

Institute for Safe Medication Practices
200 Lakeside Drive, Suite 200, Horsham, PA 19044

www.ismp.org

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**ISMP Announces 22nd Annual
Cheers Awards Recipients**

Horsham, Pa.—The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is proud to announce its 22nd Annual Cheers Awards winners. The awards dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at Stoney's Rockin' Country in Las Vegas, NV. The ISMP Cheers Awards honor individuals, organizations, and companies that have set a standard of excellence for others to follow in the prevention of medication errors and adverse drug events; for more information, visit <https://www.ismp.org/cheers-awards>.

The winners of this year's awards are:

- **Anticoagulation Forum**

The Anticoagulation Forum is being honored for its more than 28 years of educating healthcare professionals and advocating for clinical best practices in the field of anticoagulation. Founded in 1991, the AC Forum has a membership of 12,000 pharmacists, physicians, and nurses representing more than 3,000 anticoagulation practices and supporting more than one million patients annually. The AC Forum's flagship program, the Anticoagulation Centers of Excellence, provides access to tools, guidelines, and other resources to improve patient outcomes through clinical application of evidence-based best practices. The AC Forum recently released an FDA-funded report, *Core Elements of Anticoagulation Stewardship Programs*, which outlines systemic protocols to improve the safety and quality of patient care and reduce adverse drug events associated with anticoagulants. In addition to defining seven core elements for implementing anticoagulation stewardship programs, the guide includes a checklist for evaluating current practices and a gap analysis that identifies weaknesses in oversight modalities for hospitals and skilled nursing facilities. The guide is available for download via the AC Forum's website; there is no cost to join the AC Forum and all resources are free of charge.

- **Boston Children's Hospital**

Boston Children's Hospital is receiving a Cheers Award for developing a unique tiered system to respond to external medication recalls that may cause harm to its patients. Staff found that pediatric patients taking certain outpatient medications at home often were not contacted when major recalls occurred, and in some cases were part of a patient population that could be disproportionately harmed. In late 2018, the hospital created an external medication recall management system to notify pediatric patients and their caregivers when significant recalls occur. Since then, 251 recalls have been logged into the system (some involving multiple medications), 4 of which have risen to the level of an immediate response due to risk of significant patient harm. Notifications have included direct patient or caregiver contact, calling retail pharmacies, messaging by mail and email, and communication via patient portals and external web pages. The communication with retail pharmacies regarding the recalls also has helped alert outpatient pharmacy customers who were not patients of Boston Children's Hospital.

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- **Special Recognition: Arizona Safe Medication Collaborative Team**

Candy Cross, MSN-Ed, RN, Faculty Educator, Chandler Gilbert Community College, Chandler, AZ
Denise Dion, MSN-Ed, RN, PCCN, CNE, Director of Nursing Program, Central Arizona College, Coolidge, AZ
Monica Hulse, MSN, APRN, CCRN, Education Specialist, Banner Health, Phoenix, AZ
Robert Marks, BSN, RN, CCRN, Critical Care, Banner Health, Phoenix, AZ

Receiving special recognition during the 2019 Cheers Awards is the Arizona Safe Medication Collaborative Team, for its timely and persistent statewide advocacy for adult IV push medication safety. In just 10 months, the team has been able to pull together key stakeholders in Arizona to advocate for the adoption of best practices, including those reflected in the ISMP Safe Practice Guidelines for Adult IV Push Medications. Surveys have been conducted with clinical nurse faculty and bedside nurses to determine what nurses are being taught and variations in IV push practices, and an IV Push Medication Skill Lab Competency Checklist has been developed to assist with verifying skills and reinforcing knowledge. The team also contacted Micromedex and the Davis's Drug Guide and secured their agreement to update their references using the ISMP guidelines. The team is currently working with the Arizona State Board of Nursing Scope of Practice Committee to approve an official advisory opinion to adopt the ISMP guidelines. The team has been invited to draft the opinion, which will be presented to the Board in December 2019.

The **George Di Domizio Award** was established in 2012 in memory of a late ISMP Board member who advocated for greater cooperation between the medical industry and the broader healthcare community to promote safer drug products. The award is being given this year to **Dennis A. Tribble, PharmD, FASHP**, for his leadership in developing innovative technology for safe medication preparation and delivery. Dr. Tribble has more than 30 years of experience, first in hospital pharmacy management and then with the medication management automation industry. He holds more than 30 patents in healthcare automation, including the development of the first IV robotic device as well as the first IV workflow software. An early proponent of barcoding for improving the accuracy of pharmacy compounding and bedside medication administration, he has served as an advisor for the ISMP Guidelines for Safe Preparation of Compounded Sterile Preparations, and actively participated in ISMP's summit on the same topic. Dr. Tribble blogs, writes, and speaks regularly on the application of technology to medication safety and pharmacy practice. He is an Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice for Keck Graduate Institute School of Pharmacy, a founding member of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Pharmacy Informatics Task Force, and past chair of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Section on Pharmacy Informatics and Technology. Dr. Tribble is currently Director of Medical Affairs for the Medication Management Systems business at BD.

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The **ISMP Lifetime Achievement Award** is being presented to *Rita Shane, PharmD, FASHP, FCSHP* for her more than 40 years of professional work dedicated to making medication use safer for patients by taking an evidence-based approach to developing innovative practices. She is currently Chief Pharmacy Officer and Professor of Medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA, and serves as the Assistant Dean of Clinical Pharmacy Services at the University of California-San Francisco School of Pharmacy. In 2018, she co-authored legislation requiring hospital pharmacists in California to obtain medication lists for high-risk patients when they check in and again when they go home. Dr. Shane also has collaborated on research that led to the approval of “tech-check-tech” by the California State Board of Pharmacy for technician-filled medication cassettes in hospitals and was one of the investigators in a multicenter study of medication errors prevented by emergency department pharmacists. Dr. Shane has won numerous professional awards, including the Harvey A.K. Whitney, Leadership and Honorary Membership Awards from ASHP and the John Webb Management Excellence Award and Pharmacist of the Year Award from the California Society of Health-System Pharmacists. She has been listed as among the “50 Experts Leading the Field of Patient Safety” by *Becker’s Hospital Review*, published more than 100 papers, and given more than 200 presentations nationally and internationally.

The 2019 Cheers keynote speaker will be *Marcus Schabacker, MD, PhD*, Chief Executive Officer and President of the ECRI Institute, an independent, trusted authority on the medical practices and products that provide the safest, most cost-effective care. A board-certified anesthesiologist and intensive care specialist, Dr. Schabacker has 35 years of healthcare experience and 20 years of senior leadership responsibilities serving the medical device and pharmaceutical industries. He held leadership roles in medical affairs, preclinical and clinical development, regulatory affairs, quality, research and development, and patient safety. After receiving his medical and academic training at the Medical University of Lubeck, Germany, Dr. Schabacker served as senior medical officer at the Mafikeng General Hospital in South Africa as part of a humanitarian aid program to support the African National Congress government under Nelson Mandela. Dr. Schabacker is an affiliate assistant professor at The Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola University Chicago. In 2019, Dr. Schabacker was elected to the Fellowship of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

Journalists who wish to attend the awards should contact Renee Brehio at 614-376-0212, or rbrehio@ismp.org.

About ISMP: The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is an independent, nonprofit charitable 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 and other tools for healthcare professionals and consumers, visit www.ismp.org.