



HOSPITAL QUEEN ELIZABETH II

**LIST OF
MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS**

2ND EDITION

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PRAKATA

PENGARAH HOSPITAL

HOSPITAL QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Assalamualaikum w.b.t dan Salam Sejahtera.

Terlebih dahulu saya ingin memanjatkan kesyukuran ke hadrat Allah S.W.T kerana dengan limpah dan kasih sayang-Nya maka buku "List of Medical Abbreviations 2nd Edition" dapat diterbitkan.

Buku ini diterbitkan selaras dengan hasrat KKM untuk mempertingkatkan pengetahuan dan kemahiran pegawai-pegawai perubatan di dalam proses mendokumentasikan rekod perubatan pesakit agar menjadi lebih baik. Buku ini diilhamkan bagi memastikan setiap kata singkatan atau "*abbreviation*" yang digunakan adalah relevan dan mudah difahami. Penggunaan kata singkatan yang tepat juga penting kerana dapat membantu pihak "*Coders*" di Jabatan Rekod Perubatan untuk menentukan kod diagnosis dan *procedure* yang betul menurut WHO.

Akhir kata, saya bagi pihak seluruh Jawatankuasa *Medical Abbreviation* merakamkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan dan terima kasih di atas segala kerjasama yang diberikan oleh semua pihak yang terlibat secara langsung atau pun tidak langsung dalam menghasilkan buku ini. Semoga semua warga kerja Hospital Queen Elizabeth II dapat memanfaatkan buku ini sewajarnya, sekaligus dapat meningkatkan kecekapan penggunaan kata singkatan di jabatan masing-masing.

Wassalam.

Dr. Hj. Razak Bin Tambi A.D.K
30 September 2019

DISEDIAKAN OLEH,

(DAYANG FAUZIAH BINTI SALLEH)
KETUA JABATAN REKOD PERUBATAN

(NOOR SATIRAH BINTI ABDULLAH)
PENOLONG PEGAWAI REKOD PERUBATAN

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DISAHKAN OLEH,

(DR. HJ. RAZAK BIN TAMBI A.D.K)
PENGARAH HOSPITAL
HOSPITAL QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Abbrev.	Meaning
	Diagnosis;
Δ	Change
$\Delta\Delta$	Differential diagnosis (the list of possible diagnoses, and the effort to narrow that list)
#	Fracture
#NOF	Fracture to the neck of the femur
\mathcal{R}	(R with crossed tail) prescription
Ψ	Psychiatry
Σ	Sigmoidoscopy
x/12	x number of months
x/40	x number of weeks of pregnancy
x/52	x number of weeks
x/7	x number of days
5-HIAA	5-hydroxyindoleacetic acid
5-HT	5-hydroxytryptamine, that is, serotonin

A

Abbrev.	Meaning
\bar{a} before	(a with a bar over it) before (from Latin ante)
	Artery
A	Adenosine
	Apical
	Of each (from Latin ana ana)
	Amino acids:
	A or Ala – alanine
	C or Cys – cysteine
	D or Asp -- aspartic acid
	E or Glu -- glutamic acid
	F or Phe – phenylalanine
	H or His – histidine
	I or Ile – isoleucine
a.a.	K or Lys – lysine
	L or Leu – leucine
	M or Met – methionine
	N or Asn – asparagines
	O or Pyl – pyrrollysine
	P or Pro – proline
	Q or Gln – glutamine
	R or Arg – arginine
	S or Ser – serine
	T or Thr – threonine
	U or Sec – selenocysteine

	V or Val – valine
	W or Trp – tryptophan
	Y or Tyr – tyrosine
A1C	Glycosylated hemoglobin (hemoglobin A1c)
AAA	Abdominal aortic aneurysm (pronounced "triple-A")
AAPMC	Antibiotic associated pseudomembranous colitis
AAT	Activity as tolerated
AAL	Anterior axillary line
AAOx3	Awake, alert, and oriented, times 3 (i.e., to person, place, and time)
A/B	Acid-base ratio
Ab	Antibody
AB	Abortion
ABC	Airway, breathing, circulation
	Aspiration biopsy cytology
ABCD	Airway, breathing, circulation, disability
	Asymmetry, borders, color, diameter (features on considering "Is it a malignant melanoma?")
	ABCD rating (a staging system for prostate cancer)
ABCs	Airway, breathing, circulation, etc. Refers to priority of needs in emergency situations. Exact spell-out and details after "C" vary by institution, but the "ABCs" theme is recurrent.
ABCDs	
ABCDEs	
Abd	Abdomen
	Abdominal
ABE	Acute bacterial endocarditis
ABG	Arterial blood gas
ABI	Acquired brain injury
	Ankle brachial pressure index
ABMT	Autologous bone marrow transplantation
Abn	Abnormal
ABO	Landsteiner's blood grouping system
ABPA	Allergic broncho-pulmonary aspergillosis
ABPI	Ankle brachial pressure index
ABVD	Doxorubicin (Adriamycin), bleomycin, vinblastine, dacarbazine (first-line treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma)
ABX	Antibiotics
a.c.	Before a meal (from Latin ante cibum)
AC	
ACB	Aortocoronary bypass
AC&BC	Air conduction and bone conduction, as in Weber test
Acc	Accommodation (eye)
ACCU	Acute coronary care unit
ACD	Anemia of chronic disease

ACDF	Anterior cervical discectomy and fusion
Ace	Acetone
ACE	Angiotensin-converting enzyme
ACEI	Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor(s)
ACh	Acetylcholine
AChE	Acetylcholine esterase
ACL	Anterior cruciate ligament
ACLS	Advanced cardiac life support
ACS	Acute coronary syndrome
ACTH	Adrenocorticotrophic hormone
ACU	Ambulatory care unit
ad.	Right ear (from Latin auris dexter)
AD	Alzheimer's disease
	Acute distress
	Right ear (from Latin auris dexter)
ADA	Adenosine deaminase
ADC	AIDS dementia complex
ADCC	Antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity
ADD	Attention deficit disorder
ADH	Antidiuretic hormone
ADHD	Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder
ADHR	Autosomal-dominant hypophosphatemic rickets
ADL	Activities of daily living
ad lib	As desired (from Latin <i>ad libitum</i>)
adm	Admission
Adn	Adnexae (for example, adnexae of the uterus)
ADP	Adenosine diphosphate
ad part. dolent	To the painful parts (from Latin <i>ad partes dolentes</i>)
ADR	Adverse drug reaction
AED	Automated external defibrillator
	Anti-epileptic drug(s)
AEM	Ambulatory electrocardiogram monitoring
AF	Atrial fibrillation
	Atrial flutter
	Amniotic fluid
AFB	Acid-fast bacilli
AFib	Atrial fibrillation
AFO	Ankle-foot orthosis
AFP	Alpha-fetoprotein
Ag	Antigen
AGA	Anti-gliadin antibodies

	Appropriate gestational age (see birth weight)
AGC	Atypical glandular cells
AGES criteria	Age, grade, extent, size (for tumors)
AGN	Acute glomerulonephritis
a.h.	Every other hour (from Latin alternis horis)
AHF	Antihemophilic factor
AHG	Antihemophilic globulin
AHH	Aryl hydrocarbon hydroxylase
AHR	Airway hyper-reactivity
AI	Artificial insemination
	Aortic insufficiency
AICD	Automated implantable cardioverter-defibrillator
AID	Artificial insemination by donor
AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
AIH	Artificial insemination by husband
AIHD	Artificial insemination by pooled husband and donor semen
AIPD	Acute infectious and parasitical diseases
	Autoimmune progesterone dermatitis
	Acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy
AIIRB	angiotensin II receptor antagonist
AIN	Acute interstitial nephritis
AIS	Adenocarcinoma in situ
aka	Also known as
AKA	above-knee amputation
	Also known as
ALA	Aminolevulinic acid
Alc	Alcohol
ALG	Antilymphocytic globulin
ALI	Acute lung injury
Alk phos	Alkaline phosphatase (sometimes abbreviated as ALP)
ALL	Acute lymphoblastic leukemia
	Allergies
ALP	Alkaline phosphatase (sometimes abbreviated as Alk phos)
ALPS	Autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome
ALS	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
	Advanced life support
ALT	Alanine transaminase
altern. d.	Every other day (from Latin alterno die)
AMA	Advanced maternal age (35 years or greater)
	Against medical advice
	Anti-mitochondrial antibody

	American Medical Association
Amb	Ambulate
AMC	Arthrogryposis multiplex congenita
AMI	Acute myocardial infarction
AML	Acute myeloid leukemia
AMP	Adenosine monophosphate
Amp	Ampule
	Ampere
AMPA receptor	Alpha-amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazolepropionic acid receptor of the brain
AMS	Acute mountain sickness
	Atypical measles syndrome
Amt	Amount
ANA	Anti-nuclear antibody
ANCA	Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody
ANDI	Aberrations of normal development and involution (of breast)
ANF	Atrial natriuretic factor
ANP	Atrial natriuretic peptide
ANS	Autonomic nervous system
Ant	Anterior
Anti-	Refers to an antibody to the suffixed antigen
ANTR	Asymmetrical tonic neck reflex
ANUG	Acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
A&O	Aware and oriented
A&Ox3	Alert and oriented, times 3 (to person, place, and time)
A&Ox4	Alert and oriented, times 4 (to person, place, time, and circumstances) (often used interchangeably with A&Ox3)
AODM	Adult-onset diabetes mellitus (now called diabetes mellitus type 2)
AOM	Acute otitis media
a.p.	Before a meal (from Latin ante prandium)
AP	Alkaline phosphatase
	Anteroposterior
	Angina pectoris
A&P	Auscultation and percussion
APACHE II	Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation II
APAP	Paracetamol (aka acetaminophen) (from its chemical name, N-acetyl-para-aminophenol)
	Automatic positive airway pressure
APC	Atrial premature contraction
	Antigen-presenting cell
	Activated protein C

APD	Adult polycystic disease
	Automated peritoneal dialysis
APKD	Adult polycystic kidney disease
APECED	Autoimmune polyendocrinopathy-candidiasis-ectodermal dystrophy
APGAR	Appearance, pulse, grimace, activity, respiration - used to assess newborns
APH	Antepartum haemorrhage
APLS	Antiphospholipid syndrome
APMPPE	Acute posterior multifocal placoid pigment epitheliopathy
applic.	Applicandus (Latin meaning "to be applied")
APR	Abdominoperineal resection
APS	Autoimmune polyendocrine/polyglandular syndrome
APSAC	Anisoylated plasminogen streptokinase activator complex
aPTT	Activated partial thromboplastin time
aq.	Water (from Latin aqua)
aq. bull.	Boiling water (from Latin aqua bulliens)
aq. calid.	Warm or hot water (from Latin aqua calida)
aq. dist.	Distilled water (from Latin aqua distillata)
aq. gel.	Cold water (from Latin aqua gelida)
AR	Aortic regurgitation
ARB	Angiotensin II receptor antagonist
ARC	AIDS-related complex
ARDS	acute respiratory distress syndrome
	Adult respiratory distress syndrome
ARF	Acute renal failure
Arg	Arginine
ARM	Artificial rupture of membranes (also abbreviated as AROM)
AROM	Active range of motion
	Artificial rupture of membranes
ART	Antiretroviral therapy
	Assuming room temperature (that is, the patient has died)
ARVC	Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy
ARVD	Arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia
AS	Aortic stenosis
	Atherosclerosis
ASA	Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin)
ASAP	As soon as possible
ASC	Ambulatory surgery center
ASC-H	Atypical squamous cells - cannot exclude HSIL
ASCAD	Arteriosclerotic coronary artery disease
ASCUS	Atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance
ASCVD	Arteriosclerotic vascular disease (arteriosclerosis)

ASD	Atrial septal defect
ASGUS	Atypical squamous glandular cells of undetermined significance
ASH	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (coronary heart disease)
ASHD	
ASIS	Anterior superior iliac spine
ASO	Antistreptolysin-O
ASOT	Antistreptolysin-O titre
Ass	Assessment
AST	Aspartate transaminase
ASX	Asymptomatic
AT	Antithrombin
	Angiotensin
ATA	Anti-transglutaminase antibodies
ATB	Antibiotic
ATCC	American Type Culture Collection
ATG	Antithymic globulin
AT-III	Antithrombin III
ATN	Acute tubular necrosis
ATNR	Asymmetrical tonic neck reflex
ATP	Acute thrombocytopenic purpura
	Adenosine triphosphate
	Anti-tachycardia pacing
Atp	Atypical
ATRA	All-trans retinoic acid
ATS	Anti-tetanus serum, that is, anti-tetanus immunoglobulins
AUC	Area under the curve (pharmacology)
aur.	Ear (from Latin auris)
aur. dextro.	To right ear (from Latin auris dextrae)
aur. laev	To left ear (from Latin auris laevae)
aurist.	Ear drops (from Latin auristillae)
AV	Arteriovenous
	Atrioventricular
AVM	Arteriovenous malformation
AVN	Avascular necrosis
AVR	Aortic valve replacement
A&W	Alive and well
A/W	
Ax	Axillary
AXR	Abdominal x-ray
AZT	Azidothymidine

B

Abbrev.	Meaning
B_x	Biopsy
Ba	Barium
BAC	Blood alcohol content
BAL	Bronchoalveolar lavage
	British anti-Lewisite
	Blood alcohol level
BAO	Basic acid output
BAT	Brown adipose tissue
BBB	Blood brain barrier
BBB L	Left bundle branch block
BBB R	Right bundle branch block
BC	Bone conduction
	Blood culture
BCC	Basal cell carcinoma
	Blind carbon copy
BCG	Bacille Calmette-Guerin (a tuberculosis vaccination)
BCP	Birth control pill
BCX	Blood culture
BCx	
BBMF	"Bone break, me fix" (orthopedic consent form)
BD	Bipolar disorder
	Twice a day (from Latin <i>bis in die</i>)
BDD	Body dysmorphic disorder
BDI	Beck Depression Inventory
BE	Barium enema
	Base excess
BFP	Bundle forming pilus
BGAT	Blood Glucose Awareness Training (to help patients with diabetic hypoglycemia)
BGL	Blood glucose level
BIB	Brought in by
BIBA	Brought in by ambulance
BID	Brought in dead
bid	Twice a day (from Latin <i>bis in die</i>)
b.i.d.	
Bilat eq	Bilaterally equal
BiPAP	Bilevel positive airway pressure
BiVAD	Bilateral ventricular assist device (left and right)
BK	Bradykinin

BKA	Below-the-knee amputation
bl.cult	Blood culture
bld	Blood
BLS	Basic life support
BM	Bowel movement
BMC	Bone mineral content
BMD	Bone mineral density (also termed bone mass measurement)
BMI	Body mass index
BMP	Blood metabolic profile
BMR	Basal metabolic rate
BMT	Bone marrow transplantation
BNO	Bowel not open
BNP	Brain natriuretic peptide
BO	Bowel open
B/O	Baby of
BOA	Born out of asepsis
BOI	Born on island (i.e., a local patient)
BOM	Bilateral otitis media
BOOP	Bronchiolitis obliterans organizing pneumonia
BP	Blood pressure
	Bipolar disorder
	British Pharmacopoeia
BPAD	Bipolar affective disorder
BPD	Biparietal diameter
	Borderline personality disorder
	Bronchopulmonary dysplasia
BPH	Benign prostatic hyperplasia aka benign prostatic hypertrophy
BPM	Beats per minute
BPPV	Benign paroxysmal positional vertigo
BR	Bedrest
	Bathroom
BRA	Bilateral renal agenesis
BRAT	The BRAT diet: bananas, rice, applesauce, (dry) toast (helps digestion in some GI disorders)
BRATY	Another version of the BRAT diet: bananas, rice, applesauce, (dry) toast, yogurt (helps digestion in some GI disorders)
BRB	Bright red blood (color is important as an indicator of source, for example in gastrointestinal bleeding)
BRBPR	Bright red blood per rectum
<i>BRCA1</i> (gene)	Breast cancer 1 (a human gene and its protein)

BRCA1 (protein)	
BRCA2 (gene)	Breast cancer 2 (a human gene and its protein)
BRCA2 (protein)	
BRP	Bathroom privileges
BS	Breath
	Breath sound
	Bowel sounds on auscultation with stethoscope
	Blood sugar
BSA	Body surface area
BSC	Bedside commode
BSE	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
	Breast self-examination
BSL	Blood sugar level
BSP	Bromsulphthalein
BT	Bleeding time
BTL	Bilateral tubal ligation
BTP	Breakthrough pain
BUN	Blood urea nitrogen
BV	Bacterial vaginosis
BVP	Biventricular pacing (see artificial pacemaker)
BW	Blood Work (Blood tests)
Bx	Biopsy
BZDs	benzodiazepines

C

Abbrev.	Meaning
c	(c with a bar over it) with (from Latin cum)
C	Cytosine
	Cervical vertebrae
C1	Atlas - first cervical vertebra of the spine
C2	Axis - second cervical vertebra of the spine
C-section	Cesarean section
CA	Carcinoma
	Cancer
Ca	Calcium
	Carcinoma
	Cancer
CABG	Coronary artery bypass graft surgery (pronounced "cabbage")

CABP	Coronary artery bypass procedure
CAD	Coronary artery disease
CADASIL	Cerebral autosomal dominant arteriopathy with subcortical infarcts and leukoencephalopathy
CAG	Coronary artery graft
	Coronary angiography
CAGS	Coronary artery graft surgery
cAMP	Cyclic adenosine monophosphate
CAH	Chronic active hepatitis
	Congenital adrenal hyperplasia
CAPD	Continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis
Caps	Capsule
CAT	Computed axial tomography
Cath	Catheter
CBC	Complete blood count
CBC/DIFF	Complete blood count/differential
CBD	Common Bile Duct
CBS	Chronic brain syndrome
CC	Cubic centimeter (use <i>mL</i> instead—see the do-not-use list)
cc	Chief complaint
	Cardiac catheter
	Carbon copy
CCCU	Critical coronary care unit
CCE	
C/C/E	Clubbing, cyanosis, and edema (general signs of cardiovascular disease)
CCF	Congestive cardiac failure
CCK	Cholecystokinin
CCK-PZ	Cholecystokinin-pancreozymin
CCR	Cardiocerebral resuscitation
CCU	Coronary care unit
	Critical care unit
CD	Crohn's disease
CDH	Congenital dislocated hip
CDP	Cytosine diphosphate
CEA	Carcinoembryonic antigen
	Carotid endarterectomy
	Cost-effectiveness analysis
CF	Cystic fibrosis
CFA	Colonization factor antigen
CFIDS	Chronic fatigue immune dysfunction syndrome
CFS	Chronic fatigue syndrome

CFTR	Cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator
cGMP	Cyclic guanosine monophosphate
CGN	Chronic glomerulonephritis
CH	Congenital hypothyroidism
CHD	Chronic heart disease
	Congenital heart disease
ChE	Cholinesterase
CHEM-7	A group of blood tests, commonly called a <i>basic metabolic panel</i> (blood urea nitrogen, carbon dioxide, creatinine, glucose, serum chloride, serum potassium, serum sodium)
CHEM-20	A group of blood tests (albumin, alkaline phosphatase, alanine transaminase, aspartate aminotransferase, blood urea nitrogen, calcium - serum, serum chloride, carbon dioxide, creatinine, direct bilirubin, gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase, glucose test, lactate dehydrogenase, phosphorus - serum, potassium test, serum sodium, total bilirubin, total cholesterol, total protein, uric acid)
CHD	Coronary heart disease
CHE	Cholinesterase
CHF	Congestive heart failure
CHO	Carbohydrate
Chol	Cholesterol
CHS	Cannulated hip screw
CHT	Congenital hypothyroidism
CI	Confidence interval
	Cardiac index
CICU	Cardiac intensive care unit
	Cardiothoracic intensive care unit
CIDP	Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy
CIN	Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
Circ	Circumcision
	Circulation
CIS	Carcinoma in situ
CJD	Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
CK	Creatine kinase
	Creatinine phosphokinase (formerly CPK)
CKD	Chronic kidney disease
CKMB	MB isoenzyme of creatine kinase
CLL	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
CM	Chirurgiae Magister Master of Surgery British and Commonwealth countries medical degree
CMD	Cystic medial degeneration
CME	Continuing medical education

CML	Chronic myelogenous leukemia, also called chronic myeloid leukaemia
CMML	Chronic myelomonocytic leukemia
CMP	Complete metabolic panel
	Cytosine monophosphate
CMS	Chronic mountain sickness
CMT	Cervical motion tenderness
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
CN	Cranial nerves
CNS	Central nervous system
	Crigler-Najjar syndrome
C/O	Complains of...
CO	Cardiac output
	Carbon monoxide
	Complains of...
COAD	Chronic obstructive airways disease
COCP	Combined oral contraceptive pill
COLD	Chronic obstructive lung disease
Comp	Compound
Conj	Conjunctiva
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CO₂	Carbon dioxide
COX-1	Cyclooxygenase 1
COX-2	Cyclooxygenase 2
COX-3	Cyclooxygenase 3
CP	Cerebral palsy
	Chest pain
CPAP	Continuous positive airway pressure
CPC	Clinical pathological conference
CPE	<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> enterotoxin
CPK	Creatine phosphokinase
CPKMB	Creatine phosphokinase heart
CPP	Cerebral perfusion pressure
CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CPT	Current procedural terminology
CR	Complete remission
Cr	Creatinine
CrCl	Creatinine clearance
	(Note: Looks similar to, but does not mean, the chromium chlorides—CrCl ₂ , CrCl ₃ , CrCl ₄)
Creat	Creatinine
CREST	Calcinosis Raynaud Esophagus Sclerosis Teleangiectasiae

CRF	Chronic renal failure
	Corticotropin-releasing factor
CrGN	Crescentic glomerulonephritis
CRH	Corticotropin-releasing hormone
CRI	Chronic renal insufficiency
Crit	Hematocrit
CRP	C-reactive protein
CRT	Cardiac resynchronization therapy (artificial pacemaker)
CS	Caesarean section
C/S	
C&S	Culture and sensitivity (antibiogram)
C-spine	Cervical spine
CsA	Ciclosporin A
CSDH	Chronic subdural haemorrhage
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
	Colony stimulating factor
CT	Computed tomography
CTA	Clear to auscultation
	Computed tomography angiography
CTP	Cytosine triphosphate
	Cytidine triphosphate
	Child-Turcotte-Pugh score
CTS	Computed tomography scan
CTU	Cancer treatment unit
CTX	Ceftriaxone (a third-generation cephalosporin antibiotic)
	Contractions
CV	Cardiovascular
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident
	Costovertebral angle
CVAT	Costovertebral angle tenderness
CVC	Central venous catheter
	Chronic venous congestion
CVD	Cardiovascular disease
CVI	Cerebrovascular incident
CVP	Central venous pressure
CVS	Chorionic villus sampling
	Cardiovascular system
CVID	Common variable immunodeficiency
c/w	Consistent with
CWP	Coal worker's pneumoconiosis

Cx	Microbiological culture
CXR	Chest x-ray

D

Abbrev.	Meaning
D_x	diagnosis
D5	5% dextrose
D5W	5% dextrose in water - IV fluids for intravenous therapy
d	day(s)
DA	dopamine
DAEC	diffusely adherent Escherichia coli
DALY	disability adjusted life year
DBP	diastolic blood pressure
DBS	deep brain stimulation
D&C	dilatation and curettage
D/C	discharge
	discontinue
DCBE	double contrast barium enema
DCIS	ductal carcinoma in situ
DCM	dilated cardiomyopathy
DD	differential diagnosis
DDD	daily defined doses
DDx	differential diagnosis
D&E	dilatation and evacuation
DES	diethylstilbestrol
DEXA	dual energy x-ray absorptiometry
DH	developmental history
DHE	dihydroergotamine
DHEA-S	dehydroepiandrosterone sulphate
DHF	decompensated heart failure
DI	diabetes insipidus
DIB	dead in bed
DIC	disseminated intravascular coagulation
DILI	drug-induced liver injury
DIP	distal interphalangeal joint
DiPerTe	diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus (combined vaccination)
Dis	dislocation
Disch	discharge
DiTe	diphtheria-tetanus (combined vaccination)
DIU	death in utero (stillbirth)

DJD	degenerative joint disease (osteoarthritis)
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis
dl	deciliter
dL	deciliter
DLE	disseminated lupus erythematosus (systemic lupus erythematosus)
DM	diabetes mellitus
DMARD	disease-modifying antirheumatic drug
DMD	Duchenne muscular dystrophy;
	Dentariae Medicinae Doctor, that is, Doctor of Dental Medicine
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
DNI	do not intubate
DNR	do not resuscitate
DNAR	do not attempt resuscitation
DOA	dead on admission
	drugs of abuse
DOB	date of birth
DOD	Date of discharge
DOE	dyspnea on exertion
DOSS	docusate sodium; from the chemical name dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate
DP	dorsalis pedis
DPH	diphenylhydantoin
DPL	diagnostic peritoneal lavage
DPT	diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus (DPT vaccine)
DRT	dead right there
DS	disease
DS	Down syndrome (trisomy 21)
DSA	digital subtraction angiography
DSD	dry sterile dressing
Dsg	dressing
DSM	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
dsRNA	double-stranded RNA
DT	diphtheria-tetanus (combined vaccination)
	delirium tremens
DTA	descending thoracic aorta
DTaP	diphtheria–tetanus–acellular pertussis (combined vaccination)
DTP	diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (combined vaccination)
DTR	deep tendon reflex
DTs	delirium tremens
DU	duodenal ulcer (see peptic ulcer)
DUB	dysfunctional uterine bleeding

DVT	deep vein thrombosis
DW	dextrose in water
D5W	5% dextrose in water
DX	diagnosis
Dx	
dx	
DZ	disease

E

Abbrev.	Meaning
E	ecstasy
	electrolytes
	Enterococcus
	epinephrine
EAC	external acoustic meatus
EACA	epsilon-aminocaproic acid
EAEC	enteroadhesive Escherichia coli
EAF	enteric adherence factor
EBL	estimated blood loss (see bleeding)
EBM	evidence-based medicine
	expressed breast milk
EBT	electron beam tomography
EBV	Epstein-Barr virus
EC	enteric coating
ECF	extracellular fluid
	enteric cytopathic human orphan
ECG	electrocardiogram
ECM	extracellular matrix
ECHO	enteric cytopathic human orphan virus
	echocardiography
ECI	febris e causa ignota (normally written as febris E.C.I.)
	fever of unknown origin
ECLS	extracorporeal life support
ECMO	extracorporeal membrane oxygenation
ECP	emergency care practitioner
ECT	electroconvulsive therapy
ED	emergency department
	erectile dysfunction
	ectodermal dysplasia
EDC	estimated date of confinement (at 40/40 weeks of pregnancy)
EDD	estimated date of delivery (at 40/40 weeks of pregnancy); expected date of delivery

	estimated date of discharge
EDF	end diastolic flow (describing the flow of blood through the umbilical artery)
EDH	epidural hematoma
EDM	esophageal Doppler monitor
EDRF	endothelium-derived relaxing factor aka nitric oxide
EDTA	ethylene-diamine-tetraacetic acid
EDV	end-diastolic volume
EEE	eastern equine encephalitis
EEG	electroencephalogram
EENT	ears, eyes, nose, throat (see otolaryngology)
EEX	electrodiagnosis
EF	ejection fraction
EFM	electronic fetal monitoring, aka external fetal monitoring (cardiotocograph)
EGBUS	external genitalia, Bartholin's glands, urethra & Skene's glands
EGD	esophagogastroduodenoscopy
EGF	epidermal growth factor
EHEC	enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli
EIEC	enteroinvasive Escherichia coli
EJ	elbow jerk (triceps reflex)
EKG	electrocardiogram
ELLSCS	elective lower segment caesarean section
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EMB	ethambutol
EmBx	endometrial biopsy
EMC	encephalomyocarditis
EMD	early morning discovery
	electromechanical dissociation
EMF	endomyocardial fibrosis
EMG	electromyography
EMLSCS	emergency lower segment Caesarean section
EMU	early morning urine sample (being the most concentrated, generally used for pregnancy testing)
Emul	emulsion
ENT	ear, nose, and throat (see otolaryngology)
EOM	extraocular muscles
EOMI	extraocular movements intact (see eye movement)
EPEC	enteropathogenic Escherichia coli
EPH	edema, proteinuria, hypertension
EPO	erythropoietin
EPS	electrophysiology
ER	emergency room

ERCP	endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography
ESHAP	etoposide, cisplatin, cytarabine, methylprednisolone (chemotherapy regimen for relapsed Non-Hodgkin lymphoma)
ESL	extracorporeal shockwave lithotripsy (also ESWL) (see lithotripter);
	English as a second language (affects provider-patient communication)
ESBL	extended spectrum beta-lactamase (see also gram-negative bacteria)
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
ESRD	end-stage renal disease
ESRF	End stage renal failure
ESV	end-systolic volume
ESWL	extracorporeal shockwave lithotripsy (also ESL) (see lithotripter)
ET	endothelin
	Endotracheal
	Effort tolerance
ETEC	enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli
Etiol	etiology
ETOH	ethanol (ethyl alcohol)
ETS	endoscopic thoracic sympathectomy
ETT	endotracheal tube
EUA	examination under anesthesia
EUP	extrauterine pregnancy
EUS	endoscopic ultrasonography
EVAR	endovascular aneurysm repair
EVF	erythrocyte volume fraction (see hematocrit)
Exam	examination (for example, physical examination)
Exp Lap	exploratory laparotomy
Ext	extremities

F

Abbrev.	Meaning
F_x	fracture
FAMMM syndrome	familial atypical multiple mole melanoma syndrome
FAP	familial adenomatous polyposis
FAST	focused assessment with sonography for trauma
FB	foreign body
FBC	full blood count
FBE	full blood exam
FBG	fasting blood glucose
FBS	fasting blood sugar

F/C	fevers and/or chills
FDC	follicular dendritic cells
FDIU	fetal demise in utero
FDP	fibrin degradation product
Fe	iron
fem	female
	femoral
FEP	free erythrocyte protoporphyrin
FESS	functional endoscopic sinus surgery
FEV₁	forced expiratory volume in 1 second
FF	free fluids (non-thickened fluids)
FFA	free fatty acids
FFP	fresh frozen plasma
FHR	fetal heart rate
FHS	fetal heart sound
FHT	fetal heart tones
FHx	family history (in medicine, meaning specifically the medical histories of family members and ancestors)
FIBD	found in bed dead
FISH	fluorescence in situ hybridization
FLK	funny-looking kid (unprofessional, offensive slang referring imprecisely to dysmorphic features)
fl.oz.	fluid ounce (1 Imperial fluid ounce ≈ 28.4 mL; 1 U.S. fluid ounce ≈ 29.6 mL) (use of these units is generally deprecated in modern medicine in favor of mL)
FMF	fetal movements felt
FMP	first menstrual period (that is, menarche)
fMRI	functional magnetic resonance imaging
F→N	finger-to-nose test (one simple clinical test of motor coordination)
FNA	fine-needle aspiration
FNAB	fine-needle aspiration biopsy
FNAC	fine-needle aspiration cytology
FNC	full nursing care
FNH	focal nodular hyperplasia
FOBT	fecal occult blood test
FOF	found on floor (patient fell out of bed)
FOS	full of stool
FOOSH	fall on outstretched hand
FPG	fasting plasma glucose
FROM	full range of motion
FSBS	finger-stick blood sugar (one method of blood glucose monitoring)
FSE	fetal scalp electrode

FSGS	focal and segmental glomerulosclerosis
FSH	follicle-stimulating hormone
FTA	fluorescent treponemal antibody (see syphilis)
FTA-ABS	fluorescent treponemal antibody absorption (see syphilis)
FTT	failure to thrive
F/U	follow-up
FUO	fever of unknown origin
FVC	forced vital capacity (spirometry test value used in assessment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
FWB	full weight bearing
FWD	full ward diet;
	forward
Fx	fracture of a bone

G

Abbrev.	Meaning
G	gravidity (total number of pregnancies, successful or not)
	guanosine
G6PD	glucose-6-phosphate-dehydrogenase
GA	general anaesthesia
GABA	gamma-aminobutyric acid
GB	gallbladder
GBS	Guillain-Barré syndrome
GBM	glioblastoma multiforme
	glomerular basement membrane
GC	general condition
	gonococcus
GCA	giant cell arteritis
GCS	Glasgow Coma Scale
G-CSF	granulocyte colony-stimulating factor
GDA	gastroduodenal artery
GDH	glutamate dehydrogenase
GDP	guanosine diphosphate
GERD	gastroesophageal reflux disease
GFR	glomerular filtration rate
GGT	gamma glutamyl transferase
GGTP	gamma glutamyl transpeptidase
GH	growth hormone
GHRF	growth hormone releasing factor
GI	gastrointestinal;
	gastrointestinal tract
GIFT	gamete intrafallopian transfer
GIST	gastrointestinal stromal tumor

GIT	gastrointestinal tract
GITS	gastrointestinal therapeutic system
GMC	general medical condition (e.g., 0 GMC)
GM-CSF	granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor
GMP	guanosine monophosphate
GN	glomerulonephritis
GNRH	gonadotropin-releasing hormone
GOAT	Galveston Orientation and Amnesia Test
GOD	glucose oxidase
GOK	God only knows
GOMER	get outta my ER (i.e., a patient who frequently presents at the ER near death but manages to pull through each and every time)
GORD	gastro-oesophageal reflux disease
GOT	glutamic-oxalacetic transaminase
GP	general practitioner
GPT	glutamic-pyruvic transaminase
Gr	grain
GRAV I	gravidity = 1 (indicating a woman during her first pregnancy)
GSW	gunshot wound
GTN	glyceryl trinitrate
GTT	glucose tolerance test
Gtts	guttae (drops)
GU	genitourinary
	gastric ulcer
GUM	genitourinary medicine (often used more restrictively as alternative to sexually transmitted disease clinic)
GvH	graft-versus-host
GvHD,	graft-versus-host disease
GVHD	
GXT	graded exercise test
GYN	gynecology

H

Abbrev.	Meaning
h	hour or hours
H	histamine or its receptors (if with subscripts)
	hemagglutinin
H_x	history
HA	hypertonia arterialis
	headache
H/A	headache
HAA	hepatitis-associated antigen
HAART	highly active antiretroviral therapy
HACE	high-altitude cerebral edema

HACEK	acronym for a group of bacteria that are a frequent cause of endocarditis in children
HAE	hereditary angioedema
HAD	HIV-associated dementia
H/A	headache
HAP	Hospital Acquired Pneumonia
HALE	health-adjusted life expectancy
HAPE	high-altitude pulmonary edema
HAV	hepatitis A virus
Hb	hemoglobin
HB	heart block
Hb%	hemoglobin concentration in gram per deciliter
HbA	hemoglobin A (commonest type of hemoglobin)
HbA_{1c}	glycosylated hemoglobin (used as a measure of diabetes control)
HBD	has been drinking
HbF	fetal hemoglobin
HBP	high blood pressure, that is, hypertension
Hb_sAg	hepatitis B surface antigen
HBV	hepatitis B virus
HC	hemorrhagic colitis
HCC	hepatocellular carcinoma
hCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
HCL	hairy cell leukemia
HCM	hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
Hct	hematocrit
HCT	hematocrit
	hematopoietic cell transplantation
HCRP	Hospital Cornea Retrieval Programme
HCTZ	hydrochlorothiazide
HD	Hodgkin disease
HCV	hepatitis C virus
HDL	high-density lipoprotein
HDL-C	high-density lipoprotein-cholesterol
HDU	high dependency unit
HDV	hepatitis D virus
H&E	hematoxylin and eosin, a standard tissue stain
HEENT	head, eyes, ears, nose, throat
HELP	hypertension, elevated liver enzymes, low platelets (syndrome) (in pregnancy)
HELLP	
HEMA	hydroxy ethyl methacrylate, a material in soft contact lenses
Hema	hematest - e.g. hema (-) - fecal occult blood
HES	hydroxyethyl starch

HETE	hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid
HEV	hepatitis E virus
HFM	hand, foot and mouth disease
HFMD	hand, foot and mouth disease
HFRS	hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome
HGB	hemoglobin
HGSIL	high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion
HGV	hepatitis G virus
HGPRTase	hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyl transferase
HH	hiatus hernia
H&H	hemoglobin and hematocrit
HHT	hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia
HHV	human herpesvirus
	(including numerous subtypes such as HHV8)
HI	homicidal ideation
Hib	haemophilus influenzae B
HIDS	hyper-IgD (and periodic fever) syndrome
HIE	hypoxic ischaemic encephalopathy
HIT	heparin-induced thrombocytopenia
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HL	hepatic lipase
	Hodgkin's lymphoma
	hearing level
HLA	human leukocyte antigen
HLHS	hypoplastic left heart syndrome
H&M	hematemesis and melena
HMD	hyaline membrane disease
HMG-CoA	3-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl-CoA
HMGR	3-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl-CoA reductase
HMS	hyperreactive malarial splenomegaly
HMSN	hereditary motor sensory neuropathy
HN	hemagglutinin-neuraminidase
HND	hemolytic disease of the newborn
HNPCC	hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer
H/O	history of ...
HOB	head of bed (usually followed by number of degrees of elevation, e.g., HOB 10°)
HOCM	hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy
HONK	hyperosmolar nonketotic coma
H&P	history and physical examination (which very often are considered as a pair)

HPA	hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis
HPETE	hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid
HPF	high-power field (microscopy)
HPI	history of the present illness
H/oPI	
HPOA	hypertrophic pulmonary osteoarthropathy (clubbing)
HPL	human placental lactogen (same as human chorionic somatomammotropin)
HPS	hantavirus pulmonary syndrome
HPT	hypertension
HPV	human papillomavirus
HR	heart rate
hr	hour or hours
HRCT	High-resolution computed tomography
HRT	hormone replacement therapy
h.s.	at bedtime (from Latin hora somni)
hs	hours of sleep
H→S	heel-to-shin test
HSC	human chorionic somatomammotropin (same as human placental lactogen)
HSG	hysterosalpingogram
HSIL	high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion
HSP	Henoch-Schönlein purpura
HSV	herpes simplex virus
HT	hypertension
Ht	height
HTLV	human T-lymphotropic virus
HTN	hypertension
HTPA	hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis
HTVD	hypertensive vascular disease
HUS	hemolytic uremic syndrome
HVLT	high-velocity lead therapy (facetious term for gunshot wound)
Hx	history (of)

|

Abbrev.	Meaning
¹³¹ I or I131	Radioactive iodine
IA	Intra-arterial
IABP	Intra-aortic balloon pump
IAI	Intra-amniotic infection
IBC	Inflammatory breast cancer
IBD	Inflammatory bowel disease

IBS	Irritable bowel syndrome
IC	Ileocecal
	Immunocompromised
	Informed consent
	Intensive care
	Interstitial cystitis
	Immune complex
	Intracardiac
ICD	Implantable cardioverter-defibrillator
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services Program
ICD-10	International Classification of Diseases-10th Revision
ICF	Intracellular fluid
ICG	Impedance cardiography
ICH	Intracerebral hemorrhage
ICP	Intracranial pressure
ICS	Intercostal space
ICU	Intensive care unit
ICCU	Intensive cardiac care unit
ID	Infectious disease
	Identifying data
I&D	Incision and drainage (how to treat an abscess)
IDA	Iron deficiency anemia
IDC	Idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy
	Indwelling catheter
	Infiltrating ductal carcinoma
IDDM	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
IDL	Intermediate density lipoprotein
IDP	Infectious Disease Precautions/ Process
IF	Immunofluorescence
IFG	Impaired fasting glycaemia
Ig	Immunoglobulin
IgA	Immunoglobulin A
IgD	Immunoglobulin D
IgE	Immunoglobulin E
IgG	Immunoglobulin G
IgM	Immunoglobulin M
IGT	Impaired glucose tolerance
IHC	Immunohistochemistry e
IHD	Ischaemic heart disease
IHSS	Ideopathic hypertrophic subaortic stenosis - Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
IM	Intramuscular

IMA	Inferior mesenteric artery
IMB	Intermenstrual Bleed (bleeding between periods)
IMI	Intramuscular injection
IMN	Infectious Mononucleosis
IMT	Intima-media thickness
IMV	Intermittent mandatory ventilation - Mechanical ventilation
Inc	Incomplete
INF(-α/ β/γ)	Interferons - α / β / γ
INH	Isoniazid
Inj	Injection
INR	International normalized ratio
Int	Internal
IO	Intraosseous infusion
I&O	Inputs and Outputs
	Intake and Outputs
IOL	Induction of labor
	Intraocular lens
IOP	Intraocular pressure
IP	Interphalangeal joint
IPF	Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis
IPS	Intra-Peritoneal Sounds
IPPB	Intermittent positive pressure ventilation
IPPV	Intermittent positive pressure ventilation
IQ	Intelligence Quotient
IR	Insulin resistance
IRDS	Infant respiratory distress syndrome
ISA	Intrinsic Sympathomimetic Activity
ISDN	Isosorbide dinitrate
ISH	Isolated systolic hypertension
ISMN	Isosorbide mononitrate
ISQ	No change (from Latin, in status quo)
IT	Intrathecal
ITP	Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura
	Immune mediated thrombocytopenic purpura
ITU	Intensive Treatment Unit (or Intensive Therapy Unit)
IUCD	intrauterine contraceptive device
IU	International units
IUD	Intrauterine Death - sometimes confused with intrauterine contraceptive device. Use FDIU or IUFD

	Intrauterine device - sometimes confused with intrauterine death. We now use IUCD - Intrauterine contraceptive device
IUFD	IntraUterine Foetal Demise
IUGR	Intrauterine growth retardation
IUI	Intrauterine insemination
IUP	Intrauterine pregnancy
IUS	IntraUterine System
IV	Intravenous
IVC	Inferior vena cava
IV-DSA	Intravenous digital subtraction angiography
IVDU	Intravenous drug user
IVF	In vitro fertilization;
	Intravenous fluids
IVP	Intravenous pyelogram
IVPB	Intravenous Piggyback (i.v. short term infusion)
IVU	Intravenous urogram
IVUS	Intravascular ultrasound

J

Abbrev.	Meaning
JCV	John Cunningham virus
JEV	Japanese encephalitis virus
JIA	Juvenile idiopathic arthritis
JMS	Junior medical student, aka MS-3
JODM	Juvenile-onset diabetes mellitus
JRA	Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (now called juvenile idiopathic arthritis)
JVD	Jugular vein distension
JVP	Jugular venous pressure

K

Abbrev.	Meaning
K	Potassium
KA	Ketoacidosis
Kcal	Kilocalorie, calorie
KCCT	Kaolin cephalin clotting time
kg	Kilogram
KIV	Keep in view
KLS	Kidney, liver, spleen
KS	Kaposi's sarcoma
	Kartagener Syndrome
KSHV	Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus

KUB	Kidneys, ureters, and bladder (x-ray)
KVO	Keep vein open (with slow infusion)

L

Abbrev.	Meaning
L	Leukocytes
	Lumbar vertebrae
L&D	Labor & delivery
LA	Lymphadenopathy
	Left atrium
Lab	Laboratory
LABBB	Left anterior bundle branch block
LAD	Left Anterior Descending - Coronary artery
	Leukocyte adhesion deficiency
	Left Axis Deviation - Electrocardiogram
	Lymphadenopathy
LAE	Left atrial enlargement
LAH	Left anterior hemiblock
LAHB	Left anterior hemiblock
Lam	Laminectomy
LAP	Leukocyte alkaline phosphatase
Lap	Laparotomy
LAR	Low Anterior Resection
LARP	Left → anterior, right → posterior (path of the vagi as they wander from thorax to abdomen)
LAS	Lymphadenopathy syndrome
Lat	Lateral
lb; LB	Pound (mass)
LBBB	Left bundle branch block
LBO	Large bowel obstruction
LBP	Low back pain
LBW	Low birth weight
LCA	Left coronary artery
LCIS	Lobular carcinoma in situ
LCM	Lymphocytic meningitis
LCMV	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus
LCV	Leukocytoclastic vasculitis
LCX	Left circumflex artery
L&D	Labor and delivery - Childbirth
LDH	Lactate dehydrogenase

LDL	Low density lipoprotein
LDL-C	Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol
L-DOPA	Levo-DihydroxyPhenylAlanine
LEC	Lupus erythematosus cell
LEEP	Loop electrical excision procedure
LES	Lower esophageal sphincter
	Lupus erythematosus systemicus
LE	Lupus erythematosus (in German Lupus erythematoses)
	Lower extremity - Human leg
leu	Leukocytes
LFT	Liver function test
LGA	Large for gestational age, see birth weight
LGL	Lown-Ganong-Levine syndrome
LGM	Lymphogranulomatosis maligna
LGSIL	Low grade squamous intraepithelial lesion
LGV	Lymphogranuloma venereum
LH	Luteinizing hormone
Lig	Ligament
LIH	Left inguinal hernia
LIMA	Left internal mammary artery
LLE	Left lower extremity
LLETZ	Large loop excision of the transformation zone
LLL	Left lower lobe
LLQ	Left lower quadrant
LM	Left Main
LMA	left mentoanterior - Fetal position
LMCA	Left main coronary artery
LMD	Local medical doctor
LMP	Last menstrual period - first day of the menstrual period prior to conceiving, used to calculate Expected Date of Delivery.
LN	Lymph node
LOA	Left occipitoanterior - Fetal position
	Lysis of adhesions
LOC	Loss of consciousness - Unconsciousness
	Level of consciousness (e.g. "altered LOC from head trauma")
LOF	Leakage of fluid
LOL	Little old lady ... often LOL in NAD (see House of God)
LOP	Left occipitoposterior - Fetal position
LORTA	Loss Of Resistance To Air (in anesthesiology; when placing epidural, LORTA indicates entrance of needle to epidural space)

LOS	Length of stay
Lot	Lotion
Lp	Lipoprotein
LP	Lumbar puncture
LPH	Left posterior hemiblock - Heart block
LPL	Lipoprotein lipase
LSB	Left sternal border
LSIL	Low grade squamous intraepithelial lesion
LR	Lactated Ringer's solution
LRTI	Lower respiratory tract infection
LT	Heat labile enterotoxin
LTAC	Long-term acute care
LTCS	Low transverse c-section
LUL	Left upper lobe - Lung
LUQ	Left upper quadrant
LV	Left ventricle
LVAD	Left ventricular assist device
LVEDP	Left ventricular end diastolic pressure
LVEF	Left ventricular ejection fraction
LVF	Left ventricular failure
LVH	Left ventricular hypertrophy
LVOT	Left ventricular outflow track
LWBS	Left without being seen
Lx of ch	Laxative of choice
Ly	Lymphocytes
lytes	Electrolytes

M

Abbrev.	Meaning
M	Murmur (heart murmur)
MAE	Moves all extremities
MAHA	Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia
MAL	Midaxillary line
MALT	Mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue
MAO-I	Monoamine oxidase inhibitor
Mϕ	Macrophage
MAP	Mean arterial pressure
MARSA	Methicillin- and aminoglycoside-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
MAS	Morgagni-Adams-Stokes syndrome
MAT	Multifocal atrial tachycardia
	Microscopic agglutination test

	MBSS Modified barium swallow study
MC	Metacarpal bone
MCD	Minimal change disease
MCP	Metacarpophalangeal joint
MCHC	Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration
MCH	Mean cell hemoglobin;
	Mean corpuscular hemoglobin
MC&S	Microscopy, culture, and sensitivity (the investigation steps in processing microbiology samples)
MCV	Mean corpuscular volume
MDD	Major depressive disorder
MDE	Major depressive episode
MDS	Myelodysplastic syndrome
M/E	Microscopic examination
MEDLINE	Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online
MEN	Multiple endocrine neoplasia
MeSH	Medical Subject Headings
MET	Metabolic equivalent
met	Metastasis (pronounced like the word met; plural mets)
Mg	Magnesium
MGN	Membranous glomerulonephritis
MgSO4	Magnesium sulfate
MGUS	Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (unknown or uncertain may be substituted for undetermined)
MI	Myocardial infarction
MIC	Minimum inhibitory concentration
MICA	Mental illness and chemical abuse;
	mentally ill chemical abuser
MICU	Mobile Intensive Care Unit
MLC	Mixed lymphocyte culture
MLE	Midline episiotomy
MM	Myeloid metaplasia
M&M	Morbidity & Mortality
MMPI	Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory
MMSE	Mini-mental state examination
MN	Membranous nephropathy
mod	Moderate;
	Modified
MODY	Maturity onset diabetes of the young
Mo	Monocytes
MOM	Milk of magnesia

MOPP	Mechlorethamine, vincristine, procarbazine, and prednisone in combination (older treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma)
MPD(s)	Myeloproliferative disease(s)
MPGN	Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis
MPV	Mean platelet volume
MR	Mitral regurgitation
	Modified release
	Medical representative
	Mental retardation
MRA	Magnetic resonance angiography
MRCP	Magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography
MRG	Murmurs, rubs, and gallops (see heart sounds)
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
MRSA	Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
MS	Mitral stenosis
	Multiple sclerosis
	Medical student MS-1, MS-2, MS-3, MS-4 respectively
	Mental status - Mental status examination
MSE	Mental status examination
MSH	Melanocyte-stimulating hormone
MSK	Medullary sponge kidney
MSO4	Morphine or morphine sulfate
MSU	Midstream urine sample (used in testing for presence of urinary tract infections)
MSUD	Maple syrup urine disease
MT	Metatarsal bone
MTBI	Mild traumatic brain injury
MTP	Metatarsalphalangeal joint
MTX	Methotrexate
MVA	Motor vehicle accident
MVC	Motor vehicle crash
MVP	Mitral valve prolapse
MVPS	Mitral valve prolapse syndrome
MVR	Mitral valve replacement

N

Abbrev.	Meaning
Na	Sodium (from Latin natrium)
NABS	Normoactive bowel sounds
NAD	No abnormality detected
	no apparent distress
	(and many variations of the above)

NAS	No added salt
NB	Newborn (infant)
	Note well (please pay attention) (from Latin <i>nota bene</i>)
NBN	Newborn nursery
NBTE	Nonbacterial thrombotic endocarditis
NC	Nerve action potential
	Nasal cannula
NCC	Noncompaction cardiomyopathy
NCS	Nerve conduction study
NCT	Nerve conduction test, aka nerve conduction study
NCV	Nerve conduction velocity (see nerve conduction study)
ND	(Examination) not done
NE	Norepinephrine
Ne	Neutrophil granulocytes
NEC	Not elsewhere classified
	Neonatal necrotizing enterocolitis
Neg	Negative
Neo	Neoplasm
NES	Not elsewhere specified
NFR	Not for resuscitation
NGT	Nasogastric tube (see intubation)
NG tube	
NGTD	Negative to date
NGU	Non-gonococcal urethritis
NHL	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma
NICU	Neonatal intensive care unit
NIDDM	Non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
NK	Natural killer cells
NK cells	
NKA	No known allergies
NKDA	No known drug allergies
NI	Normal
NLP	No light perception (highest degree of blindness)
NM	Nuclear medicine
NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance
NNH	Number needed to harm
NNT	Number needed to treat
NO	Nitric oxide
No.	Number
NOF	Neck of femur fracture (refers to hip fracture)
Non rep.	Do not repeat
NOS	Nitric oxide synthase;
	Not otherwise specified

NPA	Nasal pharyngeal aspirate
NPH	Normal pressure hydrocephalus
Npl	Neoplasm
NPO	Nil per os (nothing by mouth)
NPTAC	No previous tracing available for comparison
NRB	Non-rebreather mask
NRBC	Nucleated red blood cells
NREM	Non-rapid eye movement
n.s.	Not significant
NS	Normal saline
NSA	No significant abnormality
NSAID	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
NSCC	Non-squamous-cell carcinoma
NSCLC	Non-small cell lung cancer
NSD	Normal spontaneous delivery (see childbirth)
NSE	Neurospecific enolase
NSR	Normal sinus rhythm
NST	Non-stress test (see cardiotocograph)
NSTEMI	Non-ST elevation myocardial infarction
NSU	Non-specific urethritis
NT	Not tested
NTG	Nitroglycerin
NTT	Nasotracheal tube (see intubation)
N&V	Nausea and vomiting
n/v	
NVD	Normal vaginal delivery (see childbirth); Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea
NVDC	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and constipation
NYHA	New York Heart Association Classification

O

Abbrev.	Meaning
o	Nothing
O₂	Oxygen
OA	Osteoarthritis
OB-GYN	Obstetrics and Gynecology
Obl	Oblique
OBS	Organic brain syndrome
Occ	Occasional
OCD	Obsessive-compulsive disorder
OCG	Oral cholecystogram
OCNA	Old chart not available - Medical history
OCP	Oral contraceptive pill

OCT	Optical Coherence Tomography
OD	Right eye <i>from Latin, oculus dexter</i>
	Overdose
	Occupational disease
od	Every day, usually regarded as once daily, from the Latin, omni die. Generally written in lower case.
OE	Otitis externa
O/E	On examination
OGTT	Oral glucose tolerance test
OHL	Oral hairy leukoplakia
Oint	Ointment
OM	Otitis media
om	Every morning, from the Latin, omni mane. Generally written in lower case.
OME	Otitis Media with Effusion - fluid in the inner ear without other symptoms.
on	Every night, from the Latin, omni nocte. Generally written in lower case.
OOB	Out of bed
OP	Outpatient department
O&P	Ova and parasites
OPD	Outpatient department
OPPT	Oriented to person place and time
OPV	Outpatient visit
OR	Operating room, operating theatre
ORIF	Open reduction internal fixation
ORSA	Oxacillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus
ORT	Oral rehydration therapy
OS	Left eye from Latin, oculus sinister
OS	Orthopedic surgery
OSA	Obstructive sleep apnea
OSH	Outside hospital
Osm	Osmolarity
Osteo	Osteomyelitis
OT	Occupational therapy
OTC	Over-the-counter drug
OTD	Out the Door (discharged)
OTPP	Oriented to time place and person
OU	Both eyes, from Latin, oculi uterque
OV	Office Visit (see Ambulatory care, Physician offices)
oz	Ounce

P

Abbrev.	Meaning
p	(p with a bar over it) after, from Latin, post
P	Parturition (total number of live births)
	Phosphorus
	Pulse
	Post
PA	Posterior-anterior, posteroanterior
	Pulmonary artery
	Physician Assistant
P&A	Percussion and auscultation
PAC	Premature atrial contraction
	Pulmonary artery catheter, Pulmonary artery catheterisation
PAD	Peripheral artery disease - Peripheral artery occlusive disease
PAF	Platelet activating factor
	Paroxysmal atrial fibrillation (meaning intermittent AF)
PAH	Pulmonary arterial hypertension
	Phenylalanine hydroxylase
PAI-1	Plasminogen activator inhibitor 1
PAL	Posterior axillary line
PALS	Pediatric Advanced Life Support
PAN	Polyarteritis nodosa
PAO	Peak Acid Output
PAOD	Peripheral artery occlusive disease
PAP	Papanicolaou stain
	Positive airway pressure
	Pulmonary artery pressure - Pulmonary hypertension
Pap	Papanicolaou Test (pap smear)
PARA I	Indicating a woman with one child (partus = birth)
PARA II	Indicating a woman with two children (partus = birth)
PAT	Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
PBF	Peripheral blood film
p.c.	After food, from Latin, post cibum
	After meals
PCA	Patient-controlled analgesia
PCa	Prostate cancer
PCD	Postconcussional disorder
	Primary ciliary dyskinesia
PCI	Percutaneous coronary intervention
PCL	Posterior cruciate ligament
PCN	Penicillin
PCNSL	Primary CNS (central nervous system) lymphoma
PCO	Polycystic ovary - polycystic ovarian syndrome
PCOS	Polycystic ovarian syndrome
PCP	(Formerly Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia) - Pneumocystis pneumonia
	Primary Care Physician/Primary Care Provider

PCR	Patient Care Report
	Polymerase chain reaction
PCS	Post-concussion syndrome
PCV	Packed cell volume - Hematocrit
	Polycythemia vera
PCWP	Pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
PD	Parkinson's disease
	Peritoneal dialysis
	Physical diagnosis
PDA	Patent ductus arteriosus
	Posterior descending artery
PDE	Phosphodiesterase
PDGF	Platelet derived growth factor
PDR	Physicians' Desk Reference
PDR	Proliferation Diabetic Retinopathy (NPDR - Non PDR)
PDT	Photodynamic Therapy
PE	Pulmonary embolism
	Pre-eclampsia
	Physical examination
	Pericardial effusion
PEA	Pulseless electrical activity
PEEP	Positive end expiratory pressure
PEF	Peak expiratory flow
PEFR	Peak expiratory flow rate
PEG	Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy
pen	Penicillin (Best practice is to avoid drug name abbreviations)
PEP	Post exposure prophylaxis
PERRL	Pupils equal, round, reactive to light (e.g. "pupils PERRL")
PERLA	Pupils equal and reactive to light and accommodation
PERRLA	Pupils equal, round, reactive to light and accommodation
Per Vag	Per vaginam
PET	Positron-emission tomography (cerebral metabolic scan)
PFO	Patent foramen ovale
PFT	Pulmonary function test - Spirometry
PGCS	Paediatric Glasgow Coma Scale
PH	Pulmonary hypertension
	Past history - medical history
PH_x	Past history - medical history
PHTLS	Prehospital trauma life support
PI	Present illness
PICC	Peripherally inserted central catheter
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
	Prolapsed intervertebral disc
PIH	Pregnancy induced hypertension
PIP	Proximal interphalangeal joint

PKA	Protein kinase A
PKD	Polycystic kidney disease
PKU	Phenylketonuria (PKU card - Guthrie test)
PLAT	Tissue plasminogen activator
PLIF	Posterior lumbar interbody fusion, a type of spinal fusion
PLT	Platelets
PM	Post meridiem
	In the afternoon
PMB	Post-menopausal bleeding (bleeding after menopause)
PMH	Past medical history
	Perimesencephalic subarachnoid hemorrhage
PMI	Point of maximal impulse or apical beat
	Point of maximal intensity
PML	Polyoma virus
PMP	Pseudomyxoma peritonei
PMN	Polymorphonuclear leukocytes, i.e., Neutrophils
PMR	Percutaneous myocardial revascularisation
	Polymyalgia rheumatica
PM&R	Physical medicine and rehabilitation
PND	Paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea
	Postnasal drip
PNH	Paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria
PNM	Perinatal mortality
PO	By mouth (orally), <i>from Latin, per os</i>
POD	postoperative days
poly	Polymorphonuclear cells, ie Neutrophils
Post	Posterior - anatomical terms of location
POX	Peroxidase
PP	Pulse pressure
	Postpartum - postnatal
PPCS	Prolonged post-concussion syndrome
PPD	Packs per day (Cigarettes)
	Postpartum depression - Postnatal depression
	Purified protein derivative or Mantoux test, for tuberculosis testing
PPH	Postpartum haemorrhage
	Primary pulmonary hypertension
	Procedure for prolapse and hemorrhoids
PPI	Proton pump inhibitor
PPROM	Preterm premature rupture of membranes
PPS	Post-polio syndrome
Ppt	Precipitate
	Precipitating
PPTCT	Prevention of parent-to-child transmission (of HIV: Govt of India)
PPTL	Post-partum tubal ligation
PR	Prothrombin ratio

p.r.	Per rectum (as noun: rectal examination)
PRA	Plasma renin activity
PRBC	Packed red blood cells
Preme	Premature infant - premature birth
Prep	Preparation
PRIND	Prolonged reversible ischemic neurologic deficit
prn	As necessary, <i>from Latin, pro re nata</i> (if used in chronic pain control disparagingly termed "pain relief nil")
PRN	As needed
Prog	Prognosis
PROM	Premature rupture of membranes
PRP	Panretinal photocoagulation
	Progressive rubella panencephalitis
PRV	Polycythemia rubra vera - polycythemia vera
PSA	Prostate specific antigen
PSGN	Poststreptococcal glomerulonephritis
PSH	Psychosocial history
	Past medical history
PSP	Phenylsulphtalein
PSS	Progressive systemic sclerosis - scleroderma
PT	Prothrombin time
	Physical therapy (physiotherapy)
Pt.	Patient, <i>from Latin patiens, meaning "one who endures" or "one who suffers"</i>
PTA	Percutaneous transluminal angioplasty
	Post-traumatic amnesia
	Prior to admission
PTB	Pulmonary tuberculosis
PTC	Percutaneous transhepatic cholangiography
PTCA	Percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty
PTD	Prior to discharge
PTH	Parathyroid hormone
PTHC	Percutaneous transhepatic cholangiography
PTSD	Posttraumatic stress disorder
PTSS	Posttraumatic stress syndrome - posttraumatic stress disorder
PTT	Partial thromboplastin time
PTx	Pneumothorax
PUD	Peptic ulcer disease
PUO	Pyrexia of unknown origin
PUVA	Psoralen UV A (photochemical ultraviolet light A waves)
p.v.	Per vagina (as noun: vaginal examination with manual examination and speculum inspection)
PVC (VPC)	Premature ventricular contraction
PVD	Peripheral vascular disease
PVFS	Post-viral fatigue syndrome

PVR	Pulmonary vascular resistance
PVS	Persistent vegetative state
	Pulmonary valve stenosis
	Plummer-Vinson syndrome
PWP	Pulmonary Wedge Pressure
Px	Physical examination
px	
Px	Prognosis
P-Y	Pack-years (years of smoking one package of cigarettes per day)
PZA	Pyrazinamide

Q

Abbrev.	Meaning
Q	Perfusion
q	Each, every (from Latin <i>quaque</i>)
q.a.d.	Every other day (from Latin <i>quaque altera die</i>)
QALY	Quality-adjusted life year
q.AM	Every day before noon (from Latin <i>quaque ante meridiem</i>)
q.d.	Each day (from Latin <i>quaque die</i>)
	(deprecated; use "daily" instead. See the do-not-use list)
q.d.s.	Four times each day, (from Latin <i>quater die sumendus</i>)
q.h.	Each hour (from Latin <i>quaque hora</i>)
q.h.s.	Every bedtime (from Latin <i>quaque hora somni</i>)
q.i.d.	Four times each day (from Latin <i>quater in die</i>)
	(not deprecated, but consider using "four times a day" instead. See the do-not-use list)
q.l.	As much as you like (from Latin <i>quantum libet</i>)
q.m.t.	Every month
q.n.	Every night
QNS	Quantity not sufficient
q.n.s.	
q.o.d.	Every other day
	(deprecated; use "every other day" instead. See the do-not-use list)
QOF	Quality and Outcomes Framework system for payment of GPs in the UK National Health Service
q.o.h.	Every other hour
q.s.	As much as suffices (from Latin <i>quantum satis</i> or <i>quantum sufficit</i>)
qt	Quart
q.v.	Which see (from Latin <i>quod vide</i>);
	as much as you please (from Latin <i>quantum vis</i>)
q.w.k.	Weekly

R

Abbrev.	Meaning
RA	Refractory anaemia

	Rheumatoid arthritis
	Right atrium
RAD	Reflex anal dilatation
	Right Axis Deviation
	Reactive Airway Disease
Rad hys	Radical hysterectomy
RAI	Radioactive Iodine
RAPD	Relative afferent pupillary defect
RAS	Renal artery stenosis
RBBB	Right bundle branch block
RBC	Red blood cells, Red blood count
RBLM	Recurrent benign lymphocytic meningitis
RCA	Right coronary artery
RCC	Renal cell carcinoma
RCM	Restrictive cardiomyopathy
	Right costal margin
RCT	Randomized controlled trial
RD	Retinal detachment
RDS	Respiratory distress syndrome - Infant respiratory distress syndrome
RDW	Red cell distribution width
REM	Rapid eye movement
RF	Rheumatoid factor
	Rheumatic fever
RFLP	Restriction fragment length polymorphism
RFT	Renal function test
r/g/m	Rubs/gallops/murmurs - heart sounds
Rh	Rhesus factor
RHD	Rheumatoid heart disease
RhF	Rheumatoid factor
RIA	Radioimmunoassay
RIBA	Radioimmunoblotting assay
RICE	Rest, ice, compression, and elevation (treatment for a soft tissue injury)
RIF	Rifampin
RIMA	Reversible inhibitor of monoamine oxidase A
	Right internal mammary artery
RIND	Reversible ischemic neurologic deficit
RL	Ringer's lactate; lactated Ringer's solution
RLE	Right lower extremity
RLL	Right lower lobe - lung
RLN	Recurrent laryngeal nerve;
	Regional lymph node
RLQ	Right lower quadrant
RML	Right middle lobe - lung
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RNP	Ribonucleoprotein

RNV	Radionuclear Ventriculography
ROM	Range of motion
R/O	Rule Out
ROA	Right occipital anterior - childbirth
ROP	Right occipital posterior - childbirth
ROS	Review of systems
ROSC	Return of spontaneous circulation
RPGN	Rapidly progressing glomerulonephritis
RPR	Rapid plasma reagin test
RR	Respiratory rate
	Blood pressure measured with a specific sphygmomanometer
RRR	Regular rate and rhythm - pulse
RS cell	Reed-Sternberg cell
RSI	Rapid sequence induction
RSV	Respiratory syncytial virus
RT	Respiratory therapy
	Reverse transcriptase
RT-PCR	Reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction
RTA	Renal tubal acidosis
RTC	Return to clinic (appointment for outpatient for next medical examination)
RTS	Revised trauma score
RUE	Right upper extremity
RUL	Right upper lobe (of the lung)
RUQ	Right upper quadrant (see also Human abdomen#Regions of the abdomen)
RV	Residual volume
	Right ventricle
RVAD	Right ventricular assist device
RVF	Right ventricular failure
RVH	Right ventricular hypertrophy
RVSP	Right ventricular systolic pressure
RVT	Renal vein thrombosis
Rx or \overline{R} or R_x	(R with crossed tail) medical prescription or Prescription drug

S

Abbrev.	Meaning
s	Without (s with a bar over it); <i>from Middle English sans, borrowed from Old French sans, Latin sine</i>
S	Sacrum
S_x	Symptoms
S₁	First heart sound
S₂	Second heart sound
SA	Sinoatrial node
SAB	Staphylococcal bacteremia

	Spontaneous abortion - Miscarriage
SAH	Subarachnoid hemorrhage
SAN	Sinoatrial node
SAPS II	Simplified acute physiology score
SAPS III	Simplified acute physiology score
SARS	Severe acute respiratory syndrome
SB	Small bowel - small intestine
SBE	Subacute bacterial endocarditis
SBO	Small bowel obstruction
SBP	Systolic blood pressure
	Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis
s.c.	Subcutaneous <i>from Latin, subcutis</i>
SCC	Squamous cell carcinoma
SCD	Sudden cardiac death
SCLC	Small cell lung cancer
SCID	Severe combined immunodeficiency
Scope	Microscope or endoscope
s.d.	Subdermal
SD	Standard deviation
σ	
SDH	Subdural hematoma
Sed	Sedimentation (rate) - Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
Segs	Segmented cells
SEM	Systolic ejection murmur - Heart murmur
SERT	Serotonin transporter
SFA	Superficial femoral artery
	Serum folic acid
SGA	Small for gestational age
SG cath	Swan-Ganz catheter - pulmonary artery catheter
SGOT	Serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
SGPT	Serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase
SH	Social history (personal habits, living situation, job)
SH_x	
SHBG	Sex hormone-binding globulin
SHx	Surgical history
SI	International System of Units
	Suicidal ideation
	Seriously ill
	Sacroiliacal (joint)
SIADH	Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone
SICS	Surgical intensive care unit
SIDS	Sudden infant death syndrome
SIMV	Synchronized intermittent mechanical ventilation
si op. sit.	Si opus sit (If needed)

SIT	Stress inoculation training - posttraumatic stress disorder
SK	Streptokinase
sl	Sublingual
SLE	Systemic lupus erythematosus
SLEV	St. Louis virus
SLR	Straight leg raise - Lasègue's sign
SLL	Small lymphocytic lymphoma
SM	Multiple sclerosis from Latin, sclerosis multiplex
SMA	Sequential multiple analysis;
	Superior mesenteric artery
SMA-6	Six-channel serum multiple analysis
SMA-7	Serum metabolic assay
SMS	Senior medical student
SMT	Spinal manipulative therapy
SMV	Superior mesenteric vein
SN	Student nurse
SNB	Sentinel node biopsy (ductal carcinoma)]
SNP	Sodium nitroprusside;
	Single nucleotide polymorphism
SNRI	Serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor
SNV	Sin nombre virus, most common type of hantavirus
SOAP	Subjective, objective, assessment, plan (how Doctors notes are organized)
SOB	Shortness of breath - dyspnea
SOBOE	Short of breath on exercise
SOL	Space occupying lesion
Sol	Solution
SOOB	Send out of bed
SOS	Si opus sit (If needed)
SP	Status post
s/p	
Spec	Specimen
SPECT	Single photon emission computed tomography
SPEP	Serum protein electrophoresis
SPET	Single photon emission tomography
Sp. fl.	Spinal fluid - cerebrospinal fluid
Sp. gr.	Specific gravity
SQ	Subcutaneous
sq	
SR	Slow release
SROM	Spontaneous rupture of membranes
SRS	Stereotactic radiotherapy
SS	Hemoglobin SS (HbSS) - in Sickle-cell disease = SS disease
SSPE	Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis
ssRNA	Single stranded RNA
SSRI	Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor

SSSS	Staphylococcal scalded skin syndrome
SSS	Sick sinus syndrome
ST	Heat stable
Staph.	Staphylococcus
STD	Sexually transmitted disease
STAT	Shortest Turn Around Time. Immediately
STEC	Shiga toxin producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> , another name for enterohaemorrhagic <i>E. coli</i>
STEMI	ST elevation MI (Myocardial infarction)
STH	Somatotropic hormone
STI	Sexually transmitted infection
	Soft tissue injury
STNR	Symmetrical tonic neck reflex
STOP	Surgical termination of pregnancy (sometimes suction termination of pregnancy)
Strep.	Streptococcus
Strepto.	
STS	Serological test for syphilis
Subq	Subcutaneous
Supp	Suppository
SUV	Standardized Uptake Value - when used in Positron emission tomography (PET) cancer scans - any lesion seen on a scan with a SUV of more than 3 indicates metabolic activity
SV	Seminal vesicle
	Stroke volume
SVC	Superior vena cava
SVD	Spontaneous vaginal delivery
	Simple vertex delivery
SVI	Systemic viral infection
SVN	Small volume nebulizer
SVR	Systemic vascular resistance
SVT	Supraventricular tachycardia
Sx	Surgery
	Symptoms
SXA	Single energy X-ray absorptiometer
SXR	Skull x-ray
Sz	Seizure

T

Abbrev.	Meaning
T	Thoracic vertebrae
T_x	Transplantation
	Traction
T&A	Tonsillectomy with adenoidectomy
T&C	Type an cross-match - Blood transfusion
Tab	Tablet
TAB	Therapeutic abortion

TAH	Total abdominal hysterectomy
TAH-BSO	Total abdominal hysterectomy with bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
TB	Tuberculosis
TBC	Tuberculosis
	Total body crunch
TBI	Total body irradiation
	Traumatic brain injury
TBLC	Term birth living child
TC	Traffic crash
TCC	Transitional cell carcinoma
TCM	Traditional Chinese medicine
TCN	Tetracycline
TCT	Thrombin clotting time
Td	Tetanus and diphtheria
TdP	Torsades de pointes
t.d.s.	Three times a day, from Latin, ter die sumendus
TEB	Thoracic electrical bioimpedance - impedance cardiography
TEE	Transesophageal echocardiogram
TEM	Transmission electron microscopy
Temp	Temperature
TENS	Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator
TERN	"Intern"
TF	Transfer
T/F	Transfer
TFTs	Thyroid function tests
TGA	Transposition of the great arteries
TG	Triglycerides
Tg	Thyroglobulin
TGF	Tumor growth factor
TGV	Transposition of the great vessels
T&H	Type and hold - (stay ready for blood transfusion)
THOMAS (neuroscience)	The Human Oxytocin Mediated Attachment System
THR	Total hip replacement
TIA	Transient ischemic attack
TIBC	Total iron binding capacity
Tib-Fib	Tibia and fibula
t.i.d.	Three times a day, from Latin, ter in die
TIN	Tubulointerstitial nephritis
TIPS	Transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt
TKO	To keep (vein) open for IV therapy
TKR	Total knee replacement
TKVO	To keep vein open
TLC	Total lung capacity
	Tender loving care

	Total lymphocyte count
TLR	Tonic labyrinthine reflex
TM	Tympanic membrane
TMB	"Too Many Birthdays" Very frail elderly patient
TME	Total mesorectal excision
TNF	Tumor necrosis factors
TMJ	Temporomandibular joint
TNG	Trinitroglycerin
TNM	Tumor-nodes-metastases
TNTC	Too numerous to count
TOA	Tuboovarian abscess
TOD	Transoesophageal doppler
TOE	Transoesophageal echocardiogram
TOF	Tetralogy of fallot
TOF	Tracheo-oesophageal fistula
TOP	Termination of pregnancy
TP	Total protein
TPa	Tissue plasminogen activator
TPN	Total parenteral nutrition
TPR	Temperature, pulse, respiration
TR	Tricuspid regurgitation
Tr	Tincture
TRAM	Transverse rectus abdominis myocutaneous flap (TRAM flap)
TRAP	Tartarate resistant acid phosphatase
TRF	Transfer (pronounced "turf")
TRF'd	Transferred (Pronounced "turfed", as in "We just turfed Mrs Johnson OTD")
TRH	Thyrotropin releasing hormone
TS	Tricuspid stenosis
Tsp	Teaspoon (5 ml)
TSH	Thyroid stimulating hormone
T.S.T.H.	Too sick to send home
TT	Thrombin time
TTE	Transthoracic echocardiogram
TTO	To take out (medicines given to patient on discharge from hospital stay)
TTP	Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura
	Tender to palpation
TTR	Transthyretin
TTS	Transdermal therapeutic system
TTTS	Twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome
Tu	Tumor
TUR	Transurethral resection
TURBT	Transurethral resection of bladder tumour
TURP	Transurethral resection of the prostate
TVH	Total vagina hysterectomy
Tx	Transplant

	Treatment
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U

Abbrev.	Meaning
UA	urinalysis
UBT	urea breath test
UC	ulcerative colitis
UCHD	usual childhood diseases (see list of childhood diseases)
UD	as directed (from Latin ut dictum)
UDS	urine drug screening
UE	upper extremity
U&E	urea and electrolytes (blood test) (for sodium and potassium, and often creatinine)
UIP	Usual interstitial pneumonitis
UGI	upper gastrointestinal
UOP	Urinary Output
Ung	ointment (from Latin unguentum)
Unk	unknown
UPJ	ureteropelvic junction (see pyeloplasty)
URA	unilateral renal agenesis
URI	upper respiratory infection
URTI	upper respiratory tract infection
US	ultrasonogram
USG	ultrasonogram
USP	United States Pharmacopeia
USR	unheated serum reagin
USS	ultrasound scan
UTI	urinary tract infection
UVAL	ultraviolet argon laser

V

Abbrev.	Meaning
V	Ventilation
VA	visual acuity
VAD	Ventricular assist device
	Vincristine adriablastine dexamethasone
Vag	Vaginal
VAMP	Vincristine adriablastine methylprednisone
VBAC	Vaginal birth after caesarean
VC	Vital capacity
VCTC	Voluntary counselling and testing centers (for HIV: Govt Centres in India)
vCJD	Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
VD	Venereal disease
	Vaginal delivery
	Volume of distribution
VDRF	Ventilator dependent respiratory failure

VDRL	Venereal Diseases Research Laboratory (old test for syphilis)
VE	Vaginal examination (manual examination)
VEE	Venezuelan equine encephalitis
VEB	Ventricular ectopic beat
VF	Ventricular fibrillation
V-fib	
VIP	Vasoactive intestinal peptide
VLDL	Very low density lipoprotein
VMA	Vanillylmandelic acid
	Violent mechanical asphyxia
VNPI	VanNuys prognostic scoring index (ductal carcinoma)
VO	Verbal order
VOD	Volume of distribution
VPA	Valproic acid
VPAP	Variable positive airway pressure
VPB	Ventricular premature beats - premature ventricular contraction
VPC (PVC)	Ventricular premature contraction
V/Q	Ventilation/Perfusion scan
VRE	Vancomycin-resistant enterococcus
VRSA	Vancomycin-resistant staphylococcus aureus
VS	Vital signs (VSS = vital signs stable)
VSD	Ventricular septal defect
VSR	Ventricular septal rupture - myocardial rupture
VT	Ventricular tachycardia
	Verotoxin
VTE	Venous thromboembolism
VTEC	Verotoxin producing Escherichia coli, also known as enterohaemorrhagic Escherichia coli
VUR	Vesicoureteral reflux
VZV	Varicella zoster virus

W

Abbrev.	Meaning
w/	With
WAP	Wandering atrial pacemaker (see multifocal atrial tachycardia)
WAT	White adipose tissue
WBC	White blood cell
	White blood cell count
WBRT	Whole brain radiotherapy treatment
WC	White cells
W/C	Wheelchair
WD	Well developed
WDL	Within defined limits (as per hospital defined policy)
WH	Well hydrated (not dehydrated or hyperhydrated)

WDWN	Well developed and well nourished
WEE	Western equine encephalitis virus
WG	Wegener's granulomatosis
WN	Well nourished
WNL	Within normal limits (also: we never looked)
W/O	Without
w/o	
WPW	Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome – I45.6
WS	Waardenburg syndrome;
	Warkany syndrome;
	Water-soluble;
	Werner syndrome;
	West syndrome;
	Williams syndrome;
	Wolfram syndrome
wt	Weight
WWI	Walking while intoxicated (ethanol or other drugs);
	World War I

X

Abbrev.	Meaning
x	(x with macron) except
XR	Extended release;
	X-ray radiography
XRT	Radiotherapy used in cancer treatment

Y

Abbrev.	Meaning
y	Year
YO	Years old
yo	

Z

Abbrev.	Meaning
ZD	Zinc deficiency
ZIFT	Zygote intrafallopian transfer

PHARMACY ABBREVIATIONS

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
aa	Of Each
AAA	Apply To Affected Area
a.c.	Before Meals
a.d.	Right Ear
ad lib.	As Much As Desired; Freely
a.m.	Morning; Before Noon
amp.	Ampule
amt.	Amount
APAP	Acetaminophen
aq.	Water
a.s.	Left Ear
ATC	Around The Clock
a.u.	Both Ears
bib.	Drink
b.i.d.	Twice A Day
BP	Blood Pressure
bucc.	Inside Cheek
c.	With
cc	Cubic Centimeter (Cm ³)
cap.	Capsule
cm	Centimeter
d.	Day

DAW	Dispense As Written
d.c.; d/c	Discontinue
dil.	Dilute
disp.	Dispense
div.	Divide
dL	Deciliter
DR	Delayed-Release
EC	Enteric-Coated
EOD	Every Other Day
ER; XR	Extended-Release
et	And
f., ft.	Make; Let It Be Made
fl.	Fluid
FXD	For 10 Days
g, gm	Gram
gal	Gallon
gr.	Grain
gtt.	Drop
h., hr., hor.	Hour
HCT; HCTZ	Hydrochlorothiazide
h.s.	At Bedtime
ID	Intradermal
IM	Intramuscular
IN	Intranasal
inf.	Infusion
inh.	Inhalation

inj.	Injection
IR	Immediate-Release
IU	International Unit
IV	Intravenous
K	Potassium
kg	Kilogram
L	Liter
lb	Pound
liq.	Liquid
lot.	Lotion
m	Meter
max.	Maximum
mcg; μg	Microgram
MDP	Medrol Dosepak
mg	Milligram
min.	Minimum
mL	Milliliter
mm	Millimeter
neb.	Nebulizer
NSAID	Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug
o.d.	Right Eye
ODT	Oral Disintegrating Tablet
oint.	Ointment
o.s.	Left Eye
OTC	Over The Counter
o.u.	Both Eyes

oz	Ounce
PA	Prior Authorization
p.c.	After Meals
p.m.	Evening; After Noon
p.o.	By Mouth; Orally
p.r.	Rectally
p.r.n.	As Needed (For)
pt	Pint
p.v.	Vaginally
q	Every; Per
q12; q. 12 h.; q12°	Every 12 Hours
q1-2; q. 1-2 h.; q1-2°	Every 1 To 2 Hours
q.a.d.; q.o.d.	Every Other Day
q.a.m.	Every Morning; Every Day Before Noon
q.d.	Every Day
q.h.s.	Every Day At Bedtime
q.i.d.	4 Times A Day
qt	Quart
qty.	Quantity
q.p.m.	Every Evening; Every Day After Noon
q.s.	A Sufficient Quantity
q.w.	Every Week
Rx	Prescription
s.	Without
SC; SQ; SubQ	Subcutaneous
sig.	Write; Label

SL; s.l.	Sublingually; Under The Tongue
SOB	Shortness Of Breath
sol.	Solution
SSRI	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor
stat.	Immediately
supp.	Suppository
susp.	Suspension
syr.	Syrup
tab.	Tablet
TAD	Take As Directed
tbsp	Tablespoon
t.i.d.	3 Times A Day
top.	Topical
troch.	Lozenge
tsp	Teaspoon
U	Unit
u.d., ut. dict.	As Directed
ung.	Ointment
w.	With
w/f	With Food; With Meals
w/o	Without

JABATAN TRANSFUSI DARAH

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
AHTR	Acute Haemolytic Transfusion Reaction
AHG	Anti Human Globulin
FNHTR	Febrile Non Haemolytic Transfusion Reaction
DAT	Direct Anti Globulin Test
IAT	Indirect Anti Globulin Test
ET	Exchange Transfusion
AIHA	Autoimmune Haemolytic Anaemia
EO	Emergency O (for exchange transfusion)
GSH	Group, Screen and Hold
GXM	Group and Crossmatch
MSBOS	Maximum Surgical Blood Ordering Schedule
TA-GVHD	Transfusion Associated with Graft Versus Host Disease
TACO	Transfusion Associated Cardiac Overload
TRALI	Transfusion Related Acute Lung Injury
TAD	Transfusion Associated Dyspnoe
PTP	Post Transfusion Purpura
TTI	Transfusion Transmitted Infection
HV	Haemovigilance
NHCC	National Haemovigilance Coordinating Centre
VCJD	Variant Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease