Letter to the Editor

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Nomenclature Problems in Cardiology

T.O.	Tsung O.	Cheng
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Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, George Washington University Medical Center, Washington, D.C., USA

Tsung O. Cheng, MD, Division of Cardiology, George Washington University, 2150 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20037 (USA)

Here we go again! No sooner had I finished emphasizing the importance of explaining every acronym of a clinical trial when first used in an article [1] than another paper appeared in the same issue of the journal with an unexplained acronym, ECCIS [2]. The authors cited two references [3, 4]. But the first [3] did not give an explanation either.

The second [4] contained a footnote which defined ECCIS project as Epidemiology and Clinics of Silent Ischemic Heart Disease. I doubt if any of your readers could match the alphabets in the acronym with the definition that was given. Lest your readers become aggravated, as I was [5], in not knowing what ECCIS stands for, I like to refer them to my recently compiled list of acronyms in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology [6], ECCIS stands for Epidemiologia e Clinica della Cardiopatia Ischemica Silente.

Therefore, not only should all acronyms be fully explained when mentioned for the first time in a publication, but the explanation should be in the native language [7]. Otherwise, it would be TOTAL ABC CHAOS! [8].

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