

COMMON MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

α alpha: Bunsen solubility coefficient; first in a series; specific rotation term; heavy chain class corresponding to IgA
α-h the right handed helical form assumed by many proteins
α-T α tocopherol
a (specific) absorption (coefficient) (USUALLY ITALIC); (total) acidity; area; (systemic) arterial (blood) (SUBSCRIPT); asymmetric; atto
A absorbance
A adenosine (or adenylic acid); alveolar gas (SUBSCRIPT); ampere
Å angstrom; Ångström unit
aa [G.] ana of each (USED in prescriptions)
AA amino acid; aminoacyl
a.c. [L.] ante cibum, before a meal
A:G R albumin globulin ratio
Ab antibody
AB abortion
ABG arterial blood gas
ABI ankle-brachial index
abl Abelson murine leukemia virus
ABLB alternate binaural loudness balance (test)
ABO blood group system
ABR abortus Bang ring (test); auditory brainstem response (audiometry)
γ-Abu-γ aminobutyric acid
ABVD Adriamycin (doxorubicin), bleomycin, vinblastine, and dacarbazine
ac acetyl
a.c. [L.] ante cibum, before a meal
aC arabinosylcytosine
Ac acetyl; actinium
AC acetate; acromioclavicular; air conduction; alternating current; atriocarotid
AC:A accommodation convergence accommodation (ratio)
ACE angiotension converting enzyme
ACEI angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor
AcG accelerator globulin
ac-g accelerator globulin

ACh, Ach acetylcholine
aCL anticardiolipin (antibody)
ACP acyl carrier protein
ACTH adrenocorticotrophic hormone (corticotropin)
AD Alzheimer disease
QAD [L.] *auris dextra*, right ear
ADD attention deficit disorder
ad lib. [L.] ad libitum, freely, as desired
Ade adenine
ADH antidiuretic hormone
ADHD attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
ADLs activities of daily living
Ado adenosine
ADP adenosine 5' diphosphate
ADR adverse drug reaction
A-E above the elbow (amputation)
AECB acute exacerbation of chronic bronchitis
AED automated external defibrillator
AFB acid fast bacillus
AFORMED alternating failure of response, mechanical, to electrical depolarization
AFP α-fetoprotein
Ag antigen; [L.] argentum, silver
AHF antihemophilic factor
AHG antihemophilic globulin
AID artificial insemination donor
AIDS acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
AIH artificial insemination by husband; artificial insemination, homologous
A-K above the knee (amputation)
Al aluminum
Ala alanine (or its monoradical or diradical)
ALA δ-aminolevulinic acid
ALD adrenoleukodystrophy
ALL acute lymphocytic leukemia
ALS advanced life support; amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; antilymphocyte serum
ALT alanine aminotransferase
Am americium
AML acute myelogenous leukemia

AMP adenosine monophosphate (adenylic acid)
amu atomic mass unit
ANA antinuclear antibody
ANF antinuclear factor
ANOVA analysis of variance
ANS autonomic nervous system
ANUG acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
AP anteroposterior
APA antipernicious anemia (factor)
APAP acetaminophen
A-P-C adenoidal pharyngeal conjunctival (virus)
APC antigen presenting cell
aPS antiphospholipid antibody syndrome
APTT activated partial thromboplastin time
Ar argon
araC arabinosylcytosine (cytarabine)
ARDS adult *or* acute respiratory distress syndrome
ARF acute renal failure; acute rheumatic fever
Arg arginine (or its monoradical or diradical)
AROM active range of motion
QAS [L.] *auris sinistra*, left ear
As arsenic
ASA acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin)
ASCP American Society of Clinical Pathologists
ASC-US atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance
ASHD arteriosclerotic heart disease
Asn asparagine (or its monoradical or diradical)
ASO antistreptolysin O
Asp aspartic acid (or its radical forms)
AST aspartate aminotransferase
At astatine
at. wt. atomic weight
ATFL anterior talofibular ligament
ATL adult T cell leukemia; adult T cell lymphoma
atm (standard) atmosphere
ATP adenosine 5' triphosphate

ATPase adenosine triphosphatase
ATPD ambient temperature and pressure, dry
ATPS ambient temperature and pressure, saturated (with water vapor)
QAU [L.] *auris utraque*, each ear, both ears
Au [L.] *aurum*, gold
AUC area under the curve
AV arteriovenous
A-V arteriovenous; atrioventricular
AVM arteriovenous malformation
AVN atrioventricular node
AVP antihyal protein
AW atomic weight
ax. axis
AZT azidothymidine (zidovudine)
B barometric (pressure) (SUBSCRIPT); boron
b blood (SUBSCRIPT)
β second in a series
Ba barium
BADLs basic activities of daily living
BAER brainstem auditory evoked response
BAL British anti-Lewisite (dimecaprol); bronchoalveolar lavage
BALB binaural alternate loudness balance (test)
BBB blood brain barrier; bundle branch block
BBT basal body temperature
BCG bacille bilié de Calmette Guérin (vaccine)
BE barium enema
B-E below the elbow (amputation)
Be beryllium
Bi bismuth
b.i.d. [L.] *bis in die*, twice a day
BIDS brittle hair, impaired intelligence, decreased fertility, and short stature (syndrome)
BIPAP bilevel positive airway pressure
Bk berkelium
BM bowel movement
BMD bone mineral density
BMI body mass index
BNEd Bachelor of Nursing Education

The forbidden symbol (Q) appears opposite abbreviations prohibited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). An explanation of each prohibition is given in the usage notes of the A to Z entries for the relevant abbreviations.

BNP brain natriuretic peptide	CAD coronary artery disease	ChD, Chir Doct Doctor of Surgery (Chirurgiae Doctor)	COPD chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
BNSc Bachelor of Nursing Science	cal calorie (small)	CHF congestive heart failure	COS Chief of Staff
bp base pair	Cal calorie (large)	ChM Master of Surgery (Chirurgiae Magister)	CP cerebral palsy; costophrenic
BP blood pressure; boiling point; <i>British Pharmacopoeia</i>	CAM complementary and alternative medicine	CHO carbohydrate	CPAP continuous (or constant) positive airway pressure
BPF bronchopleural fistula	cAMP cyclic adenosine monophosphate	Ci curie	CPD cephalopelvic disproportion
BPH Bachelor of Public Health	CAO conscious, alert, oriented	CI color index; <i>Colour Index</i> ; confidence interval	CPK creatine phosphokinase
BPH benign prostatic hyperplasia	cap capsule	CIE counterimmunoelectrophoresis	CPM continuous passive motility
Bq becquerel (SI unit of radionuclide activity)	CAP catabolite (gene) activator protein; community-acquired pneumonia	CIN cervical intraepithelial neoplasia	CPPB continuous (or constant) positive pressure breathing
Br bromine	CAPD continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis	CIQ cognitive laterality quotient	CPPV continuous positive pressure ventilation
BRAT (diet) banana, rice cereal, applesauce, toast	CAT computerized axial tomography (obsolete)	CIU chronic idiopathic urticaria	CPR cardiopulmonary resuscitation
BS, BSc Bachelor of Science (Baccalaureus Scientiae)	CBC complete blood (cell) count	CJD Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease	cps cycles per second
BSA body surface area	CBG corticosteroid binding globulin	CK creatine kinase	CPT <i>Current Procedural Terminology</i>
BSE breast self-examination	CBT cognitive-behavioral therapy	CK-MB creatine kinase MB isoenzyme	Cr chromium; creatinine
BSER brainstem evoked response (audiometry)	Cbz carbobenzoxy (chloride)	Cl chlorine	CR Chief Resident; conditioned reflex; crown rump (length)
BSN Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Qcc, c.c. cubic centimeter	CL cardiolipin	CRD chronic respiratory disease
BSO bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy	CCK cholecystokinin	CLA(ASCP) Clinical Laboratory Assistant (American Society of Clinical Pathologists)	CRH corticotropin releasing hormone
BT bleeding time	CCNU chloroethylcyclohexylnitrosourea (lomustine)	CLIA Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments	CRL crown rump length
BTPS body temperature, ambient pressure, saturated (with water vapor)	CCU coronary care unit; critical care unit	CLL chronic lymphocytic leukemia	CRNA Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
BTU British thermal unit	cd candela	cm centimeter	CRNP Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
BTX botulinum toxin	Cd cadmium	cM centimorgan	CRP cross reacting protein
BUN blood urea nitrogen	CD compact disc	Cm curium	CRST calcinosis cutis, Raynaud phenomenon, sclerodactyly, and telangiectasia (syndrome)
BUS Bartholin glands, urethra, Skene glands	CDA Certified Dental Assistant	CMA Certified Medical Assistant	CRT Certified Respiratory Therapist
BVMS Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery	CDC (U.S.) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	CMC carpometacarpal	Cs cesium
Bx biopsy	cDNA complementary DNA	CME continuing medical education	CS cesarean section; Chief of Staff
c calorie (small); capillary (blood); centi	CDP cytidine 5' diphosphate	CMI cell mediated immunity	CSD catcratch disease
C calorie (large); carbon; Celsius; centigrade; clearance (rate, renal) <i>c</i> ; compliance; concentration; cylindrical(lens); cytidine	Ce cerium	CML chronic myelogenous leukemia	CSF cerebrospinal fluid; colony-stimulating factor
c[L.] <i>cum</i> , with	CEA carcinoembryonic antigen; carotid endarterectomy	CMO Chief Medical Officer	CT computed tomography
C&S culture and sensitivity	CELO chicken embryo lethal orphan (virus)	CMP cytidine 5' phosphate (or any cytidine monophosphate)	CTP cytidine 5' triphosphate
C.C. chief complaint	CEP congenital erythropoietic porphyria	CMT Certified Medical Transcriptionist	CTR cardiothoracic ratio
c/o complains of	CEU continuing education unit	CMV controlled mechanical ventilation; cytomegalovirus	Cu [L.] cuprum, copper
ca. [L.] <i>circa</i> , about, approximately	Cf californium	CNM Certified Nurse-Midwife	CV cardiovascular
c-a cardioarterial	CF complement fixation; cystic fibrosis; coupling factor	CNP Community Nurse Practitioner	CVA cerebral vascular (cerebrovascular) accident, costovertebral angle
Ca calcium; cathodal; cathode	CG chorionic gonadotropin	CNS central nervous system	CVP central venous pressure
CA cancer; carcinoma; cardiac arrest; chronologic age; contrast angiography; croup associated (virus); cytosine arabinoside	CGA catabolite gene activator	Co cobalt	CVS cardiovascular system; chorionic villus sampling
CABG coronary artery bypass graft	cGMP cyclic guanosine monophosphate	COG center of gravity	CXR chest x-ray
	egs, CGS centimeter-gram-second (system, unit)	conA concanavalin A	Cyd cytidine

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cyl cylinder; cylindrical (lens)	DF decayed and filled (permanent teeth)	DON Director of Nursing	DVM Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
CYP cytochrome P-450 (enzyme)	Df deficiency (absence or inactivation of a gene)	DOT directly observed therapy	DVT deep vein thrombosis
Cys cysteine	dGMP deoxyguanosine monophosphate (deoxyguanylic acid)	DP Doctor of Pharmacy; Doctor of Podiatry	Dx diagnosis
Cyt cytosine	DH Dental Hygienist	Dp duplication of a gene or chromosomal segment	Dy dysprosium
Δ delta; change; heat	DHEA dehydro-3-epiandrosterone	2,3 DPG 2,3 diphosphoglycerate	ε epsilon; molar absorption coefficient; heavy chain class corresponding to IgE
δ delta; heavy chain class corresponding to IgD	DIC disseminated intravascular coagulation	DPH Doctor of Public Health; Doctor of Public Hygiene	E exa ; extraction (ratio)
D & C dilatation and curettage	DIF direct immunofluorescence	DPharm Doctor of Pharmacy	EB Epstein Barr (virus)
D & E dilatation and evacuation	DIP desquamative interstitial pneumonia; distal interphalangeal (joint)	DPI dry powder inhaler	EBV Epstein Barr virus
D Dalton, dead (space gas) (SUBSCRIPT); deciduous; deuterium; diffusing (capacity); dihydrouridine (in nucleic acids); diopter; [L.] dexter, right (opposite of left); vitamin D potency of cod liver oil	DJD degenerative joint disease	DPM Doctor of Physical Medicine; Doctor of Podiatric Medicine	ECF extended care facility; extracellular fluid
d deci-; day	dk deca-, deka-	DPN diphosphopyridine nucleotide	ECF-A eosinophilic chemotactic factor of anaphylaxis
d deuterium	DKA diabetic ketoacidosis	DPT dipropyltryptamine; diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (vaccines)	ECG electrocardiogram
d dextrorotatory	dL deciliter	dr dram	ECHO enterocytopathogenic human orphan (virus)
D- prefix indicating that a molecule is sterically analogous to D glyceraldehyde	DM diabetes mellitus	DR degeneration reaction, reaction of degeneration	ECM erythema chronicum migrans
da deca	DMARD disease-modifying antirheumatic drug	Dr Med Doctor of Medicine	ECMO extracorporeal membrane oxygenation
da deoxyadenosine	DMD Doctor of Dental Medicine; Duchenne muscular dystrophy	DRE digital rectal examination	ECS electrocerebral silence
Da dalton	DME Director of Medical Education	DRG diagnosis-related group	ECT electroconvulsive therapy
DA developmental age	dmf decayed, missing, or filled (deciduous teeth)	DRPH Doctor of Public Health; Doctor of Public Hygiene	ED eating disorder; effective dose; emergency department; erectile dysfunction
dAdo deoxyadenosine	DMF decayed, missing, or filled (permanent teeth)	DRVVT dilute Russell viper venom test	EDC expected date of confinement
dAMP deoxyadenylic acid	DMSO dimethyl sulfoxide	D-S Doerfler Stewart (test)	recipe, (the first word on a prescription), take; prescription; treatment
DANS 1-dimethylaminonaphthalene 5 sulfonic acid	DMT <i>N,N</i> dimethyltryptamine	DSA digital subtraction angiography	EDTA ethylenediamine-tetraacetic acid (edathamil, edetic acid)
db decibel	DMV Doctor of Veterinary Medicine	DSc Doctor of Science	EEG electroencephalogram
dB decibel	DN dibucaine number	DSD dry sterile dressing	EENT eye, ear, nose, and throat
DC Dental Corps; Doctor of Chiropractic; direct current	DNA deoxyribonucleic acid	dsDNA double-stranded DNA	EIA enzyme immunoassay
⊘/C discharge; discontinued	DNB Diplomate of the National Board (of Medical Examiners)	DSM <i>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association</i>	EKG [German] <i>Elektrokardiogramme</i> , electrocardiogram
DCG dacryocystography	DNE Director of Nursing Education; Doctor of Nursing Education	dT deoxythymidine	EKY electrokymogram
DCh Doctor of Surgery (Doctor Chirurgiae)	DNP deoxyribonucleoprotein; 2,4 dinitrophenol	DT delirium tremens; duration of tetany	ELISA enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
DCI dichloroisoproterenol	DNS Director of Nursing Service(s)	dTDP deoxythymidine 5 diphosphate	EMC encephalomyocarditis (virus)
dCMP deoxycytidylic acid	DO Doctor of Osteopathy	dThd thymidine	EMF electromotive force
DDS Doctor of Dental Surgery	DOA dead on arrival	DTIC dimethyltrizenoimidazole carboxamide (dacarbazine)	EMG electromyogram; exomphalos, macroglossia, and gigantism (syndrome)
DDT dichlorodiphenyl trichloroethane (chlorophenothane)	DOB date of birth	dTMP deoxythymidylic acid	EMS eosinophilia-myalgia syndrome
def decayed, extracted, or filled (deciduous teeth)	DOC deoxycholic acid; deoxycorticosterone	DTP diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccine; distal tingling on percussion (Tinel sign)	EMT Emergency Medical Technician
DEF decayed, extracted, or filled (permanent teeth)	DOE dyspnea on exertion	DTPA diethylenetriamine pentaacetic acid	ENG electronystagmography
DES diethylstilbestrol	DOM 2,5-dimethoxy-4-methylamphetamine	DTR deep tendon reflex	ENT ear, nose, and throat
DET diethyltryptamine		dTTP deoxythymidine 5' triphosphate	EOG electrooculography
DEV duck embryo vaccine; duck embryo virus			EOM extraocular muscle(s)
DEXA dual energy x-ray absorptiometry			EPAP expiratory positive airway pressure
df decayed and filled (deciduous teeth)			

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EPO erythropoietin	FACO Fellow of the American College of Otolaryngology	FSH follicle stimulating hormone	Glu glutamic acid; glutamyl
ER endoplasmic reticulum; emergency room	FACOG Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists	FSH-RF follicle stimulating hormone releasing factor	Gly glycine; glycyI
Er erbium	FACOS Fellow of the American College of Orthopaedic Surgeons	FSH-RH follicle stimulating hormone releasing hormone	GMO General Medical Officer
ERBF effective renal blood flow	FACP Fellow of the American College of Physicians	FTA-ABS fluorescent treponemal antibody absorption (test)	GMP guanosine monophosphate (guanylic acid)
ERCP endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography	FACR Fellow of the American College of Radiology	FU fluorouracil	GMS Gomori (or Grocott) methenamine silver (stain)
ERG electroretinogram	FACS Fellow of the American College of Surgeons	F/U follow-up	GN Graduate Nurse
ERPF effective renal plasma flow	FAD flavin(e) adenine dinucleotide; familial Alzheimer disease	FUO fever of unknown origin	GnRH gonadotropin releasing hormone
ERT estrogen replacement therapy	FAMA Fellow of the American Medical Association	FVC forced vital capacity	GOT glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase (aspartate aminotransferase)
ERV expiratory reserve volume	FANA fluorescent antinuclear antibody (test)	Fw F wave (fibrillary wave, flutter wave)	GPI Gingival Periodontal Index
Es einsteinium	FAP familial adenomatous polyposis	Fx fracture	GPT glutamic pyruvic transaminase (alanine aminotransferase)
ESEP extreme somatosensory evoked potential	FB foreign body	γ gamma; Ostwald solubility coefficient; the third in a series; heavy chain class corresponding to IgG	gr grain
ESP extrasensory perception	FBS fasting blood sugar	G 1 gap 1	GSH reduced glutathione
ESR electron spin resonance; erythrocyte sedimentation rate	Fc constant fragment of an antibody molecule	G 2 gap 2	GSR galvanic skin response
ESRD end stage renal disease	FDA (U.S.) Food and Drug Administration	G giga ; glucose; gravitation (newtonian constant of); guanosine (or guanylic acid) residues in polynucleotides; grvida (obstetric history)	GSSG oxidized glutathione
ESWL extracorporeal shock-wave lithotripsy	Fe [L.] ferrum, iron	g gram	GSW gunshot wound
EtOH ethyl alcohol	FEF forced expiratory flow	G6P glucose 6 phosphate	gt. [L.] <i>gutta</i> , a drop
Eu europium	FET forced expiratory time	Ga gallium	GTP guanosine 5' triphosphate
ev electron volt	FEV forced expiratory volume	GABHS group-A β-hemolytic <i>Streptococcus</i>	gtt. [L.] <i>guttae</i> , drops
eV electron volt	FF filtration fraction	Gal galactose	GTT glucose tolerance test
F Fahrenheit; faraday (constant); fertility (factor); field (of vision); fluorine; force; fractional (concentration); free (energy)	FFD focus film distance	GCS Glasgow coma scale	GU genitourinary
f femto-; (respiratory) frequency	FHR fetal heart rate	Gd gadolinium	Guo guanosine
F₁ first filial generation	FHT fetal heart tones	GDP mannose 1 phosphate guanylyltransferase	GVHD graft versus host disease
FI.2 (prothrombin) fragment 1.2	FIA fluorescent immunoassay	Ge germanium	Gy gray (unit of absorbed dose of ionizing radiation)
FAAN Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing	FIGLU formiminoglutamic (acid)	GERD gastroesophageal reflux disease	GYN gynecology
FAAP Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics	FISH fluorescent in situ hybridization	GFR glomerular filtration rate	h hecto
Fab fragment of antibody molecule involved in antigen binding	Fm fermium	GGT γ-glutamyl transferase	¹H hydrogen-1 (protium, light hydrogen)
FACA Fellow of the American College of Anesthesiology	FMN flavin(e) mononucleotide	GH glenohumeral; growth hormone	²H hydrogen-2 (deuterium, heavy hydrogen)
FACAL Fellow of the American College of Allergy	FNA fine-needle aspiration	GHB γ-hydroxybutyrate	³H hydrogen-3 (tritium, radioactive hydrogen)
FACC Fellow of the American College of Cardiologists	fps, FPS foot pound second (system, unit)	GHRF growth hormone releasing factor	H henry; hydrogen; hyperopia; hyperopic
FACD Fellow of the American College of Dentists	Fr francium; French (gauge, scale)	GH-RF growth hormone releasing factor	h Planck constant
FACFP Fellow of the American College of Family Physicians	FRC functional residual capacity (of lungs)	GHRH growth hormone releasing hormone	H & E hematoxylin and eosin
	French (catheter gauge)	GH-RH growth hormone releasing hormone	H & H hematocrit and hemoglobin
	FRF follicle stimulating hormone releasing factor	GI gastrointestinal; Gingival Index	H⁺ hydrogen ion
	FRS first rank symptom	GIP gastric inhibitory polypeptide	Ha hahnium
	Fru fructose	GLC gas liquid chromatography	HA hyaluronic acid; hemagglutinin
		Gln glutamine; glutamyl	HAART highly active anti-retroviral therapy
			HAV hepatitis A virus
			Hb hemoglobin
			HbA adult hemoglobin
			HbA₁ major component of adult hemoglobin
			HbA₂ minor fraction of adult hemoglobin

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HbAS heterozygosity for hemoglobin A and hemoglobin S (sickle cell trait)	HI hemagglutination inhibition (test, titer)	I & O (fluid) intake and output	IRB institutional review board
HB_cAg Hepatitis B core antigen	5-HIAA 5-hydroxyindoleacetic acid	IADLs instrumental activities of daily living	IRV inspiratory reserve volume
HbCO carboxyhemoglobin	HIDA hepatobiliary iminodiacetic acid (scan)	IAP intermittent acute porphyria	ISI International Sensitivity Index
HB_e Hepatitis B early antigen	HIPAA Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act	IBD inflammatory bowel disease	ITP idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura; inosine 5' triphosphate
HB_eAb Hepatitis B early antibody	His histidine	IBS irritable bowel syndrome	IU International Unit
HB_eAg Hepatitis B early antigen	-His histidino	IBW ideal body weight	IUCD intrauterine contraceptive device
HbF fetal hemoglobin	His- histidyl	ICA internal carotid artery	IUD intrauterine device
Hbg hemoglobin	HIV human immunodeficiency virus	ICD <i>International Classification of Diseases of the World Health Organization</i> ; implantable cardioverter-defibrillator	IV intravenous, intravenously; intraventricular
HBIG hepatitis B immune globulin	HI hyperopia, latent	ICDA <i>International Classification of Diseases, Adapted for Use in the United States</i>	IVDA intravenous drug abuse(r)
HBO hyperbaric oxygen	HLA human lymphocyte antigen, human leukocyte antigen	ICF intracellular fluid	IVF in vitro fertilization
HbO₂ oxyhemoglobin, oxygenated hemoglobin	Hm hyperopia, manifest (hypermetropia)	ICP intracranial pressure	IVP intravenous pyelogram
HbS sickle cell hemoglobin	HME human monocytic ehrlichiosis	ICSH interstitial cell stimulating hormone	J flux (density)
HB_sAb hepatitis B surface antibody	HMG CoA 3 hydroxy 3 methylglutaryl coenzyme A	ICU intensive care unit	J joule
HB_sAg hepatitis B surface antigen	HMG human menopausal gonadotropin	ID infective dose	JMS Junior Medical Student
HBV hepatitis B virus	HMO Health Maintenance Organization	IDU idoxuridine; injecting/injection drug user	JVD jugular venous distention
HCFA Health Care Financing Administration	HMWK high molecular weight kininogen (Fletcher factor)	IF initiation factor; intrinsic factor	K [Mod. L.] <i>kalium</i> , potassium; kelvin
HCG human chorionic gonadotropin	Ho holmium	IFN interferon	k kilo
HCl hydrochloric acid; hydrochloride	h/o history of	Ig immunoglobulin	kat katal
HCS human chorionic somatomammotropin (human placental lactogen)	HPF high power field	IGF insulinlike growth factor	kb kilobase
Hct hematocrit	HPI history of present illness	IL interleukin	kc kilocycle
HCV Hepatitis C virus	HPL human placental lactogen	ILA insulinlike activity	kcal kilocalorie
h. d. [L.] <i>hora decubitus</i> , at bedtime	HPLC high performance liquid chromatography	Ile isoleucine	KCT kaolin clotting time
HDL high-density lipoprotein	HPV human papillomavirus	IM internal medicine; intramuscular(ly); infectious mononucleosis	kDa kilodalton
HDRV human diploid (cell strain) rabies vaccine	HRCT high-resolution computed tomography	IMP inosine monophosphate (inosinic acid)	kg kilogram
He helium	h. s., HS [L.] <i>hora somni</i> , at bedtime	IMS Indian Medical Service	KJ knee jerk
HEMPAS hereditary erythroblastic multinuclearity associated with positive acidified serum	HSV herpes simplex virus	IMV intermittent mandatory ventilation	K_M Michaelis constant
Hf hafnium	5-HT 5-hydroxytryptamine (serotonin)	IND investigational new drug	KOH potassium hydroxide
HFJV high frequency jet ventilation	Ht hyperopia, total	Ino inosine	KP keratic precipitate
HFOV high frequency oscillatory ventilation	HTLV human T cell lymphocytotropic virus; human T cell lymphoma/leukemia virus	INR international normalized ratio	Kr krypton
HFPPV high frequency positive pressure ventilation	HTN hypertension	IOML infraorbitomeatal line	17-KS 17-ketosteroid
HFV high frequency ventilation	HVL half value layer	IP interphalangeal; intraperitoneal(ly)	KS Kaposi sarcoma
Hg [L.] <i>hydrargyrum</i> , mercury	Hx (medical) history	IPAP inspiratory positive airway pressure	KUB kidneys, ureters, bladder
Hgb hemoglobin	Hyp hydroxyproline	IPPB intermittent positive pressure breathing	kv kilovolt
HGE human granulocytic ehrlichiosis	H_z hertz	IPPV intermittent positive pressure ventilation	kVp kilovolt peak
HGH human (pituitary) growth hormone	¹²⁵I iodine 125	IPV inactivated poliovirus vaccine	KW Kimmelstiel Wilson (disease); Keith Wagener (retinal changes)
HGSIL high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion	¹³¹I iodine 131	IQ intelligence quotient	l liter (use of CAPITAL letter preferred)
	¹²³I iodine 123 (radioisotope)	Ir iridium	L inductance; left; [L.] limes, boundary, limit; liter
	I inspired (gas) (SUBSCRIPT); iodine		L- prefix indicating that a molecule is sterically analogous to L-glyceraldehyde
	I & D incision and drainage		L:S R lecithin:sphingomyelin ratio

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LATS long acting thyroid stimulator	LP lumbar puncture	MAC <i>Mycobacterium avium</i> complex	MI mitral insufficiency; myocardial infarction
LBT lupus band test	LPF low power field	MAI <i>Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare</i>	MID minimal infecting dose
LBW low birth weight	LPH lipotropic pituitary hormone (lipotropin)	MAO monoamine oxidase	MIP maximum inspiratory pressure
LC lethal concentration	LPN Licensed Practical Nurse	MAOI monoamine oxidase inhibitor	MK menaquinone (vitamin K2)
LCA left coronary artery	Lr lawrencium	MAP morning after pill	mks, MKS meter kilogram second (system, unit)
LCAT lecithin cholesterol acyltransferase	LRCP Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians	ma-A-S milliampere second	ml, mL milliliter
LCM left costal margin; lymphocytic choriomeningitis (virus)	LRCS Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons	MAST military antishock trousers	MLC mixed lymphocyte culture (test)
LD lethal dose	LRH luteinizing hormone releasing hormone	Mb myoglobin	MLD minimal lethal dose
LDH lactate dehydrogenase	LSA left sacroanterior (fetal position)	MBC maximum breathing capacity	mm millimeter
LDL low-density lipoprotein	LSD lysergic acid diethylamide	MbCO carbon monoxidized myoglobin	mmHg millimeters of mercury (torr)
LE left eye; lupus erythematosus	LSP left sacroposterior (fetal position)	MbO₂ oxymyoglobin	mmol millimole
LEEP loop electrosurgical excision procedure	LST left sacrotransverse (fetal position)	MC Medical Corps	MMPI Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (test)
LES lower esophageal sphincter	LTH luteotropic hormone	MCH mean corpuscular hemoglobin	MMR measles-mumps-rubella (vaccine)
LETS large external transformation sensitive (fibronectin)	LTM long-term memory	MCHC mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration	MMSE Mini-Mental State Examination
Leu leucine	LTR long terminal repeat	mCi millicurie	Mn manganese
LFA left frontoanterior (fetal position)	Lu lutetium	MCL midclavicular line	Mo molybdenum
LFA left frontoanterior (fetal position)	LUQ left upper quadrant	mcm millimicron	MO Medical Officer; mineral oil
LFP left frontoposterior (fetal position)	LV left ventricle	MCP metacarpophalangeal	MOC Medical Officer on Call
LFT left frontotransverse (fetal position); liver function test	LVEF left ventricular ejection fraction	MCV mean corpuscular volume	MOD Medical Officer of the Day
LGSIL low grade squamous intraepithelial lesion	LVET left ventricular ejection time	MD Doctor of Medicine (Medicinae Doctor)	mol mole
LGV lymphogranuloma venereum	LVH left ventricular hypertrophy	MD [L.] <i>Medicinae Doctor</i> , Doctor of Medicine	mol wt molecular weight
LH luteinizing hormone	LVN Licensed Visiting Nurse; Licensed Vocational Nurse	Md mendeleevium	MOM Milk of Magnesia
LH/FSH-RF luteinizing hormone/follicle stimulating hormone releasing factor	Lw (former symbol for) lawrencium (now Lr)	MDF myocardial depressant factor	MOPP Mustargen (mechlorethamine hydrochloride), Oncovin (vincristine sulfate), procarbazine hydrochloride, and prednisone
LH-RF luteinizing hormone releasing factor	Lys lysine (or its radicals in peptides)	MDI metered dose inhaler	MPD maximal permissible dose
LH-RH luteinizing hormone releasing hormone	Ⓚ μ mu; micro ; heavy chain class corresponding to IgM	MDR multidrug-resistant	MPH Master of Public Health
Li lithium	Ⓚ μCi microcurie	ME Medical Examiner	MPS mononuclear phagocyte system
LLQ left lower quadrant	Ⓚ μg microgram	Me methyl	MR milk ring (test); mitral regurgitation
LM Licentiate in Midwifery	Ⓚ μl, μL microliter	Med Tech Medical Technician; Medical Technologist	M_r molecular (weight) ratio
LMA left mentoanterior (fetal position)	Ⓚ μm micrometer	MEDLARS Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System	MRA magnetic resonance angiography
LMP last menstrual period; left mentoposterior (fetal position)	Ⓚ μm micromicro	MEP maximal expiratory pressure	MRCP Member of the Royal College of Physicians
LMT left mentotransverse (fetal position)	M + Am compound myopic astigmatism	meq, mEq milliequivalent	MRCs Member of the Royal College of Surgeons
LNPF lymph node permeability factor	m mass; meter; milliminim; molar	MeSH Medical Subject Headings	mrd, MRD minimal reacting dose
LOA left occipitoanterior (fetal position)	m- meta	Met methionine	MRI magnetic resonance imaging
LOC level of consciousness; loss of consciousness	M mega , meg ; molar; moles (per liter); morgan; myopic; myopia	MET metabolic equivalent of task	mRNA messenger RNA
LOP left occipitoposterior (fetal position)	M molar; moles (per liter)	metHb methemoglobin	MRSA methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
LOT left occipitotransverse (fetal position)	m moles (per liter)	metMb metmyoglobin	MS Master of Science
	mA milliampere	MEV million electron volts (10 ⁶ ev)	
	MA Master of Arts (Magister Artium); Medical Assistant; mental age	mg milligram	
	MAA macroaggregated albumin	Mg magnesium	
	MAB monoclonal antibody	MHC major histocompatibility complex	
		mho siemens unit	
		MHz megahertz	

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MS I, II, III, IV medical student: first, second, third, and fourth year	NCV nerve conduction velocity	OFD orofacioidigital (dysostosis, syndrome)	Pb [L.] <i>plumbum</i> , lead
ⓀMS multiple sclerosis; magnesium sulfate; morphine sulfate	Nd neodymium	OKT Ortho-Kung T (cell)	PBG porphobilinogen
msec millisecond	Nd:YAG neodymium:yttrium-aluminum-garnet [laser]	OML orbitomeatal line	p.c. [L.] <i>post cibum</i> , after a meal
m/sec meters per second	NDA New Drug Application	OMM ophthalmomandibulomelic (dysplasia, syndrome)	PCB polychlorinated biphenyl
MSG monosodium glutamate	Ne neon	OMS organic mental syndrome	Pco₂ partial pressure of carbon dioxide
MSH melanocyte stimulating hormone	NE norepinephrine; not examined	OP osmotic pressure; outpatient	PCP phencyclidine; plasma cell pneumonia (Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia), primary care provider
MSM men who have sex with men	NEEP negative end expiratory pressure	OPV oral poliovirus vaccine	PCR polymerase chain reaction
MSN Master of Science in Nursing	NF National Formulary	OR operating room	PCT percutaneous transhepatic cholangiography
MT Medical Technologist; Medical Transcriptionist; Monitor Technician	ng nanogram	ORD optical rotatory dispersion	PCWP pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
mtDNA mitochondrial DNA	NGF nerve growth factor (antigen)	ORIF open reduction and internal fixation	Pd palladium
MTP metatarsophalangeal (joint)	Ni nickel	Orn ornithine (or its radical)	PD prism diopter
Mu Mache unit	NIH National Institutes of Health	Oro orotate; orotic acid	PDA patent ductus arteriosus; posterior descending artery
MUGA multiple gated acquisition (imaging)	NK natural killer (cell)	Os osmium	PDGF platelet derived growth factor
mV millivolt	NKA no known allergies	ⓀOS [L.] <i>oculus sinister</i> , left eye	PDLL poorly differentiated lymphocytic lymphoma
Mv mendelevium	NLM National Library of Medicine	OSA obstructive sleep apnea	PDR <i>Physicians' Desk Reference</i>
MVA motor vehicle accident	nm nanometer	OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration	PEEP positive end expiratory pressure
MVE Murray Valley encephalitis (virus)	NMN nicotinamide mononucleotide	OT occupational therapy; Koch old tuberculin	PEG polyethylene glycol
MVV maximal voluntary ventilation	No nobelium	OTC over the counter (non-prescription) drug	PET positron emission tomography
MW molecular weight	NP Nurse Practitioner	ⓀOU [L.] <i>oculus uterque</i> , each eye (both eyes)	PF₄ platelet factor 4
My myopia	Np neptunium	OXT oxytocin	PFT pulmonary function test
v nu; kinematic viscosity	NPO [L.] <i>nihil per os</i> , nothing by mouth	oz ounce	pg picogram
n index of refraction; nano	NREM nonrapid eye movement (sleep)	p pico; pupil	PG prostaglandin
N newton; nitrogen; normal (concentration)	nRNA nuclear RNA	p- para	PGA prostaglandin A
N normal (SMALL caps)	NS normal saline	P partial (pressure); peta; phosphorus, phosphoric (residue); plasma (concentration); pressure; para (obstetric history)	PGB prostaglandin B
Na [Modern L.] <i>natrum</i> , sodium	NSAID nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug	³²P phosphorus-32	PGE prostaglandin E
NA <i>Nomina Anatomica</i>	NSR normal sinus rhythm	P₁ first parental generation	PGF prostaglandin F
NAD nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide; no apparent (or acute) distress	NUG necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis	PA Physician Assistant; posteroanterior	pH hydrogen ion concentration; p (power) of [H ⁺] ₁₀
NAD⁺ nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (oxidized form)	Ω omega; ohm	PA Physician's Assistant; posteroanterior; pulmonary artery	Ph phenyl
NADH nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (reduced form)	o- ortho	P_a pascal; protactinium	Ph¹ Philadelphia (chromosome)
NADP nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (oxidized form)	O [L.] <i>oculus</i> , eye; opening (in formulas for electrical reactions); oxygen	PA para-aminobenzoic acid	PHA phytohemagglutinin (antigen)
NADP⁺ nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (oxidized form)	O & P ova and parasites	PAF platelet-aggregating (or platelet-activating) factor	Pharm D Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharmaciae Doctor)
NADPH nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (reduced form)	OAV oculoauriculovertebral (dysplasia, syndrome)	PAH paraaminohippuric (acid)	PhD Doctor of Philosophy (Philosophiae Doctor)
NAME nevi, atrial myxoma, myxoid neurofibromas, and ephelides (syndrome)	OB obstetrics	PAO₂ partial pressure of arterial oxygen	PhD [L.] <i>Philosophiae Doctor</i> , Doctor of Philosophy
NANDA North American Nursing Diagnosis Association	OB/GYN obstetrics (and) gynecology	PAS para aminosalicyclic (acid), periodic acid Schiff (reagent)	Phe phenylalanine (or its radical)
Nb niobium	OBS organic brain syndrome	PASA para aminosalicyclic acid	PhG [L.] <i>Pharmacopoeia Germanica</i> , German Pharmacopoeia
	OC oral contraceptive	PAT paroxysmal atrial tachycardia	PhN Graduate in Pharmacy
	OCD obsessive compulsive disorder		PHN Public Health Nurse; postherpetic neuralgia
	OD Doctor of Optometry; Officer of the Day; overdose		
	ⓀOD [L.] <i>oculus dexter</i> , right eye		
	ODD oculodentodigital (dysplasia, syndrome)		
	Oe oersted (centimeter gram second unit of magnetic field strength)		

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COMMON MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

APP 21

PICC peripherally inserted central catheter	PRA plasma renin activity	r racemic; roentgen	RLQ right lower quadrant
PID pelvic inflammatory disease	PRF prolactin releasing factor	R gas constant (8.315 joules); (organic) radical; Réaumur (scale) ; [L.] recipe, take; resistance determinant (plasmid); resistance (electrical); resistance (unit) (in the cardiovascular system); resolution; respiration; respiratory (exchange ratio); roentgen	RMA right mentoanterior (fetal position)
PIF prolactin inhibiting factor	PRL prolactin	RA rheumatoid arthritis	RML right middle lobe
PIP proximal interphalangeal (joint)	p.r.n. PRN, [L.] <i>pro re nata</i> , as needed	rad radian	RMP right mentoposterior (fetal position)
pK negative logarithm of the ionization constant (Ka) of an acid	Pro proline (or its radicals)	RAD reactive airways disease	RMT right mentotransverse (fetal position)
PK pyruvate kinase	PROM passive range of motion; premature rupture of membranes	RAS resistance activating system	Rn radon
PKU phenylketonuria	psi pounds per square inch	RAST radioallergosorbent test	RN Registered Nurse
pm picometer	PSV pressure-supported ventilation	RAV Rous-associated virus	RNA Registered Nurse Anesthetist; ribonucleic acid
Pm promethium	PT physical therapy; prothrombin time	RAW resistance, airway	RNase ribonuclease
PM post mortem	Pt platinum	RB rubidium	RNC Registered Nurse, Certified
PMI point of maximum intensity	PTA plasma thromboplastin antecedent; phosphotungstic acid; prior to admission	rbc red blood cell; red blood (cell) count	RNP Registered Nurse Practitioner
PMN polymorphonuclear (leukocyte)	PTAH phosphotungstic acid hematoxylin	RBC red blood cell; red blood (cell) count	RNP ribonucleoprotein
PMS premenstrual syndrome	PTCA percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty	RBF renal blood flow	R/O rule out
PN Practical Nurse	PTH parathyroid hormone	RCM right costal margin	ROA right occipitoanterior (fetal position)
PND paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea; postnasal drip	PTT partial thromboplastin time	RD reaction of degeneration; reaction of denervation; Registered Dietitian	ROM range of motion
PNP platelet neutralization procedure	PTU prophylthiouracil	RDA recommended daily allowance	ROP right occipitoposterior (fetal position)
PNPB positive negative pressure breathing	Pu plutonium	RDH Registered Dental Hygienist	ROS review of systems
PNS peripheral nervous system	PUO pyrexia of unknown origin	rDNA ribosomal DNA	ROT right occipitotransverse (fetal position)
Po polonium	PUPPP pruritic urticarial papules and plaques of pregnancy	RDS respiratory distress syndrome	RP retinitis pigmentosa
PO [L.] per os, by mouth	PUVA (oral administration of) psoralen (and subsequent exposure to) ultraviolet light of A wavelength (UV A)	RDW red (blood cell) diameter (or distribution) width	RP Registered Pharmacist
PO₂ , Po₂ partial pressure of oxygen	PVC polyvinyl chloride; premature ventricular contraction	RE right ear; right eye	RPF renal plasma flow
POEMS polyneuropathy, organomegaly, endocrinopathy, monoclonal protein, and skin changes (syndrome)	PVL plasma viral load	rem roentgen equivalent, man	RPh Registered Pharmacist
POMP prednisone, Oncovin (vincristine sulfate), methotrexate, and Purinethol (6-mercaptopurine)	PVP polyvinylpyrrolidone (povidone)	REM rapid eye movement (sleep); reticular erythematous mucinosis	rpm revolutions per minute
POR problem-oriented (medical) record	q [L.] <i>quisque</i> , every	rep roentgen equivalent, physical	RPR rapid plasma reagin (test)
PP pyrophosphate	Q coulomb; volume of blood flow	RF release factor; rheumatoid factor	RQ respiratory quotient
PPCA proserum prothrombin conversion accelerator	Qco₂ microliters CO ₂ given off per milligram of dry-weight of tissue per hour	RFA right frontoanterior (fetal position)	rRNA ribosomal RNA
PPD purified protein derivative (of tuberculin)	Qq.d. [L.] <i>quaque die</i> , every day	RFLP restriction fragment length polymorphism	RR relative risk
PPLO pleuropneumonia like organism	q.i.d. [L.] <i>quater in die</i> , four times a day	RFP right frontoposterior (fetal position)	RRR relative risk reduction
ppm parts per million	QNS quantity not sufficient	RFT right frontotransverse (fetal position)	Rs resolution
PPO 2,5-diphenyloxazole	Qo oxygen consumption	Rh Rhesus (Rh blood group); rhodium	RS respiratory syncytial (virus)
PPPPP pain, pallor, pulselessness, paresthesia, paralysis	Qo₂ oxygen consumption	RH releasing hormone	RSA right sacroanterior (fetal position)
PPPPPP pain, pallor, pulselessness, paresthesia, paralysis, prostration	Qq.o.d. every other day	RIA radioimmunoassay	RSD reflex sympathetic dystrophy
PPV positive pressure ventilation	q. s. [L.] <i>quantum satis</i> , as much as is enough; [L.] <i>quantum sufficiat</i> , as much as may suffice; quantity sufficient	Rib ribose	RSP right sacroposterior (fetal position)
Pr praseodymium; presbyopia		RLL right lower lobe	RST right sacrotransverse (fetal position)
PR per rectum			RSV Rous sarcoma virus; respiratory syncytial virus

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RVEF right ventricular ejection fraction	SIDS sudden infant death syndrome	SSRI selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor	TBP thyroxine-binding protein
RVH right ventricular hypertrophy	sig. [L.] <i>signa</i> , affix a label, inscribe	ST scapulothoracic	TBV total blood volume
σ sigma; reflection coefficient; standard deviation; 1 millisecond (0.001 sec)	SIMV spontaneous intermittent mandatory ventilation; synchronized intermittent mandatory ventilation	stat; STAT [L.] <i>statim</i> , immediately, at once	Tc technetium
s [L.] <i>semis</i> , half; steady state (SUBSCRIPT); [L.] <i>sinister</i> , left	SIRD source-to-image-receptor distance	STD sexually transmitted disease	^{99m}Tc technetium 99m
s sine, without	SISI small increment (or short increment) sensitivity index (test)	STEL short term exposure limit	TCA tricarboxylic acid; trichloroacetic acid
s/s signs and symptoms	SK streptokinase	STH somatotrophic hormone	TCN talocalcaneonavicular (joint)
S [L.] <i>sinister</i> , left; saturation of hemoglobin (percentage of) (followed by subscript O ₂ or CO ₂); siemens; spheric; spheric (lens); sulfur; Svedberg (unit)	SL sublingual(ly)	STI sexually transmitted infection	Td tetanus-diphtheria (toxoids, adult type)
S₁ first selfing generation	SLE systemic lupus erythematosus	STM short-term memory	TDP ribothymidine 5' diphosphate
SA sinuatrial	SLR straight leg raising	STPD standard temperature (0° C) and pressure (760 mmHg absolute), dry	Te tellurium
S-A sinuatrial	Sm samarium	STS serologic test for syphilis	TEDD total end-diastolic diameter
SAD seasonal affective disorder	SMS Senior Medical Student	Sv sievert (unit)	TEN toxic epidermal necrolysis
Sa_{O2} oxygen saturation (of arterial (oxyhemoglobin))	Sn [L.] <i>stannum</i> , tin	SV sievert (unit)	TESD total end-systolic diameter
SARS severe acute respiratory syndrome	SN Student Nurse	SVT supraventricular tachycardia	TFCI transient focal cerebral ischemia
Sb [L.] <i>stibium</i> , antimony	SOAP subjective data, objective data, assessment, and plan (problem oriented medical record)	Sz seizure	Th thorium
SBE subacute bacterial endocarditis	SOB short(ness) of breath	t metric ton	THC tetrahydrocannabinol
sc subcutaneous(ly)	sol. solution	t temperature (Celsius); tritium	Thr threonine (or its radicals)
Sc scandium	soln. solution	T temperature, absolute (Kelvin); tension (intraocular); tera ; tesla; tetanus (toxoid); tidal (volume) (SUBSCRIPT); tocopherol; transverse (tubule); tritium; tumor (antigen)	Ti titanium
SC sternoclavicular; subcutaneous(ly)	SP Speech Pathologist	T absolute temperature (Kelvin)	t_i/t_{tot} duty cycle
ScD Doctor of Science	S/P status post	T! decreased tension (pressure)	TIA transient ischemic attack
SCID severe combined immunodeficiency	sp. gr. specific gravity	T+ increased tension (pressure)	TIBC total iron-binding capacity
SD standard deviation; streptodornase	sp. species	T₃ 3,5,5' triiodothyronine	t.i.d. [L.] <i>ter in die</i> , three times a day
SDA specific dynamic action	SPA single proton absorptiometry	T₄ tetraiodothyronine (thyroxine)	tinct. tincture
Se selenium	SPCA serum prothrombin conversion accelerator (factor VII)	T & A tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy	TITH 3,5,3' triiodothyronine
Ser serine	SPECT single photon emission computed tomography	T & C type and crossmatch	Qt.i.w. three times a week
SERM selective estrogen receptor modulator	SPF sun protection (or protective) factor	Ta tantalum	TKO to keep (venous infusion line) open
Sf Svedberg flotation (constant, unit)	sph spheric (lens)	TA <i>Terminologia Anatomica</i>	TI thallium
SGA small for gestational age	spm suppression and mutation	tab tablet	TLC thin layer chromatography; total lung capacity; tender, loving care
SGOT serum glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase (aspartate aminotransferase)	spp. species (plural)	TAC transient aplastic crisis	TLV threshold-limit value
SGPT serum glutamic-pyruvic transaminase (alanine aminotransferase)	SQ subcutaneous	TAD transient acantholytic dermatosis	t_m temperature midpoint (Celsius)
SH serum hepatitis	Sr strontium	TAF tumor angiogenesis factor	T_m temperature midpoint (Kelvin)
SI [French] <i>Système International d'Unités</i> ; International System of Units	SRF somatotropin releasing factor	TAH total abdominal hysterectomy	Tm thulium; tubular maximal (excretory capacity of kidneys)
Si silicon	SRF-A slow reacting factor of anaphylaxis	TAR thrombocytopenia with absent radii (syndrome)	TM transport maximum
SID source-to-image (-receptor) distance	SRIF somatotropin-release-inhibiting factor	TAT thematic apperception test	TMJ temporomandibular joint
	sRNA soluble RNA	Tb terbium	TMP ribothymidine 5' monophosphate
	SRS slow-reacting substance (of anaphylaxis)	TB tuberculosis	TMT tarsometatarsal
	SRS-A slow-reacting substance of anaphylaxis	TBG thyroid-binding globulin	TMV tobacco mosaic virus
	ssDNA single stranded DNA		Tn (ocular) tension; (intraocular) tension normal
	ssp. subspecies		TNF tumor necrosis factor
			TNM tumor, node, metastasis (tumor staging)

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TORCH toxoplasmosis, other, rubella, cytomegalovirus, and herpes simplex (maternal infections)	UA urinalysis	V_a/Q̇ ventilation/perfusion ratio	V_T tidal volume
t-PA, TPA tissue plasminogen activator	UDP uridine diphosphate	V₁CV₆ unipolar precordial electrocardiogram chest leads	VZIG varicella-zoster immune globulin
TPHA <i>Treponema pallidum</i> hemagglutination (test)	UDPG uridine diphosphate glucose	VA viral antigen	W watt; [German] <i>Wolfram</i> , tungsten
TPI <i>Treponema pallidum</i> immobilization (test)	UGIS upper gastrointestinal series	VA ventriculoatrial	Wb weber
TPN total parenteral nutrition	UMP uridine monophosphate (uridylic acid)	Val valine (and its radicals)	WBC white blood cell; white blood (cell) count
TPR temperature, pulse, and respirations	u-PA urokinase	VATER vertebral defects, imperforate anus, tracheoesophageal fistula with esophageal atresia, and radial and renal dysplasia (complex)	WC Ward Clerk
tr. tincture	UPJ ureteropelvic junction	VBAC vaginal birth after cesarean	WD well-developed
TRH thyrotropin releasing hormone (stimulation test)	Urd uridine	VC vision, color; vital capacity	WDL well-differentiated lymphoma
TRIC trachoma inclusion conjunctivitis (organism)	URI upper respiratory infection	VCE vagina, (ecto)cervix, endocervical canal	WEE western equine encephalomyelitis
tRNA transfer RNA	US ultrasound	V_b (physiologic) dead space	WHO World Health Organization
Trp tryptophan (and its radicals)	USAN United States Adopted Names (Council)	VDRL Venereal Disease Research Laboratory (test)	WN well nourished
TSH thyroid stimulating hormone	USP <i>United States Pharmacopeia</i>	VHDL very high density lipoprotein	WNV West Nile virus
TSS toxic shock syndrome	USPHS United States Public Health Service	VIP vasoactive intestinal polypeptide	X xanthosine
TSTA tumor-specific transplantation antigen	UTI urinary tract infection	VLDL very low density lipoprotein	Xao xanthosine
TTP thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura	UTP uridine triphosphate	VMA vanillylmandelic acid (test)	Xe xenon
TU toxic unit, toxin unit	UV ultraviolet	V_{max} maximal velocity	¹³³Xe xenon 133
TUR transurethral resection	UVB ultraviolet B	VN Visiting Nurse, Vocational Nurse	XU excretory urogram
TVUS transvaginal ultrasound	UVJ ureterovesical junction	VO vocal order	Y yttrium
Tx treatment	v venous (blood); volt	VP vasopressin	YAG yttrium-aluminum-garnet (laser)
Tyr tyrosine (and its radicals)	V vanadium; vision; visual (acuity); volt; volume (frequently with subscripts denoting location, chemical species, and conditions)	VR vocal resonance	Yb ytterbium
U uranium; uridine (in polymers); urinary (concentration)	V̇ ventilation; gas flow (frequently with subscripts indicating location and chemical species); ventilation;	VS vital signs; volumetric solution	Z carbobenzoxy (chloride) pressure
ⓀU unit	V_A alveolar ventilation		ZES Zollinger Ellison syndrome
			Zn zinc
			⁶⁵Zn zinc 65
			Zr zirconium
			ZSR zeta sedimentation ratio

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