

Medical Anatomy and Physiology

Medical Abbreviations

Benchmark II - Competency 2

Abbreviations	Definitions	Abbreviations	Definitions
@	at	Bx	biopsy
ac	before meals	°c°	with (the c actually has a line over it)
ADL	activities of daily living	C	Celsius
ad lib	as desired	CA	cancer
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome	CBC	complete blood count
am/AM	between midnight and noon	cc	cubic centimeter
amb	ambulate, ambulatory	cm	centimeter
amt	amount	CNS	central nervous system
ASA	aspirin	c/o	complains of
ASAP	as soon as possible	CO ₂	carbon dioxide
av/AV/A-V	atrioventricular	COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
ax	axillary	CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
bid	twice a day	CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
BM	bowel movement	CT/CAT	computer axial tomography
BP	blood pressure	CVA	cerebrovascular accident
BS	blood sugar OR bowel sounds OR breath sounds	CXR	chest x-ray film

dc/DC or D/C	discontinue	GU	genitourinary
DNR	do not resuscitate	GYN/gyn	gynecology
DOA	dead on arrival	h	hour
DOB	date of birth	HA	headache
dr	dram	HBV	hepatitis B virus
DRG	diagnosis-related group	Hct	hematocrit
DVT	deep vein thrombosis	Hg	mercury
Dx	diagnosis	Hgb/Hb	hemoglobin
ECG/EKG	electrocardiogram	H ₂ O	water
ENT	ear, nose, and throat	H ₂ O ₂	hydrogen peroxide
ER	emergency room	HIB	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type B
ETA	estimated time of arrival	HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
F	Fahrenheit	H&P	history and physical
FBS	fasting blood sugar	HR	heart rate
FUO	fever of undetermined (or unknown) origin	hs	hour of sleep (bedtime)
Fx	fracture	ht	height
g or gm	gram	Hx	history
GI	gastrointestinal	HxPx	history and physical
gtt or gtts	drop or drops	ICU	intensive care unit
GTT	glucose tolerance test	I&D	incision and drainage

IM	intramuscular	NKA	no known allergies
I&O	intake and output	NKDA	no known drug allergies
IV	intravenous	noct	night
K/K+	potassium	NPO	nothing by mouth
kg	kilogram	NS	normal saline (refers to the normal plasma contraction 0.9%NaCl)
L	left (This L should have a circle around it).		
L/I	liter	N&V	nausea and vomiting
lb.	pound	o	decreased amount (the o actually has a ~ over it)
L&D	labor and delivery	O	increased amount (the O actually has a ~ over it)
LMP	last menstrual period	O ₂	oxygen
LOC	level of consciousness or loss of consciousness	OD	overdose or right eye
mg(m)	milligram	oint	ointment
MI	myocardial infarction	OR	operating room
ml	milliliter	OS	left eye
mm	millimeter	OTC	over-the-counter
Na/Na+	sodium	OU	both eyes
N/A	not applicable	OV	office visit
NCR	no cardiac resuscitation		
neg	negative		

oz	ounce	R	rectal OR
p	after (The p should have a line over it)	R	respirations right (the R typically has a circle around it when indicating the "right" direction, but not always).
P	pulse		
PDR	Physician's Desk Reference		
PE	pulmonary embolus	RBC	red blood cell OR red blood count
Peds	Pediatrics	reg	regular
per	by	RICE	rest, ice, compression, and elevation
PK	pain killer		
pm/PM	between noon and midnight	r/o, R/O	rule out
PMS	pre-menstrual syndrome	Rx	"take" OR prescription
PO	orally, by mouth	s	without (the s should have a line over it)
PRN	as needed	SA	sino-atrial
pt	patient	SIDS	sudden infant death syndrome
q	every		
qam	every morning	sig	instructions or directions
qd/qday	every day	sm	Small
q _ h	every (number) hour example: q2h would be every two hours	SO	standing order OR significant other
qid	four times a day	SOAP	Subjective, Objective, Assessment, Plan
		SOB	shortness of breath

sq/subcu/subq	subcutaneous	VSS	vital signs stable
S&S	signs and symptoms	w/a	when awake
stat	immediately	WBC	white blood cell OR white blood count
STD	sexually transmitted diseases	w/c or W/C	wheelchair
T	temperature	wk	week
tab(s)	tablet(s)	WNL	within normal limits
TB	tuberculosis	wt	weight
tbsp	tablespoon	YOB	year of birth
TCDB	turn, cough, deep breathe	yr	year
temp	temperature	>	greater than
tid	three times a day	<	less than
TPR	temperature, pulse, and respiration	+	positive
tsp	teaspoon	-	negative
Tx	therapy or treatment	~	approximately
U	unit	%	percent
UA	urinalysis	T	check or checked
UNK	unknown	[increased
UTI	urinary tract infection	∴	decreased
UV	ultra-violet	≈	to the left
VS	vital signs	≡	to the right
		□	change or changed
		☺	All done!