

Common Medical/Dental Abbreviations and Acronyms

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

<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).

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

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
Ⓢ. 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)	μμ micromicro
Hx (medical) history	IPAP inspiratory positive airway pressure	m mass; meter; milliminim; molar
Hz hertz	IQ intelligence quotient	<i>m-</i> meta
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)	MRI magnetic resonance imaging	Ni nickel
mg milligram	mRNA messenger RNA	NIH National Institutes of Health
Mg magnesium	MRSA methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	NK natural killer (cell)
MHC major histocompatibility complex	MS Master of Science	NKA no known allergies
MHz megahertz	MS multiple sclerosis; magnesium sulfate; morphine sulfate	NLM National Library of Medicine
MI mitral insufficiency; myocardial infarction	msec millisecond	nm nanometer
ml, mL milliliter	m/sec meters per second	NP Nurse Practitioner
MLC mixed lymphocyte culture (test)	MSG monosodium glutamate	NPO [L.] <i>nihil per os</i> , nothing by mouth
MLD minimal lethal dose	MSM men who have sex with men	NS normal saline
mm millimeter	MSN Master of Science in Nursing	NSAID nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug
mmHg millimeters of mercury (torr)	MT Medical Technologist; Medical Transcriptionist; Monitor Technician	NSR normal sinus rhythm
mmol millimole	mtDNA mitochondrial DNA	NUG necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
MMPI Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (test)	MUGA multiple gated acquisition (imaging)	Ω omega; ohm
MMR measles-mumps-rubella (vaccine)	mV millivolt	<i>o-</i> ortho
Mn manganese	Mv mendelevium	O [L.] <i>oculus</i> , eye; opening (in formulas for electrical reactions); oxygen
Mo molybdenum	MVA motor vehicle accident	OB obstetrics
MO mesio-occlusal surfaces (caries or restoration); Medical Officer; mineral oil	MW molecular weight	OB/GYN obstetrics (and) gynecology
MOC Medical Officer on Call	ν nu; kinematic viscosity	OC oral contraceptive
MOD Medical Officer of the Day	n index of refraction; nano	Occ occlusal surfaces (caries or restoration)
mol mole	N newton; nitrogen; normal (concentration)	OCD obsessive compulsive disorder
mol wt molecular weight	N normal (SMALL caps)	OD Doctor of Optometry; Officer of the Day; overdose
MOM Milk of Magnesia	Na [Modern L.] <i>natrium</i> , sodium	OD [L.] <i>oculus dexter</i> , right eye
MOPP Mustargen (mechlorethamine hydrochloride), Oncovin (vincristine sulfate), procarbazine hydrochloride, and prednisone	NA <i>Nomina Anatomica</i>	ODD oculodentodigital (dysplasia, syndrome)
MPD maximal permissible dose	NAD nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide; no apparent (or acute) distress	Oe oersted (centimeter gram second unit of magnetic field strength)
MPH Master of Public Health	NCV nerve conduction velocity	OFD orofacioidigital (dysostosis, syndrome)
MRCP Member of the Royal College of Physicians	Nd neodymium	OML orbitomeatal line
MRCs Member of the Royal College of Surgeons	Nd:YAG neodymium: yttriumaluminum- garnet [laser]	OMM ophthalmomandibulomelic (dysplasia, syndrome)
	NDA New Drug Application	OP osmotic pressure; outpatient
	Ne neon	OPV oral poliovirus vaccine
	NE norepinephrine; not examined	OR operating room
	NF National Formulary	
	ng nanogram	
	NGF nerve growth factor (antigen)	

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 phenacyclidine; 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 O_2 or CO_2); 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

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