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Contacts:

Hedy Cohen, RN, BSN,
hcohen@ismp.org

Judy Smetzer, RN, BSN,
jsmetzer@ismp.org

215.947.7797

**The Institute for Safe Medication Practices
announced today the launch of *Nurse Advise-ERR™*,
a medication safety newsletter for nurses.**

Huntingdon Valley, PA - Nurses are confronted daily with the challenge of caring for acutely ill patients in hectic, complex environments where the potential for harmful medication errors is an ever-present reality. Giving the wrong medication or strength, miscalculating a dose, misusing a drug delivery device, transcribing an order incorrectly...these events occur every day, to every type of nurse, and in every healthcare setting. Each is potentially tragic and costly in both human and economic terms, for patients and nurses alike.

Nurse Advise-ERR™ seeks to prevent medication errors in hospitals by providing frontline nurses with current, practical information immediately applicable to their practice sites. Each issue of the newsletter will describe medication errors that occurred or were narrowly averted, the system-based causes of the errors, and practical suggestions for preventing such errors in the future. Topics will also include discussions of innovative new technology that will help reduce the risk of errors, as well as frank discussions on the human factors that can lead to breakdowns in the medication-error prevention systems already in place.

Judy Smetzer, RN, BSN, Vice President of ISMP, and a former hospital administrator, explains further: *This is just the vehicle needed to deliver valuable medication safety information to frontline nurses. Nurse Advise-ERR™ will*

- *Alert* nurses to serious medication hazards
- *Inform* nurses about the deeply rooted system causes of errors
- *Empower* nurses to protect patients from errors
- *Engage* nurses as integral members of interdisciplinary medication safety teams.

Nurse Advise-ERR™ will complement ISMP's three other medication safety newsletters:

ISMP Medication Safety Alert!® Acute Care Edition

· Helping clinicians improve medication safety in the acute care setting.

ISMP Medication Safety Alert!® Community/Ambulatory Care Edition

· Providing clinicians in ambulatory settings with medication safety strategies.

ISMP Safe Medicine® Consumer Edition

· Teaching consumers how to protect themselves from medication errors.

Nurse Advise-ERR™ will be distributed monthly free of charge by email through December 2003, courtesy of an unrestricted educational grant provided by Eli Lilly and Company. For subscribing information, visit our website (www.ismp.org).

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is a 501c (3) nonprofit organization that works closely with healthcare practitioners and institutions, regulatory agencies, professional organizations, and the pharmaceutical industry. The Institute provides an independent review of medication errors that have been voluntarily submitted by practitioners to a national Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP) operated by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP). All information derived from the MERP is shared with the US Food and Drug Administration as well as with pharmaceutical companies whose products are mentioned in the reports.