

Institute for Safe Medication Practices

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ISMP Launches New Medication Safety Program for Rural Hospitals

HUNTINGDON VALLEY, Pa.— The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), an independent, nonprofit organization with decades of experience in error prevention, is introducing a unique program that will provide rural hospitals with tools and collaborative learning opportunities to significantly improve medication safety. The ISMP Rural Hospital Medication Safety Connection™ will help participants learn how to identify risks and implement effective prevention strategies.

The collaborative also will help rural hospitals implement many current best practices identified by the National Quality Forum and National Patient Safety Goals from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The ISMP Rural Hospital Medication Safety Connection™ includes the following:

- **Live interaction with ISMP experts via three 90 minute group audioconferences**
ISMP will present common error-prone situations along with proven prevention strategies that can enhance safety in rural hospitals. Participants can choose one of the following series of calls (all will be held at 1:30pm ET):

Series I: January 17, March 7, and May 15, 2007
Series II: February 6, April 17, and June 13, 2007
- **Comprehensive resource binder targeted specifically for rural hospitals**
This binder is filled with tools and references designed to jump-start medication safety programs; materials can be shared with the entire staff. Topics include:
 - * Identifying medication safety gaps in your organization
 - * Managing high-alert drugs
 - * Improving safety in the pediatric population
 - * Developing a culture of safety

For more information on the ISMP Rural Hospital Medication Safety Connection™ program, visit <http://www.ismp.org/Consult/ruralhospital/default.asp>.

About ISMP: The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization that works closely with healthcare practitioners and institutions, regulatory agencies, consumers, and professional organizations to provide education about medication errors and their prevention. ISMP represents more than 30 years of experience in helping healthcare practitioners keep patients safe, and continues to lead efforts to improve the medication use process. For more information on ISMP, or its medication safety alert newsletters for healthcare professionals and consumers, visit www.ismp.org

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