

PRESCRIPTION WRITING

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Prescription

**Is a written order given by
Registered Medical
Practitioner to a Pharmacist to
prepare and/or dispense
medicines for the use by the
patient.**



**Only allopathic doctors
(including Dentists,
Veterinarians) can prescribe
allopathic medicines.**

**Nursing staff, Pharmacists and
Practitioners of Traditional /
Complimentary system of
medicines cannot prescribe
Allopathic Medicines.**



Doctors should refrain from prescribing medicines of other systems of medicine.

This amounts to cross practice and is prohibited by the supreme court.



Extemporaneous Prescription

The Doctor directs the Pharmacist to prepare and dispense the medications



Superscription

Dr. _____

Qualification: _____

Reg. No. _____

Address: _____

Contact No. _____

Date: _____

Patient's Name: _____

Age: _____ Sex: _____

Address : _____ Contact No. _____

R_x

Inscription

→ BENZOIC ACID	0	6
→ SALICYLIC ACID	0	3
→ WHITE SOFT PARAFFIN	10	0

Subscription → MIX AND MAKE AN OINTMENT.

Transcription → TO BE APPLIED TO THE AFFECTED PART TWICE A DAY.

Full Signature of Doctor with Date

Pre-compounding Prescription

The Doctor directs the Pharmacist to dispense the readymade formulations of medicines.

Dr. Satyadev Singh

MBBS, M.D.

Reg. No. CMC 4923

Address: 27 Samta Colony Raipur

Contact No. 9286523491

Date: 23.05.2016

For

Kamlesh

35 Years, Male

Add. - 11, Shankar bag Colony Raipur

Contact No. 9160521341

R_x

TABLET CIPROFLOXACIN (500 mg)

1 TABLET IN MORNING AND 1TABLET IN EVENING FOR 5 DAYS

TABLE PARACETAMOL (500 mg)

TAKE 1 TABLET WHENEVER FEVER IS MORE THAN 100⁰ F TO

THE MAXIMUM OF 4 TABLETS IN A DAY

Sew
23.05.2016

Even if prescription is typed or printed the Doctor must sign with date in blue indelible ink.

Must sign as close as possible to last drug listed in prescription.



**Overwriting on a prescription
should be avoided. In case of
overwriting Doctor must
initial each correction.**



Doctors in prescription should clearly mention

- **Full generic name of drug in capitals.**
- **Dosage form.**
- **Strength / Potency (For FDCs - of each ingredient) .**
- **Dose to be taken.**
- **Frequency of administration**
- **Duration of therapy.**

**For prescription to be dispensed
once, write “SHOULD NOT BE
REFILLED” OR “DO NOT DISPENSE
MORE THAN ONCE”**

**If wants prescription to be refilled,
then clearly mentions how many
times.**

- ⦿ For some drugs, a maximum dose may need to be stated (for eg. ergotamine in migraine & colchicine in gout).
- ⦿ Eg: *Ergotamine 1 mg at onset of attack & repeat every 30 min if necessary .
Do not take more than 6 mg in one day
or more than 12mg in one week*

If a doctor is prescribing the drugs on hospital pad, then must put a stamp below signature mentioning Full name, qualification and registration number.

Doctor's Full Name:

Qualifications

Reg. No.

List of dangerous abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols

Abbreviation	Potential Problem	Preferred Term
U (unit)	Mistaken as zero, four	Write %unit+
IU (international unit)	Mistaken as IV or 10	Write %international unit+
Q.D., Q.O.D.	Mistaken for each other. Period after Q and O after Q can be mistaken for %	Write %daily+ and %every other day+
MS, MSO4, MgSO4	Confused for one another	Write %morphine sulfate+or %magnesium sulfate+

CONTENTS OF THE PRESCRIPTION

- Strength of the drug

- Decimal points

- Avoid trailing zeros.

- EX. 5 mg vs. 5.0 mg; can be mistaken for 50 mg

- Always use leading zeros.

- EX. 0.8 ml vs. .8 ml; can be mistaken for 8 ml

RULES FOR WRITING QUANTITY OF DRUG:

- ⦿ Quantities of 1 gram or more should be written in grams.
- ⦿ Ex - write 2 g.
- ⦿ Quantities less than 1 gram but more than 1 milligram should be written in Milligrams For eg, write 100 mg, not 0.1 g

- ⦿ Quantities less than 1 milligram should be written in micro / nano gram as appropriate.
- ⦿ DO NOT abbreviate micro/nanograms; since that can lead to Prescribing errors. For eg. write **100 micrograms**, not 0.1 mg, nor 100 mcg, nor 100 μg
- ⦿ Use ml or mL for milliliters

**Letterheads/prescription blanks
should be kept secure to avoid
misuse of blank prescription
especially by
miscreants/addicts.**



**Doctor should not use another
Doctor's prescription pad
even with his consent.**

**Doctor should avoid using
prescription pad having
names of two or more
Doctors.**



**Doctor should not use
prescription pad with
message at bottom “Available
at XYZ Medical Store”**

**Doctors should exercise caution
while prescribing drugs which
have potential of abuse.**



Doctor should avoid recommending medicines on telephone or SMS.

Write the prescription for family members and relatives also. Discourage them from asking for medicines without a prescription.

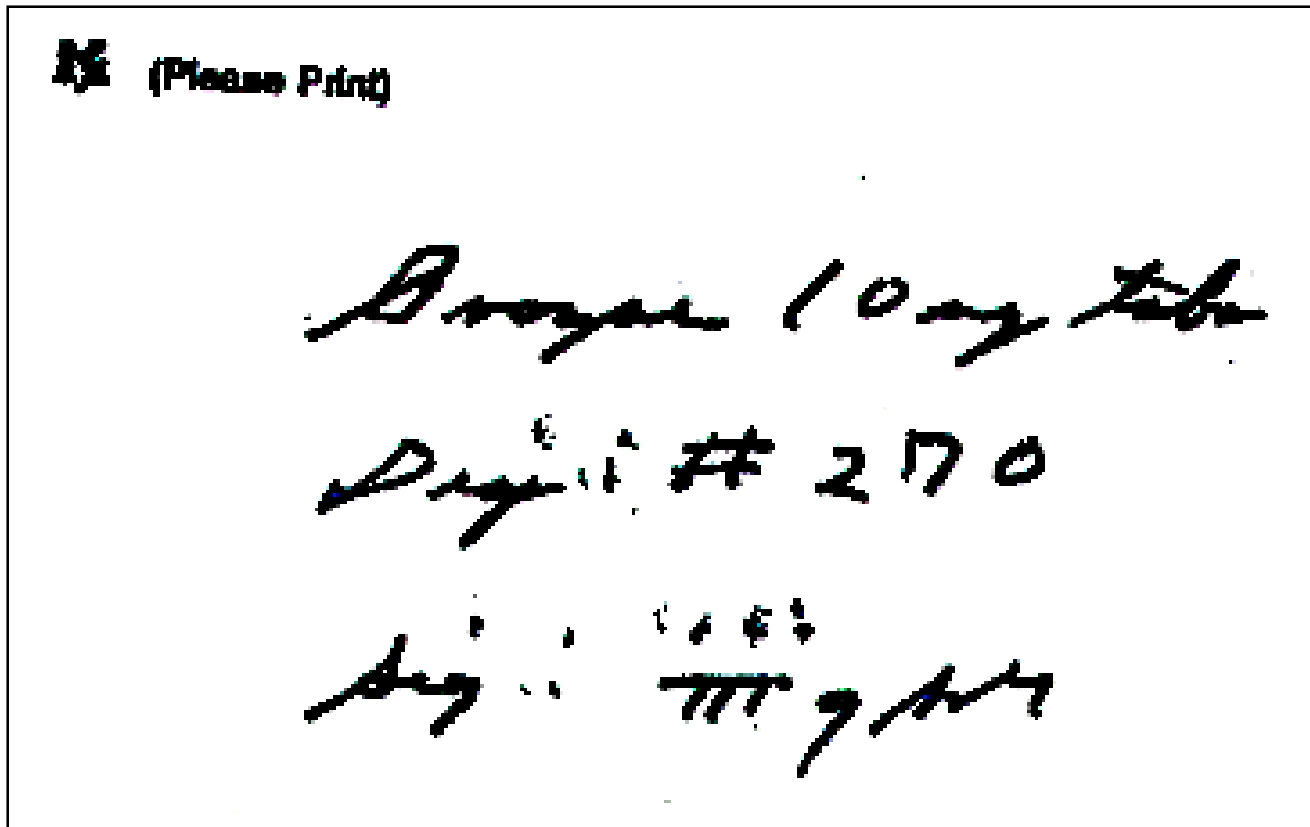
Doctor should always encourage the Pharmacist to call them up in case of any problem/discrepancies/doubts/queries in their prescription.

Doctors must make a point to visit their neighborhood pharmacies once a while, to learn how they work, what practical difficulties they face or find out whether they have any problems with their prescription and their legibility and should ask for suggestions to Doctor's prescribing.

**Pharmacists are authorized to
refuse to dispense
prescriptions which do not
conform to the guidelines
and if they do so are liable for
prosecution.**

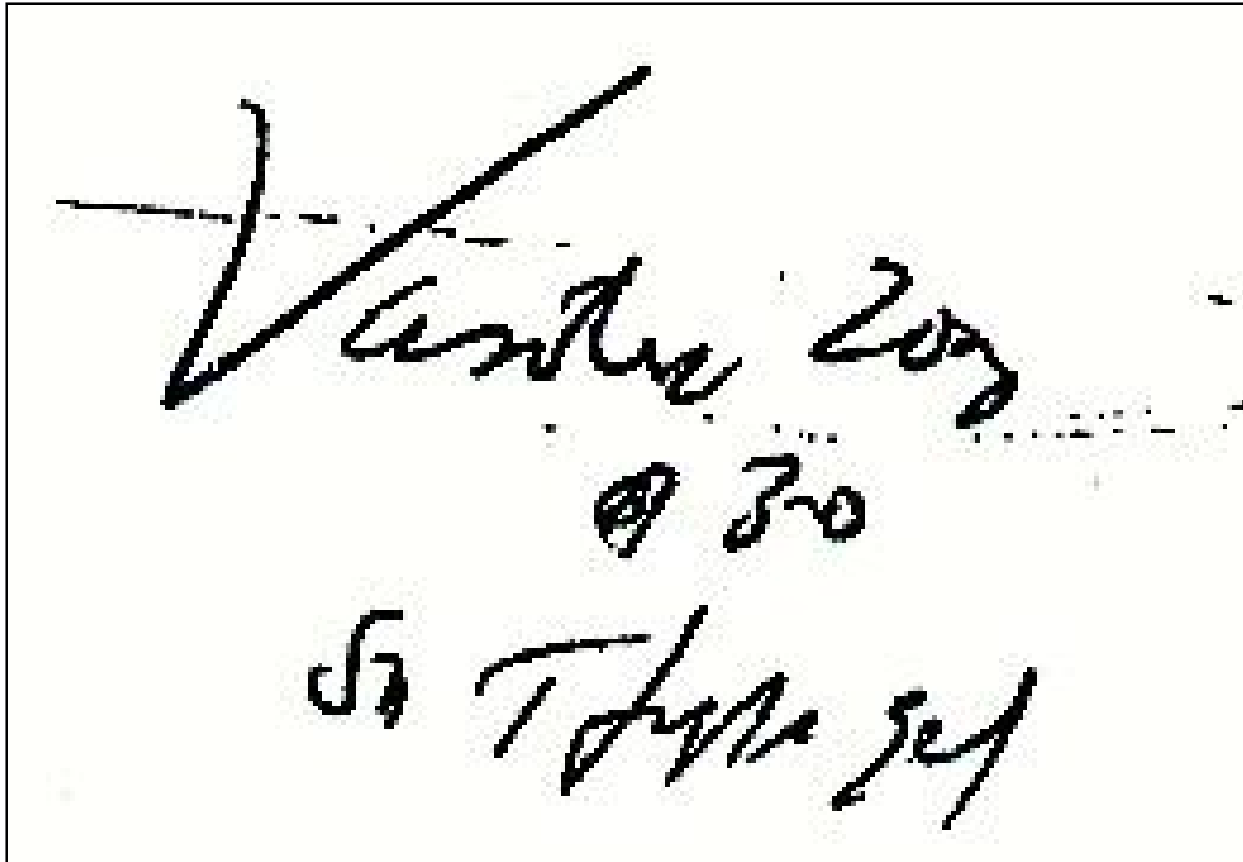


CASE #1



Poor handwriting contributed to a medication dispensing error that resulted in a patient with depression receiving the antianxiety agent Buspar 10 mg instead of Prozac 10 mg

CASE #2



Vasotec 20mg
QD
Dr. J. M. J.

A handwritten prescription on a white background. The text is written in black ink. The first line reads "Vasotec 20mg", the second line reads "QD", and the third line reads "Dr. J. M. J.". There is a large, dark, diagonal scribble over the top left portion of the text.

A hypertensive patient accidentally received Vantin 200 mg instead of Vasotec 20 mg when a pharmacist misread this prescription

Every prescription is the beginning of a new experiment.

Begin it carefully, remain vigilant make the patient healthy, get blessed from the almighty.



आरोग्यम् सुख सम्पदा

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, रायपुर (छत्तीसगढ़)
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raipur, Chhattisgarh



Thank You

THANK YOU