

COMMONLY USED ABBREVIATIONS

This is a partial list and is not intended to approve the abbreviations for hospital use. Each hospital has a list of those used in that institution and generally prefer students do not abbreviate. DO NOT CREATE YOUR OWN. When in doubt, write it out.

abd	abdomen	ml	milliliter
ac	before meals	Na	sodium
ADL	activities of daily living	NAS	no added salt
ad lib	as desired	NPO	nothing by mouth
		NS	normal saline
amb	ambulatory	qd	every day
amp	ampule	OOB	out of bed
BE	barium enema	OR	operating room
bid	twice a day	oz	ounce
BM	bowel movement	p	after
BP	blood pressure	pc	after meals
BRP	bathroom privileges	per	by or through
CBC	complete blood count	PERRLA	pupils equally round, reactive to light and accommodation
CBR	complete bed rest		
cc	cubic centimeter (use mL instead)	PMI	point of maximum impulse
c/o	complains of	po	by mouth
C&S	culture & sensitivity	prn	when necessary
CSR	central supply room	q	every
DAT	diet as tolerated	qh	every hour
DNR	do not resuscitate	q2h	every 2 hours
dr	dram	qid	four times a day
drsg	dressing	qs	sufficient quantity
Dx	diagnosis	R	right
ECG (EKG)	electrocardiogram	RBC	red blood cell
EOM	equal ocular movement	RLE	right lower extremity
elix	elixir	RLQ	right lower quadrant
Gm	gram	RUQ	right upper quadrant
GI	gastrointestinal	s	without
gr	grain	sc	subcutaneous
gtt	drop	SOB	short of breath
h (hr)	hour	ss	one half
Hgb	hemoglobin	STAT	at once
Hct	hematocrit	tab	tablet
		tid	three times a day
ID	intra dermal	TPR	temperature, pulse, respirations
IM	intramuscular	UA	urinalysis
		WBC	white blood cell
I&O	intake & output	WNL	within normal limits
IV	intravenous	wt	weight
IVP	intravenous pyelogram		
K	potassium		
kg	kilogram		
LLQ	left lower quadrant		
LUQ	left upper quadrant		
MAE	moves all extremities		
MAR	medication administration record		
mx	minim		
mEq	milliequivalent		
mg	milligram		