

DO NOT USE Dangerous Abbreviations, Symbols and Dose Designations

Abbreviation	Intended Meaning	Use Instead
U	Unit	unit
IU	International unit	unit
Abbreviations for drug names		full drug names
QD	Every day	daily
QOD	Every other day	every other day
OD	Every day	daily
OS, OD, OU	Left eye, right eye, both eyes	left eye, right eye, both eyes
D/C	Discharge	discharge
cc	Cubic centimeter	mL
µg	Microgram	mcg
Symbol	Intended Meaning	Use Instead
@	at	at
>	Greater than	greater than/above
<	Less than	less than/below
Dose Designation	Intended Meaning	Use Instead
Trailing zero	x.0 mg	x mg
Lack of leading zero	.x mg	0.x mg

Adapted from ISMP Canada's "Do Not Use" List (2006) at: http://www.ismpcanada.org/dangerous_abbreviations.htm

PHC Anti-Infective Costs (2009-2010)

Anti-infective:	Mild Infections (Normal Renal Function)		Serious Infections (Normal Renal Function)	
	Usual Dose	Cost/Day	Usual Dose	Cost/Day
acyclovir*	200 mg PO 5 x daily 5 mg/kg IV Q8H	1.26 19.91	10 mg/kg IV Q8H *	39.82
amikacin	Avoid	-	7.5 mg/kg IV Q12H	39.10
amphotericin B	Avoid	-	0.7 mg/kg IV Q24H	68.99
ampicillin	1 g IV Q6H	3.41	2g IV q4h	8.04
azithroMYCIN	250 mg PO daily	0.64	500 mg PO daily 500 mg IV daily	1.28 16.04
ceFAZolin	1 g IV Q8H	2.55	2g IV Q8H	5.10
ceftAZIDime (RD)	1 g IV Q8H	21.93	2g IV Q8H	43.86
ceftriAXONE *	1 g IV Q24H	2.47	2g IV Q12H *	8.69
ceFURoxime	500 mg PO Q12H 750 mg IV Q8H	2.79 9.85	750 mg IV Q8H	9.85
ciprofloxacin	500 mg PO BID 400 mg IV BID	0.14 5.08	750 mg PO BID 400 mg IV BID	0.75 5.08
clindamycin	450mg PO QID 300 mg IV Q6H	1.58 5.64	600 mg IV Q8H	8.47
cloxacillin	2 g IV Q6H	21.26	2 g IV Q4H	31.86
cotrimoxazole	1 DS PO BID	0.10	Variable	-
fluconazole	100 mg PO daily 100 mg IV daily	2.04 3.25	400 mg PO daily 400 mg IV daily	8.16 13.00
gentamicin	Avoid	-	6 mg/kg IV Q24H	12.45
imipenem (RD)	500 mg IV Q6H	97.52	500 mg IV Q6H	97.52
linezolid (RD)	600 mg PO Q12H	141.28	600 mg PO Q12H 600 mg IV Q12H	141.28 191.01
moxifloxacin	400 mg PO Q24H	4.00	400 mg PO daily 400 mg IV daily	4.00 19.35
meropenem (RD)	500 mg IV Q8H	73.05	1000 mg IV Q8H	146.10
metronidazole	500 mg IV Q12H 500 mg PO Q12H	2.74 0.21	500 mg IV Q12H 500 mg PO Q8H	2.74 0.32
penicillin	1 million units IV Q6H	0.86	3 million units IV Q4H	3.87
piperacillin-tazobactam (RD)	3.375g IV Q6H	23.60	3.375 g IV Q6H **	23.60
tetracycline	500 mg PO QID	0.48	500 mg PO QID	0.48
tobramycin	Avoid	-	6 mg/kg IV Q24H	8.85
valacyclovir	500 mg PO BID	2.99	1000 mg PO TID	8.97
vancomycin (RD)	25 mg/kg single dose, then 15 mg/kg IV Q12H	8.10	25 mg/kg single dose, then 15 mg/kg IV Q12H	8.10

For mg/kg doses, 70 kg used

(RD)=Restricted Drug – Consult the Restricted and Special Access Drugs – Table for approved indications or prescribers
(located on the PHC Connect website under Pharmacy Services → Medication Policies)

*=Requires larger doses for treating meningitis

**=For neutropenia or severe sepsis, a dose of 4.5 g IV Q6H is recommended