

**Department of Health
General Abbreviations
October 2004**

Abbreviation	Meaning
A	
≈	Approximately
āā	Of each
Ab	Abortion
abd	Abdominal
ac	Before meals
ACHES	Five Danger Signs for Pill Users: Abdominal Pain; Chest Pain; Headaches (not relieved by ASA or Tylenol); Eye Changes (blurred or decreased vision); Severe Leg Cramps (calves or thighs)
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ad lib	Freely, as desired
adm	Admitted
AFB	Acid Fast Bacillus
AGA	Appropriate for Gestational Age
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
alb	Albumin
Alk Phos	Alkaline Phosphatase
ALS	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
ALT	Alanine Aminotransferase (formerly SGPT)
a.m.; AM	Before Noon
AMA	Against Medical Advice
AMOX	Amoxicillin
amt	Amount
ant	Anterior
A&P	Auscultation & Percussion
APAP	Acetaminophen
approx	Approximately
appt	Appointment
ARC	AIDS-Related Complex
ART	Automated Reagin Test
ASA	Aspirin
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
ASHD	Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease
as tol	As Tolerated
AST	Aspartate Aminotranferase (formerly SGOT)
ausc	Auscultation
A&W	Alive and Well
ax	Axillary
B	
B ₆	Pyridoxine HCl
Ba	Barium
B-cells	B lymphocytes
BCG	Bacillus Calmette-Guerin
B-F	Black Female

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Abbreviation	Meaning
bid	Twice Daily
bilat	Bilateral
B-M	Black Male
BM	Bowel Movement
BMR	Basal Metabolic Rate
BP	Blood Pressure
BPH	Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy
BRP	Bathroom Privileges
BS	Blood Sugar
BSE	Breast Self Examination
BSO	Bilateral Salpingo-oophorectomy
BTB	Breakthrough Bleeding
BTL	Bilateral Tubal Ligation
BUN	Blood Urea Nitrogen
BUS	Bartholin, Urethral, Skene's Glands
BV	Bacterial Vaginosis
BW	Birth weight
Bx	Biopsy
C	
Δ	Change
✓	Check
\overline{c}	With
C	Centigrade
CA	Cancer
Ca	Calcium
CAD	Coronary Artery Disease
CAH	Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia
cal	Calorie
cap	Capsule
cath	Catheter, Catheterize
CBC	Complete Blood Count
CC	Chief Complaint
Ccr	Creatinine Clearance
CD	Communicable Disease
CDC	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
CFT	Complement Fixation Test
CHD	Coronary Heart Disease
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
CHO	Carbohydrate
Chol	Cholesterol
CIN	Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia
CIS	Carcinoma in Situ
Cl	Chloride
cm	Centimeters
CMT	Cervical Motion Tenderness
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
CNS	Central Nervous System
c/o	Complaint of
COLPO	Colposcopy

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Abbreviation	Meaning
cont	Continue
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CPK	Creatine Phosphokinase
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
Creat	Creatinine
CRYO	Cryosurgery
C&S	Culture and Sensitivity
c. section	Caesarean Section
CSF	Cerebrospinal Fluid
CT	Computerized Tomography
CT (Lab)	Chlamydia Trachomatis
CV	Cardiovascular (screen)
CVA	Cerebrovascular Accident
CVD	Cardiovascular Disease
CVS	Cardiovascular System or Surgery
CX	Cervix
CXR	Chest X-Ray
D	
↓	Decrease
°	Degree
D&C	Dilation and Curettage
DDS	Dapsone
DDST	Denver Developmental Screening Test
Dept	Department
DES	Diethylstilbestrol
Diff	Differential
disc.	Discontinue
DM	Diabetes Mellitus
DNKA	Did Not Keep Appointment
DOB	Date of Birth
DOXY	Doxycycline
dsg	Dressing
DTaP	Diphtheria, Tetanus and acellular Pertussis Vaccine
DSS	Diocetyl Sodium Sulfosuccinate
DT	Diphtheria, Tetanus vaccine
DTR	Deep Tendon Reflexes
DUB	Dysfunctional Uterine Bleeding
DX	Diagnosis
E	
=	Equal To
EBV	Epstein-Barr Virus
ECG; EKG	Electrocardiogram
EDC	Expected Date of Confinement
EDD	Expected Date of Delivery
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetra-acetic acid
EEG	Electroencephalogram
EENT	Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat
EES	Erythromycin Ethylsuccinate

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Abbreviation	Meaning
e.g.	For Example
EGA	Estimated Gestational Age
EIA	Enzyme Immunoassay Test
ELISA	Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay
EMB	Ethambutol (Myambutol)
EMG	Electromyography
E-MYCIN	Erythromycin
ENT	Ears, Nose, Throat
EOM	Extraocular Movement
Epis	Episiotomy
Epi Tx	Epidemiological Treatment
ER	Emergency Room
ERT	Estrogen Replacement Therapy
ESR	Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate
ESRD	End-Stage Renal Disease
etiol	Etiology
EtOH	Ethyl Alcohol
exam	Examination
F	
♀	Female
F	Fahrenheit
FA	Fluorescent Antibody Test
FBS	Fasting Blood Sugar
Fe	Iron
FeSO ₄	Ferrous Sulfate
FFA	Free fatty acids
FHR	Fetal Heart Rate
FHT	Fetal Heart Tones
FHx	Family History
5-FU	5-Fluorouracil
FP	Family Planning
FTA	Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody Test
FTA-ABS	Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody Absorption Test
FTT	Failure to Thrive
FUO	Fever of Undetermined Origin
fx	Fracture
G	
Gal	Galactose
GB	Gallbladder
GC	Gonococcus
Gest	Gestation
GGT	Gamma Glutamyl Transferase
GI	Gastrointestinal
Glu	Glucose
gm	Gram(s)
gr	Grain(s)
grav; G	Gravida
gtt	Drop

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Abbreviation	Meaning
GTT	Glucose tolerance test
GU	Genitourinary
GYN	Gynecology
H	
HA	Headache
Hb A1c	Glycosylated Hemoglobin
HBcAb	Hepatitis B core Antibody
HBIG	Hepatitis B Immunoglobulin
HBsAg	Hepatitis B Surface Antigen
HBV	Hepatitis B Virus
HC cream	Hydrocortisone Cream
HCG	Human Chorionic Gonadotropin
HCT	Hematocrit
HCV	Hepatitis C Virus
HDCV	Human Diploid Cell Rabies Vaccine
HDL	High-density lipoproteins
HEENT	Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat
Hgb	Hemoglobin, Hemoglobinopathies
H&H	Hematocrit and Hemoglobin
HIB	Haemophilus influenzae type B
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
H&P	History and Physical Examination
HPF	High-Power Field
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
hr	Hour
HRT	Hormone Replacement Therapy
HSV	Herpes Simplex Virus
ht	Height
HTN	Hypertension
HV; hv	Home Visit
Hx	History
Hyst	Hysterectomy
H ₂ O	Water
H ₂ O ₂	Hydrogen Peroxide
I	
↑	Increase
I	Iodine
I ¹³¹	Radioactive Isotope of Iodine
ID	Intradermal
I&D	Incision and Drainage
IDDM	Insulin-dependent Diabetes Mellitus
ie	that is
Ig	Immunoglobulin
IM	Intramuscular
IMP	Impression
info	information
ing	Inguinal

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Abbreviation	Meaning
INH	Isoniazid
I&O	Intake and Output
IPPB	Intermittent Positive Pressure Breathing
IPV	Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine
IQ	Intelligence Quotient
IUD	Intrauterine Device
IUGR	Intrauterine Growth Retardation
IUP	Intrauterine Pregnancy
IV	Intravenous
IVDU	Intravenous Drug User
IVP	Intravenous Pyelogram
K	
K	Potassium
kcal	Kilocalorie
Kg	Kilogram
KOH	Potassium hydroxide
KS	Kaposi's Sarcoma
L	
L	Left
lab	Laboratory
LAT	Left Anterior Thigh
lb	Pound
LBW	Low Birth Weight
L&D	Labor and Delivery
LDH	Lactic dehydrogenase
LDL	Low-density Lipoprotein
LDL/HDL	Risk Ratio (Lipids)
LDT	Left Deltoid
LE	Lupus Erythematosus
LEEP	Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure
lg	Large
LG	Left Gluteus
LGA	Large for Gestational Age
LGV	Lymphogranuloma Venerum
LLQ	Left Lower Quadrant
LLT	Left Lateral Thigh
LMP	Last Menstrual Period
LNMP	Last Normal Menstrual Period
LTC	Long-term Care
LTR	Left Tricep
LUQ	Left Upper Quadrant
L&W	Living and Well
M	
♂	Male
m	Murmur
MAC	Mycobacterium avium complex
MAG. SULFATE	Epsom Salts / Magnesium Sulfate

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Abbreviation	Meaning
MAI	Mycobacterium avium intracellulare
MCH	Mean corpuscular hemoglobin
MCV	Mean corpuscular volume
meds	Medications
mEq	Millequivalent
mEq/L	Milliequivalents per liter
mg	Milligram
mg/dl	Milligrams per Deciliter
MGF	Maternal Grandfather
MGM	Maternal Grandmother
MHA-TP	Microhemagglutination Treponema pallidum
MI	Myocardial Infarction
ml	Milliliter
mm	Millimeter
MMR	Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccine
mo	Month
mod	Moderate
MOM	Milk of Magnesia
MPC	Mucopurulent Cervicitis
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MS	Multiple Sclerosis
MTB	Mycobacterium tuberculosis
MU	Million Units
multi	Multiple
multip	Multiparous
MVP	Mitral Valve Prolapse
N	
- or Ø	Negative, Absent
Ø	No or None
#	Number
Na	Sodium
NA	Not Applicable
NB	Newborn
NEG	Negative
NGU	Nongonococcal Urethritis
NIDDM	Noninsulin-dependent Diabetes Mellitus
NKA	No Known Allergies
#	Number
noct	Nocturnal
norm	Normal
NPH	Isophane Insulin
NPO	Nothing by Mouth
NS	Normal Saline
nsg	Nursing
NSR	Normal Sinus Rhythm
NSVD	Normal Spontaneous Vaginal Delivery
NTG	Nitroglycerin
N&V	Nausea and Vomiting

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O	
O ₂	Oxygen
OB	Obstetrics
OBS	Organic Brain Syndrome
OC	Oral Contraceptive
oint	Ointment
OM	Otitis Media
ON 777	Ortho-Novum 777
O&P	Ova and Parasites
OPD	Outpatient Department
OTC	Over-the-Counter (drugs)
oz	Ounce
P	
\bar{p}	After
P	Parity
PABA	Para-Aminobenzoic Acid
palp	Palpable
Pap	Papanicolaou smear
PAS	Para-Aminosalicylic Acid
Pb	Lead
PBZ	Pyribenzamine
pc	After Meals
PCN	Penicillin
PCP	Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PE	Physical Examination
per	By
PERRLA	Pupils Equal, Round, Reactive to Light and Accommodation
PETN	Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate
PG	Pregnant
PGF	Paternal Grandfather
PGM	Paternal Grandmother
pH	Hydrogen Ion Concentration
Phos	Phosphorus
PID	Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
PKU	Phenylketonuria
p.m.; PM	After Noon
PMD	Private Medical Doctor
PMH	Past Medical History
PMS	Premenstrual Syndrome
po	By mouth
POS	Positive
pp	Post Partum
PPBS	Postprandial Blood Sugar
ppd	Packs per day
PPD	Purified Protein Derivative of Tuberculin
PPNG	Penicillinase producing Neisseria gonorrhoeae
prn	As needed
PROM	Premature Rupture of Membranes

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Abbreviation	Meaning
prot	Protein
Pt	Patient
PT	Prothrombin Time
PTL	Preterm Labor
PTT	Partial Thromboplastin Time
PZA	Pyrazinamide
Q	
?	Questionable
q	Every
qh	Every hour
qid	Four times daily
qns	Quantity not sufficient
qs	Quantity sufficient
R	
R	Right
RAT	Right Anterior Thigh
RBC	Red Blood Cell
RDS	Respiratory Distress Syndrome
RDT	Right Deltoid
REF	Refer
Reg	Regular
rehab	Rehabilitation
Resp	Respiration
RG	Right Gluteus
Rh+	Rhesus Positive
Rh-	Rhesus Negative
RIG	Rabies Immune Globulin
RLQ	Right Lower Quadrant
RLT	Right Lateral Thigh
Rm	Room
R/O	Rule Out
ROM	Range of Motion
ROS	Review of Systems
RPR	Rapid Plasma Reagin
RRR	Regular Rate and Rhythm
RTC	Return to Clinic
RTR	Right Tricep
RUQ	Right Upper Quadrant
Rx	Prescription/Treatment
S	
2°	Secondary
\bar{s}	Without
S ₁	First Heart Sound
S ₂	Second Heart Sound
SBE	Self-Breast Exam
SEM	Systolic Ejection Murmur
SGA	Small for Gestational Age

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Abbreviation	Meaning
SGOT	Serum Glutamic Oxaloacetic Transaminase (now called AST)
SGPT	Serum Glutamic Pyruvic Transaminase (now called ALT)
SIDS	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
Sig	Prescription Instructions
sl	Slight
SLEV	St. Louis Encephalitis Virus
sm	Small
SMA	Sequential Multiple Analysis
SOAP	Subjective, Objective, Assessment, Plan
SOB	Shortness of Breath
Spon	Spontaneous
SROM	Spontaneous Rupture of Membrane
ss	One Half
S&S	Signs and Symptoms
staph	Staphylococcus aureus
STAT	At Once
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
STS	Serologic Test for Syphilis
subcut	Subcutaneous
Supp	Suppository
SVD	Spontaneous Vaginal Delivery
Sx	Symptom
T	
T ₄	Thyroxine
T&A	Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy
tab	Tablet(s)
TAH/BSO	Total Abdominal Hysterectomy and Bilateral Salpingo-oophorectomy
TB	Tuberculosis
T bili	Total bilirubin
tbsp	Tablespoon
T-cells	Thymus-dependent lymphocytes
TCN	Tetracycline
Td	Tetanus-diphtheria toxoids
Temp	Temperature
tid	Three Times Daily
TMJ	Temporomandibular Junction/Joint
TNTC	Too Numerous to Count
TOC	Test of Cure
top	Topical
TOPV	Trivalent Oral Polio Vaccine
TPI	Treponema Pallidum Immobilization
TPR	Temperature, Pulse, Respiration
tr	Trace
TRACH	Tracheostomy
Trich	Trichomonas
Trig	Triglycerides
TRUST	Toluidine Red Unheated Serum Test
TSE	Testicular Self Examination
TSH	Thyroid Stimulating Hormone

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Abbreviation	Meaning
tsp	Teaspoon
TUR	Transurethral Resection
Tx	Treatment
U	
≠	Unequal
UA	Urinalysis
UCG	Urinary Chorionic Gonadotropin
UGI	Upper Gastrointestinal
unk	Unknown
URI	Upper Respiratory Infection
USR	Unheated Serum Reagin
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection
V	
Vag	Vaginal
VD	Venereal Disease
VDRL	Venereal Disease Research Laboratory
VIT	Vitamins
VLDL	Very low-density Lipoproteins
VS	Vital Signs
VZIG	Varicella Zoster Immunoglobulin
W	
WBC	White Blood Cell
WC	Wheelchair
WD	Well Developed
W-F	White Female
wk	Week
WIC	Women, Infants and Children (Food Assistance Program)
W-M	White Male
WN	Well Nourished
WNL	Within Normal Limits
wt	Weight
X	
x	Multiplied by
Y	
yo	Year-old
yr	Year