

Institute for Safe Medication Practices
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www.ismp.org

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ISMP Announces 6th Annual Cheers Awards Recipients

Huntingdon Valley, Pa.----The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is proud to announce its 6th Annual Cheers Awards winners and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. The annual awards dinner and reception will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 during the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

The Cheers Awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have 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 awards are:

- *American Society of Health-System Pharmacists*, Bethesda, MD
- *Eli Lilly and Company*, Indianapolis, IN
- *Phillip E. Johnson*, Director of Pharmacy, H Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL
- *Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)*, Oakbrook Terrace, IL
- *Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network*, Allentown, PA
- *Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors*, Burlington, MA
- *Medication Error Prevention Initiative (MEPI)*, Portland, ME
- *Pittsburgh Regional Healthcare Initiative (PRHI)*, Pittsburgh, PA
- *Daniel J. Sheridan, MS, RPh*, Medication Safety Pharmacist, Marion General Hospital, Marion, OH
- *Smart Pump Technology*, Alaris Medical Systems, San Diego, CA; B. Braun, Carrollton, TX; Baxter Healthcare, Round Lake, IL

In addition to the Cheers Awards, the ISMP Lifetime Achievement Award is being presented to *Donald M. Berwick, MD, MPP*, President and CEO for the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). 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. Dr. Berwick is unable to attend the awards ceremony and will make his acceptance remarks via pre-recorded video.

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The *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!* Subscribers Award is being presented to *Advocate South Suburban Hospital*, Hazel Crest, IL, 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 *Grove General Hospital*, Grove, OK, for its implementation of proactive error reduction strategies based upon ISMP recommendations.

In addition, a Special Recognition Award is being presented to Elliot Sternberg, MD, Saint Joseph Health System, for an innovative animated PowerPoint presentation on patient safety. The presentation, “Mr. Rich Goes to the Hospital,” uses humor to illuminate opportunities to improve safety procedures, and has been used as an educational tool within the Saint Joseph Health System and on the national level.

Louis Martinelli, PhD, PharmD, an ISMP trustee and President of L. Martinelli & Associates, will deliver the opening remarks at the award ceremony and Arthur A. Levin, MPH, Director, Center for Medical Consumers, will deliver the keynote address.

The Cheers Awards are hosted by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), a nonprofit organization well known around the world as the premier educational resource for the prevention of medication errors. ISMP provides independent, multidisciplinary, expert review of errors reported through the US Pharmacopeia—ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program. 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 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9 at the Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans in the Waterbury Ballroom. The Sheraton Hotel is located at 500 Canal Street. Honorees will be available for interviews at a reception before the dinner, following the dinner or by appointment at a later date. If you plan to attend the dinner, please make your reservation by calling ISMP at 215-947-7797 no later than Friday, December 5, 2003.

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