

Medical Abbreviations

A	
AAA	abdominal aortic aneurysm
A-a gradient	alveolar to arterial gradient
<baad< b=""></baad<>	antibiotic-associated diarrhea
<baao< b=""></baao<>	alert, awake, and oriented
<ba&o< b=""></ba&o<>	alert & oriented
<baas< b=""></baas<>	acute abdominal series
<babd< b=""></babd<>	abdomen
<babg< b=""></babg<>	arterial blood gas
<bac< b=""></bac<>	before eating
<bacls< b=""></bacls<>	advanced cardiac life support
<bacth< b=""></bacth<>	adrenocorticotrophic hormone
<badh< b=""></badh<>	anti-diuretic hormone
<badr< b=""></badr<>	adverse drug reaction. acute dystonic reaction
<bad b="" lib<=""></bad>	as much as needed
<baed< b=""></baed<>	antiepileptic drug
<baf< b=""></baf<>	atrial fibrillation or afebrile
<bafb< b=""></bafb<>	acid-fast bacilli
<bafp< b=""></bafp<>	alpha-fetoprotein
<ba b="" g<=""></ba>	albumin/globulin ratio
<bai< b=""></bai<>	aortic insufficiency
<baka< b=""></baka<>	above the knee amputation
<bald< b=""></bald<>	alcoholic liver disease
<ball< b=""></ball<>	acute lymphocytic leukemia
<bamb< b=""></bamb<>	ambulate
<baml< b=""></baml<>	acute myelogenous leukemia
<bana< b=""></bana<>	antineuclear antibody
<bans< b=""></bans<>	autonomic nervous system
<baob< b=""></baob<>	alcohol on breath
<baodm< b=""></baodm<>	adult onset diabetes mellitus
<bap< b=""></bap<>	anteroposterior or abdominal - perineal
<bards< b=""></bards<>	acute respiratory distress syndrome
<barf< b=""></barf<>	acute renal failure
<bas< b=""></bas<>	aortic stenosis
<basap< b=""></basap<>	as soon as possible
<bascvd< b=""></bascvd<>	atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
<basd< b=""></basd<>	atrial septal defect

ASHD	atherosclerotic heart disease
AV	atrioventricular
A-V	arteriovenous
A-VO2	arteriovenous oxygen
B	
BBB	bundle branch block
BCAA	branched chain amino acids
BE	barium enema
BEE	basal energy expenditure
bid	twice a day
BKA	below the knee amputation
BM	bone marrow or bowel movement
BMR	basal metabolic rate
BOM	bilateral otitis media
BP	blood pressure
BPH	benign prostatic hypertrophy
BPM	beats per minute
BRBPR	bright red blood per rectum
BRP	bathroom privileges
BS	bowel or breath sounds
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
BW	body weight
BX	biopsy
C	
c	with
C&S	culture and sensitivity
CA	cancer
Ca	calcium
CAA	crystalline amino acids
CABG	coronary artery bypass graft
CAD	coronary artery disease
CAT	computerized axial tomography
CBC	complete blood count
CBG	capillary blood gas
CC	chief complaint
CCU	clean catch urine or cardiac care unit
CCV	critical closing volume
CF	cystic fibrosis

Medical Abbreviations

CGL	chronic granulocytic leukemia
CHF	congestive heart failure
CHO	carbohydrate
CI	cardiac index
CML	chronic myelogenous leukemia
CMV	cytomegalovirus
CN	cranial nerves
CNS	central nervous system
CO	cardiac output
C/O	complaining of
COLD	chronic obstructive lung disease
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	chest pain or cerebral palsy
CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure
CPK	creatine phosphokinase
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CRCL	creatinine clearance
CRF	chronic renal failure
CRP	C-reactive protein
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CT	computerized tomography
CVA	cerebrovascular accident or costovertebral angle
CVAT	CVA tenderness
CVP	central venous pressure
CXR	chest X-ray

D

DAT	diet as tolerated
DAW	dispense as written
DC	discontinue or discharge
D&C	dilation and curettage
DDx	differential diagnosis
D5W	5% dextrose in water
DI	diabetes insipidus
DIC	disseminated intravascular coagulopathy
DIP	distal interphalangeal joint
DJD	degenerative joint disease
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis
dL	deciliter

DM	diabetes mellitus
DNR	do not resuscitate
DOA	dead on arrival
DOE	dyspnea on exertion
DPL	diagnostic peritoneal lavage
DPT	diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus
DTR	deep tendon reflexes
DVT	deep venous thrombosis
DX	diagnosis

E

EAA	essential amino acids
EBL	estimated blood loss
ECG	electrocardiogram
ECT	electroconvulsive therapy
EFAD	essential fatty acid deficiency
EMG	Electromyogram
EMV	eyes, motor, verbal response (Glasgow coma scale)
ENT	ears, nose, and throat
EOM	extraocular muscles
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
ET	endotracheal
ETT	endotracheal tube
ERCP	endoscopic retrograde cholangio -pancreatography
ETOH	ethanol
EUA	examination under anesthesia

F

FBS	fasting blood sugar
FEV	forced expiratory volume
FFP	fresh frozen plasma
FRC	functional residual capacity
FTT	failure to thrive
FU	follow-up
FUO	fever of unknown origin
FVC	forced vital capacity
Fx	fracture

G

GC	gonorrhea
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Medical Abbreviations

GETT	general by endotracheal tube
GFR	glomerular filtration rate
GI	gastrointestinal
gr	grain; 1 grain = 65mg. Therefore Vgr = 325mg
GSW	gun shot wound
gt or gtt	drops
GTT	glucose tolerance test
GU	genitourinary
GXT	graded exercise tolerance (Stress test)
	H
HA	headache
HAA	hepatitis B surface antigen
HAV	hepatitis A virus
HBP	high blood pressure
HCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
HCT	hematocrit
HDL	high density lipoprotein
HEENT	head, eyes, ears, nose, throat
Hgb	hemoglobin
H/H	henderson- hasselbach equation or hemoglobin/ hematocrit
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HLA	histocompatibility locus antigen
HJR	hepatojugular reflex
HO	history of
HOB	head of bed
HPF	high power field
HPI	history of present illness
HR	heart rate
HS	at bedtime
HSM	hepatosplenomegaly
HTLV-III	human lymphotropic virus, type III (AIDS agent, HIV)
HSV	herpes simplex virus
HTN	hypertension
Hx	history
	I
I&D	incision and drainage

I&O	intake and output
ICS	intercostal space
ICU	intensive care unit
ID	infectious disease or identification
IDDM	insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
IG	immunoglobulin
IHSS	idiopathic hypertrophic subaortic stenosis
IM	intramuscular
IMV	intermittent mandatory ventilation
INF	intravenous nutritional fluid
IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing
IRBBB	incomplete right bundle branch block
IRDM	insulin resistant diabetes mellitus
IT	interthecal
ITP	idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura
IV	intravenous
IVC	intravenous cholangiogram inferior vena cava
IVP	intravenous pyelogram
	J
JODM	juvenile onset diabetes mellitus
JVD	jugular venous distention
	K
KOR	keep open rate
KUB	kidneys, ureters, bladder
KVO	keep vein open
	L
L	left
LAD	left axis deviation or left anterior descending
LAE	left atrial enlargement
LAHB	left anterior hemiblock
LAP	left atrial pressure or leukocyte alkaline phosphatase
LBBB	left bundle branch block
LDH	lactate dehydrogenase
LE	lupus erythematosus
LIH	left inguinal hernia
LLL	left lower lobe

Medical Abbreviations

LMP	last menstrual period
LNMP	last normal menstrual period
LOC	loss of consciousness or level of consciousness
LP	lumbar puncture

Medical Abbreviations

LPN	licensed practical nurse
LUL	left upper lobe
LUQ	Left Upper Quadrant
LV	left ventricle
LVEDP	left ventricular end diastolic pressure
LVH	left ventricular hypertrophy
M	
MAO	monoamine oxidase
MAP	mean arterial pressure
MAST	medical antishock trousers
MBT	maternal blood type
MCH	mean cell hemoglobin
MCHC	mean cell hemoglobin concentration
MCV	mean cell volume
MI	myocardial infarction or mitral insufficiency
mL	milliliter
MLE	midline episiotomy
MMEF	maximal mid expiratory flow
mmol	millimole
MMR	measles, mumps, rubella
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MRSA	methicillin resistant staph aureus
MS	multiple sclerosis or mitral stenosis, or morphine sulfate
MSSA	methicillin-sensitive staph aureus
MVA	motor vehicle accident
MVI	multivitamin injection
MVV	maximum voluntary ventilation
N	
NAD	no active disease
NAS	no added salt
NCV	nerve conduction velocity
NED	no evidence of recurrent disease
ng	nanogram
NG	nasogastric
NIDDM	non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NKA	no known allergies

NKDA	no known drug allergies
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
NPO	nothing by mouth
NRM	no regular medications
NSAID	non-steroidal anti- inflammatory drugs
NSR	normal sinus rhythm
NT	nasotracheal
O	
OB	obstetrics
OCG	oral cholecystogram
OD	overdose or right eye
OM	otitis media
OOB	out of bed
OOP	out of plaster
OPV	oral polio vaccine
OR	operating room
OS	left eye
OU	both eyes
P	
P	para
PA	posteroanterior
PAC	premature atrial contraction
PAO₂	alveolar oxygen
PaO₂	peripheral arterial oxygen content
PAP	pulmonary artery pressure
PAT	paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
P&PD	percussion and postural drainage
PC	after eating
PCWP	pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
PDA	patent ductus arteriosus
PDR	physicians desk reference
PE	pulmonary embolus, or physical exam or pleural effusion
PEEP	positive end expiratory pressure
PFT	pulmonary function tests
pg	picogram
PI	pulmonic insufficiency disease
PKU	phenylketonuria
PMH	previous medical history

Medical Abbreviations

PMI	point of maximal impulse
PMN	polymorphonuclear leukocyte (neutrophil)
PND	paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea
PO	by mouth
POD	post-op day
PP	postprandial or pulsus paradoxus
PPD	purified protein derivative
PR	by rectum
PRBC	packed red blood cells
PRN	as needed
PS	pulmonic stenosis
PT	prothrombin time, or physical therapy
Pt	patient
PTCA	percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty
PTH	parathyroid hormone
PTHC	percutaneous transhepatic cholangiogram
PTT	partial thromboplastin time
PUD	peptic ulcer disease
PVC	premature ventricular contraction
PVD	peripheral vascular disease
Q	
q	every (e.g. q6h = every 6 hours)
qd	every day
qh	every hour
q4h, q6h....	every 4 hours, every 6 hours etc.
qid	four times a day
QNS	quantity not sufficient
qod	every other day
Qs/Qt	shunt fraction
Qt	total cardiac output
R	
R	right
RA	rheumatoid arthritis or right atrium
RAD	right atrial axis deviation
RAE	right atrial enlargement
RAP	right atrial pressure
RRBB	right bundle branch block

RBC	red blood cell
RBP	retinol-binding protein
RDA	recommended daily allowance
RDW	red cell distribution width
RIA	radioimmunoassay
RIH	right inguinal hernia
RLL	right lower lobe
RLQ	right lower quadrant
RML	right middle lobe
RNA	ribonucleic acid
R/O	rule out
ROM	range of motion
ROS	review of systems
RPG	retrograde pyelogram
RRR	regular rate and rhythm
RT	respiratory or radiation therapy
RTA	renal tubular acidosis
RTC	return to clinic
RU	resin uptake
RUG	retrograde urethrogram
RUL	right upper lobe
RUQ	right upper quadrant
RV	residual volume
RVH	right ventricular hypertrophy
Rx	treatment
S	
s	without ss = one-half
SA	sinoatrial
SAA	synthetic amino acid
S&E	sugar and acetone
SBE	subacute bacterial endocarditis
SBFT	small bowel follow through
SBS	short bowel syndrome
SCr	serum creatinine
SEM	systolic ejection murmur
SG	Swan-Ganz
SGA	small for gestational age
SGGT	serum gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase

Medical Abbreviations

SGOT	serum glutamic- oxaloacetic transaminase
SGPT	serum glutamic- pyruvic transaminase
SIADH	syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone
sig	write on label
SIMV	synchronous intermittent mandatory ventilation
sl	sublingual
SLE	systemic lupus erythematosus
SMO	slips made out
SOAP	subjective, Objective, Assessment, Plan
SOB	shortness of breath
SQ	subcutaneous
STAT	immediately
SVD	spontaneous vaginal delivery
Sx	symptoms
T	
T&C	type and cross
TAH	total abdominal hysterectomy
T&H	type and hold
TB	tuberculosis
TBG	total binding globulin
Td	tetanus-diphtheria toxoid
TIA	transient ischemic attack
TIBC	total iron binding capacity
tid	three times a day
TIG	tetanus immune globulin
TKO	to keep open
TLC	total lung capacity
TMJ	temporo mandibular joint
TNTC	too numerous to count
TO	telephone order
TOPV	trivalent oral polio vaccine
TPN	total parenteral nutrition
TSH	thyroid stimulating hormone
TT	thrombin time
TPP	thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura
TU	tuberculin units
TUR	transurethral resection
TURBT	TUR bladder tumors

TURP	transurethral resection of prostate
TV	tidal volume
TVH	total vaginal hysterectomy
tw	twice a week
Tx	treatment, transplant

U	
UA	urinalysis
UAC	uric acid umbilical artery catheter
UAO	upper airway obstruction
UBD	universal blood donor
UC	ulcerative colitis umbilical cord
ud	as directed
UFH	unfractionated heparin
UGI	upper gastrointestinal
URI	upper respiratory infection
URQ	upper right quadrant
US	ultrasound
UTI	urinary tract infection
UUN	urinary urea nitrogen
UVA	ultraviolet A light
V	
VAD	venous access device
VC	vital capacity
VCT	venous clotting time
VCUG	voiding cysourethrogram
VDRL	Venereal Disease Research Laboratory (test for syphilis)
VMA	vanillylmandelic acid
VO	verbal or voice order
V/Q	ventilation - perfusion
VRE	vancomycin-resistant enterococcus
VSS	vital signs stable
VT	ventricular tachycardia
VV	varicose veins
VW	vessel wall
VWD	von Willebrand's disease
VZV	varicella zoster virus
W	

Medical Abbreviations

WB	whole blood
WBC	white blood cell or count
WBR	whole body radiation
WD	well developed
WF	white female
WIA	wounded in action
WID	widow, widower
WM	white male
WN	well nourished
WNL	within normal limits
WO	written order weeks old wide open.
WOP	without pain
W.P.	whirlpool
WPW	Wolff-Parkinson-White
W-T-D	wet to dry
W/U	workup
X	
X2d	times 2 days.
XI	eleven
XII	twelve
XL	extended release. extra large.
XM	crossmatch
XMM	xeromammography
XOM	extraocular movements
XRT	X-ray therapy (radiation therapy)
XS	excessive
XULN	times upper limit of normal
Y	
YF	yellow fever
YLC	youngest living child
yo	years old
YOB	year of birth
yr	year
ytd	year to date
Z	
ZDV	zidovudine
ZE	Zollinger-Ellison
Z-ESR	zeta erythrocyte sedimentation rate

Zn	zinc
ZnO	zinc oxide
ZSB	zero stools since birth