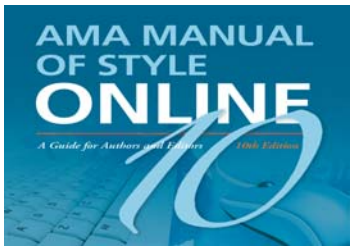

Drugs and Equipment Quiz
by Laura King, MA, ELS

Directions: Edit the information about drugs and equipment in the following sentences based on the information outlined in sections 15.4 through 15.5 of the *AMA Manual of Style*. For the purposes of this exercise, assume that the following sentences are the first mention of the drug names in the article.

---

1. Zoloft is a commonly used selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor that is thought to undergo extensive first-pass metabolism by the CYP3A4 isoenzyme.

ANSWER:
Sertraline hydrochloride is a commonly used selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor that is thought to undergo extensive first-pass metabolism by the CYP3A4 isoenzyme.

> **Editor's Note:** Once a drug has been assigned a nonproprietary name, the nonproprietary name should always be used to refer to the drug (§**15.4,** Drugs, p 565 in print). The complete drug name is used at first mention and in all contexts involving dosages (eg, sertraline hydrochloride); in subsequent mentions and contexts not involving dosages, just the first part of the name may be used (eg, sertraline). Several Web sites provide indexes of both proprietary and nonproprietary drug names (www.rxlist.com, www.drugs.com, http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/ndc/default.cfm).

2. The patients were treated with Coly-Mycin S Otic for superficial bacterial infections of the external auditory canal.

ANSWER:
The patients were treated with Coly-Mycin S Otic, an aqueous suspension of colistin (as sulfate), 3 mg, neomycin (as sulfate), 3.3 mg, hydrocortisone acetate, 10 mg, and thonzonium bromide, 0.5 mg, per milliliter, for superficial bacterial infections of the external auditory canal.

> **Editor's Note:** If the list of active ingredients is too long to use when referring to the combination product, the active ingredients should be listed at first mention and either an abbreviation or the proprietary name used thereafter (in this example, use Coly-Mycin S Otic throughout the rest of the article) (§**15.4.9**, Combination Products, pp 572-573 in print).

3. We conducted a prospective, randomized, placebo-controlled study of the efficacy of co-trimoxazole (160 mg of trimethoprim and 800 mg of sulfamethoxazole) given twice daily for 24 months in preventing relapses in patients with Wegener granulomatosis.

ANSWER:
We conducted a prospective, randomized, placebo-controlled study of the efficacy of trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (160 mg of trimethoprim and 800 mg of sulfamethoxazole) given twice daily for 24 months in preventing relapses in patients with Wegener granulomatosis.

> **Editor's Note:** The *USP Dictionary of USAN and International Drug Names* may provide a pharmacy equivalent name (PEN) to refer to a combination product, such as co-trimoxazole for the combination of sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim. However, PEN terms are not official United States Pharmacopeia titles and should be used only if they are familiar and clear to readers (§**15.4.9**, Combination Products, pp 572-573 in print). A better solution is to use *trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (160 mg of trimethoprim and 800 mg of sulfamethoxazole)* at first mention and then *trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole* at subsequent mentions.

4. The physician prescribed a regimen of vitamins B_{12} and C for the patient.

ANSWER:
The physician prescribed a regimen of cyanocobalamin and ascorbic acid for the patient.

> **Editor's Note:** The familiar letter names of most vitamins generally refer to the substances as found in food and in vivo. With the exception of vitamins A, E, and B complex, the international nonproprietary names for vitamins given therapeutically differ from their in vivo names and should be used in all therapeutic contexts. To enhance clarity for readers, the equivalent vitamin name may also be provided. For example, "The physician prescribed a regimen of cyanocobalamin (vitamin B_{12}) and ascorbic acid (vitamin C) for the patient" (§**15.4.14**, Vitamins and Related Compounds, pp 579-580 in print).

5. Participants were randomized to receive twice-daily doses of either a 120-mg ginkgo biloba extract (EGb 761; Schwabe Pharmaceuticals, Karlsruhe, Germany) or an identically appearing placebo; the EGb 761 formulation is used in many of the branded ginkgo biloba products sold in the United States.

ANSWER:
Participants were randomized to receive twice-daily doses of either a 120-mg *Ginkgo biloba* extract (EGb 761; Schwabe Pharmaceuticals, Karlsruhe, Germany) or an identically appearing placebo; the EGb 761 formulation is used in many of the branded *G biloba* products sold in the United States.

> **Editor's Note:** Herbals derived from a specific plant should be named according to the botanical name (eg, *Ginkgo biloba*) to ensure that the correct entity is identified. When the plant itself is referred to, the genus may be abbreviated after being spelled out at first mention. In addition, when referring to a specific product or formulation, as in a study, the specific proprietary name and manufacturer should be listed, because formulations vary by manufacturing technique (§**15.4.15**, Herbals and Dietary Supplements, pp 580-583 in print).

6. Interleukin-6 was quantified using a kit commercially available from R&D Systems, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

ANSWER:
Interleukin 6 was quantified using a commercially available kit (R&D Systems, Minneapolis, Minnesota).

> **Editor's Note:** Interleukins are not hyphenated when spelled out, although the abbreviations are hyphenated (eg, IL-6) (§**15.4.13**, Nomenclature for Biological Products, pp 574-579 in print). Information regarding the manufacturer or supplier and location should be included in parentheses after the name or description of the product (§**15.5**, Equipment, Devices, and Reagents, pp 583-584 in print).

7. Abuse of ecstasy has been associated with cognitive deficits, especially in verbal memory.

ANSWER:
Abuse of [±]-3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (ecstasy) has been associated with cognitive deficits, especially in verbal memory.

> **Editor's Note:** Drugs occasionally become known by unofficial trivial names. The trivial name should be used in biomedical publications only to reproduce the exact language used as part of a study (eg, in a questionnaire), for historical reasons, or rarely when readers may be unfamiliar with the nonproprietary name. When names other than the nonproprietary name are used, the nonproprietary name should be used preferentially and the alternative name provide in parentheses (§**15.4.6,** Trivial Names, p 570 in print). However, in some circumstances it may be helpful or necessary to provide the chemical symbols or formulas in addition to the expansion if the compound under discussion is new or relatively unknown or if no nonproprietary term exists. For example, "Abuse of [±]-3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA, ecstasy, XTC) has been associated with cognitive deficits, especially in verbal memory." Use MDMA, ecstasy, or XTC thereafter, depending on the article's context (§**14.13**, Elements and Chemicals, pp 526-257 in print).

8. The patient's gentamicin sulfate level was 9.5 µg/mL.

ANSWER:
The patient's gentamicin level was 9.5 µg/mL.

> **Editor's Note:** The inactive component of a drug should not be used when referring to an organism's sensitivity to an antibiotic or to allergic reactions to drugs (§**15.4.7**, Drugs With Inactive Components, pp 570-572 in print).

9. Autorefraction (Speedy 1; Nikon, Melville, New York) was performed 30 to 60 minutes after instillation of 0.5% proparacaine hydrochloride, 1.0% cyclopentolate hydrochloride, and 1.0% tropicamide in each eye.

ANSWER:
Autorefraction (Speedy 1; Nikon, Melville, New York) was performed 30 to 60 minutes after instillation of proparacaine hydrochloride, 0.5%, cyclopentolate hydrochloride, 1.0%, and tropicamide, 1.0%, in each eye.

> **Editor's Note:** Some drug names, such as those used in topical preparations, include the percentage of active drug contained in the preparation. In these cases the percentages should be listed after the drug name (§**15.4.10**, Drug Preparation Names That Include a Percentage, p 573 in print).

10. The authors discovered that the use of COP or CHOP polychemotherapy resulted in a response rate of 98% and a relapse rate of 33%.

ANSWER:
The authors discovered that the use of COP (cyclophosphamide, vincristine sulfate [Oncovin], and prednisone) or CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin [hydroxydaunorubicin], vincristine sulfate [Oncovin], and prednisone) polychemotherapy resulted in a response rate of 98% and a relapse rate of 33%.

> **Editor's Note:** Regimens that include multiple drugs may be referred to by an abbreviation after the nonproprietary names of the drugs have been provided at first mention. If necessary to clarify the origin of the abbreviation, the proprietary names or previously used names may be provided after the nonproprietary names in the abbreviation (eg, vincristine sulfate [Oncovin], doxorubicin [hydroxydaunorubicin]) (§**15.4.11**, Multiple-Drug Regimens, pp 573-574 in print).

11. The use of cellular telephones, PDAs (eg, Blackberries), portable CD players, iPods, and desktop, laptop, and palmtop computers influences many aspects of the ways medicine is currently practiced.

ANSWER:
The use of cellular telephones, PDAs (eg, Blackberries), portable CD players, iPods, and desktop, laptop, and palmtop computers influences many aspects of the ways medicine is currently practiced.

> **Editor's Note:** This sentence is correct as is. Although Blackberries and iPods are proprietary names, in this example they are used as general references and therefore manufacturer information is not necessary (§**15.5**, Equipment, Devices, and Reagents, pp 583-584 in print).

12. Patients in group A received colestipol, 10 g/d, and patients in group B received fluvastatin, 20 mg/d.

ANSWER:
Patients in group A received colestipol, 10 g/d, and patients in group B received fluvastatin sodium, 20 mg/d.

> **Editor's Note:** Drugs often contain a pharmacologically inactive component (eg, a base, salt, or ester) that is not responsible for the drug's mechanism of action but that lends stability or other properties to the drugs. Drugs with both an active and inactive component generally require a 2-part name that provides the active and inactive portion of the drug (eg, fluvastatin sodium). The inactive moiety should be included with the drug name at first mention and in all contexts involving dosages (§**15.4.7**, Drugs With Inactive Components, pp 570-572 in print).

13. The patient who received ofloxacin ear drops was infected with a methicillin-resistant strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* that was resistant to levofloxacin, which suggests that TMP alone may have cleared the infection.

ANSWER:
The patient who received ofloxacin ear drops was infected a methicillin-resistant strain of *Staphylococcus aureus* that was resistant to levofloxacin, which suggests that trimethoprim alone may have cleared the infection.

> **Editor's Note:** Some drugs have commonly used abbreviations (eg, TMP for trimethoprim). However, abbreviations may be used inconsistently or be confused with other terms or be unfamiliar to some readers. Because of the potential for harm from erroneous interpretation of abbreviated drug names, abbreviations should not be used except in rare instances (§**15.4.12**, Drug Abbreviations, p 574 in print).

14. Patients receiving Humulin injections were included in the study.

ANSWER:
Patients receiving human insulin injections (Humulin) were included in the study.

> **Editor's Note:** Proprietary names for insulin are often used to refer to the potentially confusing types of insulin preparations. For clarity and conciseness, use of proprietary terms in addition to the nonproprietary terms may be necessary in some cases (§**15.4.13**, Nomenclature for Biological Products, pp 574-579 in print).

15. Two forms of peginterferon (alpha 2a and alpha 2b) have been approved for use with or without ribavirin.

ANSWER:
Two forms of peginterferon (alfa-2a and alfa-2b) have been approved for use with or without ribavirin.

> **Editor's Note:** The *f* is used rather than *ph* in *alfa* to avoid the confusing *ph* in international usage. Subcategories are designated by a numeral and a lowercase letter preceded by a hyphen (§**15.4.13**, Nomenclature for Biological Products, pp 574-579 in print).