

Institute for Safe Medication Practices
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**Planning for Anticipated Infusion Pump Shortages
and Hydroxychloroquine-Azithromycin Adverse Event
Focus of ISMP Newsletter Special Edition**

Horsham, Pa. —The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) has issued its next special edition of the *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!*[®] acute care newsletter, which outlines possible strategies for handling upcoming shortages of smart infusion pumps and dedicated administration sets. The special edition also presents a report of a patient taking hydroxychloroquine right after discontinuing azithromycin developing QTc prolongation and cardiac arrest.

The cover article suggests ways to conserve smart pumps, such as going back to gravity infusions and using IV push. The third special edition also includes insight and tips on:

- Monitoring for adverse reactions with hydroxychloroquine and similar medications
- The cost of suspending independent double checks
- Automated dispensing cabinet (ADC) refills in areas with COVID-19 patients
- Using home medications in the hospital during pandemic

The special edition newsletters are being made available for free to the general public as well as subscribers. To access a copy, visit: <https://www.ismp.org/acute-care/special-edition-medication-safety-alert-april-9-2020>. 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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