

**Patient Safety Discussion Forum  
(PSDF)  
Elimination of Dangerous Abbreviations Project  
Ohioans FiR<sub>x</sub>st**

**Project Endorsement**

**Goal**

Medication errors are among the most common health care errors. One of the major causes of medication errors is the ongoing use of potentially dangerous abbreviations. The goal of the Forum's first project is to eliminate the use of five dangerous abbreviations by 2005.

**Objectives**

**Ohioans FiR<sub>x</sub>st** initiative includes supporting best practices, disseminating information about the project through newsletters, websites and other publications and recognizing participation and improvements in the standard of practice. Information about the Patient Safety Discussion Forum and the **Ohioans FiR<sub>x</sub>st** initiative is available at [www.ohioansfirst.org](http://www.ohioansfirst.org)

**Endorsement**

The Patient Safety Discussion Forum invites all health care providers, health care professionals, organizations and other stakeholders to participate in the Elimination of Dangerous Abbreviations Project through a formal endorsement process. Information about the Patient Safety Discussion Forum and the **Ohioans FiR<sub>x</sub>st** initiative is available at [www.ohioansfirst.org](http://www.ohioansfirst.org).

**What you need to do to receive a Certificate of Participation:**

- Provide PSDF with a letter identifying your organization and a statement that you or your organization has adopted the goals and guiding principles of the PSDF.
- You or your organization must formally endorse participation in the Elimination of Dangerous Abbreviations project. For example, formal endorsement can be accomplished through your governing board.
- Specify what you or your organization will do to promote the project.
- Provide baseline information/data regarding the use of the specified dangerous abbreviations and commit to providing information/data regarding the success of your efforts to eliminate the use of the abbreviations at the conclusion of the project. If available, you should review a minimum of 100 medication orders to establish a baseline.

**Project Endorsement**

Individuals or organizations that endorse the Elimination of Dangerous Abbreviation Project will receive a Certificate of Participation and will have their name added to the list of endorsements on the **Ohioans FiR<sub>x</sub>st** website and other publications.

Submit Information to Participate in the Elimination of Dangerous Abbreviations Project to:

**Patient Safety Discussion Forum  
C/O The Ohio Department of Health  
246 North High Street, Third Floor  
P.O. Box 118  
Columbus, Ohio 43216-0118  
Attention: Kathryn Kimmet**