

A - Z MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

Chapter Two Resource

A

aa	of each
AAROM	active assistive range of motion
ABD	abduction
Abd pad	surgical pad
ADD	adduction
ADL	activities of daily living
A-fib	atrial fibrillation
AK	above knee
AKA	above knee amputation
A.M.	before noon
AMB	ambulation
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
AMP	amputee/amputation
ANT	anterior
Ap.	Apically
Approx.	approximately
A.P.	apical pulse
A/P	anterior/posterior
A/P & Lat.	Anterior/posterior and lateral
AROM	Active Range of Motion
Art.	Arterial
ASA	aspirin, acetylsalicylic acid
ASHD	ateriosclerotic heart disease
aspir.	Aspiration
ax	axillary

B

BE	barium enema
bilat.	Bilateral
bili	bilirubin
BIW	twice a week
BK	below knee

BKA
bld.
BLE
BPM
BS
BSC
BSD
BUE

below knee amputation
Blood
bilateral lower extremities
beats per minute
bowel sounds
bedside commode
bedside drainage
bilateral upper extremities

C&S
CAB
CAD
cal.
CAT
C, CI
CBC
CNS
COPD
COTA
CPT
CSF
CT (scan)
CVD
CXR, c-xray

C

culture and sensitivity
coronary artery bypass
coronary artery disease
Calorie
computerized axial tomography
cervical vertebrae
complete blood count
central nervous system
chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
certified occupational therapy assist.
chest physiotherapy
cerebrospinal fluid
computerized tomography
cardiovascular accident
chest x-ray

D

D/C
Dig.
DJD
DM
DNR
DOE
DON
DVT
DW
DX

discharge
Digoxin
degenerative joint disease
Diabetes Mellitus
Do Not Resuscitate
dyspnea on exertion
Director of Nurses
deep vein thrombus
distilled water
diagnosis

e.g.
ENT
ESRD
Ext.
EXTEN.

F
F+
F-
FBS
Fe
Fld.
FLEX.
FS
F/U
FUO

G
G+
G-
GI
Gluc.
GT
GTT
gtt.
gtts.

H₂O₂
HA
HEENT
HEMI
Hg.

E

example
ear, nose, throat
end stage renal disease
external
Extension

F

fair (MMT grade) or female
fair plus
fair minus
fasting blood sugar
iron
fluid
Flexion
finger stick
follow-up
fever of unknown origin

G

Good (MMT grade)
good plus
good minus
gastrointestinal
Glucose
gait training
glucose tolerance test
Drop
Drops

H

hydrogen peroxide
headache
head, eyes, ears, nose and throat
hemiplegia
Mercury

Hgb	hemoglobin
HHA	home health aide/agency
H&H	hematocrit and hemoglobin
H&P	history and physical
HTN	hypertension
HX	history

I

ICU	intensive care unit
IDDM	insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
I&D	incision and drainage
IP	inpatient
IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing

J

Jt.	Joint
JVD	jugular vein distension

K

K, K+	potassium
KUB	kidney, ureter, bladder
KVO	keep vein open

L

L	left/liter
LAT	left anterior thigh
LB	lower back
LE	lower extremity
LLB	long leg brace
LLE	left lower extremity
LLL	left lower lung, lobe
LLQ	left lower quadrant-abdomen
LML	left middle lung, lobe
loc	laxative of choice
LOC	level of consciousness/care
LPTA	licensed physical therapy assist.

LUL left upper lung, lobe
LUE left upper extremity
LUQ left upper quadrant
Lytes electrolytes

M
mcg.
MI
MOD
MOM
MRI
MRSA
MSSW

M

male
Microgram
myocardial infarction
moderate
milk of magnesia
magnetic resonance imaging
methicillin resistant staph aureus
medical social services worker

Na
NaCl
N/C
NS
NIDDM
NPH
NSAID
NTG
NWB

N

sodium
sodium chloride
nasal cannula
normal saline
non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
neutral protein hagedorn (insulin)
non-steriod anti-inflammatory drug
nitroglycerin
non weight bearing

O2 sat.
OBS
OOB
OP
O&P

O

oxygen saturation
organic brain syndrome
out of bed
outpatient
ova and parasites

P
P+

P

poor/pulse
poor plus

P-	poor minus
PCN	penicillin
PCO2	partial pressure of carbon monoxide
PARA	paraplegia
PERL	pupils equal and responsive to light
PERRLA	pupils equal, round, react to light and accommodate
pH	hydrogen ion concentration
PKU	phenylketonuria
PROM	passive range of motion
PVD	peripheral vascular disease
PX	prognosis

Q

q.n.s.	quantity not sufficient
qs	quantity sufficient
QS	quad sets
Quads	quadriceps

R

R, Rt	right
RA	rheumatoid arthritis
RAT	right anterior thigh
RBc	red blood count
RDA	recommended dietary allowance
RLE	right lower extremity
RLL	right lower lung, lobe
RLQ	right lower quadrant
RML	right middle lung, lobe
ROM	range of motion
RR	respiratory rate
RUE	right upper extremity
RUL	right upper lung, lobe
RUQ	right upper quadrant

S

SBA	stand by assistance
shld.	Shoulder
S/I	supervise and instruct
S/L	sublingual
SLR	straight leg raise
SOB	shortness of breath
SOC	start of care
SW	standard walker
SX	symptom

T

TENS	transcutaneous electric nerve stimulation
TIA	transient ischemic attack
Tinct.	Tincture
TIW	3 times a week
TKO	to keep open
T.O.	telephone order
TTWB	toe touch weight bearing

U

URI	upper respiratory infection
UTI	urinary tract infection

V

Vd	void
V.O.	verbal order
VS, V/s	vital signs
V-fib.	Ventricular fibrillation
V-tach	ventricular tachycardia

W

WBAT	weight bearing as tolerated
WBC	white blood count
WBS	weight bearing status

W/D
WFL
WNL

warm and dry
within functional limitations
within normal limits

X
XRT

X
times
radiation therapy