - Evaluating new and current antimicrobial drug therapies;
  - Developing empiric treatment guidelines, most of which are incorporated into PowerPlans
  - Regular review (prospective audit and feedback) of all PEI acute care, and ambulatory care patients on meropenem, ertapenem, and imipenem-cilastatin
  - Developing clinical decision support tools in CIS (e.g. *C-diff* alert, code sepsis orderable)
  - Monitoring the patterns of sensitivity and resistance to antimicrobials and initiating appropriate activities as needed;
  - Providing educational sessions (e.g. Grand Rounds; provincial multidisciplinary events – *Antibiotic Matters, Urine Matters*)
- Antimicrobial Stewardship guidelines and resources are available on the **Staff Resource Centre** <https://src.healthpei.ca/microbiology> and on the **Spectrum App** <https://spectrum.app/health-pei/>

#### Questions Accreditation Canada Surveyors May Ask Staff:

What is antimicrobial stewardship? Why is it important?

Where can you find resources on antimicrobial stewardship? Can you show me where they are located?

Who is on the antimicrobial stewardship committee? How do you connect with that team?