



CANADIAN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS' SOCIETY  
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES ANESTHÉSIOLOGISTES

SCIENCE • VIGILANCE • COMPASSION

July 29, 2011

Mr David U  
President  
Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada  
4711 Yonge Street, Suite 501  
Toronto, Ontario  
M2N 6K8

Dear Mr U,

The Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society (CAS) is committed to improving patient safety and quality of care. As such, we recognize and fully support the collaborative efforts of the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada and its partners in establishing a voluntary national standard for automated identification and data capture of pharmaceuticals in Canada. Adverse drug events, especially those that are preventable through improved healthcare systems, are an ongoing concern to our Society.

The CAS further supports your organizations' ongoing efforts to increase the awareness of the automated identification of medications through a broad scope of stakeholders, and to develop a Canadian strategy for the safe adoption and administration of hospital and community medication systems, both of which will reduce preventable medications errors. Patients will benefit not only from point-of-care applications that use automated identification technologies, but also from improved management and tracking of pharmaceuticals throughout the supply chain.

The CAS is pleased to offer support to the initiative in the following ways:

- We will allow you to use our logo in communication related to the Canadian Pharmaceutical Bar Coding Project;
- We will provide a link to the project website from our website;
- We will advocate for implementation of automated identification of pharmaceuticals throughout the healthcare system as an important advance in patient safety;
- We endorse the intent of the Joint Technical Statement on Pharmaceutical Automated Identification and Product Database Requirement;
- We would be pleased to post information about the project and your milestones and next steps on our website;
- We will relay information on the initiative to our stakeholders.

CAS will continue to monitor the progress of this initiative, and support your ongoing efforts towards implementation of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Bar Coding Project as an important development in patient safety.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Chisholm'.

Richard Chisholm, MD, FRCPC  
President  
Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society