Quick Tip

ACCREDITATION | April 3 to 6, 2023

'Do Not Use' Abbreviations

- Use of abbreviations when writing medication orders can result in misinterpreted orders & mistakes leading to serious or fatal outcomes.
- PRH uses the ISMP Canada "Do Not Use" list of commonly misinterpreted abbreviations (shortened words, symbols and dose designations) and applies to all medication-related documentation.
- All of our Healthcare providers have equal responsibility not to write or use these abbreviations.
- PRHs culture of safety encourages the expectation to clarify or take the steps to correct any unclear orders to prevent any patient harm.
- The ISMP Canada "Do Not Use" is at the front of our patients carts

Example:

"u", for insulin "units" misinterpreted as "60"

60 Regular INSULIN NOW

Proper format: write the word "units"



Tip #12