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Washington State Department of
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Antibiotic Awareness Week 2024 Hospital Highlight: North Valley Hospital

Washington's rural and critical access hospitals are enhancing their stewardship efforts through the University of Washington Centers for Stewardship in Medicine (UW-CSiM)'s Intensive Quality Improvement Cohort (IQIC). A survey was sent out to WA participants containing interview-style questions with the goal of highlighting their work. We are pleased to be able to share their responses in this special Hospital Highlight for Antibiotic Awareness Week 2024.

1. Tell us about your hospital and the services that it provides to the community

- North Valley Hospital is a critical access hospital located in Tonasket. They proudly offer to their community an affiliate long-term care facility and rural health clinic. They also offer all rehab disciplines (physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech language pathology).

2. Tell us about your project with UW-CSiM's IQIC

- Their goal was to reduce the instance of treating asymptomatic bacteriuria and decrease the duration of antibiotic use. They learned that it is difficult to achieve provider buy-in due to primarily utilizing a contracted provider group to staff their emergency room and acute care units.

3. Tell us about your stewardship team. How did they work together during the IQIC project?

- Their team consisted of their pharmacist (Beth Henry), lab manager (Noreen Olma) and quality/infection control (Cassandra Fox). They worked together on ensuring cases were submitted into a RedCap survey created by the IQIC team and met regularly to discuss efforts and send out communications regarding antimicrobial stewardship.

4. What has been the most impactful part of your stewardship project?

- Having actual data to present to our provider group with other like facilities as a comparative

5. What words of wisdom or advice do you have for your stewardship colleagues?

- Make sure your antimicrobial stewardship team is diverse and that there is passion for the project you are working on together.



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