

COMMON MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

aa	of each	g, gm	gram	PM	evening; after noon
ac	before meals	gr	grain	po	by mouth; orally
ad	right ear	gt	a drop	prn	as needed; whenever necessary
ad lib	as desired	gtt	drops	pt	patient, pint
ADR	adverse drug reaction	H, h, hr	hour	pulv	powder
AM	morning; before noon	H ₂ O	water	pwdr	powder
amt	amount	HDL-C	high-density lipoprotein-cholesterol	q	every
ANDA	Abbreviated New Drug Application	HR	heart rate	q4h	every 4 hours
ante	before	HRT	hormone replacement therapy	q6h	every 6 hours
APAP	acetaminophen	hs	at bedtime, hour of sleep	qd	every day
aq	water; aqueous	Hx	history	qh, qhr	every hour
as	left ear	IM	intramuscular	qid	four times per day
ASA	aspirin	INDA	Investigational New Drug Application	qiw	four times per week
au	both ears	inh	inhalation	ql	as much as desired
AUC	area under the curve	INH	isoniazid	qod	every other day
bid	twice a day	inj	injection	qs	a sufficient quantity
biw	twice weekly	IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing	qt	quart
BMR	basal metabolism rate	IU	international units	qw	once per week
bp	boiling point	IV	intravenous	R/O	rule out
BP	blood pressure	kg	kilogram	Rx	prescription only
BUN	blood urea nitrogen	L	liter, left, put left first	sat	saturated
c	with	lb	pound	SC, SQ	subcutaneously
C	Centigrade	LDL-C	low-density lipoprotein-cholesterol	sig	label; let it be printed
Ca	calcium	liq	liquid	SL	sublingual
cap(s)	capsule(s)	MAOI	monoamine oxidase inhibitor	sob	shortness of breath
cath	catheter	mcg	microgram	sol	solution
CBC	complete blood count	MDI	metered dose inhaler	solv	dissolve
cc	cubic centimeter	mEq	milliequivalent	sos	if necessary or required
chol	cholesterol	mg	milligram	ss	one half
Cl	chloride	Mg	milligram	stat	immediately
cm	centimeter	MgSO ₄	magnesium sulfate	supp	suppository
C _{max}	maximum effective plasma concentration	mL	milliliter	susp	suspension
C _{min}	minimum effective plasma concentration	mm	millimeter	Sx	symptoms
c/o	complains of	MOM	milk of magnesia	syr	syrup
comp	compounded of	MSO ₄	morphine sulfate	t _{1/2}	half life
CV	cardiovascular	Na	sodium	tab(s)	tablet(s)
DAW	dispense as written	NaCl	sodium chloride	tbsp	tablespoonful
DC, D/C	discontinue	NDA	New Drug Application	temp	temperature
dil	dilute	neg	negative	tid	three times per day
disch	discharge	NKA	no known allergies	tiw	three times per week
disp	dispense	No.	number	T _{max}	time to maximum concentration
DNR	do not resuscitate	noct	in the night	top	topically
dr	dram	NPO	nothing by mouth	TPN	total parenteral nutrition
drp(s)	drop(s)	NR	no refill	tr, tinc	tincture
Dx	diagnosis	NSAID	nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug	tsp	teaspoonful
EENT	Eye, Ear, Nose, & Throat	od	right eye	Tx	treatment
etc	and so on	oint	ointment	ud	as directed
EtOH	alcohol	os	left eye	UD	unit-dose package
exp	expired	OTC	over the counter	ung	ointment
ext	extract, external	ou	each eye	URI	upper respiratory infection
F	Fahrenheit	oz	ounce	USP	United States Pharmacopoeia
FBS	fasting blood sugar	P	pulse, pint	UTI	urinary tract infection
Fe	iron	PB	phenobarbital	vag	vaginal
fl	fluid	pc	after meals	VO	verbal order
fl dr	fluidram	per	by	vol	volume
fl oz	fluid ounce	PI	Package Insert	VS	vital signs
ft	let there be made			wa	while awake
FUO	fever of unknown origin			wt	weight
Fx	fracture			x	times