

**Institute for Safe Medication Practices**  
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**ISMP Second Newsletter Special Edition Focuses on  
Infusion Pump Extension Sets to Conserve PPE**

**Horsham, Pa.** —The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) has issued its second special edition of the *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!*<sup>®</sup> acute care newsletter, which explores the use of extension sets to position infusion pumps outside COVID-19 patients' rooms. Some hospitals are adopting this practice to conserve personal protective equipment (PPE) and reduce the frequency of exposures that nurses would ordinarily experience by going into rooms to manage infusions.

The cover article provides a summary of two different hospitals' experiences and a list of issues to consider when deciding whether to keep infusion pumps outside the room. The second special edition also includes insight and tips on:

- Pharmacist order verification
- Evaluating critical medication supplies
- Problems caused by hanging sterile water bags on articulated arm of ventilators
- Recommending alternate methods of infusion (a gravity flow rate drip chart is included)

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-3-2020>. 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](http://www.ismp.org).

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