

## About the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP)

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The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is the nation's only nonprofit, charitable organization devoted entirely to medication error prevention and safe medication use. ISMP is known and respected worldwide as the leading resource for independent and effective medication safety recommendations.

ISMP represents more than 40 years of experience in helping healthcare practitioners keep patients safe, and continues to lead efforts to improve the medication use process. The Institute's medication error prevention efforts began in 1975 with a groundbreaking and continuing column in *Hospital Pharmacy* that increases understanding and educates healthcare professionals and others about medication error prevention.

The Institute's recommended strategies for error prevention and risk identification are based on up-to-the minute information gained from analysis of voluntary reports to the ISMP National Medication Errors Reporting Program, the ISMP National Vaccine Errors Reporting Program, and the ISMP National Consumer Medication Errors Reporting Program, along with onsite visits to individual healthcare organizations, and advice from outside experts.

ISMP's initiatives, which are built upon system-based solutions, include: five medication safety newsletters for healthcare professionals and consumers that reach more than 1 million total readers; educational programs, including webinars on medication use issues; confidential consulting services to healthcare systems to proactively evaluate medication systems or analyze medication related sentinel events; advocacy for the adoption of safe medication standards; independent research to identify and describe evidence-based safe medication practices; and a consumer website ([www.consumermedsafety.org](http://www.consumermedsafety.org)) that provides patients with access to free medication safety information and alerts.

ISMP works with healthcare practitioners and institutions, regulatory and accrediting agencies, consumers, professional organizations, the pharmaceutical industry, and others to accomplish its mission. It is a federally certified patient safety organization (PSO), providing legal protection and confidentiality for patient safety data and error reports it receives.

As an independent nonprofit organization, ISMP receives no advertising revenue and depends entirely on charitable donations, educational grants, newsletter subscriptions, and volunteer efforts to pursue its lifesaving work. For more information, visit ISMP online at: [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org).