

Medical Abbreviations Can Cause Confusion

In addition to the camp nurse, many summer camps now employ Wilderness First Responders (WFR) and Wilderness Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT-W). These staffers often use many medical abbreviations when filling out injury forms. Sometimes these abbreviations can result in confusion, especially if staffers develop their own terminology. A few examples of frequently used abbreviations include:

- ROM: Range of Motion
- PEARL: Pupils Equal And Responsive to Light
- MOI: Mechanism of Injury
- LOC: Level of Consciousness
- CC: Chief Complaint

A good practice is to have at least two staff members review injury reports within 24 hours to ensure they are clear and complete. Camp directors should review approved abbreviations with their staff.