

## LIST OF DANGEROUS ABBREVIATIONS

| <b>DANGEROUS Abbreviations<br/>DO NOT USE:</b>                                 | <b>ACCEPTABLE TO USE:</b>   |
|--|---|
| <b>U</b> (or unit)   | Write “unit”  |
| <b>IU</b> (for international unit)   | Write<br>International<br>unit  |
| <b>Q.D.,<br/>Q.O.D.</b><br>(Latin abbr. for<br>once daily and every other day) | Write “daily” and “every other day”.  |
| <b>Trailing zero</b> –<br>(X.0 mg)<br><b>Lack of leading zero</b> – (.X mg)    | Never write a zero by itself after a decimal<br>point (X mg), and always use a zero before a<br>decimal point (0.Xmg) |
| <b>MS<br/>MSO4<br/>MgSO4</b>   | Write “morphine sulfate” or “magnesium<br>sulfate”  |
| <b>TIW</b> (for three times a week)  | Write “3 times weekly” or “three times<br>weekly”   |
| <b>μ</b>   | Write out “mcg” or “microgram”  |
| <b>SS</b> (for ½)  | Write out “1/2” or “one-half”   |