



Supply Chain: **Choosing Wisely**

We spoke to **Angie Manners, Vice President of Patient Services/Chief Nursing Executive** and **Jessica Stewart, Co-Director of Patient Services at Temiskaming Hospital, a 59-bed community hospital in New Liskeard, Ontario** about their Choosing Wisely Program.

*"These changes have not only helped preserve resources and staff time, they also help the environment and save money."
-Angie Manners*

It is clear that a strong culture of sustainability is embedded and surrounds Temiskaming Hospital. Springing from the need to be resourceful, especially within the context of a rural community, they must ensure they are making the most efficient use of all their resources.

And now enter the Choosing Wisely Program, which fits perfectly within the hospital's Senior Leadership Operations Plan. Several steps were taken to reach Choosing Wisely Level 1 status, including removing 'daily labs' from order sets and not ordering routine Chest X-Rays in the Special Care Unit.

Recommendations can be reviewed in the "Choosing Wisely Starter Kit for Reducing Unnecessary Tests and Treatments". The hospital is now striving to be one of very few Level 2 hospitals in Canada. One item of focus will be around the ordering of electrocardiograms for every pre-operative patient and where the procedure can be eliminated for low risk patients.

This change would not only save paper, resources and staff time, it would also save patient time and the gas required to drive in for an unnecessary procedure.

