





ABBREVIATIONS NOT ACCEPTED ON MD ORDERS

UMDNJ-University Hospital MEDICATION SAFETY ALERT *DON'T HOLD ON TO DANGEROUS HABITS: SPELL IT OUT!*

University Hospital will NOT honor the following abbreviations
Effective Date: October 15, 2003

	The handwritten U after an insulin, heparin, pitocin dose can be read as a zero , a 4 , or cc's causing dangerous overdoses.	<i>Write:</i> “Unit”
	The handwritten q.d. or od can be misinterpreted as “q.i.d” If the middle period is raised or tail of “q” interferes.	<i>Write:</i> “Daily”
	Cubic centimeters, Misread as “U” (Units)	<i>Write:</i> “ml”
	Check the telephone order by spelling back the name of the medication ordered, to avoid confusion, ie: morphine sulfate and magnesium sulfate.	<i>Spell:</i> “M-O-R-P-H-I-N-E”