MEDI-CATION ERRORS REPORTING PROGRAM

USP MEDICATION ERRORS REPORTING PROGRAM

Presented in cooperation with the Institute for Safe Medication Practices

The USP Practitioners' Reporting Network℠ is an FDA MEDWATCH partner

❑ ACTUAL ERROR ❑ POTENTIAL ERROR

Please describe the error. Include sequence of events, personnel involved, and work environment (e.g., code situation, change of shift, short staffing, no 24-hr. pharmacy, floor stock). If more space is needed, please attach separate page.

Was the medication administered to or used by the patient? ❑ No ❑ Yes Date and time of event: _____

What type of staff or health care practitioner made the initial error? _____

Describe outcome (e.g., death, type of injury, adverse reaction). _____

If the medication did not reach the patient, describe the intervention. _____

Who discovered the error? _____

When and how was error discovered? _____

Where did the error occur (e.g., hospital, outpatient or retail pharmacy, nursing home, patient's home)? _____

Was another practitioner involved in the error ? ❑ No ❑ Yes If yes, what type of practitioner? _____

Was patient counseling provided? ❑ No ❑ Yes If yes, before or after error was discovered? _____

If a product was involved, please complete the following:

	Product #1	Product #2
Brand name of product involved		
Generic name		
Manufacturer		
Labeler (if different from mfr.)		
Dosage form		
Strength/concentration		
Type and size of container		
NDC number		

If available, please provide relevant patient information (age, gender, diagnosis, etc.). Patient identification not required.

Reports are most useful when relevant materials such as product label, copy of prescription/order, etc. can be reviewed.
Can these materials be provided? ❑ No ❑ Yes If yes, please specify. _____

Suggest any recommendations you have to prevent recurrence of this error or describe policies or procedures you have instituted to prevent future similar errors.

A copy of this report is routinely sent to the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), to the manufacturer/labeler, and to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). **USP may release my identity to: (check boxes that apply)**

❑ ISMP ❑ The manufacturer and/or labeler as listed above ❑ FDA ❑ Other persons requesting a copy of this report ❑ Anonymous to all

Your name and title

Your facility name, address, and ZIP

Telephone number (include area code)

Signature

Date

Return to the attention of:
Diane D. Cousins, R.Ph.
USP PRN
12601 Twinbrook Parkway
Rockville, MD 20852-1790

Call Toll Free: **800-23-ERROR** (800-233-7767)
or FAX 301-816-8532
USP home page: http://www.usp.org/prn
Electronic reporting forms are available. Please call for additional information and/or your free diskette.

Date Received by USP:

File Access Number:

C-194
8/5/97

Additional forms can be found in the *USP DI Vol. I* and *Vol. III* and in all monthly *Updates*.

MEDICATION ERRORS REPORTING PROGRAM

Medication Errors Do Occur

Medication errors can occur anywhere, any time along the drug therapy course, from prescribing through transcribing, dispensing, administering, and monitoring. An error can cause confusion, alarm, and frustration for the health care provider and for the patient. And YES, an error can even cause a death or injury to your patient. The causes of errors are many; for example, lack of product knowledge or training; poor communication; ambiguities in product names, directions for use, medical abbreviations, handwriting, or labeling; job stress; poor procedures or techniques; or patient misuse. Along this continuum, any health care professional may be the cause of or contribute to an actual or potential error.

A Safer Environment for Your Patients

It is important to recognize that health care providers learn from medication errors. By sharing your experience through the nationwide USP Medication Errors Reporting (MER) Program you help your colleagues to gain an understanding of why errors occur and how to prevent them. You can also have a positive impact on the quality of patient care and influence drug standards and information. When others are informed about an error, the chance of recurrence may be lessened. Education regarding medication errors assists health care professionals to avoid errors by recognizing the circumstances and causes of actual and potential errors.

Easy Access

Just call 800-233-7767 to reach a USP health care professional, who will take your report and respond to your concerns. Reports may also be submitted in writing or faxed. All reports are forwarded to the Food and Drug Administration, the product manufacturer/labeler when appropriate, the ISMP, and the USP Divisions of Standards and Information Development. If you wish to remain anonymous to any of these sources, the USP will act as your intermediary in all correspondence. While including your identity is optional, it does allow for appropriate follow-up with you to discuss your observations or provide feedback.

USP: A Partner in MEDWATCH

The USP Practitioners' Reporting Network is a partner in MEDWATCH, the FDA's medical products reporting program. As a partner, USP PRN contributes to the FDA's efforts to protect the public health by helping to identify serious adverse events for the agency. This means that your reported information is shared with the FDA on a daily basis, or immediately if necessary.

USP PRN®

The USP PRN® is designed to collect experiences and observations from health care providers through four separate reporting programs:

- The USP Drug Product Problem Reporting Program
- The USP Medication Errors Reporting Program
- The USP Drug Product Problem Reporting Program for Radiopharmaceuticals
- The USP Veterinary Practitioners' Reporting Program

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices, the Society of Nuclear Medicine, and the American Veterinary Medical Association cooperate in presenting the USP PRN.

Your Input Could Make the Difference!

USP PRN...CALL US WHEN YOU NEED US.

USP SINCE 1820

U.S. Pharmacopeia
12601 Twinbrook Parkway,
Rockville, MD 20852-1790

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ROCKVILLE MD 20897-5211