

INSTITUTE FOR SAFE MEDICATION PRACTICES

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For Immediate Release

ISMP Announces the 5th Annual Cheers Awards Recipients

Huntingdon Valley, PA, November 18, 2002----The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is proud to announce its 5th Annual Cheers Awards Winners and Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient. The annual awards dinner and reception will be held on Tuesday, December 10th during the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting in Atlanta, GA.

The Cheers Awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have, through their actions during 2002, set a superlative standard of excellence for others to follow in the prevention of medication errors and adverse drug events. The winners of this year's Cheers Awards are:

Anthony F. Grasha, PhD, Professor of Psychology, University of Cincinnati
Beverly A. Orser, MD, PhD, Department of Physiology, University of Toronto
Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA
California HealthCare Foundation—iHealth & Technology Program, Oakland, CA
Concord Hospital, Concord, NH
Steven B. Meisel, PharmD, Director of Medication Safety, Fairview Southdale
Hospital, Edina, MN
Temple University School of Pharmacy, Philadelphia, PA
U.S. Pharmacopeia—Center for the Advancement of Patient Safety, Rockville, MD

In addition to the Cheers Awards, the ISMP Lifetime Achievement Award is being presented to *Kenneth N. Barker, PhD, RPh*, Sterling Distinguished Professor of the Department of Pharmacy Care Systems at Auburn University. The Lifetime Achievement Award honors an individual who, throughout his/her career, has made ongoing

contributions to patient safety and has had a major impact on safe medication practices. It is presented in memory of ISMP trustee David P. Vogel, RPh, MS.

The *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!* Subscribers Award is being presented to *Portsmouth Regional Hospital*, Portsmouth, NH in recognition of its widespread distribution of the *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!* to help educate staff about medication errors, their system-based causes, and ways to reduce the potential for similar errors. Honorable mention in this category goes to the *Cleveland Clinic Foundation*, Cleveland, OH for its implementation of proactive error reduction strategies based upon ISMP recommendations.

David Bates, MD an ISMP trustee and Medical Director of Clinical and Quality Analysis for Partner's Healthcare Systems will deliver the opening remarks and Peter Kilbridge, MD, Practice Director, First Consulting Group will deliver the keynote address.

The Cheers Awards are hosted by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), a nonprofit organization well known throughout the nation and around the world as an educational resource for the prevention of medication errors. The Institute provides independent, multidisciplinary, expert review of errors reported through the US Pharmacopeia (USP)—ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Working with practitioners, healthcare organizations, the pharmaceutical industry and many others, ISMP provides timely medication safety information to the healthcare community and encourages the safe use of medications.

Journalists are invited to attend the awards reception and dinner beginning at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, December 10th at the Hilton Hotel, Atlanta in Salon E. The Hilton Hotel is located at 255 Courtland Street, NE. Honorees will be available for interviews at a reception preceding the dinner, following the dinner or by appointment during the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. If you plan to attend the dinner, please make your reservation by telephoning ISMP at 215.947.7797 no later than Monday, December 2, 2002.

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