

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH CENTER
UNAPPROVED ABBREVIATION LIST

(Exhibit B)

The following abbreviations **MAY NOT** be used in medical record documentation. The entry may only be documented as it appears in the “acceptable entry” column. Revised: 2/20/2004, 6/20/2009

Unacceptable Abbreviation/Dose Expression	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Acceptable Entry
ug	microgram	mistaken for “mg” when handwritten.	Use “mcg.” or write out microgram.
U or u	unit	Read as zero (0) or a four (4) causing a 10 fold overdose or greater (4U seen as 40 or 4u seen as 44).	Use the word “unit” (written out).
IU	international unit	Misread as IV (intravenous)	Write out “international units”
Zero after decimal point (1.0)	1 mg	misread as 10 mg if the decimal point is not seen.	Do not use terminal zeros for doses expressed in whole numbers.
No zero before decimal dose (.5 mg)	0.5 mg	Misread as 5 mg	Always use zero before a decimal when the dose is less than a whole unit.
MgSO4	magnesium sulfate	morphine sulfate	Write out drug name as magnesium sulfate.
MS	morphine sulfate magnesium sulfate	Confused for one or the other	Write out as morphine sulfate or magnesium sulfate.
MSO4	morphine sulfate	magnesium sulfate	Write out drug name as morphine sulfate.
Q.D., QOD (qd, qod)	once daily/every other day	Confused for one or the other	Write out “daily” and “every other day” (qday is acceptable)
T.I.W.	three times a week	Mistaken for three times a day or twice weekly.	Write “3 times weekly”.
A.S., A.D., A.U.	Left ear, right ear, both ears	Mistaken for OS, OD and OU.	Write “left ear,” “right ear,” “both ears,” “left eye,” “right eye,” “both eyes”.