

## Clinical Reference Manual

Thanks to Megan E. Wren, MD, FACP (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Professor of Medicine

Associate Director, Internal Medicine Residency

Division of General Medicine, Department of Medicine

Washington University School of Medicine

## CLINICAL ABBREVIATIONS & GLOSSARY

**Page 1 – Common abbreviations in medication orders**

**Page 2 – Clinical Glossary**

**Page 3 – Full list of abbreviations**

Also see the Medical Etymology section of the online Clinical Reference Manual for more help with vocabulary.

### Common abbreviations in medication orders:

Q or q	Every (always used with some time interval, such as Q6 hrs)
Q day	every day
BID or bid	<i>bis in die</i> , twice a day
TID or tid	<i>ter in die</i> , three time a day
QID or qid	<i>quarter in die</i> , four times a day
PRN or prn	<i>pro re nata</i> , as often as needed
Q x hours (eg, Q 4hrs or q 4 hrs)	Every x hours
i, ii, iii, iv (lower case Roman #s)	1, 2, 3, 4
PO or po	<i>per os</i> = by mouth
SL	sublingual
PR	<i>Per rectum</i>
IV	Intravenously

### BJH Guidelines on Abbreviations:

Unacceptable form	Acceptable form
Zero after decimal (1.0 mg)	No terminal zero (1 mg)
No zero before decimal (.5mg)	Zero before decimal (0.5 mg)
U or u	Write "unit"
µg	Write "mcg" or "microgram"
cc	Write "mL" or "ml" or "milliliters" or "cubic centimeters"
QOD or qod	Write "every other day"
QD or Q.D.	Write "daily" or "every day" or "Q day" or "Q 24 hours"
HS	Write "half-strength" or "at bedtime"
AU, AS, AD	Write "both ears" or "left ear" or "right ear"
OU, OS, OD	Write "both eyes" or "left eye" or "right eye"
TIW	Write "three times weekly" or specify days ("Q M-W-F")

IU	Write "international units"
MS, MSO4, MgSO4	Write "magnesium sulfate" or "morphine sulfate"

## Clinical Glossary

Attending (or attending physician)	An attending physician has finished training, may practice medicine without supervision (supervises students, interns, residents, fellows in teaching hospitals; i.e., faculty level)
BSN	Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Call, to be on call	To be on duty for accepting new admissions to the hospital; in the old days residents were usually on call for 24 hours followed by a normal working day; now hours are limited to 16 hours (R1) or 28 hours (R2 +)
Charge Nurse	Effectively the manager on duty for a shift (wears a yellow jacket at BJH)
Chief Residents	The most senior level of residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In some fields (eg, Surgery, ObGyn) – all residents in last year of training; they have additional responsibilities and more independence</li> <li>• In other fields (eg, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics) – Chief Residents are a few (3-5) people who were invited to do an extra year of teaching &amp; administration (an honor to be chosen)</li> </ul>
Clinical Nurse Manager	Head nurse on a unit
CRNA	Certified RN Anesthetist; may practice semi-independently
Fellowship	Additional 1 to 3+ years of subspecialty training after a categorical residency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal Medicine → cardiology, rheumatology, etc</li> <li>• Surgery → cardiothoracic, surg. oncology, etc</li> <li>• Neurology → neuromuscular, epilepsy, etc</li> <li>• Ophtho → retina, cornea, etc</li> </ul>
GN	Graduate nurse, finished nursing school not yet “registered” (awaiting board exams)
House Officers (HO), House Staff (HS)	Interns, residents, fellows
Internship	The first year of residency training (1 <sup>st</sup> year after medical school)
LPN	Licensed practical nurse (<2 yrs training)
M3 or MS 3	3 <sup>rd</sup> year medical student
MA	Medical assistant
NP	Nurse Practitioner; additional training after RN; may practice semi-independently
PCT	Patient care tech
PGY1, PGY2, PGY3, ...	A resident in the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> ... etc year of training (PGY = Post Graduate Year)
PL1, PL2, PL3, ...	A resident in the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> ... etc year of training (PL = Postgraduate Level)
PSQI	Patient Safety and Quality Improvement
R1, R2, R3, ...etc	A resident in the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> ... etc year of training (R for Resident)
Residency	Clinical training after med school
Residency, categorical	“Categorical” residency leads to board eligibility in a specialty (Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, OBGyn, Radiology, etc) (3 to 5 years)
Residency, preliminary	“Preliminary” internship is one year of general training (IM, Gen Surg, Peds) before a categorical residency (Dermatology, Radiology, Radiation Oncology)
RN	Registered Nurse
Wards	Inpatient areas of the hospital (where the patients sleep); in contrast to outpatient areas/ER/clinics, or procedural areas (OR, PACU, endoscopy, etc)

**Other abbreviations (not necessarily recommended or approved!)**

A fib	Atrial fibrillation
A&Ox3	Alert & oriented x 3 (self, time, place)
A1c	Hemoglobin A1c or glycohemoglobin
A-a gradient	Alveolar to arterial oxygen gradient
AAA	Abdominal aortic aneurysm
AAF, AAM	African American female/male
Ab	Antibody
Abd	Abdomen
ABG	Arterial blood gases
Abx	Antibiotics
ac	Before meals
AC	Assist control (ventilation)
ACBE	Air contrast barium enema
ACD	Advanced cervical dilation
ACLS	Advanced cardiac life support
ACTH	Adrenocorticotrophic hormone
AD	<i>Aud dexter</i> , right ear [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
ad lib	As much as needed or desired
ADH	Antidiuretic hormone
AF	Atrial fibrillation
AF	Afebrile
AFB	Acid-fast bacilli
AFI	Amniotic fluid index
AFP	Alpha-fetoprotein
Ag	Antigen
AI	Aortic insufficiency
AI	Amnioinfusion
AKA	Above the knee amputation
ALB	Albumin
ALL	Acute lymphocytic leukemia
ALT	SGPT, alanine aminotransaminase
AMA	Antimitochondrial antibodies
AMI	Acute or anterior myocardial infarction
AML	Acute myelocytic leukemia
Amnio	Amniocentesis
ANA	Antinuclear antibodies
ANCA	Anti-neutrophilic cytoplasmic antibodies
Anes	Anesthesia- W- waiting, no epidural, EC- epidural by CRNA, ER- epidural by Resident)
AOD	Arrest of descent or dilatation, often clarified aodil, aodescent
AODM	Adult onset diabetes mellitus
AP	Anterior-posterior
APC	Atrial premature contraction
Appy	Appendectomy
APR	Abdominal-perineal resection
APU	Antepartum unit (5800 pvt)
ARDS	Adult respiratory distress syndrome

ARF	Acute renal failure
AROM	Artificial Rupture of Membranes
AS	Aortic stenosis
AS	<i>Aud sinister</i> , left ear [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
ASAP	As soon as possible
ASCVD	Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
ASD	Atrioseptal defect
ASHD	Atherosclerotic heart disease
ASMI	Anteroseptal myocardial infarction
AST	SGOT, aspartate aminotransaminase
ATTP	Abd tender to palpitation
AU	Both ears [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
AUB	Abdominal uterine bleeding
AV	Arteriovenous or atrioventricular
AZT	Zidovudine (azidothymidine)
AΦ	Alkaline phosphatase
B	Bilateral
B	Breech
b.i.d.	<i>Bis in die</i> , twice a day
BBB	Bundle branch block
BCCA	Basal cell carcinoma
BCG	<i>Bacillus calmette-guerin</i>
BCx	Blood culture
BE	Barium enema
BF/M	Black female/male
BKA	Below the knee amputation
BLE	Bright light exam
BM	Bowel movement
BMBx	Bone marrow biopsy
BME	Bimanual Exam (pelvic)
BMI	Body mass index
BP	Blood pressure
BPH	Benign prostatic hypertrophy
BPM	Beats per minute
BPP	Biophysical Profile - ultrasound-based assessment of fetal wellbeing, scored on a 10-point scale.
BR	Bathroom
BRBPR	Bright red blood per rectum
BrCa	Breast Cancer or brca gene
BRP	Bathroom privileges
BS	Breath sounds or bowel sounds
BS	Bilateral salpingectomies
BSO	Bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
BTL	Bilateral tubal ligation
BUN	Blood urea nitrogen
Bx	Biopsy
c	<i>Cum</i> , with
C&S	Culture and sensitivity
C&S	Culture & sensitivity (usually urine culture)

C/C/E	Clubbing, cyanosis, edema
C/D/I	Clean, dry, intact
C/L/H or C/TH/H	Closed (undilated), Long (uneffaced), and High (fetal head unengaged) or Closed, Thick, and High
C/O	Complaining of
C/S	Cesarean section
CA	Cancer
Ca <sup>++</sup>	Calcium
CABG	Coronary artery bypass grafting
CAD	Coronary artery disease
CBC	Complete blood count
CC	Chief complaint
CCK	Cholecystectomy
CCU	Coronary care unit
CCx	Cholecystectomy
CEA	Carcinoembryonic antigen
CF	Cystic fibrosis
CHF	Congestive heart failure
Chl or CT or Chlam	Chlamydia trachomatis
CHOL	Cholesterol
CI	Cardiac index
CIN	Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
CK	Creatine phosphokinase
Cl	Chloride
CLL	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
CML	Chronic myelogenous leukemia
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
CN	Cranial nerve
CNS	Central nervous system
CO	Cardiac output
COC	Combined oral contraceptive
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	Chest pain
CP	Chest pain
CPAP	Continuous positive airway pressure
CPK	Creatine phosphokinase
CPM	Continue present management
CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CPT	Chest physiotherapy
Cr	Creatinine
CrCl	Creatinine clearance
CRF	Chronic renal failure
CRI	Chronic renal insufficiency
CRNA	Certified registered nurse anesthetist
CRS	Colorectal surgery
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
C-sxn	Caesarean section
CT	Computed tomography

CT	Chest tube
CTM	Continue to monitor
CTS	Cardiothoracic surgery
Ctx	Contractions
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident
CVAT	Costovertebral angle tenderness
CVP	Central venous pressure
CVS	Clean voided sample (of urine for culture)
CVS	Chorionic villus sampling
CVU	Cardiovascular unit
Cvx	Cervix
Cx	Culture(s)
CXR	Chest x-ray
Cysto	Cystoscopy
D&C	Dilation and curettage
D/C or DC	Discharge or discontinue
D5W	5% dextrose in water
DB	Direct bilirubin
DBP	Diastolic blood pressure
DDx	Differential diagnosis
DER	Dual energy radiography (for bone mass)
DI	Diabetes insipidus
DIC	Disseminated intravascular coagulation
DIL	Dilation
DIP	Distal interphalangeal joint
DJD	Degenerative joint disease
DKA	Diabetic ketoacidosis
dl	Deciliter
DLCO	Diffusing capacity of the lung for carbon monoxide
DM	Diabetes mellitus
DNR	Do not resuscitate
DOA	Day of admission or dead on arrival
DOE	Dyspnea on exertion
DP	Dorsalis pedis (artery)
DPT	Diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus vaccination
DTR	Deep tendon reflexes
DU	Duodenal ulcer
DVT	Deep venous thrombosis
Dx	Diagnosis
Dx LSC	Diagnostic laparoscopy;
E, EFM	External fetal monitoring
EAB	Elective abortion
EBL	Estimated blood loss
EBV	Ebstein-Barr virus
ECG	Electrocardiogram
ECT	Electroconvulsive therapy
Ect	Ectopic pregnancies
EDC	Estimated Date of Confinement ("due date")
EDD	Estimated Date of Delivery

EFF	Effacement
EGA	Estimated gestational age
EKG	Electrocardiogram
EL	Exploratory laparotomy
Embx	Endometrial biopsy
EmCa	Endometrial cancer
EMG	Electromyography
ENA	Extractable nuclear antigens
ENT	Ear, nose and throat (otolaryngology)
EOMI	Extraocular movements intact
EP	Electrophysiologic study
Epid	Epidural
Epis	Episiotomy
ERCP	Endoscopic retrograde cholangio-pancreatography
ERPC	Endoscopic retrograde pancreato-cholangiography
ESR	Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
EST	Exercise stress test
ET	Endotracheal tube
ETM	Exercise treadmill
ETOH	Ethanol
EUA	Exam under Anesthesia
EUA	Examination (pelvic) Under Anesthesia
F, FSE	Fetal Scalp Electrode (monitors fetal pulse)
F/U or FU	Follow up
FA	Femoral artery
FAVD	Forceps assisted vaginal delivery
FBS	Fasting blood sugar
FDIU	Fetal Death in Uterus (aka IUFD)
FDP	Fibrin degradation products
FEV <sub>1</sub>	Forced expiratory volume at 1 second
FFP	Fresh frozen plasma
FHR	Fetal heart rate
FHT's	Fetal heart tones
FIO <sub>2</sub>	Fraction inspired oxygen (%)
FLK	First look
FLM	Fetal lung maturity
FLP	Fasting lipid profile
FMHx	Family history
FOB	Foot of bed
FRC	Functional residual capacity
FSH	Follicle stimulating hormone
FTA-ABS	Fluorescent treponemal antibody absorption
FTW	Failure to wean (from mechanical ventilation)
FUO	Fever of unknown origin
FV	Femoral vein
FVC	Forced vital capacity
FWB	Fetal well being
Fx	Fracture
G	Gravida

G_P	Gravidity (# pregnancies incl current); Parity (# birth events)
GBS	Group b beta streptococcus
GC	<i>Gonococcus</i>
GCT	Glucose challenge test
GDM	Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (classes A1, A2)
GERD	Gastroesophageal reflux disease
GET	General endotracheal (anesthesia)
GFR	Glomerular filtration rate
GGT	Glutamic-glutamyl transpeptidase
GHTN	Gestational hypertension
GI	Gastrointestinal
GJ (tube)	Gastro-jejunal tube
GLC	Glucose
GNR	Gram negative rod
GTCS	Generalized tonic-clonic seizure
GTT	Glucose tolerance test
gtt(s)	<i>Gutta</i> , drop(s)
GU	Genitourinary or gastric ulcer
H/H	Hemoglobin/hematocrit
H/O	History of
HA	Headache
HAV	Hepatitis A virus
HBP	High blood pressure
HBsAb	Hepatitis B surface antibody
HBsAg	Hepatitis B surface antigen
HBV	Hepatitis B virus
HCG	Human chorionic gonadotropin
Hct	Hematocrit
HCV	Hepatitis C virus
HDL	High density lipoprotein
HEENT	Head, eyes, ears, nose and throat
HELLP	Hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, low platelets
Hgb	Hemoglobin
HgbA <sub>1c</sub>	Hemoglobin A <sub>1c</sub> or glycohemoglobin
HH	Hiatal hernia
HHM	Humoral hypercalcemia of malignancy
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
HJR	Hepatojugular reflex
HO	House officer
HOB	Head of bed
HPF	High power field
HPI	History of the present illness
HR	Heart rate
HS	<i>Hora somni</i> , bedtime [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
HSC	Hysteroscopy
HSM	Hepatosplenomegaly or holosystolic murmur
HSV	Herpes simplex virus
HTCS	High transverse cesarean section
HTN	Hypertension

Hx	History
Hyst	Hysterectomy
I	Intact membranes
I&D	Incision and drainage
I&O	Intake and output
IAB	Induced abortion
IABP	Intra-aortic balloon pump
ICP	Intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy
ICU	Intensive care unit
ID	Identification or infectious diseases
IDDM	Insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
IHSS	Idiopathic hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
IJ	Internal jugular (vein)
IM	Intramuscular
IMI	Inferior myocardial infarction
IMV	Intermittent mandatory ventilation
INR	International normalized ratio
IOL	Induction of Labor
IS	Incentive spirometry
ISI	International sensitivity index
ITP	Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura
IUD	Intrauterine device
IUP	Intrauterine pregnancy
IUPC	Intrauterine Pressure Catheter (internal contraction monitor)
IV	Intravenous
IVAD	Intravenous access device
IVC	Inferior vena cava
IVDA	Intravenous drug abuse
IVP	Intravenous pyelogram
J tube	Jejunal tube
JP	Jackson-Pratt (surgical drain)
JVD	Jugular venous distention
K	Potassium
KUB	Kidneys, ureters and bladder (an abdominal film)
KVO	Keep vein open
L	Left or liter
L	Last menstrual period; also Long cervix
L&D	Labor and Delivery (5800 PVT)
LA	Left atrium
LAD	Left axis deviation or left anterior descending artery or lymphadenopathy
LAE	Left atrial enlargement
LAFB	Left anterior fascicular block
Lat	Lateral
LAVH	Laparoscopically-assisted vaginal hysterectomy
LBBB	Left bundle branch block
LDH	Lactate dehydrogenase
LDL	Low density lipoprotein
LDRP	Labor, Delivery, Recovery, Post-partum rooms
LEE	Lower extremity edema

LEEP	Loop electrical excision procedure
LFGRN	Lactose fermenting gram negative rod
LH	Leutinizing hormone
LIH	Left inguinal hernia
LLE	Left lower extremity
LLL	Left lower lobe
LLQ	Left lower quadrant
LLSB	Left lower sternal boarder
LMP	Last menstrual period
LMP	Last Menstrual Period (1st day of bleeding)
LND	Lymph node dissection
LP	Lumbar puncture
LPFB	Left posterior fascicular block
LPN	Licensed practical nurse
LSB	Left sternal boarder
LSC	Laparoscopy
LSO	Lysis of Adhesions
Lst Exam	Last cervical exam time
LTCS	Low Transverse Cesarean Section (refers to uterine incision)
LUE	Left upper extremity
LUL	Left upper lobe
LUQ	Left upper quadrant
LV	Left ventricle
LVEDP	Left ventricular end diastolic pressure
LVH	Left ventricular hypertrophy
M	Murmur
MAC	<i>Mycobacterium avium complex</i>
MAI	<i>Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare</i>
MAP	Mean arterial pressure
MCHC	Mean corpuscular hemoglobin
MCV	Mean corpuscular volume
Mec	Meconium
Mem	Membrane status - intact , bulging, ruptured, meconium
Mg	Magnesium
MI	Myocardial infarction
MIS	Minimally invasive surgery
ml	Milliliter
MMR	Measles-mumps-rubella vaccination
MR	Mitral regurgitation
MR	Mental retardation [old-dated and offensive term]
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
MRSA	Methacillin resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
MS	Mitral stenosis
MS	Multiple sclerosis
MS	Morphine sulfate [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
MSO <sub>4</sub>	Morphine sulfate [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
MVA	Motor vehicle accident
MVI	Multivitamin
N/V	Nausea or vomiting

Na	Sodium
NABS	Normal active bowel sounds
NAD	No active disease (on CXR) or no apparent distress
NAEON	No acute events overnight
NAS	No added salt (diet)
NCAT	Normocephalic, atraumatic
ND	Non distended
ng	Nanogram
NG	Nasogastric (tube)
NGT	Nasogastric tube
NH	Nursing home
NHP	Nursing home placement
NIDDM	Noninsulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NIH	National Institutes of Health
NKA	No known allergies
NKDA	No known drug allergies
NLFGNR	Non-lactose fermenting gram negative rod
NPH	Neutral protamine Hagedorn (a long acting insulin preparation)
NPH	Normal pressure hydrocephalus
npo	<i>Nil per os</i> , nothing by mouth
NS	Normal saline
NSAIDs	Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs
NSR	Normal sinus rhythm
NSSTTW	Nonspecific ST segment and T wave change
NST	Non Stress Test (fetal pulse and uterine contraction monitoring)
NSVD	Normal spontaneous vaginal delivery
NSVT	Nonsustained ventricular tachycardia
NT	Nasotracheal or nursing technician (nurse's aide)
O/W	Otherwise
OB/Gyn	Obstetrics and gynecology
OCPs	Oral contraceptive pills
OD	<i>Oculus dexter</i> , right eye [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
OD	Overdose
OGD	Old granulomatous disease (on chest c--ray)
OLT	Orthotopic liver transplant
OM	Otitis media
OOB	Out of bed
Op LSC	Operative laparoscopy
OR	Operating room
ORSA	Oxacillin resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
OS	<i>Oculus sinister</i> , left eye [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
OSSA	Oxacillin sensitive <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
OT	Oxytocin (aka Pitocin)
OTDB	Optimal tumor debulking
OU	Both eyes [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
p	<i>Post</i> , after
P	Para, pending
P	Parity
P3ROM	Preterm (<37 wk), Premature (before labor), Prolonged Rupture of Membranes

PA	Posteroanterior or pulmonary artery
PA	Para-aortic
PACU	Post-anesthesia care unit (“the recovery room”)
PAR	Post-anesthesia recovery (“the recovery room”)
PAT	Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
pc	<i>Post cibum</i> , after eating
PCN	Penicillin
PCO <sub>2</sub>	Partial pressure of carbon dioxide
PCP	<i>Pneumocystis carini</i> pneumonia
PCU	Patient care unit (ward)
PCWP	Pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
PDA	Patent ductus arteriosus
PE	Pulmonary embolus, physical exam or pleural effusion
PEEP	Positive end expiratory pressure
PEG	Polyethylene glycol
PEG (tube)	Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy tube
PERRL(A)	Pupils equal, round and reactive to light (and accommodation)
PFT	Pulmonary function tests
PGE1	Prostaglandin E1 (“cytotec” or misoprostol)
PGE2	Prostaglandin E2 (“Cervidil”)
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
PIH	Pregnancy Induced Hypertension (aka Preeclampsia)
PIP	Proximal interphalangeal joint
Plt	Platelets
PMHx	Past medical history
PMI	Point of maximal impulse
PMP	Prior Menstrual Period (before LMP)
PND	paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea
PNL	Prenatal Labs
PNS	Peripheral nervous system
PO or po	<i>Per os</i> , by mouth
PO <sub>2</sub>	Partial pressure of oxygen
PO <sub>4</sub>	Phosphate
POD	Post-operative day
POPs	Progestin only pills
POS	Position of baby- vertex, breech, transverse
PP	Post-partum
PPD	Purified protein derivative (TB skin test)
PPROM	Preterm (<37 wks), Premature (before labor), Prolonged Rupture of Membranes
PPTL	Postpartum tubal ligation
PR or pr	<i>Per rectum</i> , rectally
PRBC	Packed red blood cells
Pre-e	Pre-eclampsia
Pre-e w/SF	Preeclampsia with severe features
PRN or prn	<i>Pro re nata</i> , as often as needed
Prophy or PPX	Prophylaxis
PT	Prothrombin time, physical therapy, posterior tibial (artery)
Pt	Patient
PTCA	Percutaneous transluminal angioplasty

PTD	Preterm Delivery (<35 weeks)
PTH	Parathyroid hormone
PTL	Preterm labor
PTT	Partial thromboplastin time
PUD	Peptic ulcer disease
PVC	Premature ventricular contraction
PVT	Parkview Tower
Q or q	<i>Quaque</i> , every/each
QD or qd	<i>Quaque die</i> , every day [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
QHS or qhs	<i>Quaque hora somni</i> , every bedtime [NOTE – now regarded as an unacceptable abbreviation]
QID or q.i.d.	<i>Quarter in die</i> , four times a day
QOD or q.o.d.	Every other day
R	Right
R/O	Rule out
RA	Rheumatoid arthritis or right atrium
RAD	Right axis deviation
RAE	Right atrial enlargement
RATLH	Robot-assisted TLH
RBBB	Right bundle branch block
RBC	Red blood cell
RCA	Right coronary artery
RDP	Random donor platelets
RDW	Red cell distribution width
RF	Rheumatoid factor or rheumatic fever
RH	Radical hysterectomy
RI	Rubella immune
RIH	Right inguinal hernia
RLE	Right lower extremity
RLL	Right lower lobe
RLQ	Right lower quadrant
RML	Right middle lobe
RN	Registered nurse
RNI	Rubella non-immune
ROM	Range of motion
ROS	Review of systems
RPR	Rapid plasma reagin
RR	Respiratory rate
RRR	Regular rate and rhythm
RTA	Renal tubular acidosis
RTC	Return to clinic
RUE	Right upper extremity
RUL	Right upper lobe
RUQ	Right upper quadrant
RV	Right ventricle or residual volume
RVH	Right ventricular hypertrophy
Rx	Treatment or prescription
s	<i>Sine</i> , without
S/P	<i>Status post</i>

SA	Sinoatrial (node)
SAB	Spontaneous Abortion (delivery at 20 weeks or less)
SB	Stillbirth (delivery of nonviable fetus after 20 weeks)
SBE	Subacute bacterial endocarditis
SBFT	Small bowel follow through (a radiologic test)
SBO	Small bowel obstruction
SBP	Systolic blood pressure
SC	Subcutaneous
SCCA	Squamous cell carcinoma
SCH	Supracervical hysterectomy
SCV	Subclavian vein
SCx	Sputum culture
SDP	Single donor platelets
SEM	Systolic ejection murmur
SGC	Swan-Ganz catheter
SGOT	AST, serum glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase
SGPT	ALT, serum glutamic-pyruvic transaminase
SHx	Social history
SIADH	Syndrome of inappropriate ADH secretion
sig	<i>Signa</i> , write on the label
SL	Sublingual
SLE	Systemic lupus erythematosus
SNF	Skilled nursing facility
SOAP	Subjective, objective, assessment and plan
SOB	Short(ness) of breath
SOTDB	Suboptimal tumor debulking
spgr	Specific gravity
SQ	Subcutaneous
SROM	Spontaneous Rupture of Membranes
SSE	Sterile speculum exam
SSI	Sliding scale insulin
STA	Station
stat	<i>Statim</i> , immediately
SVC	Superior vena cava
SVD	Spontaneous vaginal delivery
SVE	Sterile vaginal exam
SVR	Systemic vascular resistance
SVT	Supraventricular tachycardia
Sx	Symptom(s)
Sz	Seizure
T	Term
T&C	Type and crossmatch (blood)
T&H	Type and hold (blood)
T&S	Type and screen (blood)
T, Toco	Tocodynamometer (external contraction monitor)
T3	Triiodothyronine
T4	Thyroxine
TAB	Therapeutic Abortion
TAH	Total Abdominal Hysterectomy (cervix removed)

TB	Tuberculosis or total bilirubin
TIA	Transient ischemic attack
TIBC	Total iron binding capacity
TID or t.i.d.	<i>Ter in die</i> , three times a day
TKO	To keep open (IV fluid rate)
TL	Tubal ligation
TLC	Total lung capacity or triple lumen catheter
TLH	Total laparoscopic hysterectomy
TM	Tympanic membrane
TNTC	Too numerous to count
TOLAC	Trial of Labor after Cesarean
TP	Total protein
TPN	Total parenteral nutrition
Tr	Transverse/estimated fetal weight in grams/ placenta location (A- anterior, P- posterior, F-fundal)
Tri 21	Trisomy 21
TROL	Term rupture on Labor
TSH	Thyroid stimulating hormone
TT	Thrombin time
TTM	Thallium treadmill (stress test)
TTP	Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura
TTP	Tenderness to palpation
TURBT	Transurethral resection of a bladder tumor
TURP	Transurethral resection of the prostate
TV	Tidal volume
TVH	Total vaginal hysterectomy
Tx	Treatment or therapy
Txp	Transplant
U C&S	Urine culture & sensitivity
U Cx	Urine culture
U/S	Ultrasound
UA	Urinalysis
UA	Uric acid
UA Dopp	Umbilical artery Dopplers
UAE	Uterine artery embolization
UFE	Uterine fibroid embolization
UFF	Undesired future fertility
UGI	Upper gastrointestinal series
Umb	Umbilicus
UOD	Urine output
URI	Upper respiratory tract infection
US	Ultra sound or unit secretary
USO	Unilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
UTI	Urinary tract infection
V	Vertex
V/Q	ventilation perfusion scan
Vag D/C	Vaginal Discharge
Vag Hyst	Vaginal Hysterectomy
VAVD	Vacuum assisted vacuum delivery

VB	Vaginal Bleeding
VBAC	Vaginal Birth after Cesarean Section
VC	Vital capacity
VF	Ventricular fibrillation
VPC	Ventricular premature contraction
VRE	Vancomycin resistant Enterococcus
VSS	Vital signs stable
VT	Ventricular tachycardia
WAC	Women's Assessment Center (5800 PVT)
WBC	White blood cell
WD/WN	Well-developed and well-nourished
WF, WM	White female, male
WNL	Within normal limits
WPW	Wolf-Parkinson-White Syndrome
XRT	Radiation therapy (x-ray therapy)
Y/O or YO or yo	Years old