

The Washington Patient Safety Coalition has a bold mission: to reduced medical errors and improve patient safety for all people receiving health care in Washington State.

Improving patient safety starts with all of us. The Washington Patient Safety Coalition and Physicians Insurance endorse the Institute for Safe Medication Practices' recommendation to eliminate the use of unsafe abbreviations. See the list on the reverse side of this card.

For more information on the coalition, visit www.wapatientssafety.org or call (206) 682-2811, ext. 10.



risk@phyins.com
Seattle Office (206) 343-7300
or (800) 962-1399
Spokane Office (509) 456-5868
or (800) 962-1398

If you have any questions about this or any other risk management issue, please call the Risk Management Department.

Please share this information with your office staff. Check out our Web site phyins.com

Medical Abbreviations

| Do Not Use | Use |
|--------------------------------|---|
| U | Write: unit |
| IU | Write: international unit or unit |
| Leading decimal (.1 mg) | Use a zero before a decimal point 0.1 mg |
| Trailing zero (1.0 mg) | 1 mg Do not write a zero by itself after a decimal point |
| g | mcg or write micrograms |
| d (as in “X3d” or “3d”) | Write: days or doses |
| qd, q.d., QD, Q.D. | Write: daily |
| qod, q.o.d., Q.O.D. | Write: every other day |
| MgSO4 | Write: Magnesium Sulfate or MagSO4 or Mag |
| MS, MS04 | Write: Morphine |
| A.S., A.D., A.U. | Write: left ear, right ear, both ears |