

Common Medical/Dental Abbreviations and Acronyms

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| a (specific) absorption (coefficient) (USUALLY ITALIC); (total) acidity; area; (systemic) arterial (blood) (SUBSCRIPT); asymmetric; atto | ALS advanced life support; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; antilymphocyte serum | AVN atrioventricular node |
| A absorbance | ALT alanine aminotransferase | AW atomic weight |
| Å angstrom; Ångström unit | Am americium | ax. axis |
| ā [G.] ana of each (USED in prescriptions) | AML acute myelogenous leukemia | AZT azidothymidine (zidovudine) |
| AA amino acid; aminoacyl | ANOVA analysis of variance | B barometric (pressure) (SUBSCRIPT); boron |
| Ab antibody | ANS autonomic nervous system | B or Bucc buccal surface (caries or restoration) |
| ABG arterial blood gas | ANUG acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis | Ba barium |
| ABO blood group system | AP anteroposterior | BBB blood brain barrier; bundle branch block |
| a.c. [L.] <i>ante cibum</i> , before a meal | APAP acetaminophen | BBT basal body temperature |
| AC acetate; acromioclavicular; air conduction; alternating current; atriocarotid | ARDS adult or acute respiratory distress syndrome | BCG bacille bilié de Calmette Guérin (vaccine) |
| ACE angiotension converting enzyme | ARF acute renal failure; acute rheumatic fever | Be beryllium |
| ACEI angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor | As arsenic | Bi bismuth |
| ACh, Ach acetylcholine | ASA acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin) | b.i.d. [L.] <i>bis in die</i> , twice a day |
| ACTH adrenocorticotrophic hormone (corticotropin) | ASCP American Society of Clinical Pathologists | BMD bone mineral density |
| ad lib. [L.] <i>ad libitum</i> , freely, as desired | AST aspartate aminotransferase | BMI body mass index |
| ADH antidiuretic hormone | at. wt. atomic weight | BP blood pressure; boiling point; <i>British Pharmacopoeia</i> |
| ADHD attention deficit hyperactivity disorder | ATL adult T cell leukemia; adult T cell lymphoma | BPH Bachelor of Public Health, benign prostatic hyperplasia |
| ADLs activities of daily living | atm (standard) atmosphere | Bq becquerel (SI unit of radionuclide activity) |
| ADR adverse drug reaction | ATP adenosine 5' triphosphate | Br bromine |
| AED automated external defibrillator | ATPase adenosine triphosphatase | BS, BSc Bachelor of Science (Baccalaureus Scientiae) |
| AFB acid fast bacillus | ATPD ambient temperature and pressure, dry | BSA body surface area |
| Ag (or AG) amalgam restoration, silver alloy amalgam; antigen; [L.] <i>argentum</i> , silver | ATPS ambient temperature and pressure, saturated (with water vapor) | BSN Bachelor of Science in Nursing |
| A:G R albumin globulin ratio | Au [L.] <i>aurum</i> , gold | BT bleeding time |
| AIDS acquired immunodeficiency syndrome | AUC area under the curve | BTPS body temperature, ambient pressure, saturated (with water vapor) |
| Al aluminum | AV arteriovenous | BTU British thermal unit |
| ALL acute lymphocytic leukemia | A-V arteriovenous; atrioventricular | BTX botulinum toxin |
| | AVM arteriovenousmalformation | BUN blood urea nitrogen |
| | | BUS Bartholin glands, urethra, Skene glands |
| | | Bx biopsy |
| | | c calorie (small); capillary (blood); centi |
| | | C calorie (large); carbon; Celsius; centigrade; clearance (rate, renal) c ; |

COMMON MEDICAL/DENTAL ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

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| <p>compliance; concentration; cylindrical (lens); cytidine c [L.] <i>cum</i>, with C&S culture and sensitivity C.C. chief complaint c/o complains of ca. [L.] <i>circa</i>, about, approximately Ca calcium; cathodal; cathode CA cancer; carcinoma; cardiac arrest; chronologic age; contrast angiography; croup associated (virus); cytosine arabinoside CABG coronary artery bypass graft CAD coronary artery disease cal calorie (small) Cal calorie (large) CAM complementary and alternative medicine CAO conscious, alert, oriented cap capsule CAPD continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis CAT computerized axial tomography (obsolete) CBC complete blood (cell) count ∅cc, c.c. cubic centimeter CCU coronary care unit; critical care unit Cd cadmium CD compact disc CDA Certified Dental Assistant CDC (U.S.) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDP cytidine 5' diphosphate Ce cerium CEU continuing education unit Cf californium CF complement fixation; cystic fibrosis; coupling factor</p> | <p>CGA catabolite gene activator cGMP cyclic guanosine monophosphate cgs, CGS centimeter-gramsecond (system, unit) ChB Bachelor of Surgery (Chirurgiae Baccalaureus) ChD, Chir Doct Doctor of Surgery (Chirurgiae Doctor) CHF congestive heart failure CHO carbohydrate Ci curie CI color index; <i>Colour Index</i>; confidence interval CJD Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease CK creatine kinase Cl chlorine CL cardiolipin CLA(ASCP) Clinical Laboratory Assistant (American Society of Clinical Pathologists) CLIA Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments CLL chronic lymphocytic leukemia cm centimeter Cm curium CMA Certified Medical Assistant CME continuing medical education CMI cell mediated immunity CML chronic myelogenous leukemia CMO Chief Medical Officer CMT Certified Medical Transcriptionist CMV controlled mechanical ventilation; cytomegalovirus CNS central nervous system Co cobalt Comp composite resin restoration COPD chronic obstructive pulmonary disease COS Chief of Staff</p> | <p>CPK creatine phosphokinase CPR cardiopulmonary resuscitation cps cycles per second CPT <i>Current Procedural Terminology</i> Cr chromium; creatinine CR Chief Resident; conditioned reflex; crown rump (length) CRD chronic respiratory disease CRNA Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist CRNP Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner CRP cross reacting protein CRT Certified Respiratory Therapist Cs cesium CSF cerebrospinal fluid; colony-stimulating factor CT computed tomography Cu [L.] <i>cuprum</i>, copper CV cardiovascular CVA cerebral vascular (cerebrovascular) accident, costovertebral angle CVP central venous pressure CVS cardiovascular system; chorionic villus sampling CXR chest x-ray Δ delta; change; heat d deci-; day d dextrorotatory D- prefix indicating that a molecule is sterically analogous to D glyceraldehyde da deca Da dalton DA developmental age db, dB decibel DC Dental Corps; Doctor of Chiropractic; direct current ∅D/C discharge; discontinue DCh Doctor of Surgery (Doctor Chirurgiae)</p> |
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The forbidden symbol (∅) appears opposite abbreviations prohibited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

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| DDS Doctor of Dental Surgery | dr dram | ENT ear, nose, and throat |
| def decayed, extracted, or filled (deciduous teeth) | Dr Med Doctor of Medicine | EPO erythropoietin |
| DEF decayed, extracted, or filled (permanent teeth) | DRG diagnosis-related group | ER endoplasmic reticulum; emergency room |
| DEXA dual energy x-ray absorptiometry | DrPH Doctor of Public Health; Doctor of Public Hygiene | Er erbium |
| df decayed and filled (deciduous teeth) | DRVVT dilute Russell viper venom test | ERBF effective renal blood flow |
| DF decayed and filled (permanent teeth) | D-S Doerfler Stewart (test) | ERPF effective renal plasma flow |
| DH Dental Hygienist | DSA digital subtraction angiography | ERT estrogen replacement therapy |
| DIC disseminated intravascular coagulation | DSc Doctor of Science | Es einsteinium |
| DIF direct immunofluorescence | DSD dry sterile dressing | ESEP extreme somatosensory evoked potential |
| DJD degenerative joint disease | DVM Doctor of Veterinary Medicine | ESR electron spin resonance; erythrocyte sedimentation rate |
| dk deca-, deka- | DVT deep vein thrombosis | ESRD end stage renal disease |
| DKA diabetic ketoacidosis | Dx diagnosis | ESWL extracorporeal shock-wave lithotripsy |
| dL deciliter | EB Epstein Barr (virus) | EtOH ethyl alcohol |
| dM decimorgan | EBV Epstein Barr virus | Eu europium |
| DM diabetes mellitus | ECF extended care facility; extracellular fluid | ev, eV electron volt |
| DMD Doctor of Dental Medicine; Duchenne muscular dystrophy | ECG electrocardiogram | F Fahrenheit; faraday (constant); fertility (factor); field (of vision); fluorine; force; fractional (concentration); free (energy) |
| DME Director of Medical Education | ECM erythema chronicum migrans | f femto-; (respiratory) frequency |
| dmf decayed, missing, or filled (deciduous teeth) | ECMO extracorporeal membrane oxygenation | FAAN Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing |
| DMF decayed, missing, or filled (permanent teeth) | ECS electrocerebral silence | FAAP Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics |
| DMSO dimethyl sulfoxide | ECT electroconvulsive therapy | FACA Fellow of the American College of Anesthesiology |
| DMT <i>N,N</i> dimethyltryptamine | ED eating disorder; effective dose; emergency department; erectile dysfunction | FACAL Fellow of the American College of Allergy |
| DMV Doctor of Veterinary Medicine | EEG electroencephalogram | FACC Fellow of the American College of Cardiologists |
| DNR do not resuscitate | EENT eye, ear, nose, and throat | FACD Fellow of the American College of Dentists |
| DO disto-occlusal surfaces (caries or restoration); Doctor of Osteopathy | EIA enzyme immunoassay | FACFP Fellow of the American College of Family Physicians |
| DOA dead on arrival | EKG [German] <i>Elektrokardiogramme</i> , electrocardiogram | |
| DOB date of birth | ELISA enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay | |
| DP Doctor of Pharmacy; Doctor of Podiatry | EMF electromotive force | |
| DPH Doctor of Public Health; Doctor of Public Hygiene | EMG electromyogram; exomphalos, macroglossia, and gigantism (syndrome) | |
| DPharm Doctor of Pharmacy | EMS eosinophilia-myalgia syndrome | |
| DPM Doctor of Physical Medicine; Doctor of Podiatric Medicine | EMT Emergency Medical Technician | |

FACO Fellow of the American College of Otolaryngology
FACOG Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
FACOS Fellow of the American College of Orthopaedic Surgeons
FACP Fellow of the American College of Physicians
FACR Fellow of the American College of Radiology
FACS Fellow of the American College of Surgeons
FAMA Fellow of the American Medical Association
FB foreign body
FBS fasting blood sugar
FDA (U.S.) Food and Drug Administration
Fe [L.] *ferrum*, iron
FEF forced expiratory flow
FET forced expiratory time
FEV forced expiratory volume
FF filtration fraction
FFD focus film distance
FIA fluorescent immunoassay
FISH fluorescent in situ hybridization
Fm fermium
FNA fine-needle aspiration
FPD Fixed Partial Denture
fps, FPS foot pound second (system, unit)
Fr francium; French (gauge, scale)
FRC functional residual capacity (of lungs)
French (catheter gauge)
FTA-ABS fluorescent treponemal antibody absorption (test)
F/U follow-up
FUO fever of unknown origin

FVC forced vital capacity
Fx fracture
G giga; glucose; gravitation (newtonian constant of); guanosine (or guanylic acid) residues in polynucleotides
g gram
Ga gallium
GABA γ -aminobutyric acid
GABHS group-A β -hemolytic *Streptococcus*
Gal galactose
GC gonococcus, gonorrhea
Gd gadolinium
Ge germanium
GERD gastroesophageal reflux disease
GFR glomerular filtration rate
GGT γ -glutamyl transferase
GH-RH growth hormone releasing hormone
GI gastrointestinal; Gingival Index
GIC glass ionomer cement
GLC gas liquid chromatography
GMO General Medical Officer
GMS Gomori (or Grocott) methenamine silver (stain)
GN Graduate Nurse
GOT glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase (aspartate aminotransferase)
GPI Gingival Periodontal Index
gr grain
GSW gunshot wound
gt. [L.] *gutta*, a drop
gtt. [L.] *guttae*, drops
GTT glucose tolerance test
GU genitourinary
GVHD graft versus host disease
Gy gray (unit of absorbed dose of ionizing radiation)
H henry; hydrogen;
h Planck constant
H & E hematoxylin and eosin

H & H hematocrit and hemoglobin
H⁺ hydrogen ion
HAART highly active anti-retroviral therapy
HAV hepatitis A virus
Hb hemoglobin
HbA adult hemoglobin
HB^cAg Hepatitis B core antigen
HB^e Hepatitis B early antigen
HB^eAb Hepatitis B early antibody
HB^sAg Hepatitis B early antigen
Hbg hemoglobin
HBIG hepatitis B immune globulin
HBO hyperbaric oxygen
HB^sAb hepatitis B surface antibody
HBsAg hepatitis B surface antigen
HBV hepatitis B virus
HCFA Health Care Financing Administration
HCl hydrochloric acid; hydrochloride
Hct hematocrit
HCV Hepatitis C virus
h. d. [L.] *hora decubitus*, at bedtime
HDL high-density lipoprotein
Hg [L.] *hydrargyrum*, mercury
Hgb hemoglobin
HGE human granulocytic ehrlichiosis
GHG human (pituitary) growth hormone
HGSIL high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion
HIPAA Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HIV human immunodeficiency virus
HLA human lymphocyte antigen, human leukocyte antigen

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| HMG CoA 3 hydroxy 3 methylglutaryl coenzyme A | IF initiation factor; intrinsic factor | LD lethal dose |
| HMO Health Maintenance Organization | IFN interferon | LDL low-density lipoprotein |
| h/o history of | Ig immunoglobulin | LE lupus erythematosus |
| HPF high power field | IGF insulinlike growth factor | LGV lymphogranuloma venereum |
| HPI history of present illness | IL interleukin | LP lumbar puncture |
| HPV human papillomavirus | ILA insulinlike activity | LPN Licensed Practical Nurse |
| ⊗ h. s., HS [L.] <i>hora somni</i> , at bedtime | IM internal medicine; intramuscular(ly); infectious mononucleosis | ⊗ μ mu ; micro; heavy chain class corresponding to IgM |
| HSV herpes simplex virus | IMS Indian Medical Service | ⊗ μCi microcurie |
| 5-HT 5-hydroxytryptamine (serotonin) | IND investigational new drug | ⊗ μg microgram |
| Ht hyperopia, total | INR international normalized ratio | ⊗ μl, μL microliter |
| HTLV human T cell lymphocytotropic virus; human T cell lymphoma/leukemia virus | IOML infraorbitomeatal line | ⊗ μm micrometer |
| HTN hypertension | IP interphalangeal; intraperitoneal(ly) | μm micromicro |
| Hx (medical) history | IPAP inspiratory positive airway pressure | m mass; meter; milliminim; molar |
| Hz hertz | IQ intelligence quotient | m- <i>meta</i> |
| ¹²⁵ I iodine 125 | IRB institutional review board | M mega, meg; molar; moles (per liter); morgan; myopic; myopia |
| ¹³¹ I iodine 131 | IU International Unit | M molar; moles (per liter) |
| ¹²³ I iodine 123 (radioisotope) | IV intravenous, intravenously; intraventricular | m moles (per liter) |
| I & D incision and drainage | IVDA intravenous drug abuse(r) | mA milliamperes |
| I & O (fluid) intake and output | IVP intravenous pyelogram | MA Master of Arts (Magister Artium); Medical Assistant; mental age |
| IADLs instrumental activities of daily living | J flux (density) | MAb monoclonal antibody |
| IBD inflammatory bowel disease | J joule | MAC <i>Mycobacterium avium</i> complex |
| IBS irritable bowel syndrome | K [Mod. L.] <i>kalium</i> , potassium; kelvin | MAI <i>Mycobacterium avium</i> intracellulare |
| IBW ideal body weight | k kilo | MAO monoamine oxidase |
| ICD <i>International Classification of Diseases of the World Health Organization</i> ; implantable cardioverterdefibrillator | kat katal | MAOI monoamine oxidase inhibitor |
| ICDA <i>International Classification of Diseases, Adapted for Use in the United States</i> | kb kilobase | mA-S milliamperes second |
| ICP intracranial pressure | kc kilocycle | MBC maximum breathing capacity |
| ICU intensive care unit | kal kilocalorie | MC Medical Corps |
| ID infective dose | kDa kilodalton | mCi millicurie |
| IDU idoxuridine; injecting/injection drug user | kg kilogram | mcm millimicron |
| | KOH potassium hydroxide | MD [L.] <i>Medicinae Doctor</i> , Doctor of Medicine |
| | KS Kaposi sarcoma | Med Tech Medical Technician; Medical Technologist |
| | <b(kv)< b=""> kilovolt</b(kv)<> | MEDLARS Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System |
| | kVp kilovolt peak | meq, mEq milliequivalent |
| | l, L liter (use of CAPITAL letter preferred) | |
| | L or Ling lingual surface (carries or restoration) | |

MEV million electron volts (10^6 ev)
mg milligram
Mg magnesium
MHC major histocompatibility complex
MHz megahertz
MI mitral insufficiency; myocardial infarction
ml, mL milliliter
MLC mixed lymphocyte culture (test)
MLD minimal lethal dose
mm millimeter
mmHg millimeters of mercury (torr)
mmol millimole
MMPI Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (test)
MMR measles-mumps-rubella (vaccine)
Mn manganese
Mo molybdenum
MO mesio-occlusal surfaces (caries or restoration); Medical Officer; mineral oil
MOC Medical Officer on Call
MOD Medical Officer of the Day
mol mole
mol wt molecular weight
MOM Milk of Magnesia
MOPP Mustargen (mechlorethamine hydrochloride), Oncovin (vincristine sulfate), procarbazine hydrochloride, and prednisone
MPD maximal permissible dose
MPH Master of Public Health
MRCP Member of the Royal College of Physicians
MRCs Member of the Royal College of Surgeons

MRI magnetic resonance imaging
mRNA messenger RNA
MRSA methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*
MS Master of Science
 $\text{\textcircled{M}}$ **S** multiple sclerosis; magnesium sulfate; morphine sulfate
msec millisecond
m/sec meters per second
MSG monosodium glutamate
MSM men who have sex with men
MSN Master of Science in Nursing
MT Medical Technologist; Medical Transcriptionist; Monitor Technician
mtDNA mitochondrial DNA
MUGA multiple gated acquisition (imaging)
mV millivolt
Mv mendelevium
MVA motor vehicle accident
MW molecular weight
 ν nu; kinematic viscosity
n index of refraction; nano
N newton; nitrogen; normal (concentration)
N normal (SMALL caps)
Na [Modern L.] *natrium*, sodium
NA *Nomina Anatomica*
NAD nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide; no apparent (or acute) distress
NCV nerve conduction velocity
Nd neodymium
Nd: YAG neodymium: yttriumaluminum- garnet [laser]
NDA New Drug Application
Ne neon
NE norepinephrine; not examined
NF National Formulary
ng nanogram
NGF nerve growth factor (antigen)

Ni nickel
NIH National Institutes of Health
NK natural killer (cell)
NKA no known allergies
NLM National Library of Medicine
nm nanometer
NP Nurse Practitioner
NPO [L.] *nihil per os*, nothing by mouth
NS normal saline
NSAID nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug
NSR normal sinus rhythm
NUG necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
 Ω omega; ohm
o- ortho
O [L.] *oculus*, eye; opening (in formulas for electrical reactions); oxygen
OB obstetrics
OB/GYN obstetrics (and) gynecology
OC oral contraceptive
Occ occlusal surfaces (caries or restoration)
OCD obsessive compulsive disorder
OD Doctor of Optometry; Officer of the Day; overdose
 $\text{\textcircled{O}}$ **D** [L.] *oculus dexter*, right eye
ODD oculodentodigital (dysplasia, syndrome)
Oe oersted (centimeter gram second unit of magnetic field strength)
OFD orofacioidigital (dysostosis, syndrome)
OML orbitomeatal line
OMM ophthalmomandibulomelic (dysplasia, syndrome)
OP osmotic pressure; outpatient
OPV oral poliovirus vaccine
OR operating room

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| ORIF open reduction and internal fixation | PEEP positive end expiratory pressure | p.r.n. PRN , [L.] <i>pro re nata</i> , as needed |
| Os osmium | PEG polyethylene glycol | psi pounds per square inch |
| OSA obstructive sleep apnea | PET positron emission tomography | PSV pressure-supported ventilation |
| OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration | PFM porcelain fused to metal (crown) | PT physical therapy; prothrombin time |
| OT occupational therapy; Koch old tuberculin | pg picogram | Pt platinum |
| OTC over the counter (nonprescription) drug | PG prostaglandin | PTH parathyroid hormone |
| ⊗ OU [L.] <i>oculus uterque</i> , each eye (both eyes) | PGA prostaglandin A | PTT partial thromboplastin time |
| oz ounce | PGB prostaglandin B | PVC premature ventricular contraction |
| p pico; pupil | PGE prostaglandin E | PVL plasma viral load |
| p- para | PGF prostaglandin F | PVP polyvinylpyrrolidone (povidone) |
| P partial (pressure); peta; phosphorus, phosphoric (residue); plasma (concentration); pressure; para (obstetric history) | pH hydrogen ion concentration; p (power) of [H ⁺] ₁₀ | q [L.] <i>quisque</i> , every |
| ³² P phosphorus-32 | Pharm D Doctor of Pharmacy (<i>Pharmaciae Doctor</i>) | Q coulomb; volume of blood flow |
| PA Physician Assistant; posteroanterior | PhD Doctor of Philosophy (<i>Philosophiae Doctor</i>) | Qco₂ microliters CO ₂ given off per milligram of dryweight of tissue per hour |
| Pa pascal | PhD [L.] <i>Philosophiae Doctor</i> , Doctor of Philosophy | ⊗ q.d. [L.] <i>quaque die</i> , every day |
| PA Physician's Assistant; posteroanterior; pulmonary artery | PhG [L.] <i>Pharmacopoeia Germanica</i> , German Pharmacopoeia | q.i.d. [L.] <i>quater in die</i> , four times a day |
| Pb [L.] <i>plumbum</i> , lead | PhG Graduate in Pharmacy | QNS quantity not sufficient |
| p.c. [L.] <i>post cibum</i> , after a meal | PHN Public Health Nurse; postherpetic neuralgia | ⊗ q.o.d. every other day |
| PCB polychlorinated biphenyl | PICC peripherally inserted central catheter | q.s. [L.] <i>quantum satis</i> , as much as is enough; [L.] <i>quantum sufficiat</i> , as much as may suffice; quantity sufficient |
| Pco₂ partial pressure of carbon dioxide | PK pyruvate kinase | r racemic; roentgen |
| PCP phencyclidine; plasma cell pneumonia (Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia); primary care provider | PKU phenylketonuria | RA rheumatoid arthritis |
| PCR polymerase chain reaction | pm picometer | RAD reactive airways disease |
| PCWP pulmonary capillary wedge pressure | Pm promethium | rbc red blood cell; red blood (cell) count |
| Pd palladium | PM post mortem | RBC red blood cell; red blood (cell) count |
| PDA patent ductus arteriosus; posterior descending artery | PMI point of maximum intensity | RBF renal blood flow |
| PDGF platelet derived growth factor | PMN polymorphonuclear (leukocyte) | RCM right costal margin |
| PDR <i>Physicians' Desk Reference</i> | PN Practical Nurse | RCT root canal treatment |
| | PND paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea; postnasal drip | RD reaction of degeneration; reaction of denervation; Registered Dietitian |
| | PO [L.] <i>per os</i> , by mouth | RDA recommended daily allowance |
| | PPD purified protein derivative (of tuberculin) | |
| | ppm parts per million | |
| | PPV positive pressure ventilation | |

RDH Registered Dental Hygienist
RDS respiratory distress syndrome
RE right ear; right eye
rem roentgen equivalent, man
REM rapid eye movement (sleep); reticular erythematous mucinosis
rep roentgen equivalent, physical
RF release factor; rheumatoid factor
Rh Rhesus (Rh blood group); rhodium
RIA radioimmunoassay
RN Registered Nurse
RNA Registered Nurse Anesthetist; ribonucleic acid
RNC Registered Nurse, Certified
RNP Registered Nurse Practitioner
R/O rule out
ROM range of motion
ROS review of systems
RP Registered Pharmacist
RPD Removable Partial Denture
RPh Registered Pharmacist
rpm revolutions per minute
RPR rapid plasma reagin (test)
RQ respiratory quotient
RT Radiologic Technologist; Registered Technologist; Respiratory Therapist
RVEF right ventricular ejection fraction
RVH right ventricular hypertrophy
σ sigma; reflection coefficient; standard deviation; 1 millisecond (0.001 sec)
s [L.] *semis*, half; steady state (SUBSCRIPT); [L.] *sinister*, left
s sine, without
s/s signs and symptoms

S [L.] *sinister*, left; saturation of hemoglobin (percentage of) (followed by subscript O₂ or CO₂); siemens; spheric; spheric (lens); sulfur; Svedberg (unit)
SA sinuatrial
S-A sinuatrial
SAD seasonal affective disorder
S and P Scale and Polish (periodontics)
SARS severe acute respiratory syndrome
SBE subacute bacterial endocarditis
sc subcutaneous(ly)
ScD Doctor of Science
SCID severe combined immunodeficiency
SD standard deviation; streptodornase
SGOT serum glutamicoxaloacetic transaminase (aspartate aminotransferase)
SGPT serum glutamic-pyruvic transaminase (alanine aminotransferase)
SH serum hepatitis
SI [French] *Système International d'Unités*; International System of Units
SID source-to-image (-receptor) distance
SIDS sudden infant death syndrome
sig. [L.] *signa*, affix a label, inscribe
SIRD source-to-imagereceptor distance
SL sublingual(ly)
SLE systemic lupus erythematosus
Sn [L.] *stannum*, tin
SN Student Nurse
SOB short(ness) of breath
sol. solution
soln. solution
SP Speech Pathologist
sp. gr. specific gravity
sp. species

SPF sun protection (or protective) factor
spp. species (plural)
SQ subcutaneous
ssp. subspecies
SSRI selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor
stat; STAT [L.] *statim*, immediately, at once
STD sexually transmitted disease
STEL short-term exposure limit
STI sexually transmitted infection
STM short-term memory
STPD standard temperature (0° C) and pressure (760 mmHg absolute), dry
STS serologic test for syphilis
Sv, SV sievert (unit)
SVT supraventricular tachycardia
t metric ton
t temperature (Celsius); tritium
T temperature, absolute (Kelvin); tension (intraocular); tera; tesla; tetanus (toxic); tidal (volume) (SUBSCRIPT); tocopherol; transverse (tubule); tritium; tumor (antigen)
T absolute temperature (Kelvin)
T & C type and crossmatch
Ta tantalum
TA *Terminologia Anatomica*
tab tablet
TB tuberculosis
TBV total blood volume
Tc technetium
^{99m}Tc technetium 99m
TCA tricarboxylic acid; trichloroacetic acid
TEN toxic epidermal necrolysis
TFCI transient focal cerebral ischemia

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|---|---|---|
| THC tetrahydrocannabinol | tr. tincture | VLDL very low density lipoprotein |
| Ti titanium | TSH thyroid stimulating hormone | Vmax maximal velocity |
| TIA transient ischemic attack | TSS toxic shock syndrome | VN Visiting Nurse, Vocational Nurse |
| TIBC total iron-binding capacity | TTP thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura | VO vocal order |
| t.i.d. [L.] <i>ter in die</i> , three times a day | TU toxic unit, toxin unit | VS vital signs; volumetric solution |
| tinct. tincture | Tx treatment | VT tidal volume |
| Ⓞ t.i.w. three times a week | Tyr tyrosine (and its radicals) Ⓞ U unit | VZIG varicella-zoster immune globulin |
| TI thallium | URI upper respiratory infection | W watt; [German] <i>Wolfram</i> , tungsten |
| TMJ temporomandibular joint | US ultrasound | WD well-developed |
| TNF tumor necrosis factor | USAN United States Adopted Names (Council) | WDLL well-differentiated lymphocytic (or lymphatic) lymphoma |
| TNM tumor, node, metastasis (tumor staging) | USP <i>United States Pharmacopeia</i> | WHO World Health Organization |
| t-PA, TPA tissue plasminogen activator | USPHS United States Public Health Service | WN well nourished |
| TPHA <i>Treponema pallidum</i> hemagglutination (test) | UTI urinary tract infection | Y yttrium |
| TPI <i>Treponema pallidum</i> immobilization (test) | VDRL Venereal Disease Research Laboratory (test) | YAG yttrium-aluminum garnet (laser) |
| TPN total parenteral nutrition | VHDL very high density lipoprotein | Yb ytterbium |
| TPR temperature, pulse, and respirations | | Zn zinc |
| | | Zr zirconium |