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].

References