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Institute for Safe Medication Practices
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Current Activities

President, Institute for Safe Medication Practices, Horsham, PA

Adjunct Associate Professor of Pharmacy, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Assistant Editor, Hospital Pharmacy, Facts and Comparisons, St. Louis

Education

Temple University School of Pharmacy, Bachelor of Science, Pharmacy, 1968; Temple University School of Pharmacy, Master of Science Pharmacy (Hospital Pharmacy Administration), 1984.

Honorary Degrees

Doctor of Science, University of the Sciences of Philadelphia (formerly Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science), 2001.

Doctor of Science, Long Island University, 2005.

Doctor of Public Service, University of Maryland, 2005.

Positions Held

Healthcare Affairs Manager, Hospital Central Services, Allentown, PA 1992-1993

Director of Pharmacy, Quakertown Community Hospital, 1983-1992

Assistant Director of Pharmacy for Clinical Services, Temple University Hospital, 1970-1983

Clinical Assistant Professor, Temple University, 1976-1990

Major Interests

Assisting health professionals, hospitals, industry and regulatory agencies in the development of safe medication practices; professionally oriented electronic communication; implementation and development of medication error reporting programs internationally.

Awards

- Award for Achievement in Professional Practice of Pharmacy, Am Society Hospital Pharmacists, 1982
- Pennsylvania Pharmacist of the Year, Pennsylvania Society of Hospital Pharmacists, 1986
- Jonathan Roberts Award, Delaware Valley Society of Hospital Pharmacists, 1987
- Fellow, American Society of Hospital Pharmacists (FASHP), 1989
- Syntex Laboratories Pharmacy College Preceptor of the Year, Temple University, 1991-92
- Professor Anthony J. Amadio Distinguished Lecture Award, Duquesne University, 1994
- Marion Merrell Dow Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacy, Salford Royal Hospitals, UK, 1995
- Nicholas Tucci Memorial Lecture Award, University of Pittsburgh, 1996 and 1999
- Sr. M. Gonzales Duffy Award, Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists, 1997
- American Druggist Top 50: October 1997, October 1998, and October 1999. Named as one of top 50 most influential pharmacists in U.S. (Note: journal ceased publication December 1999)
- Award for Achievement for Sustained Contributions to the Literature of Pharmacy Practice in Health Systems, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, 1998
- American Druggist Pharmacist of the Year, 1999 (cover)
- Lakey Honorary Lecture Award, Rho Chi Society (pharmaceutical honor society), Alpha Chi Chapter, Wayne State University, 2000

- Daniel B. Smith Practice Excellence Award, American Pharmaceutical Association, 2001
- Founder's Award, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA, 2001
- Harvey A.K. Whitney Award (recognized as health-system pharmacy's highest honor). American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, 2002
- Information Technology Innovator Top 10 in US. Healthcare Informatics (McGraw Hill) Sept 2003.
- Best Regular Column/Contributed Medication Errors (Nursing 2006), Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
- Silver Award, Editorial Division -. The American Society of Healthcare Publication Editors. 2006.
- Advisory Committee Service Award. US Food and Drug Administration. 2006.
- Modern Healthcare 100 Most Powerful People in US Healthcare 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006
- Alpha Zeta Omega Achievement Medalist Award, 2007
- Distinguished Person of the Year. 2008. Pharmacy Planning Services, San Francisco, California
- MacArthur Foundation Fellow. The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. 2006-2010
- John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award. National Quality Forum and The Joint Commission, 2008

Professional Activities

- Vice Chair, Patient Safety Advisory Group, The Joint Commission, 2008-present; member 2002-present.
- Member, World Health Organization Steering Committee for Patient Safety Project (in collaboration between WHO World Alliance for Patient Safety, WHO Programme for International Drug Monitoring and the Uppsala Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring). 2007-
- Chairperson, International Medication Safety Network 2006-2011
- Member, World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Patient Safety Solutions Steering Committee 2006-
- Member, Committee on Identifying and Preventing Medication Errors, Institute of Medicine, 2004-2007
- Member, National Quality Forum, Patient Safety Advisory Committee and National Voluntary Consensus Standards Maintenance Committee (CSMC) on Safe Practices 2003 - present
- *Member,* Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee, US Food and Drug Administration, 2001-2007 (Special Government Employee). Remain as consultant to FDA.
- Member, Liaison Committee, Patient Safety Data Standards, Institute of Medicine, 2003
- Member, National Quality Forum Steering Committee on Evidence-based Safety Practices 2001-02
- Editor, ISMP Medication Safety Alert! Publications 1996-present
- Chairman, Medication Errors Advisory Panel, United States Pharmacopeia (USP), 1995-1999
- Assistant Editor, Hospital Pharmacy, 1973-present
- Contributing Editor, Journal American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA), 1993-1997
- Editorial Boards:
 - Pharmacy Practice News, 1986-91
 - Journal of Intravenous Nurse Society, 1989-present
 - Healthcare Risk Control (ECRI), Plymouth Meeting, PA, 1989-present
 - The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Safety in Healthcare (JCAHO), 2000-2005
 - Sentinel Event Alert (JCAHO) 2002 current
 - Nursing 2009 (Springhouse Corporation)
 - Journal of Patient Safety (National Patient Safety Foundation) 2005- present
- Member, Board of Trustees, JPC Foundation, New York, NY, 2000 -
- Member, Board of Directors, Hospital Central Services Corporation, Allentown, PA, 1988-1992
- Member, Board of Directors, Pennsylvania Society of Hospital Pharmacists, 1976-83, 1992-93
- Co-founder, Medication Error Reporting Program (MERP), United States Pharmacopeia (USP), Rockville, MD, 1991
- Preceptor, Safe Medication Management Fellowship Program, Institute for Safe Medication Practices, 1995present
- Member, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, American Pharmaceutical Association, Drug Information Association
- ISMP Representative, National Coordinating Council on Medication Error Reporting and Prevention 1996-2003

Completed Research Support

The Commonwealth Fund

2000-2002

Pittman (PI)

ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment® for Hospitals. This study examined the extent of evidence-based and expert consensus medication safety practices in US hospitals. Study conducted in collaboration with the Health Education and Research Foundation and the American Hospital Association.

Role: Co-Investigator

American Pharmacists Association Foundation 2002-2004

National Association of Chain Drug Stores

Cohen (PD)

ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment® for Community/Ambulatory Pharmacy. This prospective risk-assessment project identified evidence-based and expert consensus medication safety practices in US ambulatory pharmacies and distributed a self-assessment tool to pharmacies.

Role: Program Director

The Commonwealth Fund

2003-2006

Vaida (PI)

2004 ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment® for Hospitals. This study compared the extent of implementation of medication safety systems and practices since the 2000 study and measured the implementation of new safety systems and practices in US hospitals. collaboration with the Health Education and Research Foundation and the American Hospital Association.

Role: Co-Investigator

GlaxoSmithKline 2005-2006

Cohen (PD)

ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment® for Antithrombotic Therapy in Hospitals. This prospective risk-assessment project identified evidence-based and expert consensus medication safety practices when using antithrombotics and distributed a self-assessment tool to US hospitals.

Role: Program Director

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality 2007-08

Cohen (PI)

Using Risk Models to Identify and Prioritize Outpatient 'High-Alert' Medications," in response to RFA-HS-07-003. Using sociotechnical probabilistic risk assessment (ST-PRA) this project identified and prioritized list of high-alert medications dispensed from community pharmacies. A comprehensive risk model for a subset of priority high-alert medications was prepared. From this subset, specific error pathways that have the highest probability of causing the greatest amount of harm were identified. Approaches for eliminating or reducing the risk of harm with these drugs were tested and provided. The work has been accepted for publication in J Am Pharm Assoc. in 2 parts. Publication anticipated latter half of 2009.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality 2009-11 (in process) Cohen (PI)

Risk-informed Interventions in Community Pharmacy: Implementation and Evaluation (Grant Number: 1R18HS017910-01). Implement mandatory patient counseling by a pharmacist for consumers who pick up a prescription for warfarin, fentanyl patches, methotrexate, and targeted types of insulin. Conduct a readiness assessment before implementation of bar-coding technology in community pharmacy. Implement the use of a simplified risk-assessment/risk-intervention scorecard tool for high-alert medications based on ST-PRA models of the pharmacy dispensing process.

Other

Have appeared on broadcast and cable television including *Dateline NBC (including opening segment of premiere edition, March 30, 1992), ABC 20/20, CBS 48 Hours, The Phil Donohue Show, Good Morning America, The Today Show, American Journal, CBC Marketplace* (Canada), FOX News Channel, *Geraldo Rivera Live* (CNBC, FOX), *Morning Line* (MSNBC), *ABC News, NBC News with Tom Brokaw, CBS News with Katie Kouric, Fresh Air* (National Public Radio), CNN, *Anderson Cooper 360.* Current blogger for Philadelphia Inquirer (http://www.philly.com/philly/health_and_science/97905324.html)

Publications

Publications include the books "Medication Errors" (most recent is 2nd edition, American Pharmaceutical Association/Saunders 2007; 3rd edition in process, expected fall 2011), "Medication Errors: Causes and Prevention" with Neil M. Davis and "200 Medication Errors and How to Avoid Them (Springhouse)." Editor, *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!* Contributing author of five additional books in the nursing field. ISMP "medication safety" features are published monthly in European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy, Australian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy, and Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy.

NOTE: <u>Not</u> listed below are monthly columns in <u>Hospital Pharmacy</u> (from 1975), <u>Nursing 2006</u> (from 1979), and <u>IV Newsline</u> (Intravenous Nurse Society, from 1982)

- Cohen MR. An injustice has been done. Jail time for an error. Pt Safe Qual Health 2009;
- Horn D, Cohen MR. A community pharmacy team's role in medication error reduction strategies. California Pharmacist 2009; 56:34-40
- Cohen MR, Olson BL, Pangilinan JM. Drug mix-ups threaten patient safety. CE program Medscape, May 2008. available at http://www.medscape.com/viewprogram/12497.
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- Cohen MR. The Institute of Medicine report, preventing medication errors: another good day. Am J Health Syst Pharm. 2007 Jul 15;64(14 Suppl 9):S1-2
- Smetzer JL, Cohen MR. Propofol sedation: Who should administer?. Jt Comm J Qual Pt Safety 2006;32:293-5
- Cohen MR, Smetzer JL. Preventing errors with neuromuscular blocking agents. Jt Comm J Qual Pt Safety 2006;32:56-9
- Smetzer, JL, Cohen, MR. Intimidation. Practitioners speak out about this problem. Jt Comm J Qual Saf, 2005; 31: 594-599
- Cohen MR, Smetzer JL. Unlabeled containers lead to patient's death. Jt Comm J Qual Saf. 2005;31:414-17
- Cohen MR, Smetzer JL. Patient-controlled analgesia safety issues. J Pain Palliative Care Pharmacother. 2005;19:45-50
- Piotrowski MM, Cohen MR, Mercier J et al. Introducing the National Patient Safety Goals Department: Sharing Programs of Excellence from Individual Organizations Jt Comm J Qual Saf. 2005;31:43-6
- Cohen MR. Foreword. <u>A Guide to JCAHO's Medication Management Standards</u>. Oakbrook Terrace, IL. Joint Commission Resources. 2004.
- Moore TJ, Walsh CS, Cohen MR. Reported medication errors associated with methotrexate. Am J Health-Syst Pharm. 2004; 61:1380-4
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- Smetzer JL, Cohen MR. Pain scales don't weigh every risk. J Pain Palliat Care Pharmacother. 2003;17:67-70.
- Crawford SY, Cohen MR, Tafesse E. Systems factors in the reporting of serious medication errors in hospitals.
 J Med Syst. 2003;27:543-51.
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- Neuenschwander M, Cohen MR, Vaida AJ, Patchett JA, Kelly J, Trohimovich B. Practical guide to bar coding for patient medication safety. Am J Health Syst Pharm. 2003;60:768-79
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- Cohen MR. Harvey A. K. Whitney lecture. A prescription for safety in healthcare. Am J Health-Syst Pharm 2002;59:1511-7
- Cohen MR. Medication naming, labeling and packaging. Am J Health-Syst Pharm 2002;59:876-7
- Levine SR, Cohen MR, Blanchard NR et al. Guidelines for preventing medication errors in pediatrics. J Ped Pharmacol Ther 2001;6:426-42
- Cohen MR, Frankel A, Ogrod ES. Enhancing Your Practice: To err is human: How to prevent medical errors. Patient Care 2001;11:95-104.
- Cohen MR, Grasha T. Understanding medication errors. J Am Pharm Assoc 2001;41S52-53
- Trissel LA, Zhang Y, Cohen MR. The stability of diluted vincristine sulfate used as a deterrent to inadvertent intrathecal injection. Hosp Pharm 2001;36: 740–745
- Bates DW, Cohen MR and Leape LL et al. Reducing the frequency of errors in medicine using information technology. White Paper. J Amer Med Inform Association 2001:8:299-308
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- Smetzer JL, Cohen MR, Vogel DP. Medication errors: integrating individual and system accountability [letter].
 Am J Health Syst Pharm 1999;56:1263-64
- Green SM. Clark R. Hostetler MA. Cohen M. Carlson D. Rothrock SG. Inadvertent ketamine overdose in children: clinical manifestations and outcome. Ann Emerg Med. 1999;34:492-7, 1999
- Cohen H, Cohen MR. Nortriptyline and neuropathic pain. Nurse Pract, 1999;24:124
- Cohen, MR. Pacetti, S. Medication errors with narcotic analgesic products. Hospital Pharmacy. 33(Nov): p 1310, 1319. 1998.
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 1994
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 Jul.
- Cohen MR. Reporting medication errors [letter]. American Pharmacy. NS34(6):5-6, 1994 Jun.
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- Davis NM. Cohen MR. Slips and mistakes in dispensing. American Pharmacy. NS34(4):18, 1994 Apr.
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 Feb
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- Cohen MR. Davis NM. Mix-ups with Norvasc and Navane. American Pharmacy. NS33(8):26, 1993 Aug.
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