**Infection Prevention and Control Department**

Infection Control Practitioners provide expert knowledge and direction in infection prevention and control related issues to patients, hospital staff, community agencies, public health personnel and the community at large.

In addition, Infection Control Practitioners monitor hospital adherence to infection prevention and control related protocols and procedures and participate in human resources processes including recruitment, orientation and clinical training. Routine tasks include:

* Ordering and monitoring of lab results to identify patients with Antibiotic Resistant Organisms (AROs) and infectious disease
* Daily rounds to monitor patients requiring precautions based on organism and/or signs & symptoms
* Conducting of environmental and equipment audits to ensure staff compliance with Infection Prevention and Control procedures, and ensuring practices reflect current best practice
* Ensures processes are implemented to monitor and control for potential outbreaks of infectious diseases and liaision with Toronto Public Health
* Collaboration with Occupational Health and Wellness to identify and report employee health risks
* Promotion of patient and staff influenza vaccination programs
* Management of outbreaks of infectious disease in the hospital through the recognition of clusters, maintaining a line list of cases, development of a case definition, ordering specimens, determining precautions required and education for staff, patients, and visitors.
* Collaboration in the development and delivery of educational material relating to infection prevention and control

*An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.*

*Benjamin Franklin*