

Nursing Services

Abbreviations and Symbols

The following list of abbreviations and symbols has been approved by our facility in ordering and charting medications. Abbreviations are acceptable in upper or lower case letters. Personnel authorized to document in medical records should use the following list of approved abbreviations and symbols.

–Symbols–

Δ	change
↓	decrease
°	degree
↑	increase
#	number
1°	primary
2°	secondary

–A–

A	assessment (POMR)
A&P	anterior and posterior; auscultation and percussion
A&W	alive and well
A/G	albumin to globulin ratio
A2	aortic second sound
A2>P2	aortic sound larger than second pulmonary sound
aa	of each
AAL	anterior axillary line
Ab	abortion
abd	abdomen
ABE	acute bacterial endocarditis
ABG	arterial blood gases
ABO	the main blood group system
ac	before meals
ACTH	adrenocorticotropic hormone; adrenocorticotropin
ADA	American Diabetes Association
ADH	antidiurectic hormone
ADL	activities of daily living
ad lib	freely as desired; at pleasure
adm	admitted or admission
ADR	Adverse Drug Reaction
AF	acid-fast; atrial fibrillation
AFB	acid-fast bacteria; acid-fast bacilli
AGN	acute glomerular nephritis
AHF	antihemophilic factor
AHFS	American Hospital Formulary Service

AHG	antihemophilic globulin
AI	aortic insufficiency
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
AJ	ankle jerk
AK	above knee (amputation)
ALD	alcoholic liver disease
ALL	acute lymphocytic leukemia
ALS	amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
AM	morning
AMA	against medical advice
amb	ambulate; ambulatory
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
amp	ampule
amt	amount
ANA	antinuclear antibodies
ANS	autonomic nervous system
AODM	adult-onset diabetes mellitus
AP	anteroposterior; apical pulse
approx or ~	approximately; about
appt	appointment
AQ; aq	aqueous/water
ARC	AIDS-related complex
ARDS	adult respiratory distress syndrome
ARF	acute renal failure
AROM	active range of motion
AS	aortic stenosis; anal sphincter; arteriosclerosis
A.S., A.D., A.U.	left ear, right ear, both ears
ASA	aspirin
ASAP	as soon as possible
ASCVD	arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease
ASD	atrial septal defect
ASHD	arteriosclerotic heart disease
ASO	antistreptolysin titer; Arteriosclerosis obliterans
ASPEN	American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
ATC	around the clock
ATN	acute tubular necrosis
AV	arteriovenous; atrioventricular
A wave	atrial contraction waves
ax	axillary

-B-

B&O	belladonna and opium
Ba	barium
BAL	British anti-lewisite (dimercaprol)
Bands	banded neutrophils
Baso	basophils
BBB	bundle branch block; blood brain barrier
BBT	basal body temperature
BE	barium enema; base excess
BEE	basal energy expenditure
BEI	butanol-extractable iodine
bid	two times a day
bili	bilirubin
BIW	twice a week
BJ	biceps jerk; bone and joint
BK	below knee (amputation)
BLB	a type of oxygen mask
BLOBS	bladder observation
BM, bm	bowel movement; basal metabolism
BMR	basal metabolic rate
BP	blood pressure
BPH	benign prostatic hypertrophy
BR	bathroom
BRP	bathroom privileges
BS, bs	blood sugar; bowel sounds; breath sounds
BSA	body surface area
BSC	bedside commode
BSI	body substance isolation
BSO	bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
BSP	bromsulphalein
BT	breast tumor; brain tumor
BTL	bilateral tubal ligation
BTFS	breast tumor frozen section
BU	Bodansky unit
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
BVL	bilateral vas ligation
BW	body weight
Bx	biopsy

-C-

C	centigrade; celsius; calorie; gallon; carbon
c	with
C 1,2,3,4,5,6,7	cervical vertebra
C&A	clintest and acetest
C&P	cystoscopy and pyelography
C&S	culture and sensitivity

c/o	complains of
CA	cancer; carcinoma; carbonic anhydrase
Ca	calcium
CAD	coronary artery disease
cal	calories
cap	capsule
CAT	computed axial tomography
cath	catheter; catheterize
CBC	complete blood count
CBR	complete bed rest
CC	chief complaint
CCR	creatinine clearance
CCU	coronary care unit; critical care unit
CDC	Centers for Disease Control
CDH	Chronic Disease Hospital
C diff	Clostridium difficile
CEA	carcinoembryonic antigen
Ceph flocc	cephalin flocculation
CF	complement fixation
CFT	complement-fixation test
cg	centigram
CHD	childhood disease; congenital heart disease; coronary heart disease
CHF	congestive heart failure
CHO	carbohydrate
chol	cholesterol
CI	color index; contraindication
CK	check
Cl	chloride; chlorine
CLL	chronic lymphocytic leukemia
cl liq	clear liquid
Cm	centimeter
cm ³	cubic centimeter
CN	cranial nerve
CNS	central nervous system
CO	carbon monoxide
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
COAG	chronic open angle glaucoma
COAP	cyclophosphamide, oncovin, ARA-C, prednisone
comp	compound
cong	congenital
COP	cyclophosphamide, oncovin, prednisone
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	cerebral palsy; cleft palate
CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure
CPK	creatinine phosphokinase
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CPT	chest physiotherapy
CR	cardiorespiratory

CRF	chronic renal failure
CRP	C-reactive protein
CS	coronary sclerosis
C sect	Cesarean section
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CT	computed tomography; circulation time
CV	cardiovascular
CVA	cerebrovascular accident; costovertebral angle
CVP	central venous pressure
CX	cervix; cervical
CXR	chest x-ray
cyl	cylinder; cylindrical lens
cysto	cystoscopy

-D-

d	day
d/c	discontinue/discharge
D&C	dilatation and curettage
D51/2NS	5% dextrose in half normal saline (0.45% NaCl)
D5LR	5% dextrose in lactated ringer's solution
D5NS	5% dextrose in normal saline (0.9% NaCl)
D5W	5% dextrose in water
DAT	diet as tolerated
db, dB	decibels
DD	differential diagnosis
DDD	degenerative disc disease
Decub	decubitus
DIC	disseminated intravascular coagulation
diff	differential
dil	dilute
DJD	degenerative joint disease
dl	deciliter
DM	diabetes mellitus; diastolic murmur
DNR	do not resuscitate
DOA	dead on arrival
DOB	date of birth
DOE	dyspnea on exertion
DP	dorsalis pedis (pulse)
DPT	diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus
dr	dram
DRGs	diagnosis related groups
drsg or dsg	dressng
DSD	dry sterile dressing
DT	delirium tremens
DTR	deep tendon reflex
DUB	dysfunctional uterine bleeding
Dx	diagnosis

-E-

E	enema
EBL	estimated blood loss
EBV	Epstein-Barr virus
EC	enteric coated
ECCE	extracapsular cataract extraction
ECF	extracellular fluid; extended care facility
ECG, EKG	electrocardiogram
ECHO	echocardiography
ECT	electroconvulsive therapy
ECW	extracellular water
EDC	estimated date of confinement (obstetrics)
EDD	estimated date of delivery (obstetrics)
EEG	electroencephalogram
EENT	eye, ear, nose, and throat
EFA	essential fatty acids
e.g.	for example
EH	enlarged heart
elix	elixir
EM	electron microscope
EMG	electromyogram, electromyography
ENG	electronsystagmography
ENT	ear, nose, throat
EOM	extraocular movements
Eos	eosinophil
epith	epithelial
EPS	extrapyramidal symptoms
equiv	equivalent
ER	emergency room
ERCP	endoscopic retrograde cholechoopancreatogram
ERG	electroretinogram
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
ESRD	end stage renal disease
EST	electroshock therapy
et	and
ETOH	alcohol
EUA	examine under anesthesia
eval	evaluation
exam	examination
ext	extract
Ext Rot	external rotation

-F-

F	fahrenheit; fair; female
F/U	follow-up

FANA	fluorescent antinuclear antibody test
FB	finger breadths; foreign body
FBS	fasting blood sugar
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
Fe	iron
FeSO ₄	ferrous sulfate
FEV	forced expiratory volume
FEV1	forced expiratory volume in one second
FF	filtration fraction
FFA	free fatty acids
FH	family history
FHR	fetal heart rate
fl, fld	fluid
fl dr	fluid dram
fl oz	fluid ounce
FP	family practice; family planning
FRC	functional residual capacity
Freq	frequency
FROM	full range of motion
FSH	follicle-stimulating hormone
ft	feet; foot
FT	facilitation techniques
FTA	fluorescent treponemal antibody
FTT	failure to thrive
FUO	fever of undetermined/unknown origin
FVD	fluid volume deficit
FWB	full weight bearing
Fx	fracture; fraction

-G-

G	gravida; good
G/C	gerichair
G/T	gastrostomy tube
G-P-	gravida-; para- (e.g. G-2, P-1)
G6PD	glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase
GA	gastric analysis; general appearance
Gal	gallons
GB	gallbladder
Gc, GC	gonococcus; gonorrhea
GE	gastroesophageal
GERD	gastroesophageal reflux disease
GFR	glomerular filtration rate
GI	gastrointestinal
Gm, gm	gram
GP	general practitioner
gr	grain
grav I, II, III, etc.	pregnancy one, two, three, etc
GTT	glucose tolerance test

gtt	drop
Gt. Tr.	gait training
GU	genitourinary
GYN, Gyn	gynecology; gynecological

-H-

H	hypodermic; heroin
H, hr	hour
H ⁺	hydrogen ion
H&H	hematocrit and hemoglobin
H&P	history and physical examination
h/o	history of
H ₂ O	water
H ₂ O ₂	hydrogen peroxide
HA	headache
HAA	hepatitis-associated antigen
HAV	hepatitis A virus
HBAg	hepatitis B antigen
HBP	high blood pressure
HBV	hepatitis B virus
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
HCl	hydrochloric acid
Hct	hematocrit
HCTZ	hydrochlorothiazide
HCVD	hypertensive cardiovascular disease
HDL	high-density lipoprotein
HEENT	head, eyes, ears, nose, throat
Hg	mercury
Hgb	hemoglobin
HHA	home health aide
HHD	hypertensive heart disease
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HLA	human lymphocyte antigen
HO	house officer
HOB	head of bed
HOH	hard of hearing
HOPI	history of present illness
HP	hot packs
HPF	high power field
HPI	history of present illness
hs	bedtime
HSA	human serum albumin
HSV	herpes simplex virus
HSV2	herpes simplex virus, type 2
ht	height
HTN	hypertension
HTVD	hypertensive vascular disease
HVZ	herpes varicella zoster
Hx	history

-I-

I&D	incision and drainage
I&O	intake and output
IASD	intraatrial septal defect
IBC	iron-binding capacity
IBI	intermittent bladder irrigation
IBS	irritable bowel syndrome
IBW	ideal body weight
IC	inspiratory capacity
ICCE	intracapsular cataract extraction
ICF	intermediate care facility; intracellular fluid volume
ICM	intracostal margin
ICP	intracranial pressure
ICS	intercostal space
ICU	intensive care unit
ICW	intracellular water
ID	initial dose; intradermal
IDDM	insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
IDR	interdisciplinary review
IDU	idoxuridine
IE	immuno-electrophoresis
Ig	immunoglobulin
IgA, etc.	immunoglobulin A, etc.
IHSS	idiopathic hypertrophic sub-aortic stenosis
IM	intramuscular
Imp	impression
IMV	intermittent mandatory ventilation
in	inch
Incont	incontinent
inf	infusion
inhal	inhalation
inj	injection
instill	instillation
int	internal
Int Rot	internal rotation
IOL	intraocular lens
IOP	intraocular pressure
IP	intra-peritoneal
IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing
IQ	intelligence quotient
ISW	interstitial water
Ith	intrathecal
IUD	intrauterine device
IV	intravenous
IVC	intravenous cholangiogram
IVP	intravenous pyelogram
IVPB	intravenous piggyback
IVSD	intraventricular septal defect
IVU	intravenous urogram

-J-

JCAHO	Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
J.M.	joint mobilization
JRA	juvenile rheumatoid arthritis
J. tube	jejunostomy tube
JVD	jugular vein distention
JVP	jugular venous pressure

-K-

K	potassium
KC	kilo calorie
KCL	potassium chloride
kg	kilogram
KJ	knee jerk
Km	kilometer
KO	keep open
KP	keratic precipitates
17-KS	17-Ketosteroids
KUB	kidneys, ureters, and bladder (radiograph)
KVO or TKO	keep vein open or to keep open

-L-

L, l	liter
L, L, lt	left
L1, 2, 3, 4, 5	lumbar vertebra 1-5
L&A	light and accommodation
L&W	living and well
LA	left atrium
lab	laboratory
lac	laceration
lap	laparotomy
lat	lateral
LATS	long-acting thyroid stimulator
Lb	pound
LBBB	left bundle branch block
LCM	left costal margin
LD	longitudinal diameter (of heart)
LDH	lactic dehydrogenase
LDL	low density lipoproteins
LE	lower extremities; lupus erythematosus
LFT	liver function test
LGV	lymphogranuloma venereum
LH	left hyperphoria
LHF	left heart failure

LHT	left hypertropia
Liq	liquid; fluid
LKS	liver, kidneys, and spleen
LLB	long leg brace
LLE	lower left extremity
LLL	lower left lobe (lung)
LLQ	lower left quadrant (abdomen)
LMCA	left middle cerebral artery
LMD	local medical doctor
LML	left middle lobe (lung)
LMP	last menstrual period
LNMP	last normal menstrual period
LOA	leave of absence; left occipital anterior
LOC	level of consciousness; loss of consciousness
LOM	limitation of movement
LOP	left occipital posterior
LOS	length of stay
LP	lumbar puncture
lpf	low power field
LR	lactated ringer's solution
LS	lumbosacral; lumbar spine
LSB	left sternal border
LTG	long-term goal
LUE	left upper extremity
LUL	left upper lobe (lung)
LUQ	left upper quadrant (abdomen)
LV	left ventricle
LVH	left ventricular hypertrophy
LWCT	Lee-White clotting time
lymph	lymphocytes
lytes	electrolytes (Na, K, Ca, Cl, Mg, HCO ₃ , PO ₄)

-M-

M	male
m	meter; murmur
M1	first mitral sound
m2	square meters of body surface
MA	mat activities
MAL	midaxillary line
MAP	mean atrial pressure
MAR	medication administration record
MAT	multifocal atrial tachycardia
max	maximum
MCA	middle cerebral artery
MCH	mean corpuscular hemoglobin
MCHC	mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration
MCL	midclavicular line

MCP	metacarpophalangeal joint
MCV	mean cell volume; mean corpuscular volume
MDS	Minimum Data Set
MED	minimum effective dose
Meds	medications
mEq	milliequivalent
MF	myocardial fibrosis
MG	myasthenia gravis
Mg	milligram; magnesium
MGF	maternal grandfather
MGM	maternal grandmother
MH	marital history; menstrual history
MI	myocardial infarction
MIC	minimum inhibitory concentration
MICU	medical intensive care unit
min	minutes
MJT	Mead Johnson tube
ML	midline
ml	milliliter
mM	millimole
mm	millimeter
mm ³	cubic millimeter
mm Hg	millimeters of mercury
MMT	manual muscle test
MN	midnight
mod	moderate
MOM	milk of magnesia
MR/MI	mental retardation/mental illness
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MRSA	Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
MSD	musculoskeletal disorder
MSL	midsternal line
MSQ	mental status quotient
M.T.	mobility training
MVA	motor vehicle accident
MW	molecular weight

-N-

N	nitrogen; normal
N&T	nose and throat
N&V, N/V	nausea and vomiting
N/C	no complaints
NA, N/A	no answer; not applicable
Na	sodium
NAD	no acute distress
Neg	negative
NF	nursing facility
NG, NGT	nasogastric and nasogastric tube

NICU	neonatal intensive care unit
NIDDM	non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NIH	National Institutes of Health
NKA	no known allergies
NKDA	no known drug allergies
NM	neuromuscular
nm	nanometer
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
NNO	no new orders
no.	number
noc	night
NPN	nonprotein nitrogen
NPO	nothing by mouth
NR	no refill
NS	normal saline (0.9% sodium chloride solution)
NSFTD	normal spontaneous full-term delivery
Nsg	nursing
NSR	normal sinus rhythm
NSS	normal saline solution
Nt	nasogastric tube
NTG	nitroglycerin
NVD	nausea, vomiting, diarrhea; neck vein distention
NWB	nonweight bearing
NYD	not yet diagnosed

-O-

O	objective data (POMR)
O&P	ova and parasites
O ₂	oxygen
OA	osteoarthritis
OB	obstetrics; occult blood
OB/GYN	obstetrics and gynecology
OBRA	Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
OBS	organic brain syndrome
OBT	obtained
OC	oral contraceptive
OD	right eye (oculus dexter); optical density; overdose
OL	left eye (oculus laevus)
OM	otitis media
OOB	out of bed
OOBRP	out of bed with bathroom privileges
OOP	out on pass
OR	operating room
ORIF	open reduction and internal Fixation

OS	left eye (oculus sinister)
os	mouth
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OT	occupational therapy
OTC	over-the-counter
OU	both eyes (oculi uterque)
oz	ounce

-P-

P	pulse; plan (POMR)
P	after
P&A	palpation and auscultation; percussion and auscultation
P&R	pulse and respiration
P/D	protective device
P/M	perceptual-motor
PA	posterior/anterior
PAC	premature atrial contraction
PaCO ₂	partial pressure of carbon dioxide (arterial blood)
Pap smear	Papanicolaou smear
PaO ₂	partial pressure of oxygen (arterial blood)
para I, II, (etc)	unipara, bipara, etc. (pregnancy one, two, etc.)
PAT	paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
path	pathology
PBI	protein-bound iodine
pc	after meals
PCA	patient-controlled analgesia
PCG	phonocardiogram
PCN	penicillin
PCO ₂	partial pressure of carbon dioxide
PCP	pulmonary capillary pressure; phencyclidine
PCV	packed cell volume (hematocrit)
PCWP	pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
PD	interpupillary distance; postural drainage; peritoneal dialysis
PDR	<i>Physician's Desk Reference</i>
PE	physical exam; pulmonary embolism
PEEP	positive end expiratory pressure
PEFR	peak expiratory flow rate
PEG	pneumoencephalography
per	through, by way of
PERRLA	pupils equal, round, react to light, and accommodation
PET	positron emission tomography

PG prostaglandin
 PGF paternal grandfather
 PGM paternal grandmother
 pH hydrogen ion concentration (acidity and alkalinity)
 PH past history
 PI present illness
 PICC peripherally inserted central catheter
 PID pelvic inflammatory disease
 PIE pulmonary infiltration with eosinophilia; acronym for "Problem, Intervention, and Evaluation"
 PIP proximal interphalangeal joint
 PKU phenylketonuria
 PM postmortem
 pm afternoon
 PMH past medical history
 PMI point of maximal impulse
 PMN polymorphonuclear neutrophil
 PMR polymyalgia rheumatica
 PMS premenstrual syndrome
 PMT premenstrual tension
 PND paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea; postnasal drip
 PNX pneumothorax
 PO, po per mouth, orally
 PO2 partial pressure of oxygen
 POMR problem-oriented medical record
 POR problem-oriented record
 pos positive
 postop postoperative; after surgery
 PP postpartum; postprandial
 PPD purified protein derivative
 PPF plasma protein fraction
 PPL penicilloyl-polylysine conjugate
 PPN peripheral parenteral nutrition
 ppm parts per million
 PR per rectum
 PRBC packed red blood cells
 PRE progressive resistance exercise
 preop preoperative; before surgery
 prep preparation
 PRN, prn when required; as often as necessary
 PROCTO proctoscopic; proctology
 PROM passive range of motion
 psych psychiatry
 PT physical therapy/prothrombin time
 pt patient; pint
 PTA prior to admission
 PTB patellar tendon bearing
 PTT partial thromboplastin time
 PU pressure ulcer

PUD peptic ulcer disease
 pulm pulmonary
 PUO pyrexia of unknown origin
 pv per vagina
 PVC premature ventricular contraction
 PVD peripheral vascular disease
 PWB partial weight bearing
 PZI protamine zinc insulin

-Q-

q every
 q2h, q3h, q4h, (etc.) every 2, 3, 4 hours, etc.
 qam every morning
 qh every hour
 qhs every night at bedtime
 qid four times a day
 qn every night
 qns quantity not sufficient
 qs quantity sufficient
 qt quart
 quant quantity

-R-

R; resp respirations; respiratory
 R&M routine and microscopic (urinalysis)
 RAD radiation absorbed dose
 RAI radioactive iodine uptake/Resident Assessment Instrument
 RBBB right bundle branch block
 RBC red blood cell; red blood count
 RBF renal blood flow
 RCM right costal margin
 RD right deltoid muscle
 RDA recommended daily allowance
 RDS respiratory distress syndrome
 rec recreation
 rehab rehabilitation
 REM rapid eye movement
 req requisition
 RF rheumatoid factor
 Rh+ positive Rhesus factor in blood
 Rh- negative Rhesus factor in blood
 RHD renal hypertensive disease; rheumatic heart disease
 RISA radioactive iodine serum albumin
 RLE right lower extremity

RLL right lower lobe (lung)
 RLQ right lower quadrant (abdomen)
 RMCA right middle cerebral artery
 RML right middle lobe (lung)
 RNA ribonucleic acid
 RO, R/O rule out
 ROM range of motion
 ROS review of systems; review of symptoms
 RPF renal plasma flow; relaxed pelvic floor
 RQ respiratory quotient
 RR recovery room; respiratory rate
 RS Reiter's syndrome
 RSB right sternal border
 RSR regular sinus rhythm
 RSV Rous sarcoma virus
 rt; R right
 RTA renal tubular acidosis
 RTN renal tubular necrosis
 RUE right upper extremity
 RUL right upper lobe (lung)
 RUQ right upper quadrant (abdomen)
 RV right ventricle
 RVH right ventricular hypertrophy
 Rx prescription; take; treatment

-S-

S subjective data (POMR)
 s without
 S/A sugar and acetone
 S/O, S.O. standing order
 S/P status post
 S1 first heart sound
 S2 second heart sound
 SA sinoatrial
 SB sternal border
 SBE subacute bacterial endocarditis
 SC, SQ subcutaneous
 SCM sternocleidomastoid
 SDAT senile dementia Alzheimer's type
 Sed rate; SR sedimentation rate (erythrocyte)
 Segs segmented neutrophils
 SEM systolic ejection murmur
 SGOT serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
 SGPT serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase
 SH social history; serum hepatitis
 sib sibling
 SICU surgical intensive care unit
 SIDS sudden infant death syndrome

sig to write on label
 SL sublingual
 SLB short leg brace
 SLDH serum lactic dehydrogenase
 SLE systemic lupus erythematosus
 SM sensory motor
 SMA serial multiple analysis;
 simultaneous multiple analysis
 SMIG sensory motor integration group
 SNF skilled nursing facility
 SOAP subjective, objective, assessment,
 and plan
 SOB shortness of breath
 sol solution, dissolved
 sos if it is needed
 spec specimen
 sp gr, SG specific gravity
 ss one-half
 SSE saline solution enema; soapsuds
 enema
 SSKI saturated solution potassium iodide
 SSPE subacute sclerosing panencephalitis
 SSS sick sinus syndrome; specific
 soluble substance; short stay
 surgery
 ST speech therapy
 staph. staphylococcus
 stat immediately; at once
 STD sexually transmitted disease; skin
 test dose
 strep. streptococcus
 STS serologic test for syphilis
 supp suppository
 surg surgery
 susp suspension
 SV stroke volume
 SVC superior vena cava
 SVT supraventricular tachycardia
 Sx symptoms
 syr syrup
 Sz seizure

-T-

T temperature
 T&A tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
 T&C, T&CM type and crossmatch
 T1 first thoracic vertebra
 T3 triiodothyronine
 T4 tetraiodothyronine; thyroxin
 T-7 free thyroxine factor
 TAB typhoid and paratyoid A and B
 tab a medicated tablet

TAH total abdominal hysterectomy
 TAO thromboangitis obliterans
 TAP, T/P turn and position
 TAT tetanus antitoxine; thermatic
 apperception test
 TB tuberculosis
 TBG thyroxin-binding globulin
 tbsp tablespoon
 TBW total body water
 TD transverse diameter (of heart)
 TEDS elastic stockings
 TENS transcutaneous electrical nerve
 stimulation
 TF tube feeding
 TG triglyceride
 TIA transient ischemic attack
 TIBC total iron building capacity
 tid three times a day
 tinct, tr tincture
 TIW three times a week
 TKO to keep open
 TL team leader
 TLC total lung capacity; thin layer
 chromatography; tender loving care
 (informal); total lymphocyte count
 TM tympanic membrane
 T max maximum temperature
 TMJ temporomandibular joint
 TNS transcutaneous nerve stimualtion
 T.O.; T/O telephone order
 TP total protein; thrombophlebitis
 TPI Treponema pallidum
 immobilization
 TPN total parenteral nutrition
 TPR temperature, pulse, respirations
 TRA to run at
 TRIG triglycerides
 T-set tracheotomy set
 TSF triceps skin fold
 TSH thyroid stimulating hormone
 tsp teaspoon
 TST triple sugar iron test
 TT treatment team
 TUR transurethral resection
 TURP transurethral resection of the
 prostate
 TV Trichomonas vaginalis; tidal
 volume
 TWE tap water enema
 Tx treatment

-U-

U&C urethral and cervical
 UA ;U/A urinalysis
 UCHD unusual childhood diseases
 UE upper extremities
 UGI upper gastrointestinal (series)
 UIBC unsaturated iron-binding capacity
 ung ointment
 URC utilization review coordinator
 URI upper respiratory infection
 US ultrasound
 USP United States Pharmacopeia
 UTI urinary tract infection

-V-

V vein
 V&T volume and tension
 VA visual acuity
 VAD vascular access device
 Vag hyst vaginal hysterectomy
 VA, VAH Veterans' Administration Hospital
 VC vena cava; vital capacity
 VCU voiding cystourethrogram
 VD venereal disease
 VDA visual discriminatory acuity
 VDRL Venereal Disease Research
 Laboratory
 VF; Vfib ventricular fibrillation
 vit vitamin
 VLDL very low-density lipoprotein
 VMA vanillylmandelic acid
 VNA visiting nurse association
 V.O.; V/O verbal order
 VP venous pressure
 VPC ventricular premature contraction
 VRE Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci
 VS vital signs (TPR, BP)
 VSD ventricular septal defect
 VT; Vtach ventricular tachycardia

-W-

W white; widow
 W/A while awake
 W/C wheelchair
 W/U work-up

W/V weight/volume
WBC white blood cell; white blood count
WD well developed
WDWNWF well-developed, well-nourished,
white female
WDWNWM well-developed, well-nourished,
white male
WFL within functional limits
WN well nourished
WNL within normal limits
WP whirlpool
WR Wasserman reaction
wt weight

-X-

x times
XR x-ray

-Y-

y/o; y.o. year old
yd yard(s)

-Title of Disciplines-

ACSW Academy of Certified Social
Workers
ART accredited record technician
BSN baccalaureate in science of nursing
BSW baccalaureate in social work
CNA certified nursing assistant
COTA certified occupational therapy
assistant
COTA/L certified and licensed occupational
therapy assistant
DDS doctor of dental surgery
DMD doctor of dental medicine
DPM doctor of podiatry medicine
Dr doctor
Ed. D doctor of education
LBSW baccalaureate in social work,
licensed
LPN licensed practical nurse
MD medical doctor/medical director
MSN masters in science of nursing
MSW masters in social work
MT (ASCP) registered medical technologist

NA nursing assistant
NC nurse clinician
NP nurse practitioner
OTR/L registered and licensed
occupational therapist
OTS occupational therapy student
PA physician's assistant
PD doctor of pharmacy
PTA physical therapy student
RD registered dietician
RN registered nurse
RNC registered nurse, certified
RNCNA registered nurse, certified in
nursing administration
RNNP registered nurse, nurse practitioner
RPh registered pharmacist
RPT registered physical therapist
SPT student physical therapist
TRD therapeutic recreation director