

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	below knee amputation
bld.	Blood
BLE	bilateral lower extremities
BPM	beats per minute
BS	bowel sounds
BSC	bedside commode
BSD	bedside drainage
BUE	bilateral upper extremities

C

C&S	culture and sensitivity
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CAB	coronary artery bypass
CAD	coronary artery disease
cal.	Calorie
CAT	computerized axial tomography
C, CI	cervical vertebrae
CBC	complete blood count
CNS	central nervous system
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
COTA	certified occupational therapy assist.
CPT	chest physiotherapy
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CT (scan)	computerized tomography
CVD	cardiovascular accident
CXR, c-xray	chest x-ray

D

D/C	discharge
Dig.	Digoxin
DJD	degenerative joint disease
DM	Diabetes Mellitus
DNR	Do Not Resuscitate
DOE	dyspnea on exertion
DON	Director of Nurses

DVT
DW

deep vein thrombus
distilled water

DX

diagnosis

E

e.g.

example

ENT

ear, nose, throat

ESRD

end stage renal disease

Ext.

external

EXTEN.

Extension

F

F

fair (MMT grade) or female

F+

fair plus

F-

fair minus

FBS

fasting blood sugar

Fe

iron

Fld.

fluid

FLEX.

Flexion

FS

finger stick

F/U

follow-up

FUO

fever of unknown origin

G

G	Good (MMT grade)
G+	good plus
G-	good minus
GI	gastrointestinal
Gluc.	Glucose
GT	gait training
GTT	glucose tolerance test
gtt.	Drop
gtts.	Drops

H

H2O2	hydrogen peroxide
HA	headache
HEENT	head, eyes, ears, nose and throat
HEMI	hemiplegia
Hg.	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

M	male
mcg.	Microgram
MI	myocardial infarction
MOD	moderate
MOM	milk of magnesia
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging

P

P	poor/pulse
P+	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

warm and dry

WFL

within functional limitations

WNL

within normal limits

X

X

times

XRT

radiation therapy

