

Institute for Safe Medication Practices
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**Need to Adjust ADC Procedures, Standardize
Critical Care Infusions During Pandemic**

Horsham, Pa.—This week’s Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) special edition of the *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!*® acute care newsletter provides tips for safe and efficient use of automated dispensing cabinets (ADCs), including during the rapid expansion of auxiliary patient care units, satellite locations, and field hospitals to address the pandemic. It also highlights the need for standardizing critical care drug infusions and reports on several recent errors with norepinephrine infusions administered to COVID-19 patients.

The cover article offers suggestions from ADC vendors on accessing cabinets, enhancing security, and minimizing exposure and contamination. The fourth special edition also includes insight and tips on:

- IV push for antibiotics to conserve pumps and administration sets
- USP and FDA support for drug compounders
- Increased risk of poisonings now that children are home around the clock
- Frequently asked questions about COVID-19 and medication safety

During the pandemic, healthcare workers are facing unimaginable anxiety and stress—ISMP invites practitioners to share their stories of support and how they and their communities are rising to the challenge. Emails about what those on the frontlines are doing to stay strong or the help they are receiving to bolster them during this difficult time can be sent to: ismpinfo@ismp.org.

The special edition newsletters are being made available for free to the general public as well as subscribers. To access a copy, visit: <https://ismp.org/acute-care/special-edition-medication-safety-alert-april-16-2020>. Please note that access may require free registration.

About the Institute for Safe Medication Practices

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) is the only 501c (3) nonprofit organization devoted entirely to preventing medication errors. ISMP is known and respected as the gold standard for medication safety information. For more than 25 years, it also has served as a vital force for progress. ISMP’s advocacy work alone has resulted in numerous necessary changes in clinical practice, public policy, and drug labeling and packaging. Among its many initiatives, ISMP runs the only national voluntary practitioner medication error reporting program, publishes newsletters with real-time error information read and trusted throughout the global healthcare community, and offers a wide range of unique educational programs, tools, and guidelines. In 2020, ISMP formally affiliated with ECRI to create one of the largest healthcare quality and safety entities in the world. As an independent watchdog organization, ISMP receives no advertising revenue and depends entirely on charitable donations, educational grants, newsletter subscriptions, and volunteer efforts to pursue its life-saving work. Learn more at www.ismp.org.

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