

COMMON MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

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