



Medication Safety: How to Respond to Errors

From NABP <news@nabp.pharmacy>

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NABP WEEKLY

*Educational, Regulatory,
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Pharmacists Ranked Fourth Most Trusted Profession in Gallup's 2024 Survey

Pharmacists are ranked as the fourth most trusted profession from a list of 23 diverse occupations in the Gallup, Inc, 2024 Annual Rating of Honesty and Ethics Survey. From December 2-18, 2024, 57% of Americans ranked pharmacists as having "high" or "very high" honesty and ethical standards, which is a slight increase from [Gallup's 2023 Annual Survey](#), in which 55% of Americans ranked pharmacists as having high honesty and ethical standards.

Nurses continue to retain their position as the most trusted profession, with 76% of Americans ranking them as having "very high" or "high" honesty and ethical standards.

[Compare the Results](#)

ISMP Safety Briefs: Inhalation Medication Entered Incorrectly Causes Error

This column was prepared by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP), an Emergency Care Research Institute affiliate.

ISMP received a report that a pharmacy technician incorrectly ordered “mometasone 100 mcg inhalation” instead of “mometasone 100 mcg-formoterol 5 mcg inhalation” into their pharmacy dispensing system from an electronic prescription. The pharmacist prevented the error while verifying the prescription and corrected the mistake. During the investigation, the pharmacy found that error was likely due to the pharmacy technician working on multiple tasks at once. Among ISMP’s several recommendations, the institute suggests designing a pharmacy space and workflow that reduces distractions and ensuring the electronic prescriptions follow the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs standards and Surescripts guidelines for accurate drug matching.

Visit NABP’s [National Pharmacy Compliance News](#) to discover the latest alerts from ISMP, Food and Drug Administration, Drug Enforcement Administration, and other federal agencies, as well as information about current national developments affecting pharmacy practice.

[View ISMP’s Safety Brief](#)

SAMHSA Outlines Guidelines for Overseeing Programs for Opioid Treatment

In December 2024, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) published guidelines for managing an opioid treatment program (OTP). The *Federal Guidelines for Opioid Treatment Programs (2024)* discusses recommendations for general provisions and practices; medical and clinical provisions and practices; services delivered by OTPs; medication administration, dispensing, and use; strategies for ensuring continuity of care; and exemption requests. SAMHSA stresses that this document is not a legal document and is not intended to replace the judgment of health care providers. Instead, it is designed to guide and support a shift in the approach to providing care for opioid use disorder.

[Download the Guidelines](#)

LAPPA Seeks to Expand Mental Health and SUD Treatment in Model Law

The Legislative Analysis and Public Policy Association (LAPPA) has published model legislation aimed at improving access to mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment by addressing inequities and challenges in health benefit plans. The *Model Mental Health and*

Substance Use Disorder Parity Act includes language that calls for the treatment limitations of mental health and SUD to be no more restrictive than treatment limitations for all medical and/or surgical benefits covered by health benefit plans. Furthermore, the model law language includes requirements for health insurers to comply with the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 for all health benefit plans subject to the restrictions of this legislation.

[View the Act](#)

CDC Unveils Collaborative Plan to Address Health Risks Across People, Animals, and the Environment

On January 10, 2025, **[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)** published its first collaborative, multisectoral, and transdisciplinary plan to tackle zoonotic diseases. The *National One Health Framework to Address Zoonotic Diseases and Advance Public Health Preparedness in the United States* guidebook explains the One Health framework, which is intended to protect people, animals, and the environment from health threats that affect both people and animals, such as COVID-19, avian influenza, etc. CDC has outlined seven goals to enhance collaboration and cooperation with agencies and partners as part of its One Health framework over the next five years (2025-2029).

[Read CDC's Plan](#)

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