

DO NOT USE Dangerous Abbreviations, Symbols and Dose Designations

Abbreviation	Intended Meaning	Use Instead
U	Unit	unit
IU	International unit	unit
Abbreviations for drug names		full drug names
QD	Every day	daily
QOD	Every other day	every other day
OD	Every day	daily
OS, OD, OU	Left eye, right eye, both eyes	left eye, right eye, both eyes
D/C	Discharge	discharge
cc	Cubic centimeter	mL
µg	Microgram	mcg
Symbol	Intended Meaning	Use Instead
@	at	at
>	Greater than	greater than/above
<	Less than	less than/below
Dose Designation	Intended Meaning	Use Instead
Trailing zero	x.0 mg	x mg
Lack of leading zero	.x mg	0.x mg

Adapted from ISMP Canada's "Do Not Use" List (2006) at: http://www.ismpcanada.org/dangerous_abbreviations.htm

PHC Anti-Infective Dosing Recommendations

Anti-infective:	Mild Infections (Normal Renal Function)	Serious Infections (Normal Renal Function)
	<i>Usual Dose</i>	<i>Usual Dose</i>
acyclovir*	200 mg PO 5 x daily 5 mg/kg IV Q8H	10 mg/kg IV Q8H *
amikacin	Avoid	7.5 mg/kg IV Q12H
amphotericin B	Avoid	0.7 mg/kg IV Q24H
ampicillin	1 g IV Q6H	2g IV Q4H
azithromycin	250 mg PO daily	500 mg PO daily 500 mg IV daily
ceFAZolin	1 g IV Q8H	2g IV Q8H
cefTAZidime (RD)	1 g IV Q8H	2g IV Q8H
cefTRIAxone *	1 g IV Q24H	2g IV Q12H *
cefuroxime	500 mg PO Q12H 750 mg IV Q8H	750 mg IV Q8H
ciprofloxacin	500 mg PO BID 400 mg IV BID	750 mg PO BID 400 mg IV BID
clindamycin	450 mg PO QID 300 mg IV Q6H	600 mg IV Q8H
cloxacillin	2 g IV Q6H	2 g IV Q4H
cotrimoxazole	1 DS PO BID	Variable
fluconazole	100 mg PO daily 100 mg IV daily	400 mg PO daily 400 mg IV daily
gentamicin	Avoid	6 mg/kg IV Q24H
imipenem (RD)	500 mg IV Q6H	500 mg IV Q6H
linezolid (RD)	600 mg PO Q12H	600 mg PO Q12H 600 mg IV Q12H
moxifloxacin	400 mg PO Q24H	400 mg PO daily 400 mg IV daily
meropenem (RD)	500 mg IV Q8H	1000 mg IV Q8H
metronidazole	500 mg IV Q12H 500 mg PO Q12H	500 mg IV Q12H 500 mg PO Q8H
penicillin	1 million units IV Q6H	3 million units IV Q4H
piperacillin-tazobactam (RD)	3.375 g IV Q6H	3.375 g IV Q6H **
tetracycline	500 mg PO QID	500 mg PO QID
tobramycin	Avoid	6 mg/kg IV Q24H
valACYclovir	500 mg PO BID	1000 mg PO TID
vancomycin (RD)	25 mg/kg single dose, then 15 mg/kg IV Q12H	25 mg/kg single dose, then 15 mg/kg IV Q12H

For mg/kg doses, 70 kg used

(RD)=Restricted Drug – Consult the Restricted and Special Access Drugs Table for approved indications or prescribers (located on the PHC Connect website under Pharmacy Services → Medication Policies)

*=Requires larger doses for treating meningitis

**=For neutropenia or severe sepsis, a dose of 4.5 g IV Q6H is recommended