

Antimicrobial Stewardship Profile: North Bay Regional Health Centre



North Bay Regional Health Centre is a state of the art facility with 420 beds that provides services to individuals in North Bay as well as smaller community hospitals in the area.

Patient services include:

- Addiction Services
- Ambulatory Care
- Cancer Care
- Critical Care
- District and Regional Mental health
- Emergency Department
- Maternal/Child and NICU
- Medicine
- Rehabilitation
- Renal Dialysis
- Surgery



“The time, appetite and priority was right for ASP”, notes Nancy Jacko (right), VP Clinical Integration and Chief Nursing Executive, pictured with Patty Byers, Infection Prevention and Control Coordinator.

Why an Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP)?

Antimicrobial stewardship was identified as an important patient safety and quality of care issue by Nancy Jacko, senior VP of Clinical Integration and Chief Nursing Executive and Brenda Lennon, Coordinator of Quality Improvement. In 2010, a small team of five assembled to address issues related to antimicrobial stewardship. It has since grown to 13 representatives from all clinical programs working collaboratively to develop the program.

In the early days of the committee, members struggled to define clear direction and initiatives because of their limited resources. So when the committee identified a need for infectious diseases physician support, North Bay Regional Health Centre contracted Dr. Nick Daneman from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in June 2011. Dr. Daneman has provided credibility to the initiatives of the ASP committee and helped the team focus and move forward. Financial support for ASP has been achieved through a reallocation of internal funds within the hospital.

Every successful ASP needs a champion

Developing an ASP takes time and the expertise of committed individuals. With the addition of Dr. Fung, an anaesthetist and medical director for the intensive care unit (ICU) as chair of the ASP committee, North Bay Regional Health Centre had found a champion. Dr. Fung is described as a physician respected by his medical colleagues and backed by the confidence of the senior administration team. He sets the agenda for the ASP committee and responds to local ASP issues.



“An ASP has a unique ability to impact our future patients, by collaborating to support the quality of care of current patients.” - Jason Allred, Pharmacist



“[an ASP is] an initiative that physicians can sink their teeth into and can control significantly regarding quality and patient safety.” – Dr. Fung, Chair of the ASP Committee

Collaboration

Reporting to a patient quality and medical advisory committee, North Bay Regional Health Centre's ASP committee is dedicated to sustaining its ASP. In a collaborative effort, the microbiology department and the ICU's clinical pharmacist work together to provide data on antibiotic use and antibiogram patterns. Infection Control works closely with physicians through consultations and the physician culture at North Bay Regional Health Centre promotes the use of best practices and continually improving care. While North Bay Regional Health Centre's ASP started slowly, it is picking up speed and engaging the medical community. Strong support from senior management and a collaborative approach is leading the positive change.

Successes

- Daily antibiotic rounds in critical care
- Standardization of antibiotic prophylaxis in the operating room including improving patient assessment of true penicillin allergy
- *Clostridium difficile* infection pre-printed physician orders
- Modification of an antimicrobial guideline based on our local antibiogram and the Sunnybrook handbook
- Consultation between physicians and pharmacists on antimicrobial ordering and microbiology for antibiogram information
- IV to PO step-down
- Publication of a newsletter featuring ASP work and the importance of using the local antibiogram for ordering antibiotics
- Monitoring aminoglycoside and vancomycin for toxicity and dose optimization

Horizon

- The creation of a desk icon for the hospital intranet linking to resources for ordering antibiotics including the local antimicrobial handbook, antibiogram information and pharmacy resources

Disclaimer

This document may be freely used without permission for non-commercial purposes only and provided that appropriate credit is given to Public Health Ontario. No changes and/or modifications may be made to the content without explicit written permission from Public Health Ontario.

Citation

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Antimicrobial Stewardship Hospital Profile: North Bay Regional Health Centre. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2013.

©Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2013

For further information

Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, Infection Prevention and Control, Public Health Ontario.

Email: asp@oahpp.ca

Public Health Ontario acknowledges the financial support of the Ontario Government.

