



## Do Not Use Abbreviation List

Refrain from using these abbreviations, symbols or other error prone designations on this list for any handwritten, preprinted, and electronic forms of medication orders, transcriptions or communications.

Abbreviations	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Correction
µg	Microgram	Mistaken as mg	Use “mcg” or “micrograms”
cc	Cubic centimeters	Mistaken for u (units)	Use “ml”
IU	International units	Mistaken for IV or 10	Use “units”
QD or qd	Every day	Mistaken for QID	Use “daily”
QOD or qod	Every other day	Mistaken for QID or QD	Use “every other day”
QID or qid	Four times a day	Mistaken for QD or QOD	Use “four times a day”
U or u	Units	Mistaken for the number 0 or 4, causing a 10-fold error in dose (e.g, 4u seen as 40)	Use “unit”
Trailing zero after decimal (e.g., 1.0 mg)	1 mg	Mistaken for 10 mg if decimal is not seen	Do not use trailing zero for doses expressed in whole numbers
No leading zero before a decimal dose (e.g. .5 mg)	0.5 mg	Mistaken as 5 mg if the decimal point is not seen	Use zero before a decimal point when the dose is less than a whole unit.
MgSO4	Magnesium Sulfate	Mistaken for morphine sulfate	Use complete drug name
MS, MSO4	Morphine Sulfate	Mistaken for magnesium sulfate	Use complete drug name