

# Safety Starts Here

USA HEALTH

February's Universal Skill:  
Communicate Clearly

## Phonetic & Numeric Clarification

For **sound alike numbers**, say the number and then the digits:

15...**that's** one-five

45...**that's** four-five

50...**that's** five-zero

425...**that's** four-two-five

4 to 5...**that's the range** four dash five

...and **always** use leading zeros – as in 0.9

For **sound alike words and letters**, say the letter followed by a word that begins with the letter...

## PHONETIC ALPHABET

ALPHA	JULIET	SIERRA
BRAVO	KILO	TANGO
CHARLIE	LIMA	UNIFORM
DELTA	MIKE	VICTOR
ECHO	NOVEMBER	WHISKEY
FOXTROT	OSCAR	X-RAY
GOLF	PAPA	YANKEE
HOTEL	QUEBEC	ZULU
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**Do you have to use this alphabet?**

- Yes – it's a good best practice

**When should I use these clarifiers?**

- Use when information might be unclear, especially names, procedure or test names, and medication names.

**Do you have to spell the whole word phonetically?**

- No! Spell those parts that can be confusing. For Example:
  - "That's neurology with a N as in November."
  - "I'm calling about Mr. Danes – starting with a D as in Delta."



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