

Assessing the state of safe medication practices using the ISMP Medication Safety Self Assessment for Hospitals: 2000 and 2011.

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<https://psnet.ahrq.gov/issue/assessing-state-safe-medication-practices-using-ismp-medication-safety-self-assessment>

In 2000, the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) introduced the [Medication Safety Self Assessment](#), establishing a national [baseline](#) of hospitals' efforts to improve medication safety. This study evaluated progress over the past decade by repeating this voluntary survey in 2011. Nearly a quarter of all registered hospitals in the United States participated. Overall scores improved significantly compared with those in 2000. [Computerized provider order entry](#) implementation increased from 6% to 55% of hospitals. There were also advances in patient education and communication of drug orders. One of the largest changes was an 833% increase in scores related to [safety culture](#). Despite these developments, the survey also reveals many areas for improvement, such as accurate documentation of important patient information. A prior AHRQ WebM&M [interview](#) with Michael Cohen, president of ISMP, discussed medication safety.