

Unacceptable Abbreviations



Do Not Use



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 centimetre	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.ismp-canada.org/dangerousabbreviations.htm>

