

## ABBREVIATIONS CHART

Here are the Abbreviations approved by the JCAHO on Jan. 31, 2006

(Note that ML and SubQ are no longer unauthorized and have been dropped from the list).

MUST USE	Meaning	DO NOT USE	Rationale
<b>mcg</b>	microgram	<b>µg</b>	µg can be mistaken for mg
<b>Spell out: Units</b>	Units	<b>U or u</b>	Could be read as a zero (0), or a four (4)
<b>1 mg</b>	DO NOT use trailing zero	<b>1.0 mg</b>	Misread as 10 times amount intended if decimal point is not seen
<b>0.5 mg</b>	DO use leading zero	<b>.5 mg</b>	Misread as 10 times amount intended if decimal point is not seen
<b>Spell out: q day, Q day or daily, Every Other Day</b>	Every day, Every other day	<b>qd, QD, qod, QOD</b>	Can be mistaken for each other. The period after the Q can be mistaken for an "l" and the "O" can be mistaken for an "l"
<b>Spell out: Morphine, Magnesium Sulfate</b>	Morphine Sulfate Magnesium Sulfate	<b>MSO4, MS, MgSo4</b>	Can be mistaken for each other
<b>Spell out: International Units</b>	International Units	<b>IU</b>	Mistaken for IV (intravenous) or 10 (ten)