

Institute for Safe Medication Practices
1800 Byberry Road, Suite 810, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
www.ismp.org

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CONTACT: Renee Brehio, Media Relations
704-321-3343
rbrehio@ismp.org

Deadline Extended for ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment Survey

Huntingdon Valley, Pa.--The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) thanks the nearly one thousand hospitals that have already completed the 2004 ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment and submitted their data. Those hospitals that have not been able to complete the assessment should be aware that ISMP has *extended the data submission deadline to October 29, 2004*.

Hospitals can complete the self-assessment and submit results online. The self-assessment project, which has been endorsed by more than 20 national healthcare organizations, allows U.S. hospitals to gauge their experiences with more than 200 characteristics that most significantly influence safe medication use and identify opportunities for change over time. To aid comparison, the aggregate data provided to ISMP for the first self assessment in 2000 will be compared with 2004 data to evaluate our nation's progress in medication safety over the past four years.

For more information or questions about the self assessment, contact ISMP at selfassess@ismp.org.

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 nearly 30 years of experience in helping healthcare practitioners keep patients safe, and continues to lead efforts to improve the medication use process. In 2004, the Institute is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its official incorporation as a nonprofit organization. For more information on ISMP, or its medication safety alert newsletters for healthcare professionals and consumers, visit www.ismp.org

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