

Medication abbreviations in the following chart **must not** be used anywhere in the patient's medical record:

Unapproved Abbreviation:	Intended Meaning:	Potential Problem:	Recommendation:
No zero before decimal point when less than a whole unit (e.g. .1 mg)	0.1 mg	Misread as 1 mg (especially on lined paper)	Always use a zero BEFORE decimal.
(1) U	Units	Misread as a zero (0), four (4), or cc	Write out "units"
(2) IU	International Units	Misread as IV or 10	Write out International Units
(3) QD	Daily	Misinterpreted as QID or QD.	Write out "daily"
(4) QOD	Every other day	Misinterpreted as QID or QD	Write out "every other day"
DA, Dop, Dopa	Dopamine	Unclear; maybe misinterpreted for dobutamine	Write out drug names
DB, Dob, Dobu	Dobutamine	Unclear; maybe misinterpreted for dopamine	Write out drug names
MS or MSO ₄	Morphine	Unclear; maybe misinterpreted for magnesium sulfate	Write out drug names
MgSO ₄	Magnesium sulfate	Unclear; maybe misinterpreted for morphine sulfate	Write out drug names
SNP	Sodium Nitroprusside	Unclear; maybe misinterpreted for morphine sulfate	Write out drug names