



Canadian Pharmaceutical Bar Coding Project Endorsement Statement

April 27, 2009

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada) and the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI), following broad consultation, jointly endorse the adoption of the GS1 global standard for automated identification (e.g., bar coding) of pharmaceutical products in Canada. Going forward, ISMP Canada and CPSI will work with stakeholders to ensure that the Canadian standard continues to evolve so that user requirements for implementing bar coding for enhanced safety of medication use within the healthcare system are fully identified and met across all healthcare sectors.

The Canadian Pharmaceutical Bar Coding Project is a unique opportunity for all stakeholders of the Canadian medication system to collaborate nationally and internationally, from industry to healthcare providers, on a comprehensive strategy for enhanced medication use to improve patient safety.

The Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) is a not-for-profit corporation, operating collaboratively with health professionals and organizations, regulatory bodies and governments to build and advance a safer healthcare system for Canada. CPSI performs a coordinating and leadership role across health sectors and systems, promotes leading practices and raises awareness about patient safety by working in collaboration with partners, patients, their families and the general public.

For more information, visit www.patientsafetyinstitute.ca

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada) is an independent national not-for-profit agency committed to the advancement of medication safety in all health care settings. ISMP Canada works collaboratively with the health care 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 collecting, reviewing, and analyzing medication incident and near-miss reports, identifying contributing factors and causes, and making recommendations for the prevention of harmful medication incidents.

For more information, visit www.ismp-canada.org