

Medication Safety Alerts

This column draws on US and Canadian experience and includes, with permission, material from the ISMP Medication Safety Alert! biweekly bulletin, published by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania, USA.

News

ISMP Canada has just kicked off the Ontario Ministry of Health research study: "Impact of interventions for improvement of medication use systems in Ontario hospitals". There will be approximately 35 hospitals to be enrolled. Interests in the Canadian version of the Medication Safety Self Assessment tool have been expressed from other provinces including Alberta and Newfoundland.

ISMP Canada has received a number of reports on infusion pump concerns which have become one of ISMP Canada top priority issues. Dr. John Doyle and Dr. Kim Vicente of University of Toronto's Cognitive Engineering Laboratory will head a project on infusion pump use in Canadian hospitals. This joint project with ISMP Canada will involve the deployment of a comprehensive survey to seek information from Canadian hospitals on infusion pump use, problems and other issues. CSHP has been invited to provide input and assistance in this important project.