



Supporting Medication System Safety  
and Preparing for Accreditation

*Applying New Tools for Home and  
Community Care and Acute Care*

June 23, 2015

Presented with support from



# Objectives

At the end of this session, participants will understand:

- The importance of regular evaluation of medication system safety
- How ISMP Canada's customized Medication Safety Self-Assessment® programs can be used to provide comprehensive interdisciplinary medication system review and prepare for Accreditation Canada surveys
- How customized medication safety checklists can be used to focus and support improvement efforts.

# Alignment with Accreditation Canada Standards and ROPs

- ISMP Canada and Accreditation have very complementary mandates
  - Many ISMP Canada recommendations have been incorporated into Accreditation ROPs and standards
- This webinar will provide some illustrative examples of how new ISMP Canada tools and resources support organizations to prepare for Accreditation
- Consult Accreditation Canada for details on the Qmentum program and tests for compliance

# About ISMP Canada

Incorporated in 2000 for the purpose of analysis of medication incidents, sharing the learning, and making recommendations for medication system safeguards.

Independent national not-for-profit organization committed to the advancement of medication safety in all healthcare settings.

Our goal is the creation of safe and reliable **systems** for managing medications.

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## Advancing safe medication use

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada is an independent national not-for-profit organization committed to the advancement of medication safety in all healthcare settings. ISMP Canada works collaboratively with the healthcare community, regulatory agencies and policy makers, provincial, national and international patient safety organizations, the pharmaceutical industry and the public to promote safe medication practices. ISMP Canada's mandate includes analyzing medication incidents, making recommendations for the prevention of harmful medication incidents, and facilitating quality improvement initiatives.

**CMIRPS**

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**Community Pharmacy  
PROGRAMS**
**SafeMedicationUse.ca**  
for consumers

### Reporting and Prevention Systems

**REPORT**  
a Medication Incident

Medication Incident and Near Miss Reporting Programs for:

- [Practitioners](#)
- [General Public](#) (SafeMedicationUse.ca)

### Ontario MOHLTC Supported Initiatives



Ontario Critical Incident Learning

- [Hospital-Acquired Hyponatremia - Resources for Safety](#)
- [Safe Use of Insulin Interventions](#)
- [Safe Use of Insulin Pen e-Learning Module](#)
- [Safer Medication Use in Older Persons](#)

### Multi-Stakeholder Projects



Opioid Stewardship



Drug Shortage Safety



Medication Reconciliation



Canadian Incident Analysis Framework

### Upcoming ISMP Canada Events

Workshops Wednesday, June 10, 2015

June 11-12, 2015

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Resolving Drug-Drug Interactions: A Guide for Community Pharmacies to Reduce Potential Hospitalizations - Toronto, ON - **All Sessions are FULL**

Medication Safety for Pharmacy Practice: Incident Analysis and Prospective Risk Assessment - Toronto, ON

Resolving Drug-Drug Interactions: A Guide for Community Pharmacies to Reduce



Preventing harm from medication incidents is a responsibility of health professionals. **Consumers like you** can also play a vital role.

Reporting Medication Incidents benefits all Canadians.



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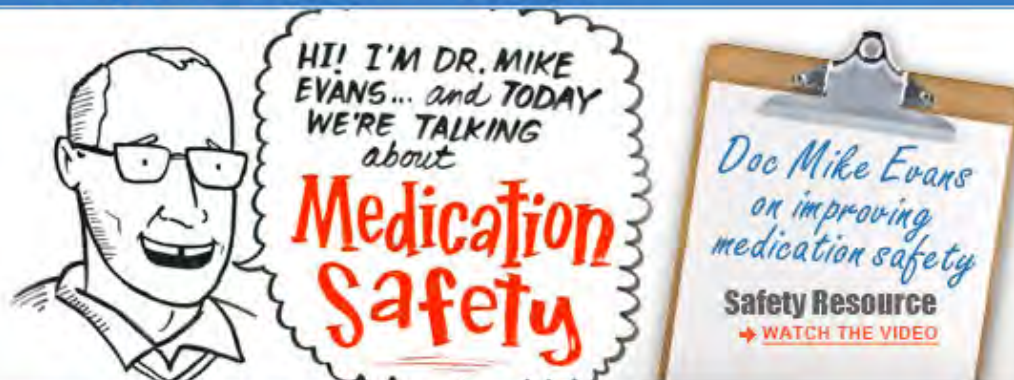
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### Latest News and Resources

 **SHARE**    ...

-  [Caution: Not All Medicines Are Taken Every Day](#) 2015-03-31
-  [Beware: Medicine Names May Sound Alike, but the Medicines May Be Very Different!](#) 2015-03-18
-  [Same Brand Name, Different Ingredient](#) 2015-02-12
-  [Confusion with a Baby's Dose of Medicine](#) 2015-01-14
-  [Reminder: Pay Attention to the Appearance of Your Medicines](#) 2014-12-02
-  [Health Canada Advisory - Unlicensed Home-Use HIV Test Kits via amazon.ca](#)
-  [Health Canada Advisory - Health Canada reminds Canadians not to use unauthorized health products](#)
-  [Know When Your Medicine Should Be Stopped!](#) 2014-11-04
-  [SafeMedicationUse.ca's Jennifer Turple talks about medication safety and drug interactions on CBC \(interview starts at the 22nd minute\)](#)
-  [One Simple Solution for Medication Safety – Doc Mike Evans Video now available!](#)
-  [Additional information on Mylan Pharmaceuticals nitroglycerin spray recall](#)


**Data access and analysis is  
the foundation of ISMP  
Canada's work**

# Medication incidents submitted to ISMP Canada are analyzed

Incident reports received through:

	<p><u><a href="#">Practitioners</a></u></p> <p>Healthcare Professional - (e.g., nurse, pharmacist, physician)</p>
	<p><u><a href="#">General Public</a></u></p> <p>Preventing harm from medication incidents is a responsibility of health professionals. Consumers like you can also play a vital role.</p>

# Outputs from Incidents Submitted



**ISMP**  
CANADA

Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada  
REPORT MEDICATION INCIDENTS  
Online: [www.ismp-canada.org/ferr\\_index.htm](http://www.ismp-canada.org/ferr_index.htm)  
Phone: 1-866-544-7672

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Canadian Hospital Incident Reporting System  
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## ISMP Canada Safety Bulletin

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Volume 14 • Issue 8 • September 10, 2014

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### Aggregate Analysis of Medication Incidents in Home Care

Safety in home care is becoming a national focus. The shift from institutional to community care presents new challenges as governments, healthcare organizations, and families try to help patients maintain their independence as long as possible in the comfort of their own homes. As a result, a growing number of medically complex patients are receiving care in the community with the support of multiple caregivers coordinated by home care agencies. Many of these caregivers (including family members and personal support workers) are attempting to manage complex medication regimens with limited training or education, which may increase the risk of a medication error. Recent home care safety reviews have confirmed that medications are a major cause of preventable adverse events.<sup>1,2</sup> ISMP Canada undertook a multi-incident analysis to better understand the underlying challenges faced by individuals involved in supporting safe medication use in the home care setting. This bulletin shares findings from the analysis, highlighting the major themes and selected contributing factors, to identify opportunities for system-based improvements.

#### Methodology and Overview of Findings

Reports of medication incidents that occurred at home were extracted from voluntary reports submitted to ISMP Canada's medication incident reporting database from August 1, 2000, to February 18, 2014. Of the 246 incident reports reviewed, only those with descriptive text suggesting the provision of home care (use of terms such as "service provider", "case management", "home-visiting"

regulated or unregulated professional) were retained. A total of 153 incidents were included in the final analysis, which was conducted according to the methodology outlined in the Canadian Incident Analysis Framework.<sup>3</sup> Fifty-seven (37%) of these incidents resulted in harm to the patient. High-alert medications in the community setting (anticoagulants, opioids, hypoglycemic agents, pediatric liquids, immunosuppressants)<sup>4</sup> accounted for 37 (24%) of the total. Antibiotics, proton pump inhibitors, and medications for inhalation were involved in 15 (10%), 10 (7%), and 10 (7%) of the incidents, respectively.

#### Findings of the Qualitative Analysis

Analysis of the incidents identified 3 main themes (see Figure 1). Some incidents were categorized under more than one theme. The following sections describe each of the main themes in some detail, along with an illustrative example.

**Medication Transition Failure**

**Complex Communications**

**Medication Handling Error**

**Figure 1. Main Themes from the Qualitative Analysis**

1 of 7



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Consumers Can Help Prevent Harmful Medication Incidents

**SafeMedicationUse.ca Newsletter**

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Volume 4 • Issue 7 • October 29, 2013

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### Good Communication Can Help Prevent Harmful Mistakes with Medicines!

Everyone experiences communication problems at one time or another. Maybe you've missed a meeting because you weren't told that the location had been changed. Or perhaps you've bought the wrong size or brand of an item at the supermarket because you didn't get enough information from the person who asked you to pick it up. Most communication mistakes cause nothing more than an inconvenience. But when it comes to medicines, a lapse in communication could lead to a mistake that could in turn cause serious harm.

Here is an example of an incident involving a communication breakdown that was reported to SafeMedicationUse.ca. A consumer was taking a medicine called ramipril to control high blood pressure. This medicine comes in several different strengths. The consumer had been taking two of the 10 mg capsules every day, for a total daily dose of 20 mg. However, the doctor thought the consumer was taking two of the 2.5 mg capsules, for a total daily dose of 5 mg. The consumer's blood pressure was still a bit too high, and the doctor instructed her to increase the dose to 3 or 4 capsules a day.<sup>1</sup> Using the 2.5 mg capsules, the total daily dose would have been 7.5 mg to 10 mg. However, because the consumer used the 10 mg capsules she had on hand, she took 4 times the amount of ramipril that the doctor had intended! Eventually, a family member realized what had happened. The family had some difficulties sorting out the mix-up with the doctor's office and the pharmacy, but fortunately no harm was reported.

#### SafeMedicationUse.ca has the following suggestions for preventing communication problems with your medicines:

- Keep a list of all your medicines and how to take them. Be sure to update your list whenever there is a change in any of your medicines. Always show the list to healthcare providers when you receive care.
- Know the **strength per unit** of each medicine you are taking or using, the **total amount to be taken for each dose** and how many times a day you take it. The dose and strength are often expressed in grams, milligrams, micrograms, or units (see Figure 1). It is important to know this information for all forms of your medicines (for example, patches, liquids, creams, drops, injections, and inhalers, as well as tablets and capsules). Document this information on your list of medicines.

**Figure 1 - Example of a Prescription Label \***



\*Example only, not all prescription medicine labels will appear exactly as shown

SafeMedicationUse.ca Newsletter – [www.safemedicationuse.ca](http://www.safemedicationuse.ca)  
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Ontario

# CRITICAL Incident Learning

Improving quality in patient safety

## Ontario Critical Incident Learning

Improving quality in patient safety

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Collaboration



To advance the patient safety agenda, in August 2011 the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care issued a directive that hospitals must report critical incidents involving medications and intravenous fluids to the Canadian Institute for Health Information National System for Incident Reporting (NSIR). A critical incident is an "unintended event that occurs when a patient receives treatment in the hospital that results in death, or serious disability, injury or harm, and does not result primarily from the patient's underlying medical condition or from a known risk inherent in providing treatment".

ISMP Canada has been identified as the lead organization for analysis of the reported incidents. A multidisciplinary team reviews each submitted critical incident report to ensure effective identification of the contributing factors. In addition, ISMP Canada will periodically conduct aggregate analysis of reported incidents to provide a more in-depth assessment of events involving a particular medication or care setting. On the basis of these analyses, ISMP Canada will develop and disseminate outcome-directed recommendations, with an emphasis on high-leverage actions that take into account human factors engineering principles and the need to design systems with integrated safeguards.

### Bulletins:

- Fluid Management - Iss.12/2015
- Multiple IV Infusions: Risks and Recommendations - Iss.11/2014
- Naloxone Saves Lives - Iss.10/2014
- Sharing Insulin Pens is a High-Risk Practice - Iss.9/2014
- Safe Pain Control in the Emergency Department - Iss.8/2014
- Smart Pumps Need Smart Systems - Iss.7/2014
- Monitoring Processes Contribute to Safe Use of Warfarin - Iss.6/2013
- Promoting the Safe Use of Insulin in Hospitals - Iss.5/2013
- Designing Effective Recommendations - Iss.4/2013
- Quality Medication Reconciliation Processes Are Critical - Iss.3/2013
- HYDROMORPHONE remains a high-alert drug - Iss.2/2013
- Mandatory Reporting—Can We Do Better? - Iss.1/2012

### Analysis Report:

- Ontario Hospital Critical Incidents Related to Medications or IV Fluids Analysis Report - 2014
- Ontario Hospital Critical Incidents Related to Medications or IV Fluids Analysis Report - 2013

### Webinars:

- Supporting Medication System Safety and Preparing for your Accreditation Survey: Applying New Tools for Home and Community Care and Acute Care - 2015/08/23
- Medication Safety Learning from Ontario Coroners' Cases - Focus on Opioids - 2013/03/08
- Hospital Related Deaths: The Role of the Coroner's Office in Enhancing Patient Safety - 2013/01/31

### Knowledge Translation Projects:

- Insulin Use Interventions/Safeguards

*Improving quality in patient safety*

**Distributed to:**

- Chief executive officers
- Chiefs of staff
- Board chairs
- Quality/patient safety leads
- Directors of pharmacy
- Directors of nursing

### Suggested action items

- Refer bulletin to pharmacy and therapeutics committee with a recommendation to evaluate naloxone availability and usage as well as existing naloxone protocols;
- Refer bulletin to nursing leadership and practice committees for an ongoing review of opioid monitoring practices to ensure that appropriate triggers are identified for a naloxone use
- Refer bulletin to interdisciplinary safety committee with a recommendation to review the types of incidents where naloxone is used
- Use bulletin as an educational tool for hospital rounds

## Naloxone Saves Lives

Opioids constitute a class of high-alert medications whose toxic effects can cause sedation, confusion, and respiratory compromise and can lead to death. Fortunately, an effective and life-saving reversal agent—naloxone—is available. Naloxone temporarily replaces the opioid at the site of action of the drug, counteracting the toxic effects. With appropriate monitoring, patients known or suspected to be experiencing toxicity can be identified and rescued from the effects of opioid overdose with timely administration of naloxone and the initiation of other medical interventions.

Naloxone has a shorter duration of effect than some opioids, and once it has been metabolized by the body, there is a risk that the pharmacological effects of the opioid will re-emerge, causing harm to occur.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, patients receiving naloxone must be monitored for higher effects.

Naloxone pain or must maintain to be appropriate.

Importantly, the word "CRITICAL" is written in large, bold, white letters on a dark blue background, and the word "Incident" is written in smaller, white letters on a dark blue background. The word "Learning" is written in smaller, white letters on a dark blue background.

Improving

Call t

- Review general
- Ensure use, a

*Improving quality in patient safety*

Issue 9  
June 2014

## Sharing Insulin Pens is a High-Risk Practice

Insulin pens are injection devices that are designed to help patients administer their own insulin with greater ease, convenience, and accuracy relative to the traditional insulin vial, needle, and syringe.<sup>1</sup> These advantages have led to a rise in the popularity of insulin pens in facilities, which has been paralleled by an increase in concerns about the high-risk practice of sharing insulin pens between different patients.<sup>2</sup> Since insulin cartridges and reservoirs can be contaminated with blood and other biologic material after their first use, sharing insulin pens carries the potential for transmission of

**Distributed to:**

- Chief executive officer
- Chiefs of staff
- Board members

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Issue 3  
March 2013

- Chief executive officers
- Chiefs of staff
- Board chairs
- Quality/patient safety leads
- Directors of pharmacy

**Suggested action items:**

- Circulate bulletin to front-line staff and physicians
- Refer bulletin to pharmacy leadership to assess established MedRec processes, identify target performance measures, and audit activities to ensure quality
- Use bulletin as an educational resource in your hospital's safety huddles or rounds

## Quality Medication Reconciliation Processes Are Critical

The process of medication reconciliation (MedRec) ensures that complete medication information is communicated accurately across transitions of care. As part of this process, a best possible medication history (BPMH) is created by systematically interviewing the patient and family and reviewing at least one other independent source of information to obtain and verify detailed information about the patient's use of prescribed and non-prescribed medications. Creating a BPMH does not mean that MedRec has been completed, but is an important component in the MedRec process.

### Advice for Hospitals

### Make MedRec a strategic priority

- Commit to developing and sustaining a quality-comprehensive MedRec process.
- Use the new Ontario MedRec recommended co quality Improvement plan<sup>2</sup> as a lever to drive sy improvements.
- Recognize that accurate MedRec processes are i safety and that they require support from all le commitment from physician leadership and en

Provide the necessary tools and resources to sustain high-quality practice<sup>2</sup>

- Train and/or certify healthcare workers on the rationale for and steps involved in MDR testing, including how to create a thorough BPAH that integrates a patient or caregiver interview with information from multiple independent sources.
- Provide appropriate staffing resources to confirm medication-use history using community pharmacies, online repositories of health information (e.g., Cerner drug profile website), community physicians, and other sources and ensure prompt follow-up of any concerns or questions identified for the safety concern.
- Reinforce the need for prescribers to critically review the BPAH for both clinical appropriateness and therapeutic safety before authorizing order based on this document.
- Assess your hospital's ability to complete specific admission/medication activities effectively, reliably, and in a timely manner. The *Safety Assessment Now!* Medication Quality Assessment Audit tool, to be made available later this year, will be helpful for such assessments.

### Engage patients

- Encourage patients to bring all of their medicines with them when they come to the hospital.
- Embrace the involvement of patients by ensuring that their personal medication documents are accurate and up to date through all transitions of care.<sup>4</sup>

### Ensuring internal and patient safety

- it uses high-leverage risk-reduction
- it shared amongst multiple patients

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 (1-866-544-7672)  
 Fax: 416-733-7171

## Ontario Hospital Critical Incidents Related to Medications or IV Fluids Analysis Report

January to December 2013

## Critical incident analysis reports

Submitted to the  
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
and  
Health Quality Ontario

Formatted for posting July 2014

**Knowledge translation projects** – e.g., Insulin Use Interventions; see: <http://www.ismp-canada.org/insulin/>

# New Resources

## For Home and Community Care:

- Home Care Organizations Medication Safety Self-Assessment®
- Home and Community Care Personal Support Worker Organizations Medication Safety Self-Assessment®

## For Acute Care:

- Hospital to Home – Facilitating Safe Medications at Transitions Toolkit
- Epidural Label Safety Checklist
- Updated Hospital Medication Safety Self-Assessment®



## HOSPITAL TO HOME— FACILITATING SAFE MEDICATIONS AT TRANSITIONS TOOLKIT

Developed by ISMP Canada with support from the Ontario Ministry of  
Health and Long Term Care



## *New* Hospital to Home Facilitating Safe Medication Transitions Toolkit

**Lisa Sever**

Medication Safety Specialist  
ISMP Canada, and  
Medication Safety Lead at  
Home Care Rx



# Contents of the Toolkit

- Patient story
- How this will benefit the patient experience
- Rationale for developing a toolkit and checklist
- Identify your target population
- Define key players- roles and responsibilities
- Home support for medication follow-up
- Pharmacists – a good return on investment
- Change ideas, overcoming barriers

## Hospital to Home—Medication-Focused Transitions Checklist

The goal of using this medication-focused transition checklist is to increase patient safety by reducing medication errors and incidents that occur when a patient goes from hospital to home.

### Create the Best Possible Medication Discharge Plan (BPMDP)

- ☐ Compare admission Best Possible Medication History, current medication profile and discharge prescriptions. Note any queries or discrepancies
- ☐ Ensure prescriptions are legible and complete (e.g., name, dose, quantity, frequency, LU codes) and include discontinued medication orders.
- ☐ Ensure formulary/non-formulary auto-substitutions in hospital have been reverted to what the patient was on, where appropriate
- ☐ Resolve any outstanding discrepancies or queries with the prescriber
- ☐ Create patient-friendly medication discharge list and include name of medication, what it is used for and how to take it
- ☐ Identify each medication as NEW, CONTINUED, STOPPED or CHANGED
- ☐ Include pertinent information for follow-up by the family physician (e.g., baseline labs or recommended labs for follow-up, medications to be reassessed)
- ☐ Obtain lab requisitions, to monitor medication efficacy or toxicity

### Chat with patient/caregiver to improve understanding of their medications

- ☐ Gather medication information counselling tools (e.g. medication pamphlets, inhaler or insulin pens for training purposes)
- ☐ Engage with patient - introduce yourself and your role, keeping an open dialogue:
  - ☐ Review prescriptions and patient-friendly medication discharge list
  - ☐ Counsel patient using the Best Possible Medication Discharge Plan (BPMDP) patient interview guide.
  - ☐ Counsel patient regarding new medications (indication, side effects, drug interactions) using teach-back method.
  - ☐ Show prescription – to be faxed it to the pharmacy – verify vials vs. compliance pack, pickup vs. delivery
  - ☐ Validate that patient can perform specific monitoring (e.g., pulse check, blood pressure monitoring, go to lab - INR)
  - ☐ Convey the importance of bringing their medication list to every appointment, and keeping it up-to-date
  - ☐ Remind patient to see their family physician within a week to review their medications
- ☐ Return patient's own medications – discard stopped medications with their permission
- ☐ Modify prescriptions and medication discharge list with prescriber, if needed, and review to ensure they do not have conflicting information.

### Connect with community partners to ensure supports are in place

- ☐ Determine home supports currently in place (e.g., caregiver, self, home care)
- ☐ Link with community pharmacist regarding patient's discharge by fax or phone
  - ☐ Complete and fax the "Discharge Medication Cover Sheet" with the prescriptions and the medication discharge list
  - ☐ Contact community pharmacist concerning medications not readily stocked or covered by drug plan
  - ☐ Referral of patient to community pharmacy medication programs. (e.g. *MedsCheck* or *MedsCheck at Home*)
- ☐ Fax family physician's office with follow-up issues and medication discharge list
- ☐ Refer to CCAC and provide them the patient medication list, if home medication management support is needed

### Complete the transition

- ☐ Give finalized prescriptions and patient medication discharge list to the patient.
- ☐ Document patient interaction and place copies of prescriptions and discharge medication list on chart
- ☐ Be available to respond to questions from patients, caregivers and community partners, and to follow on outstanding issues.

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# And the Checklist....

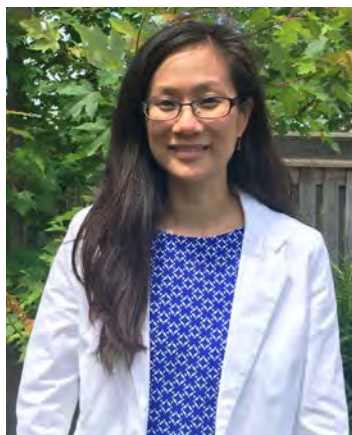
Interventions to reduce medication errors when a patient goes from hospital to home

# Comment from a pilot site

*“It is one of the most rewarding parts of my job, improving the patient’s understanding of their medications and to help them feel more confident about taking their medications when they go home. It really helps improve their overall experience at the hospital if we take the time to address all of their medication questions and ensure supports are there for them if they need it.*

*The checklist prompts me to systematically go through each step so that the medication information we send with the patient and to their healthcare providers is accurate and complete. It’s about passing the baton to ensure the patient can succeed at home.”*

Clinical pharmacist



## Alice Watt

Clinical Pharmacist  
Markham Stouffville Hospital Corporation, and  
Medication Safety Specialist  
ISMP Canada

# **Alignment with Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices (ROPs)**

- Medication reconciliation as a strategic priority
- Medication reconciliation at care transitions
- Information transfer at care transitions

Ref: Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices Handbook 2015; available from: <http://www.accreditation.ca/sites/default/files/rop-handbook-2015-en.pdf>

# ROP: Information transfer at care transitions

Tests for compliance	Assists
The information that is required to be shared at care transitions is defined and standardized for care transitions where clients experience a change in team membership or location: admission, transfer, and discharge	✓
Documentation tools and communication strategies are used to standardize information transfer at care transitions.	✓
During care transitions, clients and families are given information that they need to make decisions and support their own care.	✓
Information shared at care transitions is documented.	✓
The effectiveness of communication is evaluated and improvements are made based on feedback received.	

Ref: Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices Handbook 2015; available from:  
<http://www.accreditation.ca/sites/default/files/rop-handbook-2015-en.pdf>



# ***New* Medication Safety Self-Assessments® for the Home and Community Care Sectors**

**Lisa Sever**

Medication Safety Specialist  
ISMP Canada, and  
Medication Safety Lead at  
Home Care Rx





# Medication systems are complex

- Integration of patient specific information
- Communication, sharing, interpretation, assessment and interventions related to medication information
- Handling, processing, labelling, assisting with, administering, monitoring and disposing of medications
- Responsibility, competency, collaboration and knowledge of the team / patient

# Why do an MSSA?

- Indicates the organization is committed to improving medication safety
- Provides heightened awareness of safe medication practices in the home setting
- Initial assessment provides a baseline evaluation which can then be compared upon reassessment

# How to conduct an MSSA

- Appoint a team leader
- Register with ISMP Canada
- Establish an interdisciplinary team, book two meetings (1-2 hrs in length)
- Team answers the questions and enters them into the secure ISMP Canada database
- Print, compare and examine report
- Choose medication safety initiatives to implement or refine in your organization

# Sample Questions (Both MSSAs)

## Rating Scale

A	This item is applicable, but there has been no activity to implement
B	This item has been formally discussed for possible implementation, but is not implemented at this time
C	This item has been partially implemented, requires more internal development
D	This item has been partially implemented, requires more collaboration with partners
E	This item has been fully implemented

	Self-Assessment Items	A	B	C	D	E
2.1	The organization has adopted a standardized definition for MEDICATION MANAGEMENT.					
2.2	There are standardized MEDICATION MANAGEMENT role definitions for each team member including patient, caregiver, staff, and unregulated and regulated providers.					
2.3	The organization has adopted criteria that identify patients in MEDICATION RISK situations. <b>FAQ 2.3</b>					

# Sample Questions for PSW Organizations

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The organization has a STANDARDIZED PROCESS, supported by a written policy and procedure, to create a client-specific MEDICATION CARE PLAN for monitoring the effects of medications and to follow through with appropriate interventions, when required.

The organization has a STANDARDIZED PROCESS to ensure the medication list and MEDICATION CARE PLAN are updated when changes are made and communicated to the assigned PSW.

# Sample Questions for Home Care Organizations

All medication lists received from other care providers (e.g., hospital, physicians, nursing providers, pharmacists) are dated, stored in patient-specific records, and are shared with or viewable by all service providers supporting medication-related activities.

Laboratory results are stored in patient-specific records and are shared with or viewable by all service providers supporting medication-related activities.

PARENTERAL MEDICATION therapy referrals include patient weight, height, serum creatinine with date obtained and indication for use.



## Norm Umali

Pharmacist

Toronto Central Community Care Access  
Centre



Opportunity made here.



## Bruce Graham

Senior Manager Compliance and Innovation  
WoodGreen Community Services

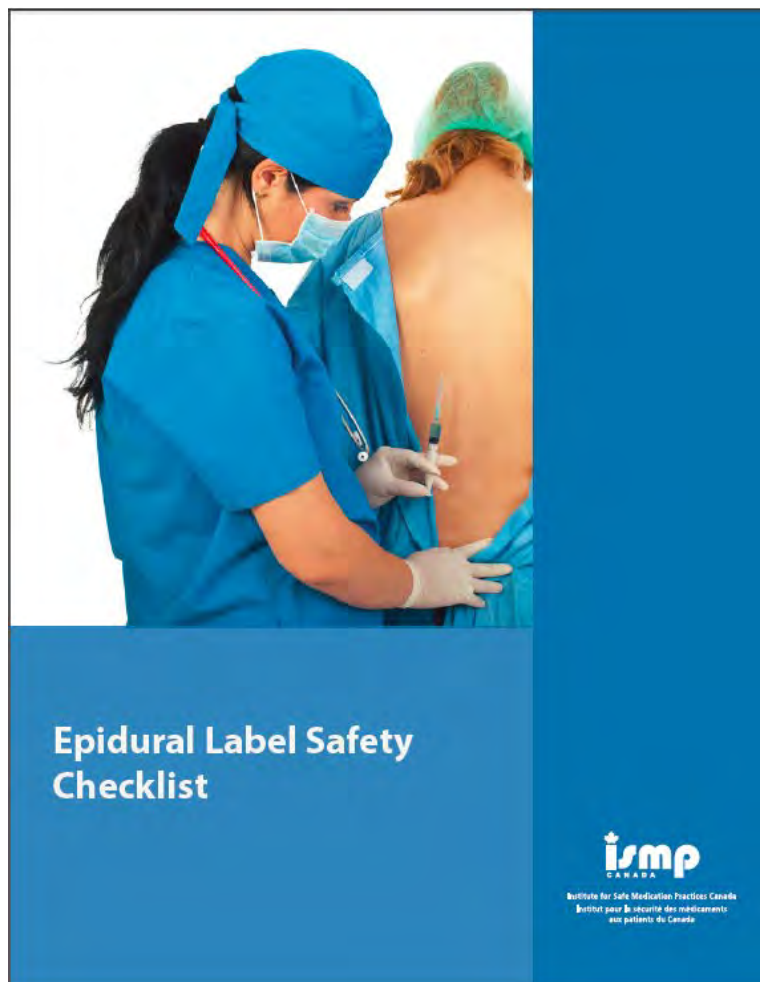
# Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices (ROP)

- Client Safety Prospective Analysis

Tests for compliance	Assists
At least one prospective analysis has been completed within the past year.	✓

Ref: Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices Handbook 2015; available from: <http://www.accreditation.ca/sites/default/files/rop-handbook-2015-en.pdf>

- Also, Medication Management standards recommend a regular comprehensive evaluation of the medication system



# *New* Epidural Label Safety Checklist

**Julie Greenall**

Director of Projects and  
Education  
ISMP Canada



# Why a Checklist for Epidural Labels?



- Increased attention to medication labelling beyond oncology (Thiessen Report, 2013\*)

- Increased external compounding by specialty pharmacies, drug preparation premises, manufacturers

- May increase variability in label information content and design vs. in-house preparation in hospitals.

- Particular risk – epidural products resemble products intended for intravenous use

- Local anaesthetic component is cardiotoxic if given IV

\*Thiessen JJ. A Review of the Oncology Under-Dosing Incident. A Report to the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, July 12, 2013. Available from:

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/cancer/drugsupply/docs/report\\_thiessen\\_oncology\\_under-dosing.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/cancer/drugsupply/docs/report_thiessen_oncology_under-dosing.pdf)

# Why a Checklist for Epidural Labels?

It is **crucial to consider the intended use of the product and the needs of the end user** for each medication label

Label content and design have been identified as contributing factors to numerous medication incidents

# Epidural Label Safety Checklist

Designed to:

- Heighten awareness of the characteristics of a safe label for medications intended for administration by the epidural route
- Assist organizations to evaluate label content and design for epidural products
- Provide a baseline for hospital efforts to enhance the safety of epidural medication use

# Checklist Content

- 14 items in 4 sections:
  - Label content
  - Label design
  - Label position
  - Other considerations

# Checklist Content

A	There has been <b>no activity</b> to implement this item for any epidural labels
B	This item has been <b>formally considered but not implemented</b> for any epidural labels
C	This item has been <b>partially implemented for some epidural labels</b> or in some areas of the organization
D	This item is <b>fully implemented for all epidural labels in some areas</b> of the organization
E	This item is <b>fully implemented for all epidural labels throughout</b> the organization
NA	<b>Not applicable; selected items only</b>

## 1. LABEL CONTENT

1.4	<p>For epidural products containing both a local anaesthetic and an opioid, the anaesthetic agent is listed first on the label followed by the opioid (e.g., bupivacaine 0.1% and fentanyl 2 mcg/mL).</p> <p><i>Choose NA if your organization does not use or prepare epidurals with more than one ingredient.</i></p>
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# Pilot Test Results

## Participation:

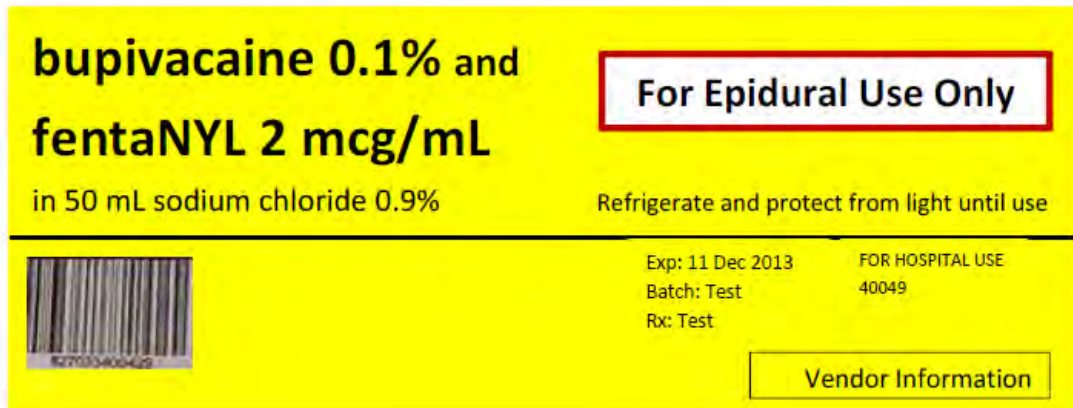
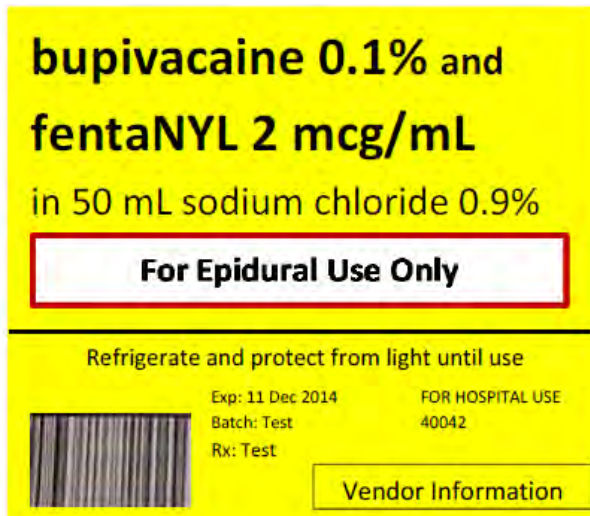
- 142 downloads
- 47 password requests
- 12 organizations submitted data

## Results:

Item Number	Assessment item	% of achievable score
1.5	For epidural products containing both a local anaesthetic and an opioid, the anaesthetic agent is listed first on the label	52.1
2.2	A non-condensed, sans serif type style in the largest point size possible is used. (A minimum of 12 point is recommended.) The use of mixed case lettering may enhance readability.	66.7
2.3	Critical information is highlighted using contrasting type characteristics (e.g., <b>bolding</b> , colour)	62.5
4.2	End user (e.g., nurse, physician) testing of the legibility and readability of the label has been completed, ideally using a simulation process that replicates actual practice.	64.6

# Sample Epidural Labels

These labels are provided as illustrative examples only and should not be considered for implementation without review of applicable labelling regulations/guidelines and end-user testing.



# Who should use the Epidural Checklist

- Designed for organizations that prepare, dispense or administer epidural medications
- If your organization does not use epidural medications, some aspects of this checklist may be applicable to other medication label content and design
  - But you will not be able to complete the electronic data submission and assess your data against the aggregate responses



North Bay Regional  
Health Centre



Centre régional  
de santé de North Bay



**Kathryn McLenaghan**  
Manager of Pharmacy Services,  
North Bay Regional Health Centre

# Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices (ROP)

- High-Alert Medications

Tests for compliance	Assists
The [high-alert] policy includes procedures for storage, prescribing, <b>preparation</b> , administration, <b>dispensing</b> and documentation for each high-alert medication, as appropriate.	✓

Ref: Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices Handbook 2015; available from:  
<http://www.accreditation.ca/sites/default/files/rop-handbook-2015-en.pdf>



# *Updated* Hospital Medication Safety Self-Assessment®

Julie Greenall  
Director of Projects and  
Education  
ISMP Canada



# ***UPDATED* HOSPITAL MSSA – VERSION III**

An effective resource for  
proactively assessing the risk of  
medication-use systems and  
enhancing an organizational  
culture of safety

# *Updated* **Hospital MSSA – Version III**

- Incorporates:
  - New learning from the Ontario Critical Incident Learning program
  - Learning from other incidents reported to ISMP Canada
  - Adapted content from the 2011 ISMP (US) Medication Safety Self Assessment for Hospitals
- ISMP Canada working with Accreditation Canada to assess ability to indicate alignment between MSSA and Medication Management standards to support organizations preparing for Accreditation

# Selected Highlights of New Content – Learning from OCIL

- A rescue protocol has been developed for naloxone that supports rapid administration when opioid toxicity/overdose is suspected
  - There is regular review of availability of specific antidotes and reversal agents in the facility generally and in each clinical area
- Smart pump drug libraries are configured for use throughout the hospital, rather than for individual care units
- Insulin pens are labelled with pharmacy-generated, patient-specific labels, for single patient use only and labels are placed on the barrel of the insulin pen

# Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices (ROP)

- Client Safety Prospective Analysis

Tests for compliance	Assists
At least one prospective analysis has been completed within the past year.	✓

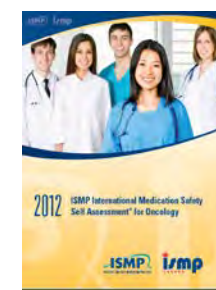
Ref: Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices Handbook 2015; available from:  
<http://www.accreditation.ca/sites/default/files/rop-handbook-2015-en.pdf>

- Also, Medication Management standards recommend a regular comprehensive evaluation of the medication system

# ISMP Canada's Other Self Assessment Programs



**HYDROmorphine  
Safety Self-  
Assessment®**



**Hospital Self-  
Assessment®  
for Anticoagulant  
Safety**

All Medication Safety Self-Assessments®  
available at [www.ismp-canada.org/mssa](http://www.ismp-canada.org/mssa)

\*with support from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

“The most detrimental error is  
failing to learn from an error.”

*James Reason*

# How to access these resources

## Medication Safety Self-Assessments®

- [www.ismp-canada.org/mssa](http://www.ismp-canada.org/mssa)

## Hospital to Home Checklist and Toolkit

- [www.ismp-canada.org/ocil](http://www.ismp-canada.org/ocil)

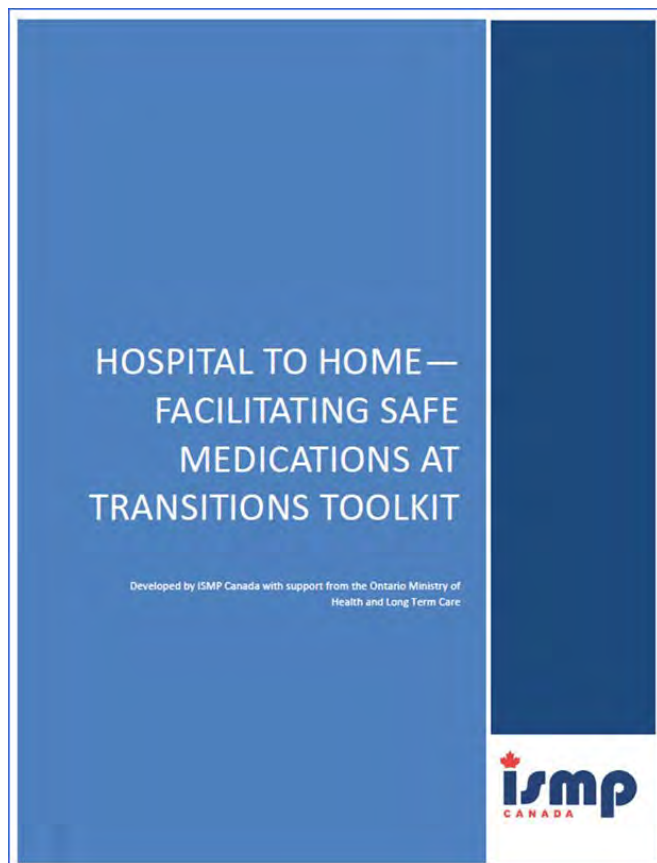
## Epidural Label Safety Checklist

- [www.ismp-canada.org/mssa](http://www.ismp-canada.org/mssa)

**Available Summer 2015**

**Questions?** email [info@ismp-canada.org](mailto:info@ismp-canada.org)

# Complimentary Across Canada



### Hospital to Home—Medication-Focused Transitions Checklist

The goal of using this medication-focused transition checklist is to increase patient safety by reducing medication errors and incidents that occur when a patient goes from hospital to home.

#### Create the Best Possible Medication Discharge Plan (BPMDDP)

- ☐ Compare admission Best Possible Medication History, current medication profile and discharge prescriptions. Note any queries or discrepancies
- ☐ Ensure prescriptions are legible and complete (e.g., name, dose, quantity, frequency, LU codes) and include discontinued medication orders.
- ☐ Ensure formulary/non-formulary auto-substitutions in hospital have been reverted to what the patient was on, where appropriate
- ☐ Resolve any outstanding discrepancies or queries with the prescriber
- ☐ Create patient-friendly medication discharge list and include name of medication, what it is used for and how to take it
- ☐ Identify each medication as NEW, CONTINUED, STOPPED or CHANGED
- ☐ Include pertinent information for follow-up by the family physician (e.g., baseline labs or recommended labs for follow-up, medications to be reassessed)
- ☐ Obtain lab requisitions, to monitor medication efficacy or toxicity

#### Chat with patient/caregiver to improve understanding of their medications

- ☐ Gather medication information counselling tools (e.g. medication pamphlets, inhaler or insulin pens for training purposes)
- ☐ Engage with patient – introduce yourself and your role, keeping an open dialogue:
  - ☐ Review prescriptions and patient-friendly medication discharge list
  - ☐ Counsel patient using the Best Possible Medication Discharge Plan (BPMDDP) patient interview guide.
  - ☐ Counsel patient regarding new medications (indication, side effects, drug interactions) using teach-back method.
  - ☐ Show prescription – to be faxed to the pharmacy – verify vials vs. compliance pack, pickup vs. delivery
  - ☐ Validate that patient can perform specific monitoring (e.g., pulse check, blood pressure monitoring, go to lab – INR)
  - ☐ Convey the importance of bringing their medication list to every appointment, and keeping it up-to-date
  - ☐ Remind patient to see their family physician within a week to review their medications
- ☐ Return patient's own medications – discard stopped medications with their permission
- ☐ Modify prescriptions and medication discharge list with prescriber, if needed, and review to ensure they do not have conflicting information.

#### Connect with community partners to ensure supports are in place

- ☐ Determine home supports currently in place (e.g., caregiver, self, home care)
- ☐ Link with community pharmacist regarding patient's discharge by fax or phone:
  - ☐ Complete and fax the "Discharge Medication Cover Sheet" with the prescriptions and the medication discharge list
  - ☐ Contact community pharmacist concerning medications not readily stocked or covered by drug plan
  - ☐ Referral of patient to community pharmacy programs (e.g. MedsCheck or MedsCheck at Home)
- ☐ Fax family physician's office with follow-up issues and medication discharge list
- ☐ Refer to CCAC and provide them the patient medication list, if home medication management support is needed

#### Complete the transition

- ☐ Give finalized prescriptions and patient medication discharge list to the patient.
- ☐ Document patient interaction and place copies of prescriptions and discharge medication list on chart
- ☐ Be available to respond to questions from patients, caregivers and community partners, and to follow on outstanding issues.

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Available at [www.ismp-canada.org/ocil](http://www.ismp-canada.org/ocil)



**Stay Informed** with the Ontario Critical Incident Learning program

**Sign up now for our newsletter**

email: [ontario@ismp-canada.org](mailto:ontario@ismp-canada.org)

# Stay Informed

## Sign up for ISMP Canada bulletins and newsletters



Visit [www.ismp-canada.org](http://www.ismp-canada.org) and click on  at the bottom of the home page

# Upcoming Educational Events

**October 1, 2015**

**Incident Analysis Framework: Train-the-Trainer Workshop (For PSEP – Canada Trainers)** - Toronto, ON

**October 22, 2015**


**BPMH Training for Pharmacy Technicians** - Toronto, ON

**November 5-6, 2015**

**Medication Safety for Pharmacy Practice: *Incident Analysis and Prospective Risk Assessment*** - Toronto, ON

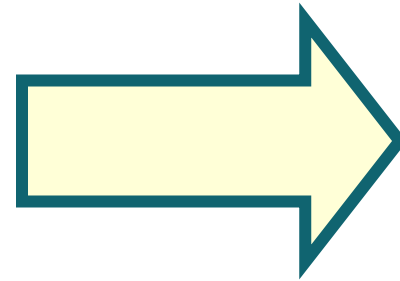
Visit [www.ismp-canada.org/education](http://www.ismp-canada.org/education)

# We encourage you to submit medication incidents to NSIR or ISMP Canada

	<p><u>Practitioners</u></p> <p>Healthcare Professional - (e.g., nurse, pharmacist, physician)</p>
	<p><u>General Public</u></p> <p>Preventing harm from medication incidents is a responsibility of health professionals. Consumers like you can also play a vital role.</p>

[www.ismp-canada.org/err\\_index.htm](http://www.ismp-canada.org/err_index.htm)

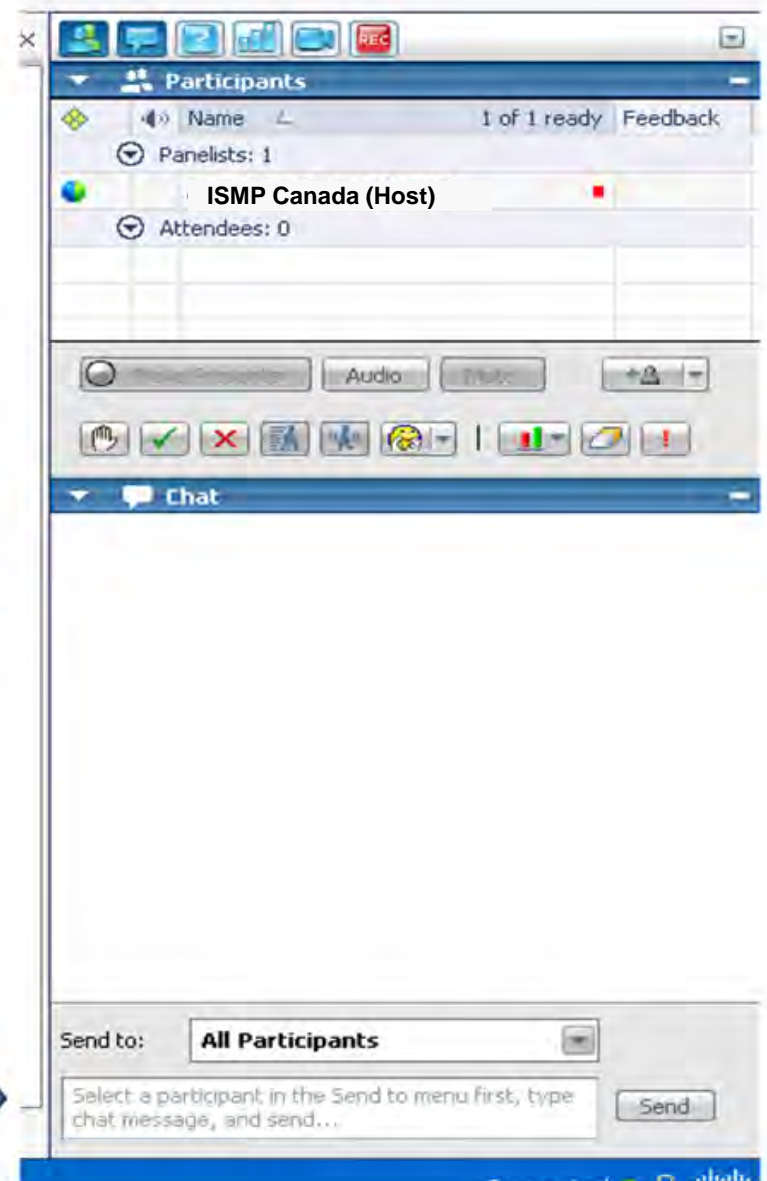
**NSIR reporting:** [http://www.cihi.ca/CIHI-ext-portal/pdf/internet/NSIR\\_INFOSHEET\\_2015\\_EN](http://www.cihi.ca/CIHI-ext-portal/pdf/internet/NSIR_INFOSHEET_2015_EN)



**PLEASE TAKE OUR POLL**



2. Type your question in the chat box
3. Email your question to [webinars@ismp-canada.org](mailto:webinars@ismp-canada.org)





# Thank you for attending

Additional questions?

email [info@ismp-canada.org](mailto:info@ismp-canada.org)

*We all have a role in preventing  
harm from medication incidents.*

**Visit:**

**ismp-canada.org**

**SafeMedicationUse.ca**

**Knowledgeisthebestmedicine.ca**