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A. Abbreviations/Acronyms/Symbols	Submittal Table

I. Policy

Use of standardized abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols to document care provided for clients is a component of a consistent statewide clinical-records management system. All applicable Department of Health (DOH) employees shall use the DOH-approved clinical abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols for client health records. All abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols must be in compliance with the Joint Commission standards and the Institute of Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) standards. This policy is directly related to client safety standards and the DOH commitment to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public.

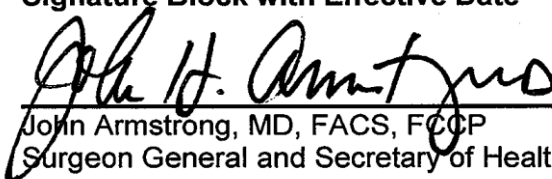
II. Authority

Chapter 154.001 *Florida Statutes (F. S.)*, **System of coordinated county health department services; legislative intent.** It is the intent of the Legislature to promote, protect, maintain, and improve the health and safety of all citizens and visitors of this state through a system of coordinated county health department services.
http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&SubMenu=1&App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=154.001&URL=0100-0199/0154/Sections/0154.001.html

III. Supportive Data

This policy is in alignment with the Department of Health policy Writing, Instituting, and Revising Department Policies, Internal Operating Policies (IOPs), Technical Assistance Guidelines (TAGs), and Standard of Care Protocols (SOCs).

IV. Signature Block with Effective Date



John Armstrong, MD, FACS, FCCP
Surgeon General and Secretary of Health

9-16-14
Date

V. Definitions

- A. Abbreviation:** A shortened form of a word or phrase.
- B. Acronym:** A word formed from the first (or first few) letters of a series of words.
- C. Prohibited Abbreviations:** DOH has adopted the Institute for Safe Medication Practices, List of Error-Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations as the prohibited abbreviations list for the organization.
- D. Symbol:** Something that stands for, or represents, another thing; a written or printed mark, letter, abbreviation standing for an object, quality, process, quantity, etc.

VI. Protocol

Not applicable.

VII. Procedure

- A. The Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management (HSP) will maintain the DOH approved and **prohibited** clinical abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols list.
- B. This list will be updated at least every two years in accordance with the Department of Health policy Writing, Instituting, and Revising Department Policies, IOPs, TAGs, and SOCs.
- C. HSP will coordinate the review of the approved list with all DOH divisions and bureaus and the Health Information Management (HIM) Council.
- D. During the review process, each DOH Bureau Chief or Program Director will be responsible for disseminating the clinical abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols list, along with this policy, within their respective area. The Bureau Chief or Program Director will conduct a final review of recommendations from their area and submit recommendations for modifications to the clinical abbreviation, acronym, and symbol list for appropriateness before forwarding said recommendations to the Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management.

Each requested modification submitted by a bureau or program must be supported by at least one of the following:

- 1. Referenced in a recognized, field-appropriate, clinical evidence-based reference manual/book/list current within the last five years (referenced by book/volume/author(s)/year published/page number or web page address and the date the web page was last accessed must be included);
 - 2. Currently on a list approved within the last five years by a nationally recognized professional organization; or
 - 3. On a list currently adopted by a specific DOH program.
- E. The updated list and policy will be submitted to the HIM Council for approval.
 - F. The DOH Surgeon General has the authority for final approval.
 - G. HSP will disseminate the updated list and policy via e-mail.
 - H. DOH nursing directors and administrators/directors will implement the approved clinical abbreviations/acronyms/symbols list.

VIII. Distribution List

Division Directors
Bureau Chiefs and Office Directors
County Health Department Directors/Administrators
County Health Department Medical and Nursing Directors
Children's Medical Services Medical Directors/Administrators/Nursing Directors
Public Health Practice Unit
Policy and Procedures Library
Web Managers

IX. History Notes

This policy replaces and supersedes the Office of Public Health Nursing, DOHP 40-1-05 Abbreviations/Acronyms/Symbols Policy, effective date of June 1, 2005.

X. Appendices:

Appendix A: Prohibited abbreviations: Institute for Safe Medication Practices, List of Error-Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations, 2013
B: Approved Clinical Abbreviation/Acronym/Symbol List

ISMP's List of *Error-Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations*

The abbreviations, symbols, and dose designations found in this table have been reported to ISMP through the ISMP National Medication Errors Reporting Program (ISMP MERP) as being frequently misinterpreted and involved in harmful medication errors. They should **NEVER** be used when commu-

nicating medical information. This includes internal communications, telephone/verbal prescriptions, computer-generated labels, labels for drug storage bins, medication administration records, as well as pharmacy and prescriber computer order entry screens.

Abbreviations	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Correction
µg	Microgram	Mistaken as "mg"	Use "mcg"
AD, AS, AU	Right ear, left ear, each ear	Mistaken as OD, OS, OU (right eye, left eye, each eye)	Use "right ear," "left ear," or "each ear"
OD, OS, OU	Right eye, left eye, each eye	Mistaken as AD, AS, AU (right ear, left ear, each ear)	Use "right eye," "left eye," or "each eye"
BT	Bedtime	Mistaken as "BID" (twice daily)	Use "bedtime"
cc	Cubic centimeters	Mistaken as "u" (units)	Use "mL"
D/C	Discharge or discontinue	Premature discontinuation of medications if D/C (intended to mean "discharge") has been misinterpreted as "discontinued" when followed by a list of discharge medications	Use "discharge" and "discontinue"
IJ	Injection	Mistaken as "IV" or "intrajugular"	Use "injection"
IN	Intranasal	Mistaken as "IM" or "IV"	Use "intranasal" or "NAS"
HS	Half-strength	Mistaken as bedtime	Use "half-strength" or "bedtime"
hs	At bedtime, hours of sleep	Mistaken as half-strength	
IU**	International unit	Mistaken as IV (intravenous) or 10 (ten)	Use "units"
o.d. or OD	Once daily	Mistaken as "right eye" (OD-oculus dexter), leading to oral liquid medications administered in the eye	Use "daily"
OJ	Orange juice	Mistaken as OD or OS (right or left eye); drugs meant to be diluted in orange juice may be given in the eye	Use "orange juice"
Per os	By mouth, orally	The "os" can be mistaken as "left eye" (OS-oculus sinister)	Use "PO," "by mouth," or "orally"
q.d. or QD**	Every day	Mistaken as q.i.d., especially if the period after the "q" or the tail of the "q" is misunderstood as an "i"	Use "daily"
qhs	Nightly at bedtime	Mistaken as "qhr" or every hour	Use "nightly"
qn	Nightly or at bedtime	Mistaken as "qh" (every hour)	Use "nightly" or "at bedtime"
q.o.d. or QOD**	Every other day	Mistaken as "q.d." (daily) or "q.i.d. (four times daily) if the "o" is poorly written	Use "every other day"
q1d	Daily	Mistaken as q.i.d. (four times daily)	Use "daily"
q6PM, etc.	Every evening at 6 PM	Mistaken as every 6 hours	Use "daily at 6 PM" or "6 PM daily"
SC, SQ, sub q	Subcutaneous	SC mistaken as SL (sublingual); SQ mistaken as "5 every;" the "q" in "sub q" has been mistaken as "every" (e.g., a heparin dose ordered "sub q 2 hours before surgery" misunderstood as every 2 hours before surgery)	Use "subcut" or "subcutaneously"
ss	Sliding scale (insulin) or ½ (apothecary)	Mistaken as "55"	Spell out "sliding scale;" use "one-half" or "½"
SSRI	Sliding scale regular insulin	Mistaken as selective-serotonin reuptake inhibitor	Spell out "sliding scale (insulin)"
SSI	Sliding scale insulin	Mistaken as Strong Solution of Iodine (Lugol's)	
i/d	One daily	Mistaken as "tid"	Use "1 daily"
TIW or tiw	3 times a week	Mistaken as "3 times a day" or "twice in a week"	Use "3 times weekly"
U or u**	Unit	Mistaken as the number 0 or 4, causing a 10-fold overdose or greater (e.g., 4U seen as "40" or 4u seen as "44"); mistaken as "cc" so dose given in volume instead of units (e.g., 4u seen as 4cc)	Use "unit"
UD	As directed ("ut dictum")	Mistaken as unit dose (e.g., diltiazem 125 mg IV infusion "UD" misinterpreted as meaning to give the entire infusion as a unit [bolus] dose)	Use "as directed"
Dose Designations and Other Information	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Correction
Trailing zero after decimal point (e.g., 1.0 mg)**	1 mg	Mistaken as 10 mg if the decimal point is not seen	Do not use trailing zeros for doses expressed in whole numbers
"Naked" decimal point (e.g., .5 mg)**	0.5 mg	Mistaken as 5 mg if the decimal point is not seen	Use zero before a decimal point when the dose is less than a whole unit
Abbreviations such as mg. or mL. with a period following the abbreviation	mg mL	The period is unnecessary and could be mistaken as the number 1 if written poorly	Use mg, mL, etc. without a terminal period

ISMP's List of Error-Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations (continued)

Dose Designations and Other Information	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Correction
Drug name and dose run together (especially problematic for drug names that end in "I" such as Inderal40 mg; Tegretol300 mg)	Inderal 40 mg Tegretol 300 mg	Mistaken as Inderal 140 mg Mistaken as Tegretol 1300 mg	Place adequate space between the drug name, dose, and unit of measure
Numerical dose and unit of measure run together (e.g., 10mg, 100mL)	10 mg 100 mL	The "m" is sometimes mistaken as a zero or two zeros, risking a 10- to 100-fold overdose	Place adequate space between the dose and unit of measure
Large doses without properly placed commas (e.g., 100000 units; 1000000 units)	100,000 units 1,000,000 units	100000 has been mistaken as 10,000 or 1,000,000; 1000000 has been mistaken as 100,000	Use commas for dosing units at or above 1,000, or use words such as 100 "thousand" or 1 "million" to improve readability
Drug Name Abbreviations	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Correction
To avoid confusion, do not abbreviate drug names when communicating medical information. Examples of drug name abbreviations involved in medication errors include:			
APAP	acetaminophen	Not recognized as acetaminophen	Use complete drug name
ARA A	vidarabine	Mistaken as cytarabine (ARA C)	Use complete drug name
AZT	zidovudine (Retrovir)	Mistaken as azathioprine or aztreonam	Use complete drug name
CPZ	Compazine (prochlorperazine)	Mistaken as chlorpromazine	Use complete drug name
DPT	Demerol-Phenergan-Thorazine	Mistaken as diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus (vaccine)	Use complete drug name
DTO	Diluted tincture of opium, or deodorized tincture of opium (Paregoric)	Mistaken as tincture of opium	Use complete drug name
HCl	hydrochloric acid or hydrochloride	Mistaken as potassium chloride (The "H" is misinterpreted as "K")	Use complete drug name unless expressed as a salt of a drug
HCT	hydrocortisone	Mistaken as hydrochlorothiazide	Use complete drug name
HCTZ	hydrochlorothiazide	Mistaken as hydrocortisone (seen as HCT250 mg)	Use complete drug name
MgSO4**	magnesium sulfate	Mistaken as morphine sulfate	Use complete drug name
MS, MSO4**	morphine sulfate	Mistaken as magnesium sulfate	Use complete drug name
MTX	methotrexate	Mistaken as mitoxantrone	Use complete drug name
PCA	procainamide	Mistaken as patient controlled analgesia	Use complete drug name
PTU	propylthiouracil	Mistaken as mercaptopurine	Use complete drug name
T3	Tylenol with codeine No. 3	Mistaken as liothyronine	Use complete drug name
TAC	triamcinolone	Mistaken as tetracaine, Adrenalin, cocaine	Use complete drug name
TNK	TNKase	Mistaken as "TPA"	Use complete drug name
ZnSO4	zinc sulfate	Mistaken as morphine sulfate	Use complete drug name
Stemmed Drug Names	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Correction
"Nitro" drip	nitroglycerin infusion	Mistaken as sodium nitroprusside infusion	Use complete drug name
"NorfloX"	norfloxacin	Mistaken as Norflex	Use complete drug name
"IV Vanc"	intravenous vancomycin	Mistaken as Invanz	Use complete drug name
Symbols	Intended Meaning	Misinterpretation	Correction
℥	Dram	Symbol for dram mistaken as "3"	Use the metric system
℥	Minim	Symbol for minim mistaken as "mL"	
x3d	For three days	Mistaken as "3 doses"	Use "for three days"
> and <	Greater than and less than	Mistaken as opposite of intended; mistakenly use incorrect symbol; "< 10" mistaken as "40"	Use "greater than" or "less than"
/ (slash mark)	Separates two doses or indicates "per"	Mistaken as the number 1 (e.g., "25 units/10 units" misread as "25 units and 110" units)	Use "per" rather than a slash mark to separate doses
@	At	Mistaken as "2"	Use "at"
&	And	Mistaken as "2"	Use "and"
+	Plus or and	Mistaken as "4"	Use "and"
°	Hour	Mistaken as a zero (e.g., q2° seen as q 20)	Use "hr," "h," or "hour"
Φ or ∅	zero, null sign	Mistaken as numerals 4, 6, 8, and 9	Use 0 or zero, or describe intent using whole words

**These abbreviations are included on The Joint Commission's "minimum list" of dangerous abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols that must be included on an organization's "Do Not Use" list, effective January 1, 2004. Visit www.jointcommission.org for more information about this Joint Commission requirement.

DOH Abbreviations/Acronyms/Symbols Listing, as per
DOHP 380-3-14 - Abbreviations/Acronyms/Symbols Policy
(Division of Public Health Statistics & Performance Management)
as of 08/20/2014

DOH SYMBOLS	Meaning
\bar{p}	After
\bar{a}	Before
Δ	Change
√	Check
↓	Decrease
=	Equal To
'	Feet Measurement
♀	Female
"	Inches
↑	Increased
Ⓛ	Left
♂	Male
⊖	Negative, Absent
#	Number Sign
%	Percentage
⊕	Positive
?	Questionable
Ⓡ	Right
2 ^o	Secondary
≠	Unequal
\bar{c}	With
\bar{s}	Without

Abbreviation	
A	Meaning
A and P	Auscultation and Percussion
A and W	Alive and Well
AA	Alcohol Anonymous
AAP	American Academy of Pediatrics
abd	Abdominal or Abdomen
ABG	Arterial Blood Gases
ABM	Artificial Baby Milk / Infant Formula
ABNL or abnl	Abnormal
abs	Abscess
a.c.	Before Meals
ACHES	Abdominal Pain; Chest Pain; Headaches; Eye Changes; Severe Leg Cramps (Five Danger Signs for Pill Users)
ACLF	Adult Congregate Living Facility
ACOG	American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Acr	Acrylic
ACTH	Adrenocorticotrophic Hormone (corticotropin)
ad lib	Freely, as desired
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder
ADHD	Attention Deficit & Hyperactivity Disorder
adj	Adjustment / Adjusted
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ADM or adm	Admitted
AED	Automated External Defibrillator
AF	Anteflexed

AFB	Acid Fast Bacillus
AFI	Amniotic Fluid Index
AFib	Atrial Fibrillation
AFOF	Anterior Fontanelle Open Flat
AFOS	Anterior Fontanelle Open Soft
Ag	Antigen
AGA	Appropriate for Gestational Age
AGC	Atypical Glandular Cells
AGH	A.G. Holley State Hospital
AGUS	Atypical Glandular Cells of Uncertain Significance
AHA	American Hospital Association
AHCA	Agency for Health Care Administration
AI	Aortic Insufficiency
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AII	Airborne Infection Isolation
ALA	American Lung Association
alb	Albumin
ALF	Assisted Living Facility
alg	Alginate
Alk Phos	Alkaline Phosphatase
ALS	Advanced Life Support
ALT	Alanine Aminotransferase
a.m. ; AM	Before Noon
AMA	Against Medical Advice
AMI	Acute Myocardial Infarction
amt	Amount
ANA	Antinuclear Antibody
ANC	Absolute Neutrophil Count
anes	Anesthesia / Anesthetic
ant.	Anterior
Anti-HBs	Hepatitis B Surface Antibody
ANUG	Acute Necrotizing Ulcerative Gingivitis
AP	Anterior Posterior X-ray
approx	Approximately
appt	Appointment
AR	Aortic Regurgitation
ARC	AIDS-Related Complex
ARDS	Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
ARNP	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner
ART	Automated Reagin Test
as tol	As Tolerated
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
ASC	Atypical Squamous Cells
ASCCP	American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology
ASC-H	Atypical Squamous Cell Changes Cannot Rule Out HSIL
ASCUS	Atypical Squamous Cell Changes of Undetermined Significance
ASD	Atrial Septal Defect
ASSM	Assessment
AST	Aspartate Aminotransferase (formerly SGOT)
ATP III	Adult Treatment Panel III
ATS	American Thoracic Society
ausc	Auscultation
AV	Anteversión (Anteverted)
avg	Average
ax.	Axillary
B	MEANING
Ba	Barium
BBB	Bundle Branch Block
BBS	Bilateral Breath Sounds
B-cells	B Lymphocytes
BCA	Bichloroacetic acid
BCG	Bacillus of Calmette - Guérin
BCP	Birth Control Pills
BE	Barium Enema
BEE	Basal Energy Expenditure
B/F	Black Female
BG	Blood Glucose or Blood Sugar
BGM	Blood Glucose Monitoring
BIC	Penicillin G Benzathine (Bicillin LA)
bilat	Bilateral
bili	Bilirubin
BI-RADS	Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System
BLS	Basic Life Support
B/M	Black Male
BM	Bowel Movement
BMI	Body Mass Index

BMR	Basal Metabolic Rate
BP	Blood Pressure
BPD	Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia
BPH	Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy
Br	Breast
BRAIDED	Benefits, Risks, Alternatives, allowing time for Inquiry, Decision, Explanation and Documentation.
BrF	Breast Feeding
brkf	Breakfast
BrM	Breast Milk, Human Milk
BSA	Body Surface Area
BSE	Breast Self Examination
BTB	Breakthrough Bleeding
BTL	Bilateral Tubal Ligation
BUN	Blood Urea Nitrogen
BUS	Bartholin, Urethral, Skene's Glands
BV	Bacterial Vaginosis
BW	Birth Weight
BWX	Bite-Wing X-rays
Bx	Biopsy
C	MEANING
C	Centigrade
C and S	Culture and Sensitivity
C1 – C7	Cervical Vertebrae 1-7
CA	Cancer
Ca	Calcium
CABG	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft
CAD	Coronary Artery Disease
CAH	Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia
cap	Capsule
cath	Catheter, Catheterize
CBC	Complete Blood Count
CBE	Clinical Breast Exam
C/C	Complete Upper and Lower Dentures
CCR	Creatinine Clearance
CD	Communicable Disease
CD ₄	Cluster of Differentiation 4 (HIV helper cell count)
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CEA	Carcinoembryonic Antigen
CEJ	Cementum-Enamel Junction
CEMED	Cemented
cert	Certification
CF	Cystic Fibrosis
CFT	Complement Fixation Test
CHD	County Health Department
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
Chlamydia	Chlamydia Trachomatis
CHO	Carbohydrate
chol	Cholesterol
CIG or cig	Cigarette
CIN	Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia
circ	Circumference
circum	Circumcision
CIS	Carcinoma in Situ
CK	Creatine Kinase
CKC	Cold Knife Cone Biopsy
Cl	Chloride
CL/CP	Cleft Lip / Cleft Palate
CLC	Certified Lactation Counselor National
cm	Centimeters
CMA	Correctional Medical Authority
CMCP	Camphorated Paramonochlorophenol
CMS	Children's Medical Services
CMT	Cervical Motion Tenderness
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
CNA	Certified Nursing Assistant
CNS	Central Nervous System
c/o	Complaint of
colpo	Colposcopy
com res	Composite Resin
compl	Completed / Complete
conc	Concentrated
cont	Continue
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
cor	Coronary-heart
CP	Cerebral Palsy

CPA	Competent Professional Authority (In WIC Manual, Official USDA abbreviation and used on forms)
CPAP	Constant (continuous) Positive Airway Pressure
CPK	Creatine Phosphokinase
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
CPS	Child Protective Services
Creat	Creatinine
CRP	C_ Reactive Protein
cryo	Cryosurgery
C-section	Caesarean Section
CSF	Cerebrospinal Fluid
CT	Computerized Tomography
CUR	Curettage
CV	Cardiovascular
CVA	Cerebrovascular Accident
CVAT	Costovertebral Angle Tenderness
CVD	Cardiovascular Disease
CX	Cervix
CXR	Chest X-Ray
D	MEANING
D and C	Dilation and Curettage
DBW	Desirable Body Weight
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DD	Developmental Disability
DDS	Doctor of Dental Surgery
DDST	Denver Developmental Screening Test
DEC	Deciduous
def	Deficient / Deficiency
DEM	Division of Emergency Management
Dept	Department
DES	Diethylstilbestrol
DFA	Direct Fluorescent Antibody
DHEA	Dehydroepiandrosterone
DIC	Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation
diff	Differential
dil	Diluted
DIS	Disease Intervention Specialist
dist	Distal
DJD	Degenerative Joint Disease
DKA	Diabetic Ketoacidosis
DM	Diabetes Mellitus
DMD	Doctor of Dental Medicine
DNA	Deoxynucleic Acid
DNR	Do Not Resuscitate
DO	Doctor of Osteopathy
DOA	Date of Admission
DOB	Date of Birth
DOD	Date of Death
DOEA	Department of Elder Affairs
DOH	Department of Health
DOT	Directly Observed Therapy
DPC	Direct Pulp Cap
DRI	Dietary Reference Intake
dsg	Dressing
DSM-IV	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Edition
DT	Diphtheria, Tetanus Vaccine
DTaP	Diphtheria, Tetanus and Acellular Pertussis Vaccine
DTR	Dietetic Technician Registered
DUB	Dysfunctional Uterine Bleeding
DV	Domestic Violence
DVT	Deep Venous Thrombosis
Dx or dx	Diagnosis
E	MEANING
E. coli	Escherichia coli
EAB	Elective Abortion
EBF	Exclusively Breastfed
EBM	Expressed Breast Milk / Expressed Mothers Milk
EBV	Epstein-Barr Virus
ECC	Endocervical Curettage
ECG; EKG	Electrocardiogram
ECMO	Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenator
ECT	Electroconvulsive Therapy
EDC	Expected Date of Confinement
EDD	Expected Date of Delivery
edent	Edentulous
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetra-acetic Acid

Educ	Education
EEG	Electroencephalogram
EENT	Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat
EF	Ejection Fraction
e.g.	For Example
EGA	Estimated Gestational Age
EGD	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy
EHEC	Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia Coli
EIA	Enzyme Immunoassay Test
EIA-IGG	Enzyme-Assay Immunoglobulin
EIA-IGM	Enzyme-Assay Gamma M Immunoglobulin
ELISA	Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay
EMB	Ethambutol
EMG	Electromyography
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
Endo	Endodontics
ENT	Ears, Nose, Throat
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOM	Extraocular Movement
EOMI	Extraocular Movements Intact
Epi Tx	Epidemiological Treatment
epis	Episiotomy
ER	Emergency Room
ERCP	Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography
ERT	Estrogen Replacement Therapy
ESR	Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate
ESRD	End-Stage Renal Disease
etc	And so forth
etch	Acid Etch
etiol	Etiology
EtOH or ETOH	Ethyl Alcohol
eval	Evaluation
exam	Examination
exer	Exercise
EXT	Extraction / Extract
extr	Extremity (extremities)

F	MEANING
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F	Fahrenheit
F and C	Foam and Condom
FA	Fluorescent Antibody Test
FAS	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
FASD	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
FBS	Fasting Blood Sugar
FDA	Federal Drug Administration
FDOT	Florida Dept of Transportation
Fe	Iron
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FeSO4	Ferrous Sulfate
FEV	Forced Expiratory Volume
FFA	Free Fatty Acids
FGM	Free Gingival Margin
FGR	Fetal Growth Restriction
FHR	Fetal Heart Rate
FHT	Fetal Heart Tones
FHx	Family History
fl oz	Fluid Ounce
FMR	Fluoride Mouth Rinse
FMX	Full Mouth Radiographic Examination
FNA	Fine-needle Aspiration
FOB	Father of Baby
FP	Family Planning
FPD	Fixed Partial Denture
FROM	Full Range Of Motion
FSH	Follicular Stimulating Hormone
FSP	Family Support Plan
FTA	Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody Test
FTA-ABS	Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody Absorption Test
FTA ABS - 19S	Fluorescein Test for T. Pallidum Antibodies (for Congenital Syphilis)
FTF	Face To Face
FTT	Failure to Thrive
F/U	Follow-up
FUO	Fever of Undetermined Origin
FVC	Forced Vital Capacity
fx	Fracture

G	MEANING
G	Gravida
g	Gram(s)
GA	Gamblers Anonymous
Gal	Galactose
GB	Gallbladder
GC	Gonorrhea Culture
GDM	Gestational Diabetes Mellitus
GERD	Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease
Gest	Gestation
GFR	Glomerulo Filtration Rate
GGT	Gamma Glutamyl Transferase
GI	Gastrointestinal
GIC	Glass-ionomer Cement
ging	Gingival, Gingiva
GLU or glu	Glucose
GP	Gutta-Percha
GTPAL or G-TPAL	Gravida, Term, Preterm, Abortion, Living
GTT	Glucose Tolerance Test
G-tube	Gastric-tube, Gastrostomy
GU	Genitourinary
GVHD	Graft Versus Host Disease
GYN	Gynecology
H	MEANING
H and H	Hemoglobin and Hematocrit
H and P	History and Physical
H ₂ O	Water
H ₂ O ₂	Hydrogen Peroxide
HA	Headache
HAART	Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy
HAV	Hepatitis A Virus (not vaccine see Hep A)
HbA _{1c}	Glycosylated Hemoglobin
HBcAb	Hepatitis B Core Antibody
HBcAg	Hepatitis B Core Antigen
HBIG	Hepatitis B Immunoglobulin
HBsAg	Hepatitis B Surface Antigen
HBV	Hepatitis B Virus
HCG	Human Chorionic Gonadotropin
HCV	Hepatitis C Virus
HDCV	Human Diploid Cell Rabies Vaccine
HDL	High-density Lipoproteins
HDV	Hepatitis D Virus
HEENT	Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat
Hep A	Hepatitis A Vaccine
Hep B	Hepatitis B Vaccine
HEPA	High-efficiency Particulate Air
HEV	Hepatitis E Virus
Hgb	Hemoglobin, Hemoglobinopathies
HI	Hemagglutination Inhibition
Hib	Haemophilus Influenzae Type B
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
HOPI	History of Present Illness
hosp	Hospital
HPF	High-Power Field
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
hr	Hour
HRT	Hormone Replacement Therapy
HSC	Healthy Start Coalition
HSIL	High Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion
HST	Health Support Technician State Position
HSV	Herpes Simplex Virus
ht	Height
HTN	Hypertension
HV	Home Visit
Hx	History
hyst	Hysterectomy
I	MEANING
I	Incisal
I and D	Incision and Drainage
I and E	Incentives and Enablers
I and O	Intake and Output
IBCLC	International Board Certified Lactation Consultants

IBW	Ideal Body Weight
IC	Incident Commander
ID	Intradermal
IDDM	Insulin-Dependent Diabetes Mellitus
IFA	Indirect Fluorescent Antibody
Ig	Immunoglobulin
IgG	Immunoglobulin G
IgM	Immunoglobulin M
IM	Intramuscular
IMP	Impression
info	Information
ing	Inguinal
INH	Isoniazid
Init Den Exam	Initial Dental Examination
inj	Injection
IOE	Intraoral Exam
IOP	Intraocular Pressure
IPC	Indirect Pulp Cap
IPPB	Intermittent Positive Pressure Breathing
IPV	Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine
IQ	Intelligence Quotient
IRM	Intermediate Restorative Material
irrig	Irrigation
ISG	Immune Serum Globulin
IUD	Intrauterine Device
IUGR	Intrauterine Growth Retardation
IUP	Intrauterine Pregnancy
IUS	Intrauterine System
IV	Intravenous
IVDU	Intravenous Drug User
IVP	Intravenous Pyelogram
J	MEANING
JAMA	Journal of the American Medical Association
JNC 8	Joint National Committee Eighth Report on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure Guidelines Link: http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1791497
JVD	Jugular Venous Distention
K	MEANING
K	Potassium
kcal or Kcal	Kilocalorie
kg	Kilogram
KOH	Potassium Hydroxide
KS	Kaposi's Sarcoma
KUB	Kidneys, Ureters, Bladder (X-Ray)
L	MEANING
L	Lingual
L and D	Labor and Delivery
L and W	Living and Well
L1-L5	Lumbar Vertebrae 1-5
lab	Laboratory
LAT	Left Anterior Thigh
lat	Lateral
lb.	Pound
LBW	Low Birth Weight
LC	Lactation Counselor
LCIS	Lobular Carcinoma In Situ
LCR	Ligase Chain Reaction
LCSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker
LD	Learning Disability
LDH	Lactic Dehydrogenase
LDL	Low-density Lipoprotein
LD/N	Licensed Dietitian / Nutritionist
LDT	Left Deltoid
LE	Lower Extremity
LEEP	Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure
LEO	Law Enforcement Officer
LFA	Left Forearm
LFT	Liver Function Tests
LG	Left Gluteus
LGA	Large for Gestational Age
Ige	Large
LH	Luteinizing Hormone
LJ	Lowenstein-Jensen Agar
LL	Lower Left
LLE	Left Lower Extremity
LLL	Left Lower Lobe of Lung

LLQ	Left Lower Quadrant
LLT	Left Lateral Thigh
LMP	Last Menstrual Period
LN	Lymph Node
LNMP	Last Normal Menstrual Period
LOC	Level of Consciousness
LP	Lumbar Puncture
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
LSIL	Low Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion
LTBI	Latent Tuberculosis Infection
LTC	Long-term Care
LTCF	Long-Term Care Facility
LTR	Left Tricep
LUE	Left Upper Extremity
LUL	Left upper lobe
LUOQ	Left Upper Outer Quadrant
LUQ	Left Upper Quadrant
LVG	Left Ventrogluteal
LVH	Left Ventricular Hypertrophy
M	MEANING
M	Mesial
m	Murmur
MAC	Mycobacterium Avium Complex
MAI	Mycobacterium Avium Intracellulare
malocc	Malocclusion
Mam	Mammogram
mand	Mandible / Mandibular
max	Maxilla / Maxillary
MCA	Mom Care Advisor
mcg	Microgram
mcg/dl	Microgram Per Deciliter
MCH	Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin
MCV	Mean Corpuscular Volume
MD	Medical Doctor
MDR-TB	Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis
meds	Medications
mEq	Milliequivalent
mEq/L	Milliequivalent Per Liter
MER	Milk Ejection Reflex
Mets	Metastases
mg	Milligram
mg/dL	Milligram per Deciliter
MGF	Maternal Grandfather
mg/L	Milligrams Per Liter
MGM	Maternal Grandmother
MHT	Mental Health Tech
MI	Myocardial Infarction
MIBG	Metaiodobenzyl-guanidine
misc	Miscellaneous
ml	Milliliter
mm	Millimeter
MMR	Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccine
MMRV	Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella Vaccine
MNT	Medical Nutrition Therapy
mo	Month
MOB	Mother of Baby
mod	Moderate
MPC	Mucopurulent Cervicitis
MRA	Magnetic Resonance Angiography
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MRSA	Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
MSM	Men Having Sex with Men
MSSA	Methicillin-susceptible Staphylococcus Aureus
MTB	Mycobacterium Tuberculosis
MTD	Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Direct Test
MU	Million Units
MUFA	Monounsaturated Fatty Acid
multi	Multiple
multip	Multiparous
MVI	Multivitamin and Mineral Supplement
MVP	Mitral Valve Prolapse
N	MEANING
NA	Not Applicable
Na	Sodium
NAA	Nucleic Acid Amplification
NAAT	Nucleic Acid Amplification Test

NAD	No Acute Distress
NaF	Sodium Fluoride
NB	Newborn
NBS	Newborn Screening
NC/AT	Normocephalic and Atraumatic
NCI	National Cancer Institute
ND	Nondistended
NE	Nutrition Educator
neg	Negative
NGT	Nasogastric Tube
NGU	Nongonococcal Urethritis
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NIDDM	Noninsulin-Dependent Diabetes Mellitus
NIOSH	National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health
NKA	No Known Allergies
NKDA	No Known Drug Allergies
NKFA	No Known Food Allergies
NNRTI	Nonnucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor
NOK	Next of Kin
NPH	Isophane Insulin
NPO	Nothing by Mouth
NR	Non Reactive (suggested to add to help LABs)
NRC	Nonrestorable Caries
NRTI	Nucleoside / Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor
NS	Normal Saline
NSAID	Non Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs
nsg	Nursing
NSR	Normal Sinus Rhythm
NSSC	Normal Size, Shape, Consistency
NST	Non-Stress Test
NSVD	Normal Spontaneous Vaginal Delivery
NT	Nontender
NTM	Nontuberculous Mycobacteria
NUG	Necrotizing Ulcerative Gingivitis
N/V	Nausea and Vomiting
N/V/D	Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea
O	MEANING
O	Occlusal
O and P	Ova and Parasites
O ₂	Oxygen
O ₂ sat	Oxygen Saturation
OB	Obstetrics
OC	Oral Contraceptive
occ	Occlusion
OCD	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder
OH	Oral Hygiene
OHI	Oral Hygiene Instructions
OI	Opportunistic Infection
oint	Ointment
OM	Otitis Media
OPD	Outpatient Department
OPV	Oral Polio Vaccine
OR	Operating Room
ORR	Office of Refugee Resettlement
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OT	Occupational Therapy
OTC	Over-the-Counter (drugs)
OV	Office Visit
oz	Ounce
P	MEANING
PA	Physician Assistant
PABA	Para-Aminobenzoic Acid
palp	Palpable
PanX	Panorex / Panographic Radiograph
Pap	Papanicolaou Smear
PAS	Para-Aminosalicylic Acid
PAT	Paroxysmal Atrial Tachycardia
Pb	Lead
p.c.	After Meals
PC	Peer Counselor
PCEs	Peer Counselor / Educators
PCOS	Polycystic Ovary Syndrome
PCP	Primary Care Provider

PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PDL	Periodontal Ligament
PE	Physical Examination
pecor	Pericoronitis
pedo	Pedodontic
PEG-tube	Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastronomy
PEM	Protein Energy Malnutrition
PEPW	Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women
per	By
perio	Periodontal
PERRLA	Pupils Equal, Round, Reactive to Light and Accommodation
PFGE	Pulse-field Gel Electrophoresis
PFM	Porcelain Fused to Metal Crown
PGF	Paternal Grandfather
PGM	Paternal Grandmother
pH	Hydrogen Ion Concentration
phos	Phosphorus
PI	Present illness
PID	Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
PIO	Public Information Officer
PKU	Phenylketonuria
PLT	Platelets
p.m.; PM	After Noon
PMD	Private Medical Doctor
PMH	Past Medical History
PMN	Polymorphonuclear Neutrophil
PMS	Premenstrual Syndrome
PNC	Prenatal Care
PND	Paraxoyxsmal Nocturnal Dyspnea
PNEUCON	Pneu Conj Vaccine
PNV	Prenatal Vitamins
p.o.	By Mouth
porc	Porcelain
POS or pos	Positive
post	Posterior
post-op	Postoperative
PP	Post Partum
PPBS	Postprandial Blood Sugar
PPD	Purified Protein Derivative
ppd.	Packs Per Day
PPNG	Penicillinase Producing Neisseria Gonorrhoeae
PreEP	Pre exposure Prophylaxis
preg	Pregnant / Pregnancy
premie	Premature Infant
prep	Prepare / Preparation
prn	As needed
PRO or pro	Protein
prog	Prognosis
PROM	Premature Rupture of Membranes
prophy	Prophylaxis
pros	Prostodontics
PSR	Periodontal Screening and Recording
PT	Physical Therapy
Pt	Patient
PTL	Preterm Labor
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
PTT	Partial Thromboplastin Time
PUFA	Polyunsaturated Fatty Acid
PVC	Premature Ventricular Contraction
PVD	Peripheral Vascular Disease
pwd	Powder
PZA	Pyrazinamide

Q

MEANING

QFT-G	QuantiFERON Tuberculosis Gold
QID	Four times daily
qs	Quantity Sufficient
quad	Quadrant

R

MEANING

R	Respiration
RA	Rheumatoid Arthritis
RAD	Reactive Airway Disease
RAT	Right Anterior Thigh
RBC	Red Blood Cells or Count
RC	Root Canal
RCF	Root Canal Filling
RCT	Root Canal Treatment / Therapy

RD	Registered Dietitian
RDA	Recommended Dietary Allowance
RDI	Recommended Dietary Intakes
RDS	Respiratory Distress Syndrome
RDT	Right Deltoid
re:	Regarding
rec	Recommend
REF	Refer
reg	Regular
rehab	Rehabilitation
res	Resin
resp	Respiration
rest	Restoration
RF	Retroflexed
RFA	Right forearm
RFLP	Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism
RG	Right Gluteal
Rh-	Rhesus Negative
Rh+	Rhesus Positive
RHD	Rheumatic Heart Disease
RIF	Rifampin
RIG	Rabies Immune Globulin
RLE	Right Lower Extremity
RLL	Right Lower Lobe Lung
RLQ	Right Lower Quadrant
RLT	Right Lateral Thigh
RMA	Refugee Medical Assistance
RN	Registered Nurse
R/O	Rule Out
ROM	Range of Motion
ROS	Review of Systems
RPD	Removable Partial Denture
RPR	Rapid Plasma Reagin
RR	Red Reflex
RRR	Regular Rate and Rhythm
RRW	Rales, Rhonchi, Wheezing
RSV	Respiratory Syncytial Virus
RTC	Return to Clinic
RTF	Ready-to-feed or Ready to use
RTR	Right Tricep
RUE	Right Upper Extremity
RUL	Right Upper Lobe
RUOQ	Right Upper Outer Quadrant
RUQ	Right Upper Quadrant
RV	Retroversion (Retroverted)
RVG	Right Ventral Gluteus (for IM injections)
RVH	Right Ventricular Hypertrophy
Rx	Prescription
S	MEANING
S and S	Signs and Symptoms
S1	First Heart Sound
S2	Second Heart Sound
SAB	Spontaneous Abortion
SAH	Subarachnoid Hemorrhage
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SBS	Shaken Baby Syndrome
Scal	Scale / Scaling / Scaled
SEM	Systolic Ejection Murmur
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SERT	State Emergency Response Team
SES	Socioeconomic Status
SFA	Saturated Fatty Acid
SGA	Small for Gestational Age
SGOT	Serum Glutamic Oxaloacetic Transaminase (now called AST)
SGPT	Serum Glutamic Pyruvic Transaminase (now called ALT)
SHx	Social History
sib	Siblings
SIDS	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome; soon to be replaced with SUID - Sudden Unexpected Infant Death
sig	Prescription Instructions
SIL	Squamous Intraepithelial
sl	Slight
SLE	Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
sm	Small
SMA	Sequential Multiple Analysis
SMBG	Self Monitoring Blood Glucose
SnF2	Stannous Fluoride

SNS	Strategic National Stockpile
SOAP	Subjective, Objective, Assessment, Plan
SOB	Shortness of Breath
S/P	Status Post
SpNS	Special Needs Shelter
spont	Spontaneous
SROM	Spontaneous Rupture of Membranes
SSC	Stainless Steel Crown
SSDI	Social Security Disability Insurance
staph	Staphylococcus
STAT	At Once
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
strep	Streptococcal
STS	Serologic Test for Syphilis
subcut	Subcutaneous
SUID	Sudden Unexpected (unexplained) Infant Death
supp	Suppository
SVD	Spontaneous Vaginal Delivery
SW	Social Worker
Sx	Symptom(s)
T	MEANING
T or temp	Temperature
T and A	Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy
T bili	Total Bilirubin
T ₄	Thyroxine
TAB	Therapeutic Abortion
tab	Tablet(s)
TAH/BSO	Total Abdominal Hysterectomy and Bilateral Salpingo-oophorectomy
TB	Tuberculosis
tbsp or Tbsp	Tablespoon
T/C	Telephone Call
T-cells	Thymus-dependent Lymphocytes
TCA	Trichloroacetic Acetic Acid
Td	Tetanus-diphtheria Toxoids
Tdap	Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis Vaccine
TEE	Total Energy Expenditure
temp or T	Temperature
TFA	Topical Fluoride Application
TID	Three Times Daily
TM	Tympanic Membrane
TMA	Transcription-Mediated Amplification (STD)
TMD	Temporal Mandibular Joint Dysfunction
TMJ	Temporomandibular Junction / Joint
TNTC	Too Numerous to Count
TOAC	Toothache
TOC	Test of Cure
top	Topical
TPI	Treponema Pallidum Immobilization
TPN	Total Parenteral Nutrition
TPPA	Treponemal Pallidum Particle Agglutination (STD)
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
tsp	Teaspoon
TST	Tuberculin Skin Test
TUR	Transurethral Resection
Tx	Treatment
U	MEANING
UA	Urinalysis
UBW	Usual Body Weight
UCG	Urinary Chorionic Gonadotropin
UE	Upper Extremity
UGI	Upper Gastrointestinal
ULQ	Upper Left Quadrant
unk	Unknown
unsat	Unsatisfactory
URI	Upper Respiratory Infection
URQ	Upper Right Quadrant
US	Ultrasound
USPSTF	United States Preventive Services Task Force
USR	Unheated Serum Reagin

UTD	Up to date
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection
UVGI	Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation
V	MEANING
V	Varnish
VA	Veteran's Administration
Vag	Vaginal
VAIN	Vaginal Intraepithelial Neoplasia (neoplasm)
Vasoc	Vasoconstrictor
VDRL	Venereal Disease Research Laboratory
VIN	Vaginal (vulvar) Intraepithelial Neoplasia
VISA	Vancomycin Intermediate Staphylococcus Aureus
VIT or Vit	Vitamins
VITA or VitA	Vitamin A
VITB or VitB	Vitamin B
VITB ₆ or VitB ₆	Pyridoxine HCl
VITC or VitC	Vitamin C
VITD or VitD	Vitamin D
VITE or VitE	Vitamin E
VITK or VitK	Vitamin K
VL	Viral Load
VLBW	Very Low Birth Weight
VLC	Visible Light-Cured Composite
VLDL	Very Low-density Lipoproteins
VOC/ID	Verification of Certification / Identification
VRE	Vancomycin-resistant Enterococci
VRSA	Vancomycin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
VS	Vital Signs
VSS	Vital Signs Stable
VZ	Varicella Zoster Disease / Chicken Pox
VZIg	Varicella Zoster Immunoglobulin
VZV	Varicella Vaccine
W	MEANING
WBC	White Blood Cell
WC	Wheelchair
WD	Well Developed
WDWN	Well Developed, Well Nourished
W/F	White Female
WIC	Women, Infants and Children
wk	Week
W/M	White Male
WM	Wet Mount
WN	Well Nourished
WNL	Within Normal Limits
WNV	West Nile Virus
wt	Weight
X	MEANING
x	Multiplied By / Times
Y	MEANING
YO	Year-old
yr	Year
Z	MEANING
Zn	Zinc
ZOE	Zinc Oxide Eugenol

END OF ABBREV LIST.....