



This is a list of abbreviations AND acronyms and should be designated as such:
A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, Symbols.

A

- ā = before
- @ = at
- ABC = airway, breathing, circulation
- abd. = abdomen
- A/C = antecubital fossa
- ACLS = advanced cardiac life support
- ACS = Acute Coronary Syndrome
- A.D. = right ear
- AED = automated external defibrillator
- AF, A-fib, AFib = atrial fibrillation
- AICD = automated implantable cardioverter-defibrillator
- A.S. = left ear
- A.U. = both ears
- AIDS = acquired immune deficiency syndrome
- AK = above the knee
- AKA = above the knee amputation
- ALS = advanced life support
- AMA = against medical advice
- a.m. = morning
- amb = ambulatory
- AMI = acute myocardial infarction
- AMS = altered mental status
- amp. = ampule
- amt. = amount
- ant = anterior
- AO x 4, A&O x 4 = alert and oriented to person, place, time, and event
- AP = anteroposterior
- ARDS = adult respiratory distress syndrome
- ASA = aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid)
- ASAP = as soon as possible
- ASHD = arteriosclerotic heart disease
- ATV = all-terrain vehicle
- AV = atrioventricular

B

- bb = back board
- BBB = bundle branch block
- BBS = bilateral breath sounds
- B/F = black female
- BG = blood glucose
- BGL = blood glucose level

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B/M	=	black male
b.i.d.	=	twice a day
BKA	=	below the knee amputation
BLS	=	basic life support
BM	=	bowel movement
BMD	=	bag-mask device
BMV	=	bag-mask ventilation
BP, B/P	=	blood pressure
BPM	=	beats per minute
BS	=	bowel sounds
BSA	=	body surface area (burns)
BSI	=	body substance isolation
BURP	=	backward upward rightward pressure
BVM	=	bag-valve-mask
Bx, Bx	=	biopsy

C

\bar{c}	=	with
°C	=	degrees Celsius (centigrade)
CA	=	cancer
CABG	=	coronary artery bypass grafting
CAD	=	coronary artery disease
CAOx4	=	conscious, alert, oriented to person, place, time and event
caps	=	capsules
CAT	=	combat application tourniquet
CBC	=	complete blood cell count
CC, C/C	=	chief complaint
cc	=	cubic centimeter
CCU	=	coronary care unit
C diff	=	Clostridium difficile
CHD	=	congenital heart disease
CHF	=	congestive heart failure
CID	=	cervical immobilization device
cm	=	centimeter
CMS	=	circulatory, motor, sensory
CNS	=	central nervous system
C/O	=	complains of
CO	=	cardiac output, carbon monoxide
CO ₂	=	carbon dioxide
COPD	=	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	=	chest pain
CPAP	=	continuous positive airway pressure
CPR	=	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CR	=	capillary refill
CRT	=	capillary refill time
CSF	=	cerebrospinal fluid
CSM	=	carotid sinus massage
C-spine	=	cervical spine
CTA	=	clear to auscultation
CVA	=	cerebrovascular accident

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D

D/C	=	discontinue
D & C	=	dilation and curettage
diff.	=	differential
DM	=	diabetes mellitus
DNR	=	do not resuscitate
DNRO	=	do not resuscitate order
DOA	=	dead on arrival
DOD	=	date of death
DOE	=	dyspnea on exertion
DOS	=	dead on scene
DSD	=	dry sterile dressing
dsg.	=	dressing
DUI	=	driving under the influence
DVT	=	deep vein thrombosis
Dx	=	diagnosis
D5W	=	5% dextrose in water
D10	=	dextrose 10%
D25W	=	dextrose 25%
D50W	=	dextrose 50%

E

EBL	=	estimated blood loss
ECG or EKG	=	electrocardiogram
ED	=	emergency department, erectile dysfunction
EDC	=	estimated date of confinement
EDD	=	expected (estimated) date of delivery
EENT	=	eyes, ears, nose and throat
EEG	=	electroencephalogram
e.g.	=	example given
EGTA	=	esophageal gastric tube airway
EMD	=	electromechanical dissociation
EMR	=	emergency medical responder
EMS	=	emergency medical services
EMT	=	emergency medical technician
ENT	=	ears, nose, and throat
EOA	=	esophageal obturator airway
EOC	=	Emergency Operations Center
EOM	=	extraocular movement
epi	=	epinephrine
ER	=	emergency room
est.	=	estimate(d)
ET	=	endotracheal
ETA	=	estimated time of arrival
ETCO2	=	end-tidal carbon dioxide
ETOH	=	ethyl alcohol
ETT	=	endotracheal tube

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E

°F	=	degrees Fahrenheit
FAO	=	fire alarm office
FBAO	=	foreign body airway obstruction
FCC	=	fire communications center
FHR	=	fetal heart rate
FHx	=	family history
FMA	=	further medical attention
FIO2	=	fraction of inspired oxygen
fl.	=	fluid
flex.	=	flexion
ft.	=	foot
FROM	=	full range of motion
FSG	=	finger stick glucose
fx	=	fracture

G

G	=	gauge (diameter), gravid
GB	=	gallbladder
GCS	=	Glasgow Coma Scale
GERD	=	gastroesophageal reflux disease
GI	=	gastrointestinal
gm, g	=	gram
GOA	=	gone on arrival
gr.	=	grain
GSW	=	gunshot wound
gtt(s)	=	drop(s)
GU	=	genitourinary
GYN	=	gynecology

H

H/A	=	headache
Hb, Hgb	=	hemoglobin
HF	=	hydrofluoric acid
H/F	=	Hispanic female
H/M	=	Hispanic male
HBP	=	high blood pressure
HBV	=	hepatitis B virus
HCV	=	hepatitis C virus
hr.	=	hour
HEENT	=	head, eyes, ears, nose and throat
HIV	=	human immune deficiency virus
hosp.	=	hospital
HPI, HOI	=	history of present illness/injury
HR	=	heart rate
HTN	=	hypertension
HTX	=	HazTox Medic
Hx	=	history

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H2O = water
H2S = hydrogen sulfide

I

ICS = intercostal space, Incident Command System
ICP = intracranial pressure
ICU = intensive care unit
IDDM = insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
I & D = incision and drainage
IM = intramuscular
IMS = Incident Management System
IN = intra-nasal
I & O = intake and output
IO = intraosseous
IUD = intrauterine device (contraceptive)
IV = intravenous
IVP = intravenous push

J

J = joules
JVD = jugular vein distention

K

K = potassium
kg. = kilogram
KCl = potassium chloride
KVO = keep vein open

L

L = liter
lac., LAC = laceration
LEMON = Look, Evaluate, Mallampati, Obstruction, Neck
lat = lateral
LBBB = left bundle branch block
lb(s) = pound(s)
L & D = labor and delivery
LE = lower extremity
LEA = law enforcement agency
LEO = law enforcement officer
lg. = large
L/M or LPM = liters per minute
LLQ = left lower quadrant
LMP = last menstrual period
LOC = loss of consciousness or level of consciousness
LOM = loss of motion
LOI = last oral intake

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- LP = lumbar puncture
- LR = lactated ringers
- LSB = long spine board
- LUQ = left upper quadrant
- LVAD = left ventricular assist device

M

- MAE = moves all extremities
- MAST = medical anti-shock trousers
- mA = milliamperes
- max = maximum
- MBL = major blood loss
- MCA = motorcycle accident
- mcg = microgram
- MCI = mass casualty incident
- MCL = mid-clavicular line
- MD = medical doctor
- MDI = metered-dose inhaler
- MDFR = Miami-Dade Fire Rescue
- MDPD = Miami-Dade Police Department
- MedCom = medical communications center
- meds = medications
- mEq = milliequivalents
- MgSO4 = magnesium sulfate
- MI = myocardial infarction
- min. = minute
- mg. = milligram
- mkd. = marked
- mL, ml = milliliter
- mm = millimeters
- mmHg = millimeters of mercury
- mod. = moderate
- MOI = mechanism of injury
- MOM = medical operations manual
- MS = morphine sulfate
- mult. = multiple
- MVC = motor vehicle crash/collision
- MVP = mitral valve prolapse

N

- N2O = nitrous oxide
- NA, N/A = not applicable
- NaCl = sodium chloride
- NAD = no acute/apparent distress
- NC = nasal cannula
- neg. = negative
- NG = nasogastric
- NICU = neonatal intensive care unit

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NIDDM	=	non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NKA	=	no known allergies
NKDA	=	no known drug allergies
NPA	=	nasopharyngeal airway
NPO	=	nothing by mouth
NRB, NRBM	=	non-rebreather mask
NS	=	normal saline
NSR	=	normal sinus rhythm
NTG, nitro	=	nitroglycerin
N/V, N&V	=	nausea and vomiting
N/V/D	=	nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea

O

O ₂	=	oxygen
OB	=	obstetrics
OBS	=	organic brain syndrome
OD	=	overdose - also means right eye
OPQRST	=	onset, provocation, quality, radiation, severity, time
ophth	=	ophthalmology
OPA	=	oropharyngeal airway
OPP	=	organophosphate poisoning
OR	=	operating room
OS	=	left eye
OU	=	both eyes
oz	=	ounce

P

P	=	pulse, para
p̄	=	after
PA	=	posteroanterior
PAC	=	premature atrial contraction
PaCO ₂	=	partial pressure of CO ₂ in arterial blood
PaO ₂	=	partial pressure of O ₂ in arterial blood
PASG	=	pneumatic antishock garment
PAT	=	paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
PCI	=	percutaneous coronary intervention
PCP	=	primary care physician/practitioner
PD	=	police department
PDR	=	physician's desk reference
PE	=	pulmonary embolism
PEA	=	pulseless electrical activity
ped.	=	pedestrian
pedi	=	pediatric
per	=	by
PEARL, PERL	=	pupils equal and reactive to light
PERRLA	=	pupils equal, round and reactive to light and accommodation
PMHx	=	past medical history
PID	=	pelvic inflammatory disease

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PIH	= pregnancy induced hypertension
PJC	= premature junctional contraction
p.m.	= evening
PMD	= private medical doctor
PO	= by mouth
post	= after
POV	= privately operated vehicle
pr	= administered rectally
pre	= before
prn	= as needed
PSD	= public safety department
PSVT	= paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia
pt	= patient
PTA	= prior to arrival
PTS	= pediatric trauma score
PTV	= percutaneous transtracheal ventilation
PVC	= premature ventricular contraction/complex
PVD	= peripheral vascular disease
PVR	= peripheral vascular resistance
Px	= medical prognosis/patient transfer

Q

\bar{q}	= every
q.h.	= hourly
q.i.d.	= four times daily
q.o.d.	= every other day
QRX	= standby
QTH	= location

R

RA	= rheumatoid arthritis
RAD	= reactive airway disease, right axis deviation
RBBB	= right bundle branch block
RBC	= red blood count/cell
Rh	= Rhesus blood factor
RLQ	= right lower quadrant
RN	= registered nurse
R/O	= rule out
ROM	= range of motion
RR	= respiratory rate
RRR	= regular, rate, rhythm (heart)
RUQ	= right upper quadrant
Rx	= prescription

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S

š	=	without
SAH	=	subarachnoid hemorrhage
SaO2	=	oxygen saturation
SAMPLE	=	signs/symptoms, allergies, medications, PMHx, LOI, events prior
SARS	=	severe acute respiratory syndrome
SIDS	=	sudden infant death syndrome
SGA	=	supraglottic airway
SL	=	sublingual
SMR	=	spinal motion restriction
SOAP	=	subjective, objective, assessment, plan
SOB	=	short(ness) of breath
sol.	=	solution
spec.	=	specimen
SpO2	=	saturation of peripheral oxygen
SRT	=	special response team
S/S, S&S	=	signs and symptoms
stat	=	immediately
STD/STI	=	sexually transmitted disease/infection
STEMI	=	ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction
Sub. Q, SQ, SC	=	subcutaneous
SUID	=	sudden unexpected infant death
SVN	=	small volume nebulizer
SVT	=	supraventricular tachycardia
Sx	=	symptoms

I

tab.	=	tablet
TB	=	tuberculosis
TBA	=	to be announced
TC	=	trauma center
tech	=	technician
temp.	=	temperature
TIA	=	transient ischemic attack
t.i.d.	=	three times daily
TKO	=	to keep open
TMJ	=	temporomandibular joint
TOT	=	turned/transferred over to
TPR	=	temperature, pulse and respiration
TTC	=	trauma transport criteria
TTP	=	trauma transport protocol
Tx	=	treatment

U

UA	=	urinalysis
UE	=	upper extremity
ULQ	=	upper left quadrant
unk.	=	unknown

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URI = upper respiratory infection
UTI = urinary tract infection

V

VF, V fib, VFib = ventricular fibrillation
VT, V tach = ventricular tachycardia
VD = venereal disease
via = by way of
vol. = volume
VS = vital signs

W

W/ = with
WBC = white blood count/cell
W/F = white female
W/M = white male
WMD = weapons of mass destruction
WNL = within normal limits
W/O = without
wt. = weight

X

x = times
 \bar{x} = except

Y

Y/O, YO = years old



SYMBOLS

~	=	approximately
1 ^o	=	primary, first degree
2 ^o	=	secondary, second degree
<	=	less than
>	=	more than
≤	=	less than or equal to
≥	=	greater than or equal to
-	=	negative
/	=	per
+	=	plus/positive
#	=	number
%	=	percent
@	=	at
<i>a</i>	=	alpha
<i>β</i>	=	beta
♂	=	male
♀	=	female
↑	=	increase
↓	=	decrease
Ⓡ	=	right
Ⓛ	=	left
∅	=	nothing/no/none/null
△	=	change

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