

# Abbreviations

## A

aa	of each
abd	abdomen, abdominal
ABG	arterial blood gas
ac	before meals
ADH	antidiuretic hormone
ADL	activities of daily living
ad lib	as much as desired
ADT	alternate-day therapy
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ALT	alanine aminotransferase
AMA	against medical advice
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
AODM	adult-onset diabetes mellitus
ARC	AIDS-related complex
ASAP	as soon as possible
ASHD	arteriosclerotic heart disease
AST	aspartate aminotransferase

## B

BE	barium enema; base excess
bid	twice a day
bili	bilirubin
BM	bowel movement
BMR	basal metabolic rate
B&O	belladonna and opium
BP	blood pressure
BPH	benign prostatic hypertrophy
BRP	bathroom privileges
BUN	blood urea nitrogen

## C

c̄	with
Ca	cancer; calcium
C&A	clinitest and acetest
CAD	coronary artery disease
caps	capsules
CBC	complete blood count
CC	chief complaint
CCU	Coronary Care Unit
CHF	congestive heart failure
CHO	carbohydrate
chol	cholesterol

CLL	chronic lymphocytic leukemia
CNS	central nervous system
C/O	complains of
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPK	creatine phosphokinase
CRF	chronic renal failure
C&S	culture and sensitivity
CTZ	chemoreceptor trigger zone
CVA	cerebrovascular accident
CVP	central venous pressure
CXR	chest x-ray

## D

/d	per day
d	daily
DC (D/C)	discontinue
Diff	differential blood count
DJD	degenerative joint disease
DM	diabetes mellitus
DOE	dyspnea on exertion
DT	delirium tremens
Dx	diagnosis

## E

ECG	electrocardiogram
ECT	electroconvulsive therapy
EENT	eyes, ears, nose, and throat
EKG	electrocardiogram
ENT	eyes, nose, and throat
ER	emergency room
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate (sed rate)
et	and

## F

F	Fahrenheit
FBS	fasting blood sugar
fl	fluid
fx	fracture; fraction

## G

g	gram
GB	gallbladder

GERD gastroesophageal reflux disease  
 GFR glomerular filtration rate  
 GI gastrointestinal  
 gtt drop  
 GU genitourinary

**H**

h hour  
 HA headache  
 Hct hematocrit  
 Hgb hemoglobin  
 hs hour of sleep  
 HNT hypertension  
 Hx history

**I**

ICU intensive care unit  
 IM intramuscular  
 I&O intake and output  
 IOP intraocular pressure  
 IPPB intermittent positive pressure breathing  
 IU international units  
 IV intravenous  
 IVP intravenous pyelogram  
 IVPB intravenous piggyback

**J**

JRA juvenile rheumatoid arthritis

**K**

K potassium  
 KUB kidney, ureters, and bladder  
 KVO keep vein open

**L**

LDH lactic dehydrogenase  
 LDL low-density lipoproteins  
 LOC level of consciousness  
 LP lumbar puncture  
 lytes electrolytes

**M**

mcg microgram  
 MI myocardial infarction (heart attack)  
 mL mililiter  
 MOM milk of magnesia  
 MS morphine sulfate; multiple sclerosis; mitral stenosis

**N**

N normal  
 NG nasogastric  
 NPO nothing by mouth  
 NS normal saline  
 NGT nitroglycerin  
 NVD nausea, vomiting, diarrhea; neck vein distension

**O**

O<sub>2</sub> oxygen  
 OD right eye  
 OOB out of bed  
 OR operating room  
 OU both eyes  
 OTC over the counter (nonprescription)  
 OS left eye

**P**

PAT paroxysmal atrial tachycardia  
 PBI protein-bound iodine  
 PC after meals  
 PERRLA pupils equal, round, react to light and accommodation  
 PERL pupils equal and react to light  
 PID pelvic inflammatory disease  
 PKU phenylketonuria  
 PND paroxymal nocturnal dyspnea  
 PO by mouth  
 postop after surgery  
 preop before surgery  
 prn as needed  
 PT physical therapy; prothrombin time  
 PZI protamine zinc insulin

**Q**

qd every day  
 qh every hour (q2h, q3h, etc.—every 2 hours, every 3 hours, etc.)  
 qid four times a day  
 qod every other day

**R**

RA rheumatoid arthritis; right atrium  
 RBC red blood cell  
 REM rapid eye movement  
 RF rheumatoid factor  
 RHD rheumatic heart disease; renal hypertensive disease  
 ROM range of motion  
 RR recovery room

**S**

$\bar{s}$	without
SC	subcutaneous
sed rate	erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)
SGOT	serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
SGPT	serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase
SL	sublingual
SOB	shortness of breath
SR	sedimentation rate (ESR)
STAT	as soon as possible

**T**

t	temperature
T <sub>3</sub>	triiodothyronine
T <sub>4</sub>	thyroxine
T&A	tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
TB	tuberculosis
TEDS	elastic stockings
TIA	transient ischemic attack
tid	three times a day
TKO	to keep open

TLC	tender loving care
TM	tympanic membrane
TPN	total parenteral nutrition
TPR	temperature, pulse, respiration
TSH	thyroid-stimulating hormone

**U**

UGI	upper gastrointestinal
ung	ointment
URI	upper respiratory infection
UTI	urinary tract infection

**V**

VS	vital signs
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**W**

WNL	within normal limits
Wt	weight