



Medical Abbreviations Glossary

These medical abbreviations are commonly used in hospital, medical, and dental records. There are many others, rarely used, and some doctors and hospitals create their own. If you cannot locate an abbreviation in this glossary, contact us for assistance.

A	
a	artery, before
aa	equal part of each
AA	affected area
AAA	abdominal aortic aneurysm
A2	aortic second sound
AAL	acute lymphoblastic, leukemia, anterior axillary line
ab	antibody
AB	abortion
abd	abdomen
ABG	arterial blood gasses
ABN	abnormal
ABP	arterial blood pressure
abs	absent
a.c.	before meals (ante sebum)
Ac	acute
AC	anterior chamber
acc	accident
accom.	accommodation
acid phos.	acid phosphate
ACL	anterior cruciate ligament
ACTH	adrenocorticotrophic hormone
AD	right ear
add.	abductor or abduction
ADH	antidiuretic hormone
ADL	activities of daily living
ad lib	as desired
adm.	admission
AE	above elbow
AEA	above elbow amputation
AF	atrial fibrillation, afebrile
AFB	acid fast bacilli
AFO	ankle-foot orthosis
AFP	alpha fetoprotein
A/G	albumin globulin ratio (blood)
AGA	appropriate gestational age
AI	aortic insufficiency
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
AJ	ankle jerk
a.k.	above knee
aka	alcoholic ketoacidosis
AKA	above knee amputation
alb.	albumin
alc.	alcohol
alk. phos.	alkaline phosphate
ALL	acute lymphocytic leukemia
ALS	amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
ALT	alternating with, alanine aminotransferase (formerly SGPT)
AMA	against medical advice
amb.	ambulating, ambulatory
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
AML	acute myeloid leukemia
amnio	amniocentesis
amp.	amputation, ampule
ANA	antinuclear antibody
anes.	anesthesia
ann. fib.	annulus fibrosis
ANS	autonomic nervous system
ant.	anterior
ante	before
ANUG	acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
Anxty	anxiety
A/O	alert and oriented
AOB	alcohol on breath
AODM	adult onset diabetes mellitus
AP	ante partum
A&P	auscultation and percussion
A-P	anteroposterior
APC	atrial premature contractions
aph	aphasia
A-P & lat	anteroposterior and lateral
AP resection	abdominal perineal resection of the rectum
aq.	water
AR	aortic regurgitation
ARD	acute respiratory distress
ARDS	adult respiratory distress syndrome
ARF	acute respiratory failure, acute rheumatic fever
AROM	artificial rupture of membranes
art	arterial
AS	left ear, aortic stenosis
ASA	acetylsalicylic acid, aspirin
A.S.A.	American Society of Anesthesiologists

Only an expert case evaluation, performed by a qualified physician or dentist, can tell you what you need to know. Before you accept a case, be sure the odds are in your favor. Let JD.MD evaluate it.



Medical Abbreviations Glossary

A.S.A. 1	normal healthy patient
A.S.A. 2	patient with mild systemic disease
A.S.A. 3	patient with severe systemic disease
A.S.A. 4	patient with incapacitating systemic disease that is constant threat to life
ASAP	as soon as possible
ASCVD	atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
ASD	atrial septal defect
ASHD	arteriosclerotic heart disease
at. Flutter	atrial flutter
ATN	acute tubular necrosis
ATNR	asymmetrical tonic neck reflex
AU	both ears
aud.	auditory
Aur. Fib	auricular fibrillation
A-V	arteriovenous
AVF	arteriovenous fistula
AVR	aortic valve replacement
A&W	alive and well
Ax.	axilla, axillary
A.Z.	Ascheim-Zondek test

B

B.	bath
BA	barium
Bab.	Babinski sign
Ba.E	barium enema
Bas.	basal, basilar
baso	basophile
BBB	bundle branch block
BBT	basal body temperature
BCA	basal cell atypia
BCD	basal cell dysplasia
BCE	basal cell epithelioma
BCG	bacillus Calmette-Guerin vaccine (tuberculosis vaccine)
BDC	burn dressing change
BE	below elbow, barium enema
BEA	below elbow amputation
BFP	biological false positive
Bic.	biceps
b.i.d.	twice daily
BIH	bilateral inguinal hernia
bilat.	Bilateral, bilaterally
bili	bilirubin
b.i.n.	twice a night

BiW	twice weekly
BJ	biceps reflex
bk.	back
BK	below knee
BKA	below knee amputation
bl cult	blood culture
bld.	blood
Bl.T	bleeding time
BM	black male, bone marrow, bowel movement
BMR	basal metabolic rate
body wt.	body weight
BOMA	otitis media, both ears, acute
BOW	bag of water
BP	blood pressure
BPD	bronchopulmonary dysplasia
BPH	benign prostatic hypertrophy
BPM	beats per minute
Br.	breech presentation
BR	bedrest, bathroom
brach.	brachial
BrBx.	breast biopsy
broncho	bronchoscopy
BRP	bathroom privileges
BS	blood sugar, bowel sounds
B.S.	breath sounds
BSA	body surface area
BSB	bedside bag
BSC	bedside commode
BSD	bedside drainage
BSO	bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
BST	blood serologic test
BT	bleeding time
BTL	bilateral tubal ligation
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
BW	birth weight
Bx.	biopsy

C

c.	with
C	cervical, Caucasian
C.	centigrade, Celsius complement
CI-XII	1st to 12th cranial nerve
C-1 to C-7	cervical vertebrae
Ca	calcium
CA	carcinoma, cancer

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CABG	coronary artery bypass graft	CNS	central nervous system
CAD	coronary artery disease	cnst.	constipation
CAHD	coronary atherosclerotic heart disease	c/o	complains of, complaints
Cal	calorie, calories	Co2	carbon dioxide
CAPD	continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis	comb.	combine, combination
Caps	capsules	comm.	communicable
car.	carotid	comp.	compound, compress
card.	cardiac	conc.	concentrated
Card Cath	cardiac catheterization	cons.	consultation
CAT	computerized axial tomography	cont.	contractions, continued
cath	catheterization, catheter	COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CB	Cesarean birth	Cor	heart
CBC	complete blood count	CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure
CBD	common bile duct	CPC	clinicopathological conference
CBF	cerebral blood flow	CPD	cephalo-pelvic disproportion
CBG	capillary blood gas	CPK	creatinine phosphokinase
CBR	complete bed rest	CPPB	continuous positive pressure breathing
cc.	cubic centimeter	CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CC	chief complaint	CPT	chest physical therapy
CCU	coronary care unit	CR	closed reduction
CD	cardiac disease, contagious disease	cran.	cranial
CEA	carcinoembryonic antigen	CRD	chronic respiratory disease
Cerv.	cervix, cervical	creat.	creatinine
CF	cardiac failure, cystic fibrosis	CRF	chronic renal failure
CHD	congenital heart disease, coronary heart disease	C/S, CS	Cesarean section
Chem.	chemotherapy	C&S	culture and sensitivity
CHF	congestive heart failure	CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CHO	carbohydrate	C-spine	cervical spine
Chol	cholesterol	CT	computed axial tomography
Chr	chronic	C-V	cardiovascular
C.I	color index	CVA	cerebrovascular accident, costovertebral angle
CI	cardiac insufficiency, cardiac index	CVL	central venous line
CIS	carcinoma in situ	CVP	central venous pressure
CK	creatinine kinase	CVS	cardiovascular system
Cl	chlorine, chloride	Cx	cervix, culture
Clav.	clavicle	CxR	chest x-ray
cldy	cloudy	Cysto	cystoscopy
CLL	chronic lymphocytic leukemia		
Cl.T	clotting time	D	
cm.	centimeter	DAP	distal airway pressure
CML	chronic myeloid leukemia	db.	decibel
CMV	cytomegalovirus	DBE	deep breathing exercise
CN	cranial nerve	d/c	discontinue

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DC	discharges, discontinue	DUB	dysfunctional uterine bleeding
D&C	dilation and curettage	DUI	driving under influence
DD	discharge diagnosis	D/W	dextrose in water
D/DW	dextrose, distilled water	Dx	diagnosis
DDx	differential diagnosis		
D&E	dilation and evacuation	E	
decr.	decreased	e	without
dehyd.	dehydrated	EBL	estimated blood loss
Derm.	Dermatology	EBV	Epstein-Barr virus
DES	Diethylstilbestrol	ECF	extended care facility, extracellular fluid
D5RL	5% dextrose and lactated ringers	ECG	electrocardiogram
D5W	5% dextrose and sterile water	ECHO	enterocytopathogenic human orphan virus
DI	diabetes insipidus, diagnostic imaging	E.coli	Escherichia coli
DIAG.	diagnosis	ECS	endocervical scrape
diam.	diameter	ECT	electroconvulsive
DIC	disseminated intravascular coagulation, disseminated coagulopathy	ED	emergency department
diff.	differential	EDC	estimated date of confinement
dil.	dilute	EDOD	estimated date of delivery
dim.	diminished	EEG	electroencephalogram
DIP	distal interphalangeal (joint)	EENT	eyes, ears, nose, throat
dis.	disease	EEX	electrodiagnosis
disch.	discharge	EGA	estimated gestational age
disp.	disposition	EGD	esophago- gastroduodenoscopy
dist.	distilled, distal	EKG	electrocardiogram
DIU	death in utero	elev.	elevated
div.	divorced	ELF	elective low forceps
DJD	degenerative joint disease	EmBx	endometrial biopsy
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis	EMG	electromyogram
DLE	disseminated lupus erythematosus	EMS	endometrial scrape, emergency medical service
D/L DI	deciliter	En.	enema
DM	diabetes mellitus, diastolic murmur	ENT	ears, nose, throat
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid	Eoc.	eosinophiles
DNKA	did not keep appointment	EOM	extraocular movement
DOA	dead on arrival	Epis.	episiotomy
DOB	date of birth	Epis.LML	left mediolateral episiotomy
DOE	dyspnea on exertion	Epis. Med.	medial episiotomy
Dors	dorsal	Epis. RML	right mediolateral episiotomy
D.P.	dorsal pedia	ERCP	endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography
DPT	diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus vaccine	ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
DR	delivery room	EST	electroshock therapy
D&R	dilation and radium implant	ETIOL.	etiology
drsg.	dressng	ETOH	ethanol
D/S	discharge summary	EUA	examine under anesthesia
DTR	deep tendon reflexes	EVAL	evaluation
DT's	delirium tremens	ex.	exercise, example
DU	duodenal ulcer		



Medical Abbreviations Glossary

expir expiration, expiratory
 Exp. Lap exploratory laparotomy
 ext. extremities, external
 ext. gen. external genitalia

F

F finger, female, Fahrenheit
 FA fluorescent antibody
 F.A. first aid
 F.B. foreign body
 FBS fasting blood sugar
 FD fully dilated
 FDA Food and Drug Administration
 FDP flexor digitorum profundus
 Fe def. iron deficiency
 FEF forced expiratory flow
 FEKG fetal electrocardiogram
 fem. femoral
 fem. pop. femoral popliteal
 fet. fetal
 FEV forced expiratory volume
 f.f. force fluid
 FFP fresh frozen plasma
 fh fundal height
 FH family history, fetal heart
 FHR fetal heart rate
 FHR-UC fetal heart rate- uterine contraction
 FHT fetal heart tones
 FIO2 faction of inspired oxygen concentration
 fl. fluids
 flac. flaccid
 flex. flexor, flexion
 fl. oz. fluid ounce
 FM finger movement
 FPAL full term premature abortion living
 fract. fractional
 FRC functional residual capacity
 FS finger stick
 FSH follicle stimulating hormone
 FT full term
 FTD failure to descend
 FTND full term normal delivery
 FTT failure to thrive
 FUB functional uterine bleeding
 F/U,F-U,F.U. follow-up
 FUO fever of unknown origin
 FVC forced vital capacity

FW fetal weight
 Fx fracture

G

G gravida
 G.A. general anesthesia
 GB gallbladder
 GBS gallbladder series
 G.C. gonococcus
 GCS Glasgow Coma Scale
 GE Gastroenterology
 G/E gastroenteritis
 gen, genl. general
 gest. gestation
 GFR glomerulo filtration rate
 G.H. growth hormone
 G.I. gastrointestinal
 gluc glucose
 gm gram
 Gm+ gram positive
 Gm- gram negative
 gm.% grams per 100 c.c.
 GMA grand mal attack
 GNC general nursing care
 GP General Practitioner, general paralysis
 gr. grain, grains (dosage)
 Grav. pregnancy
 gt. drop
 Gt.tr. gait training
 gtts. drops
 GSW gunshot wound
 GTT glucose tolerance test
 GU genitourinary
 G/W glucose and water
 GYN Gynecology

H

h hour
 H hydrogen history, hour, hypodermic
 H/A headache
 HAF hyperalimentation fluid
 HASCVD hypertensive arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease
 Hb., Hgb hemoglobin
 HB heart block
 HBP high blood pressure
 HC head circumference

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Medical Abbreviations Glossary

IO	inferior oblique	KUB	kidney, ureter, bladder (x-rays)
I&O	intake and output	KVO	keep vein open
IOP	intraocular pressure		
IP	intraperitoneal		
IPJ	interphalangeal joint		
IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing		
		L	
IQ	intelligence quota	L	left, liver, liter, lower, light, lumbar
IRDS	idiopathic respiratory distress syndrome	L2,L3	second, third lumbar vertebrae
		LA	left antrum
irreg.	Irregular	lab.	laboratory
IS	intercostal space	lac.	laceration
IST	insulin shock therapy	lacr.	lacrimal
ITP	idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura	lact.	lactic
		LAD	left anterior descending coronary artery
I,U., IU	International Unit	L&D	labor and delivery
IUC	intrauterine catheter	LAE	left atrial enlargement
IUCP	intrauterine contraceptive device	lam.	laminectomy
		lap.	laparotomy
IUD	intrauterine device	lat.	lateral
IUFD	intrauterine fetal death	LAVH	laparoscopic assisted vaginal hysterectomy
IUGR	intrauterine growth retardation		
IUP	intrauterine pregnancy	lax	laxative
IUTP	intrauterine term pregnancy	lb.	pound
IV	intravenous(ly)	LB	large bowel
IVC	inferior vena cava, intravenous cholangiogram	LBBB	left bundle branch block
		LBP	lower back pain
IVD	intervertebral disc	LBW	low birth weight
IVP	intravenous pyelogram	LCA	left coronary artery
IVPB	intravenous piggy back	L.D.	lethal dose
IVU	intravenous urogram	LDH	lactic dehydrogenase
		LDL	low density lipids
		LE	lupus erythematosus
		L.E.	lower extremities
J		leuc.	leukocytes
J	joint	LF	low forceps, low flap
J-P	Jackson Pratt drain	LFA	left frontoanterior
JRA	juvenile rheumatoid arthritis	LFD	low forceps delivery
jt.	joint	LFP	left frontoposterior
JVP	jugular venous pulse	LFT	left frontotransverse, liver function test
		Ig	large, leg
K		LGA	large for gestational age
K	potassium, kidney	LGV	lymphogranuloma venereum
KC1	potassium chloride		
Kcal.	Kilocalorie, calorie	LH	luteinizing hormone
Kg., kg.	kilogram	LHT	left hypertrophia
KJ, K-J	knee jerk	LICS	left intercostal space
KK	knee kick	lig.	ligament
17 KS	17 keto steroids	LIH	left inguinal hernia

JD.MD maintains a complete roster of highly qualified health-care experts. JD.MD handles the medical or dental side of your malpractice case, leaving you to do what you do best...



Medical Abbreviations Glossary

liq.	liquid	L VH	left ventricular hypertrophy
LKS	liver, kidneys, spleen	L & W	living and well
LL	lower lid	LWCT	Lee-White Clotting Time, coagulation time
LLE	left lower extremity	Lymphs	lymphocytes
LLG	left lateral gaze	lytes	electrolytes
LLL	left lower lobe		
LLQ	left lower quadrant	M	
LMA	left mentoanterior	m.	minim
LMD	family doctor	m,M	married, male, mother murmur, meter, mass, molar
l/min	liter per minute	MA	mental age
LML	left mediolateral	macro.	macrocytic, macroscopic
LMP	left mentoposterior, last menstrual period	MAP	mean arterial pressure
LMT	left mentotransverse	max.	maximum, maxillary
L.N.	lymph node	MBC	maximum breathing capacity
LNMP	last normal menstrual period	mcg.	microgram
LOA	left occiput anterior	MCH	mean corpuscular hemoglobin
L.O.C.	loss of consciousness, level of consciousness, laxative of choice	MCHC	mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration
LOM	left otitis media	MCL	midclavicular line
LOP	left occipital posterior	MCP	metacarpophalangeal joint
LOS	length of stay	MCV	mean corpuscular volume
LOT	left occiput anterior	MD	muscular dystrophy
LP	lumbar puncture, light perception	MDI	metered dose inhaler
lpf	low power field	Mdnt.	midnight
LPN	licensed practical nurse	ME	middle ear, medical examiner
LR	labor room, lateral rectus, light reflex	MEC	medical emergency clinic
LRQ	lower right quadrant	Med.	medicine
Ls.	loose	MEq./L	milliequivalents per liter
L.S.	lumbosacral	Mets.	metastasis
LSA	lateral sacrum anterior	mg.	milligram
LSB	left sternal border	Mg.	magnesium
LSCS	lower segment Cesarean section	MG	myasthenia gravis
LSK	liver, spleen, kidneys	mg/dl	milligrams per deciliter
LSO	left salpingo-oophorectomy	mg.%	milligrams per 100 cc
LSP	left sacrum posterior	m.g.r.	murmurs, gallops, or rubs
LST	left sacrum transverse	MH	marital history
Lt.	left, light	MI	myocardial infarction, mitral insufficiency
LTCS	low transverse Cesarean section	micro	microcytic, microscopic
LUE	left upper extremity	MICU	medical intensive care unit
LUL	left upper lobe	min	minute
LUQ	left upper quadrant	Mitr.I	mitral insufficiency
LV	left ventricle	ml.	milliliter
LVEDP	left ventricular end diastolic pressure	MLF	medial longitudinal fasciculus
LVF	left ventricular failure		

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Medical Abbreviations Glossary

mm	millimeter	NG	nasogastric tube
mm.	muscles	NI	no insurance
MM	mucous membrane	NIC	neonatal intensive care
MMPI	Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory	NICU	neonatal intensive care unit
Mn.	manganese, midnight	NIDDM	noninsulin dependent diabetes mellitus
mod	moderate	NKA	no known allergies
MOM	milk of magnesia	NM	neuromuscular
mono.	monocyte	NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
MP	metacarpophalangea, metacarpophalangeal	noct.	nocturnal
MPA	malpractice attorney	NOS	not otherwise specified
MR	medial rectus, mental retardation, mitral regurgitation	NP	neuropsychiatric
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging	N.P.	Neuropsychiatry
MRM	modified radical mastectomy	NPH	NPH insulin (Neutral Protamine Zinc)
ms	mitral stenosis	NPN	nonprotein nitrogen
Ms	murmurs	NPO	nothing by mouth
MS	mitral stenosis, multiple sclerosis, morphine sulfate	Ns.	nerves
MSL	midsternal line	N.S.	nervous system
mss	massage	NSA	no significant abnormality
MT	metacarpophalangeal (joint)	NSAID	nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug
M.T.	muscles and tendons	NSD	normal spontaneous delivery
MVA	motor vehicle accident	NSR	normal sinus rhythm
MVP	mitral valve prolapse	NST	non-stress test
MVR	mitral valve replacement	N&V	nausea and vomiting
MW	maximum voluntary ventilation	NS	Neurosurgery
N		NSVD	normal spontaneous vaginal delivery
n.	nerve	NTG	nitroglycerine
N2	nitrogen	NTP	normal temperature and pressure
N2O	nitrous oxide (anesthetic)	nullip	never gave birth
Na	sodium	NVD	nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
NaCl	sodium chloride	N&W	normal and well
NAD	no apparent distress	NWB	non-weight bearing
nb	note well	NYD	not yet diagnosed
NB	newborn	O	
NBM	nothing by mouth	o	none, without
NBS	normal bowel sounds, normal breath sounds	O	oral
NED	no evidence of disease	O2	oxygen
neg.	negative	O2 cap.	oxygen capacity
NER	no evidence of recurrence	O2 sat.	oxygen saturation
NERD	no evidence of recurrent disease	OA	osteoarthritis
Neur.	Neurology	OB, OBG	Obstetrics
		OB/GYN	Obstetrics and Gynecology
		Obs	observation
		OBS	organic brain syndrome
		OCC.	occipital, occasional
		OD	right eye
		O/E	on examination

*JD.MD takes the burden of finding a qualified medical or dental expert off your shoulders.
Using JD.MD's resources lets you concentrate on your case, not on finding an expert.*

OH	occupational history	PBI	protein bound iodine
17 OH	17 hydroxy steroid	p/c., p.c.	after meals
OHD	organic heart disease	PCL	posterior cruciate ligament
oint.	ointment	PCO2	carbon dioxide concentration
O.M.	otitis media	PCV	packed cell volume (of blood)
OMS	organic mental syndrome	PD	pupillary distance, peritoneal dialysis
OOB	out of bed	PDA	patent ductus arteriosus
Op.	operation	pdr.	powder
OPC	outpatient clinic	PDR	Physician's Desk Reference
OPD	outpatient department	PDN	private duty nurse
Ophth.	Ophthalmology	PE	physical examination, pulmonary embolism
OR	operating room, open reduction	Ped.	Pediatrics
OR-IF	open reduction with internal fixation	PEEP	positive end expiratory pressure
ORT	operating room technician	PEG	pneumoencephalogram
Ortho.	Orthopaedic Surgery	PEN	Penicillin
os	opening, mouth, bone	PERRLA	pupils equal, round, reactive to light and accommodation (normal)
OS	left eye	PET	positron emission tomography
ot.	ear	PF	push fluids
Oto	Otolaryngology	PFC	persistent fetal circulation
OTC	over-the-counter (pharmaceuticals)	PFT	pulmonary function test
O.T.	occupational therapy, old tuberculin	pH	hydrogen ion concentration
OU	both eyes	PH	past history
OV	office visit	pharm	pharmacy
oz.	ounce	PHYS.	physical, physiology
P		PI	present illness, pulmonary insufficiency
P	after, phosphorus pulse	PICA	posterior inferior coronary artery
P2	pulmonic second heart sound	PICU	pulmonary intensive care unit
PA	physician's assistant	PID	pelvic inflammatory disease
P-A	posteroanterior	PIP	proximal interphalangeal
p & a	percussion and auscultation	Pit.	Pitocin
PAC	premature atrial, auricular contraction	PKU	phenylketonuria
PaCO2	arterial carbon dioxide tension pressure	Plac.	placenta
PACU	post anesthesia care unit	plts.	platelets
PAF	paroxysmal atrial fibrillation	PM	petit mal
palp.	palpate, palpated, palpable	P.M.	afternoon, post-mortem
PaO2	alveolar oxygen pressure	PMH	past medical history
Pap	Papanicolaou test (pap smear)	PMN	polymorphonuclear (leukocytes)
Para	prior births, paraplegic	PM&R	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
PARU	post anesthesia recovery unit	PN	poorly nourished, practical nurse
PAS	pulmonary artery systolic pressure	P&N	Psychiatry and Neurology
PAT	pregnancy at term, paroxysm atrial tachycardia	PNC	prenatal clinic, premature nodal contraction
Path.	Pathology	PND	paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea, post nasal drip
PA view	posterioranterior view on x-ray	pneu.	pneumo, pneumonia
Pb	lead		
PB	peripheral blood		

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Medical Abbreviations Glossary

PNI	peripheral nerve injury	PT	physical therapy
PNX	pneumothorax	P.T.	physical therapy, posterior tibial artery pulse
p.o.	by mouth	PTA	prior to admission, percutaneous transluminal angioplasty
PO2	oxygen pressure (or tension)	PTB	patellar tendon bearing
POC	product of conception	PTCA	percutaneous transvenous coronary angioplasty (balloon angioplasty)
p.o.d.	postoperative day	PU	pregnancy urine
polys	polymorphonuclear leukocytes	PUD	peptic ulcer disease
POMR	problem oriented medical record	PUPPP	pruritic urticarial papules & plaques of pregnancy
poplit.	popliteal	PV	plasma volume, peripheral vascular
pos.	positive	PVC	premature ventricular contraction
post.	posterior	PVD	peripheral vascular disease
POSTOP.	postoperative	PVR	pulmonary vascular resistance
pot. or potass.	potassium	PVT	previous trouble
pp	post partum, post prandial	PWB%	partial weight bearing with percent
PPBS	post prandial blood sugar	Px, PX	physical examination
PPD	purified protein derivative		
PPF	protein plasma fractional	Q	
PPH	post partum hemorrhage	q	every
ppm	parts per million	q.d.	every day
PPPG	post prandial plasma glucose	q.h.	every hour
p.r.	per rectum	q2H	every two hours
PR	Proctology	q4H	every four hours
PRBC	packed red blood cells	q.i.d.	four times a day
PRE	progressive resistive exercise	q.i.w.	four times a week
prem	premature	q.l.	as much as desired
pre-op	preoperative	qn, q.n.	every night
prep.	prepare for	q.n.s., QNS	quantity not sufficient
primip.	first pregnancy	q.o.d.	every other day
p.r.m.	according to circumstances	q.o.n.	every other night
p.r.n., PRN	as often as necessary	q.p.	as much as you please
prod.	productive	q.q., Q.Q.	each, every
Prog.	prognosis	q.q.h.	every four hours
PROM	passive range of motion, premature rupture of membranes	q.s.	quantity, sufficient
pron.	pronator, pronation	qt.	quart
pros.	prostate, prostatic	qts.	drops
prosth.	prosthesis	quad.	quadriplegic
prot.	protein, Protestant	quant.	quantitative or quantity
pro.time	prothrombin time	q.v.	as much as you wish
PS	pulmonary stenosis, psychotic, Plastic Surgery	q.w.	every week
PSH	past surgical history		
psi	pounds per square inch		
PSMA	progressive spinal muscular atrophy		
Psych.	Psychiatry		
pt., Pt.	patient		

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Medical Abbreviations Glossary

R			
r., R	right, rectal, roentgen, x-ray	ROA	right occipital anterior
R.	rub, rectal temperature	ROM	range of motion, rupture of membranes, right otitis media
Ra	radium	ROP	right occipital posterior
RA	rheumatoid arthritis, right atrium	ROS	review of systems
rad.	radial	ROT	right occipital transverse
RAI	radioactive iodine	RP	retrograde pyelogram
r.a.m.	rapid alternating movements	RQ	respiratory quotient
R.A.S.	right arm sitting	RR	recovery room
RAtx	radiation therapy	RRE, RR&E	round, regular, and equal
RBBB	right bundle branch block	RSO	right salpingo-oophorectomy
rbc/RBC	red blood cell, red blood count	RSA	right sacrum anterior
RCA	right coronary artery	RSD	reflex sympathetic dystrophy
RCS	reticulum cell sarcoma	RSP	right sacrum posterior
RCU	respiratory care unit	RSR	regular sinus rhythm
RD	respiratory distress, reaction to degeneration	RST	right sacrum transverse
RDS	respiratory distress syndrome	Rt.	right
RE	reconditioning exercise	RT	radiation therapy, respiratory therapy
rect.	rectum, rectal (ly), rectus muscle	RTC	return to clinic
reg.	regular	RUC	regular uterine contraction
rehab.	rehabilitation	RUE	right upper extremity
resp.	respiratory, respirations	RUL	right upper lobe
RF	rheumatic fever	RUQ	right upper quadrant
RFA	right frontoanterior	RV	residual volume
RFP	right frontoposterior	RVH	right ventricular hypertrophy
RFT	right frontotransverse	Rx	therapy, prescription
Rh, Rh.	rhesis blood factor		
RH	right hyperphoria	S	
RHD	rheumatic heart disease	s	without
RHF	right heart failure	S	sensation, sensitive, serum
RHT	right hypertrophy	Sa.	Saline
RIH	right inguinal hernia	S&A	sugar and acetone
RLA	Rancho Los Amigo Scale	SAH	systemic arterial hypertension
R to L&A	react to light and accommodation	SaO2	arterial oxygen saturation
RLE	right lower extremity	SB	stillborn
RLF	retrolental fibroplasia	SBE	subacute bacterial endocarditis
RLL	right lower lobe	SBFT	small bowel follow through (x-ray)
RLQ	right lower quadrant	SBO	small bowel obstruction
RMA	right mentoanterior	s.c.	subcutaneous(ly)
RML	right mediolateral, right middle lobe	SC	sickle cell
RMP	right mentoposterior	SCC	sickle cell crisis
RMSF	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	SCD	sudden cardiac death
RMT	right mentotransverse	schiz	schizophrenia
RNA	ribonucleic acid	SCU	special care unit
RO, R/O	rule out	sec	second
		sed. rate	erythrocyte sedimentation rate

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Medical Abbreviations Glossary

sem. ves	seminal vesicles	stat.,STAT	immediately
Sens.	sensory, sensation	STD	sexually transmitted disease
sep.	separated	stom, st.	stomach
Sept. AB	septic abortion	strep.	streptococcus
Serol.	serology, serological test	S.T.S.	serological test for syphilis
SGA	small for gestational age	subcut.	subcutaneous
s.gl.	without correction (without glasses)	subling.	sublingual
SGOT,SGO-T	serum glutamic oxalacetic transaminase	sulf.	sulfate
SH	social history, serum hepatitis	sup.	superior
SI	sacroiliac joint, stroke index	supin.	supination
sib.	sibling	supp	suppository
SICU	surgical intensive care unit	surg.	surgery, surgical
SIDS	sudden infant death syndrome	SVC	superior vena cava
skel.	skeletal	SVD	spontaneous vaginal delivery
Sl.	slightly	SVR	systemic vascular resistance
SL	under the tongue	SVT	supra ventricular tachycardia
SLE	systemic lupus erythematosus	SWD	short wave diathermy
SLR	straight leg raising	Sx	symptoms
sm	small	sys.	system
SMA-14	routine admission chemistry	syst.	systolic
SNS	sympathetic nervous system		
SO	superior oblique	T	
SO4	sulfate	T3	triiodothyronine
S.O.A.P.	subjective, objective assessment plan	T4	total serum thyroxine
SOB	shortness of breath	TA	tendon Achilles
sod.	sodium	T&A	tonsils and adenoids, tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
Sol.	solution		
sono.	sonogram	T&C	type and crossmatch
S.O.S.	repeat once if urgent	tab.	tablet
sp.	spine, spinal	TAB	therapeutic abortion
S/P	status post (previous condition)	TAH	total abdominal hysterectomy
sp.cd.	spinal cord	T.A.T.	tetanus antitoxin
spec.	specimen	TB	tuberculosis
sp.fl.	spinal fluid	TBI	total body irradiation
spg.	sponge	TBLC	term birth living child
sp.gr	specific gravity	tbsp.	tablespoon
sp&H	speech and hearing	TCDB	turn, cough, deep breathe
spin.	spine, spinal	TEE	transesophageal echocardiography
spont.	spontaneous	temp	temperature
SR	system review, superior rectus muscle, sedimentation rate, stimulus response	TENS	transient electric nerve stimulation
		TESD	total end systolic diameter
SROM	spontaneous rupture of membranes	T.F.	tuning fork
SS	social service	T of F	tetralogy of Fallot
SSE	soap suds enema	TGA	transposition great vessels
st	stage (of disease)	THERAP.	therapy,therapeutic
st.	stomach	thor.	thorax, thoracic
Staph, Staph.	staphylococcus	THR	total hip replacement

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Medical Abbreviations Glossary

TI	tricuspid insufficiency
TIA	transient ischemic shock, transient ischemic attack
t.i.d.	three times a day
TIP	terminal interphalangeal (joint)
TIUP	term intrauterine pregnancy
t.i.w.	three times per week
TJ	triceps reflex
TKR	total knee replacement
TLC	tender loving care, total lung capacity
T.M.	tympanum membrani (ear drum)
TMJ	temporomandibular joint
TNI	total nodal irradiation
TNM	tumor, nodes, and metastases
TO	telephone order
TOA	tubo-ovarian abscess
to AA	to affected areas
T, OD	tension, right eye
TORCH (titer)	toxoplasmosis others (hepatitis, beta strep, flu, mumps, etc.) rubella, cytomegalovirus (CMV), herpes virus II
TP	term pregnancy
TPA	thrombo proteolytic activity
TPN	total parenteral nutrition
TPR	temperature, pulse, respiration
tr	trace
trach	tracheostomy
TS	tricuspid stenosis
TSH	thyroid stimulating hormone
tsp.	teaspoon
TSS	toxic shock syndrome
T,T.	temperature, thoracic
TTI	total thromboplastin index
TTP	thrombotic thrombocytopenia purpura
T-Tube	cholangiogram
TUR	transurethral resection
TURB	transurethral resection of the bladder
TURP	transurethral resection of the prostate
TV	tidal volume
TVH	total vaginal hysterectomy
TVR	tricuspid valve replacement
Tx	treatment, traction

U

U. unit

U/A	urinalysis
UC	uterine contractions
UCD	usual childhood diseases
UCG	urinary chorionic gonadotropin
UCHD	usual childhood diseases
UG	upward gaze
UGI	upper gastrointestinal series (x-rays), upper gastrointestinal tract
UL	upper lid
uln	ulnar
ULQ	upper left quadrant
ung.	ointment
unilat.	unilateral
u/o	under observation for, urine output
Ur.	urine
URD	upper respiratory disease
URI	upper respiratory infection
Urol.	Urology
URQ	upper right quadrant
u/s, US	ultrasound
USI	urinary stress incontinence
USN	ultrasonic nebulizer
USP.	United States Pharmacy
USPHA	United States Public Health Administration
ut.	uterus, uterine
UTI	urinary tract infection
UVL	ultraviolet light

V

V	vein
VA	visual acuity
vag	vagina, vaginal
VC, (vit.cap)	vital capacity
VCS	vasoconstrictor substance
VCU	voiding cystourethrogram
Vd	void
VD	venereal disease
VDRL	blood test for syphilis
vent.	ventilator
vert.	vertical
VF	visual fields, ventricular fibrillation
VG	vein graft
VHD	valvular heart disease
VI	volume index
V.I.	vaginal irrigation
Via	by way of

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Medical Abbreviations Glossary

VIPS	voluntary interruption of pregnancy and sterilization service
vit.	vitamin
VLDL	very low density lipoproteins
VM	vestibular membrane
VN	visiting nurse
VO	verbal order
VOD	vision right eye
vol	volume
VOS	vision left eye
VP	venous pressure
VPC	ventricular premature contraction
VS, V.S.	vital signs
VSA	vital signs absent
VSD	ventricular septal defect
VSS	vital signs stable
VT, V Tach	ventricular tachycardia
V & T	volume and tension (pulse)
VTX	vertex
Vx.	vertex presentation

Y

y.o.	years old
yrs.	years

W

W	widowed, white
W/A	while awake
Wass.	Wasserman
WB	whole blood
wbc, WBC	white blood cells, white blood count
W/C, wh.ch.	wheelchair
WBT	weight bearing to tolerance
WDWN	well developed, well nourished
WE	wide excision
WF	white female
wk	week
WM	white male
w/n	within
WN	well nourished
WNL	within normal limits
WP	whirlpool
wt.	weight
w/u	workup

X

x	times
X	exophoria distance
XT	exotrophia distance

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