

# 52 NTHSSA Improvements in 52 Weeks

For the next 52 weeks, the NTHSSA will be celebrating one improvement each week! These weekly reports are one way we're working to recognize some of the staff-led initiatives, that are making a real difference across the organization for both staff and clients. It's all part of our commitment to being responsive, showcase innovation, and demonstrate progress we're proud to be making together.

## Week 36 of 52 (Week of March 2, 2026): Elastomeric Infusion Pumps

**Change Driver:** Patients undergoing chemotherapy have a great deal to manage, and the staff supporting cancer care patients continue to look for ways to ease some of the burden. After repeated feedback from patients about the numerous return appointments and the limited availability of appointments in the chemo department, one way to reduce the patients' burden was to increase the ability of patients to disconnect their elastomeric infusion pumps at home, if they use them. This would eliminate the need for additional appointments and trips to the chemo unit.

**Link to System Vision:** This supports 'Best Care' by focusing on providing care closer to home by reducing unnecessary hospital visits.

**Improvement Initiative:** The Chemotherapy Unit staff identified the option of patients removing their own elastomeric infusion pumps at home. After working with Cancer Care Alberta to understand which patients would qualify and developing patient teaching resources, the Clinical Coordinator for Chemotherapy led the team in implementing the at-home removal of the pumps and patient teaching.



Now patients who are deemed eligible and do not need to travel by air to receive their chemotherapy will be provided with education and training. This important initiative eliminates the pressures for appointments in the chemotherapy unit and ensures patients are able to spend more time closer to home.