



ECRI and ISMP (US) join forces to create one of the largest patient safety entities in the world

Leaders of the ECRI Institute and the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) in the US recently announced that as of January 2, 2020, ISMP would become an ECRI Institute subsidiary. ISMP Canada congratulates those involved in this new development and looks forward to collaborating with both organizations to advance patient safety.

Founded in 1968, the ECRI Institute is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting patients from unsafe and ineffective medical technologies and practices. More than 5,000 healthcare institutions and systems worldwide rely on the data and recommendations provided by ECRI.

For over 30 years, ISMP (US) has been a global leader in patient safety as the first non-profit organization dedicated to the collaborative development, education, and advocacy of safe medication practices.

In November, leaders of the ECRI Institute and ISMP (US) announced an agreement that would make ISMP (US) a subsidiary of ECRI.

“This agreement will strengthen our critical contributions to medication safety,” said ISMP President Michael Cohen. “It allows both organizations to retain their core missions while immediately extending our ability to share lifesaving information and further a vision where safe, high-quality healthcare is more readily available. We look forward to this new chapter.”

Under the terms of the agreement, ISMP (US) will operate as a wholly-owned subsidiary of ECRI Institute. Cohen and ISMP’s Executive Vice President Allen J. Vaida, will continue to lead ISMP (US), working closely with ECRI executives. ECRI Institute President and CEO Marcus Schabacker will immediately join ISMP’s board of trustees, along with two other ECRI Institute leaders.

“Two trusted organizations deeply committed to improving the safety of medical treatments are even more effective when they work together,” says Schabacker. “For both organizations, this agreement furthers the mission, deepens expertise, and broadens relationships. It’s a good move for both of us and for all of the organizations we serve, and ultimately for the patients worldwide.”

ISMP Canada’s CEO Carolyn Hoffman praised the agreement, saying the alliance will enable both organizations to integrate their extensive and well-respected patient safety capabilities. “ISMP (US) has led the way in understanding and addressing risks to medication safety and the ECRI Institute is highly regarded around the world for its contribution to improving medical device safety,” said Ms. Hoffman.

“This is a wonderful development for patient safety in the United States and globally. As we continue in our independent, not-for-profit, national role, ISMP Canada looks forward to even greater international collaboration between our organizations.”

For more information: <https://www.ismp.org/news/ecri-institute-and-institute-safe-medication-practices-join-forces-enhance-patient-safety>

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 receiving and analyzing medication incident and near-miss reports, identifying contributing factors and causes and making recommendations for the prevention of harmful medication incidents.

A Key Partner in the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System (CMIRPS)

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