

List of abbreviations



Medical abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|--------------|---|
| A | |
| AAA | abdominal aortic aneurysm |
| ABG | arterial blood gas |
| ACLS | advanced care life support |
| ACS | acute coronary syndrome |
| AED | automatic external defibrillator |
| AF | atrial fibrillation |
| AFlut | atrial flutter |
| AICD | automated implantable cardioverter defibrillator |
| ALOC | altered level of consciousness |
| ALS | advanced life support |
| AMHS | authorised mental health service |
| AMI | acute myocardial infarction |
| amp | ampoule |
| ART | arterial line (used for invasive pressure monitoring) |
| ATLS | advanced trauma life support |
| AV | atrioventricular |
| B | |
| BGL | blood glucose level |
| BLS | basic life support |
| BP | blood pressure |
| BSA | body surface area |
| BVM | bag valve mask |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| C | |
| CABG | coronary artery bypass graft |
| CAD | coronary artery disease |
| cap | capsule |
| CCB | calcium channel blocker |
| CCF | congestive cardiac failure |
| CCP | Critical Care Paramedic |
| CCU | coronary care unit |
| CF | cystic fibrosis |
| CHF | congestive heart failure |
| cmHg | centimetres of mercury |
| CNS | central nervous system |
| c/o | complaining of |
| CO | carbon monoxide |
| CO₂ | carbon dioxide |
| COPD | chronic obstructive pulmonary disease |
| c/t | called to |
| CPAP | continuous positive airways pressure |
| CPR | cardiopulmonary resuscitation |
| CSF | cerebrospinal fluid |
| CT | computerised tomography |
| CVA | cerebrovascular accident |
| CVL | central venous line |
| CXR | chest x-ray |

Medical abbreviations (cont.)

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|------------------------|---|
| D | |
| DCCS | direct current countershock |
| DCI | decompression illness |
| DIC | disseminated intravascular coagulation |
| DKA | diabetic ketoacidosis |
| DM | diabetes mellitus |
| DS | decision supported |
| DOA | dead on arrival |
| DVT | deep vein thrombosis |
| E | |
| eARF | electronic ambulance report form |
| EBL | estimated blood loss |
| ECG | electrocardiogram |
| EEA | emergency examination authority |
| EEG | electroencephalograph |
| EMD | electromechanical dissociation |
| ENT | ear, nose and throat |
| ETT | endotracheal tube |
| ESoP | extended scope of practice |
| F | |
| FAST | focused assessment with sonography for trauma |
| FBC | full blood content |
| FiO₂ | fractional inspired oxygen concentration |
| FR | first responder |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|--------------|--|
| G | |
| g | Gram(s) |
| GA | general anaesthesia |
| GABA | gamma amino butyric acid |
| GCS | glasgow coma scale |
| GI | gastrointestinal |
| GIT | gastrointestinal tract |
| GSW | gun shot wound |
| GU | gastric ulcer |
| H | |
| Hb | haemoglobin |
| HI | head injury |
| hrs | hours |
| Hx | history |
| I | |
| IM | intramuscular |
| IO | intraosseous |
| IV | intravenous |
| ICC | intercostal catheter |
| ICD | implantable cardioverter defibrillator |
| ICP | intracranial pressure |
| ICS | intercostal space |
| ICU | intensive care unit |
| IDC | in-dwelling catheter |

Medical abbreviations (cont.)

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|------------------|--|
| I (cont.) | |
| ILCOR | international liaison committee on resuscitation |
| INH | inhalation |
| inj | injection |
| INR | international normalised ratio (of prothrombin time) |
| IPPV | intermittent positive pressure ventilations |
| IV | intravenous |
| IV inf | intravenous infusion |
| J | |
| J | joule |
| K | |
| kg | kilogram |
| KSAR | known severe adverse reactions |
| L | |
| L) | left |
| LBBB | left bundle branch block |
| LLQ | left lower quadrant |
| L/min | litres per minute |
| LMA | laryngeal mask airway |
| LMP | last menstrual period |
| LOC | level of consciousness |
| LUQ | left upper quadrant |
| LVF | left ventricular failure |
| LWI | local work instruction |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| M | |
| MAOIs | monoamine oxidase inhibitors |
| MAP | mean arterial pressure |
| Max | maximum |
| MCI | multi casualty incident |
| microg | microgram |
| mg | milligram |
| MI | myocardial infarction |
| MILS | manual inline stabilisation |
| mL | millimetre(s) |
| mmHg | millimetres of mercury |
| mmol | millimole |
| N | |
| n/a | not applicable |
| NAD | nil abnormality detected |
| NAS | intranasal |
| NC | nasal cannulae |
| NEB | nebulised |
| NMDA | N-Methyl D-Aspartate |
| NOF | neck of femur |
| NSAIDs | non-steroidal anti inflammatory drugs |
| NSTEMI | non-ST elevation myocardial infarct |

Medical abbreviations (cont.)

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|-------------------------|---|
| O | |
| ODT | orally disintegrating tablet |
| O₂ | oxygen |
| O/A | on arrival |
| O/E | on examination |
| P | |
| PaCO₂ | partial pressure of carbon dioxide (arterial) |
| PaO₂ | partial pressure of oxygen (arterial) |
| PAC | premature atrial contraction |
| PCI | percutaneous coronary intervention (coronary) |
| PE | pulmonary embolism |
| PEF | peak expiratory flow |
| PEARL | pupils equal and reactive to light |
| PIB | pressure immobilisation bandage |
| PJC | premature junctional contraction |
| PMHx | past medical history |
| PO | Per oral |
| POC | products of conception |
| PPE | personal protective equipment |
| PPH | post-partum haemorrhage |
| p.r | per rectum |
| pm | when required |
| PSA | perfusion status assessment |
| PSHS | public sector health service |
| pt | patient |
| PV | per vaginal |
| PVC | premature ventricular contraction |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|------------------------|---|
| Q | |
| QPS | Queensland Police Service |
| R | |
| R) | right |
| RBBB | right bundle branch block |
| RLQ | right lower quadrant |
| ROSC | return of spontaneous circulation |
| RSI | rapid sequence induction |
| RTC | road traffic crash |
| RUQ | right upper quadrant |
| RV | right ventricle |
| Rx | treatment |
| RxBA | treatment before arrival |
| S | |
| SaO₂ | oxygen saturation |
| SB | sinus bradycardia |
| sc | subcutaneous |
| SFM | simple face mask |
| sl | sublingual |
| SMR | spinal motion restriction |
| SNRI | serotonin and noradrenaline re-uptake inhibitor |
| SOB | shortness of breath |
| SOL | space occupying lesion |
| SR | sinus rhythm |

Medical abbreviations (cont.)

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|------------------|---|
| S (cont.) | |
| SSRI | selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor |
| ST | sinus tachycardia |
| STEMI | ST-elevation myocardial infarction |
| SUBCUT | subcutaneous |
| SUBLING | sublingual |
| SVT | supraventricular tachycardia |
| T | |
| TCA | tricyclic antidepressants |
| TCP | transcutaneous pacing |
| TIA | transient ischaemic attack |
| TNK | tenecteplase |
| Tx | transport |
| U | |
| URTI | upper respiratory tract infection |
| UTI | urinary tract infection |
| PJC | premature junctional contraction |
| V | |
| VEB | ventricular ectopic beat |
| VF | ventricular fibrillation |
| VT | ventricular tachycardia |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| W | |
| WNL | within normal limits |
| Miscellaneous | |
| # | fracture |
| 1/60 | one minute |
| 1/24 | one hour |
| 1/7 | one day |
| 1/52 | one week |
| 1/12 | one month |
| < | less than |
| > | greater than |
| ≤ | less than or equal to |
| ≥ | greater than or equal to |