

# INsight Risk Assessment for Medication Safety

## A Fast, effective way to assess risks

ECRI Institute's web-based risk assessment survey provides perspectives from the front-line to leadership to help the organization assess the strength of medication safety throughout their organization. Our survey tool generates reports based on survey results to help identify problems so you can focus on improvements.

## Sample questions addressed in the web-based survey:

- ▶ How would you describe overall communication between the pharmacy staff and clinical staff within the organization? (Communication & Information Flow)
- ▶ Does the computerized provider order entry (CPOE) system have built-in safety alerts (decision support)? (Computerized Physician Order Entry)
- ▶ A list of home medications is obtained with each patient admission. (Documentation)
- ▶ Labeling of high-risk intravenous drug tubing is standard practice. (Equipment Safety & Updated Technology)
- ▶ How frequently does a second person perform an independent double check when high-alert medications are prepared? (High Risk/High Alert Medication Processes)
- ▶ A pharmacist is available to clinical staff when they have questions. (Leadership & Accountability)
- ▶ The organization's policies are consistent with a nonpunitive environment for the reporting of medication errors. (Medication Error Prevention & Reporting)
- ▶ Staff follow policies that maximize the use of standardized dosing times. (Medication Process)
- ▶ Patients and their families are encouraged to ask questions about medications. (Patient Information & Education)
- ▶ Does the pharmacy review patient allergies prior to dispensing medications? (Pharmacy Policies)
- ▶ Staff follow specific procedures when disposing of unused medications. (Safe & Secure Environment of Care)
- ▶ Nursing staff are required to complete annual skills validation on the use of infusion pumps. (Staff Competency & Education )

## Key areas:

Communication & Information Flow  
Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)  
Documentation  
Equipment Safety & Updated Technology  
High Risk/High Alert Medication Processes  
Leadership & Accountability  
Medication Error Prevention & Reporting  
Medication Process  
Patient Information & Education  
Pharmacy Policies  
Safe & Secure Environment of Care  
Staff Competency & Education



**Take the first step in reducing risk associated with medication administration.**

Learn more about INsight for medication safety, call (610) 825-6000, ext. 5891, e-mail [insight@ecri.org](mailto:insight@ecri.org) or visit [www.ecri.org/INsight](http://www.ecri.org/INsight).