Common objection codes

Some of the coded objections are self-explanatory. Others may require elaboration (e.g. the ‘dup’ objection should be accompanied by an identification of the relevant duplication unless that is clear from the context) in the itemised objections or in general objections.

| *Code* | *Objection* |  |
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| 6mu | It is unreasonable to charge this as a separate item on the basis of rounding-up to a whole six-minute unit.  |  |
| adm | The work is administrative in character and should not be charged at a qualified lawyer’s rate. |  |
| billing | This item contravenes the prohibition on a law practice charging a client or third party payer for preparing or giving a bill (s 191). |  |
| disc | This item claims to charge for compliance with the statutory obligation of disclosure. Such disclosure is not the provision of legal services.  |  |
| dup | The work has been done by another person and a second charge for it is not fair and reasonable. |  |
| exp | The level of experitse of the person who did the work was higher than the work reasonably justified. It is unreasonable to charge for the work at that person’s rate.  |  |
| fax | It is unreasonable to charge a separate fee for sending/receiving a facsimile transmission. |  |
| hr | The hourly or other periodic rate claimed is unreasonable. |  |
| inst | This item was outside the scope of the work that the law practice was instructed to perform. |  |
| int | It was not reasonable to undertake an internal conference between lawyers and/or the time claimed and/or amount charged for the internal conference exceeds what is reasonable. |  |
| nr | It was not reasonable to do the work, or it was not reasonable to include a claim for doing the work.  |  |
| pc | The photocopying rate is unreasonable.  |  |
| scope | This item is outside the scope of the costs order. [Only relevant in the assessment of ordered costs.] |  |
| tim | The work should not reasonably have taken the time claimed or charged.  |  |
| travel | The rate charged for travelling time is unreasonable. |  |