



ISMP Canada Co-Founder David K. U Invested into the Order of Canada

The designation honours his significant contributions to advancing medication safety in Canada.

OTTAWA, ON – December 11, 2025: David K. U, RPh, B.Sc. Phm, M.Sc. Phm., Co-founder of the [Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada](#) (ISMP Canada), and General Secretary of the International Medication Safety Network, (IMSN), was invested today as a Member of the Order of Canada at a ceremony at Rideau Hall hosted by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada.

The honour was bestowed on David in recognition of his important contributions to advancing medication safety in Canada. Over the last 40 years, he has become a national and international leader in medication safety through his expertise in medication management processes, healthcare operations, and information technologies.

In 2000, David co-founded ISMP Canada with Dr. Michael Cohen of ISMP (U.S.), Dr. Beverly Orser, Sylvia Hyland and the late John Senders. ISMP Canada is a trusted partner for patients and caregivers, healthcare providers, operational leaders, and policy experts, providing timely learnings about medication errors that inform practices and policies to improve medication safety.

“Building awareness about safe medication practices is my passion so I am deeply honoured to receive this award in recognition of the important contributions Canada has made in promoting medication safety to improve patient care,” says David K. U. “The progress we've made in enhancing medication safety for patients would not have been possible without the ongoing collaboration with patients and caregivers as well as healthcare leaders in hospitals, long-term care facilities, and community pharmacies.”

ISMP Canada is an independent, pan-Canadian, not-for-profit organization committed to a vision of zero preventable harm from medications in all healthcare settings. The organization is also a partner in the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System.

“We are excited to recognize and celebrate David’s tremendous contributions in establishing and advancing the work of ISMP Canada,” says Trevor Hall, Chair, ISMP Canada. “ISMP Canada is a leader in safety and continues to achieve impact by sharing, learning, and collaboratively implementing improvements in medication safety.”

David has written numerous articles on medication safety in professional journals, newspapers, and in ISMP Canada’s Safety Bulletins. He is also an author of chapters on medication safety in two books and a speaker at national and international conferences on medication safety.

“With David’s commitment and leadership, ISMP Canada has grown to become the voice for safe medication practices in Canada,” adds Carolyn Hoffman, CEO, ISMP Canada. “We



continue David’s work through collaborating with our partners locally, provincially, nationally, and internationally.”

About the Order of Canada

The Order of Canada is one of our country’s highest honours. Appointments are made for sustained achievement at three levels: Companion, Officer, and Member. Officers and Members may be elevated within the Order in recognition of further achievements, based on continued exceptional or extraordinary service to Canada.

About the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada

ISMP Canada is an independent national not-for-profit organization committed to the advancement of medication safety in all health care settings. ISMP Canada is working toward the vision of zero preventable harm from medications.

About the International Medication Safety Network

IMSN is an international organization that was co-founded by **David K. U** and **Michael Cohen** in 2006 to share medication safety information and error prevention strategies among many member countries of the Network.

Media Inquiries

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