

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

## Infection Prevention and Control Collaboration with the General Public

Infection Prevention and Control (IP&C) collaborates with focus groups composed of members from the general public. These groups may include current or former patients, residents, clients (PRCs), family members, caregivers, and other community members interested in enhancing communication and inclusion within the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA).

In the healthcare field, we often forget that our PRCs, their supports, and members of the public may not share the same level of knowledge, experience, or education that we do. Concepts that seem like common healthcare knowledge to us, such as hand hygiene, the spread of germs, and immunizations, may be unfamiliar or unclear to many individuals in the public.



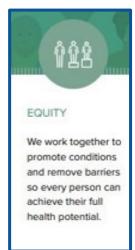
By **collaborating** with the general public, we gain valuable insights into their experiences within the WRHA. This understanding helps us identify

how to effectively engage with them, especially when they may feel overwhelmed by the healthcare system. Including them in the development of documents and communication allows us to emphasize the information that matters most to them. This collaboration enables IP&C to create resources that are more accessible and understandable for those with limited or no healthcare knowledge.

INCLUSIVITY

We recognize, respect and learn from the unique needs and contributions of every person in our community.

The goal of these IP&C-led focus groups is to **eliminate knowledge barriers** for those using our WRHA system. IP&C aims to provide information that is easy to understand and meets the needs of users.



We want our materials to engage individuals and enhance their understanding of their specific situations. Additionally, our documents should include IP&C information about the steps they can take to assist individuals in achieving their full health potential, both for themselves and for others.

If you have more questions or concerns, please contact the Infection Control Professional for your facility, area, or program.