

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP)

International Resources for Improving Medication Safety

SERVICES AND RESOURCES

ISMP has provided education and assistance on medication safety issues to health professionals and healthcare systems all over the world, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Kuwait, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, and the United Kingdom. The Institute publishes columns in the *European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*, *FIP News Hospital Section*, and *Australian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*; maintains relationships with many international health organizations; and holds a meeting for international pharmacists each year in December.

The Institute also has developed a unique proprietary conceptual model (Medication Safety Self Assessments®) for identifying areas of risk exposure that can help international organizations implement current safety recommendations, including the Joint Commission's national patient safety goals and medication management standards. Following are just a few of the Institute's many medication safety services and resources.

Medication Safety Self Assessments®

The ISMP medication safety self assessments are an important tool that hospitals, ambulatory settings, and healthcare practitioners around the world can use to evaluate their medication use processes and help measure progress over time. They are designed to heighten awareness of the distinguishing characteristics of safe healthcare systems and create baselines for efforts to enhance medication safety.

Currently ISMP offers three self assessments for hospitals, community/ambulatory settings, and antithrombotic therapy. A self assessment for physician office practices is also available. They can be found at <http://www.ismp.org/selfassessments/default.asp>. The self assessment for hospitals is being used by several countries as part of their national medication safety efforts, including Spain, the Netherlands, and Australia.

ISMP can assist international hospitals, health systems, or collaboratives utilize the self assessments by developing a separate URL where each member of a group of organizations could tabulate their assessment scores and aggregate the data for collaborative medication safety projects.

Teleconferences and Satellite Symposia

When a group learning experience is needed, ISMP can offer teleconferences for international organizations or regional groups that include Powerpoint slides and background materials for later reference. Medication safety topics that can be covered include:

- The Joint Commission's safety goals and standards
- Safe use of high-alert drugs
- Reducing anticoagulant therapy risks
- Error prevention strategies for perioperative and pediatric settings
- Safe use of technology, such as automated dispensing cabinets, barcoding, and smart pumps
- Just Culture as an emerging safety-centered accountability model

Remote Access to Experts

For organizations or collaboratives that are grappling with a specific medication safety issue or require more focused and targeted consultation, ISMP can utilize current communications technology to provide assistance. This can be an especially cost-effective way of gaining expert direction on crucial medication safety issues, such as instituting error reporting programs, using data from error reports, and deciding on safety committee structure. Your organization's key staff and committees can take advantage of ISMP's knowledge and expertise via :

- Conference calls
- Videoconferences
- Web-based meetings

Other Products Available

ISMP offers videos, recordings with materials from past teleconferences, and publications that can be viewed at www.ismp.org/products/. The Institute also offers consulting services, including expert review of healthcare organizations' medication-use processes and practical recommendations for error prevention and system improvements; for more information, visit www.ismp.org/Consult/.

For more information or pricing on ISMP's services and resources for international organizations, contact ISMP at 001-215-947-7797 or email <http://www.ismp.org/contact.asp>. For more on the full scope of ISMP's programs, products, and tools for healthcare practitioners, visit www.ismp.org.

ABOUT ISMP

For more than 30 years, the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) has been helping healthcare professionals keep patients safe, and has become known and respected worldwide as the premier resource for impartial, timely, and accurate medication use information. ISMP's highly effective efforts have been built on a non-punitive approach and systems-based solutions, and focus primarily on strategies to improve the safety of medication use systems. The Institute regularly partners with national and international groups and organizations focused on safe medication use.

**THE INSTITUTE FOR SAFE
MEDICATION PRACTICES (ISMP)**
200 Lakeside Drive, Suite 200
Horsham, PA 19044
PHONE: (215) 947-7797
FAX: (215) 914-1492
www.ismp.org