

ABBREVIATIONS

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|------------------------|--|
| # | fracture |
| ↑ | increased/raised |
| ↓ | decreased/reduced |
| ♀ | female |
| ♂ | male |
| 1/12 | 1 month |
| 10 ⁹ /L | times ten to the power nine per litre |
| 8 ^o 8/24 | eight hourly |
| $\frac{1}{12}$ | 1 month |
| A&E | accident and emergency |
| a&w | alive and well |
| a.c. | before meals/food (Latin) |
| AB | apex beat |
| ABC | airways, breathing, circulation |
| abd / abdo. | abdomen |
| ABM | aggressive behaviour management |
| ACTH | adrenocorticotrophic hormone |
| ADLs | activities of daily living |
| AF | atrial fibrillation |
| AFP | alphafetoprotein |
| AHA | Area Health Authority |
| AI | aortic incompetence |
| AIDS | acquired immunodeficiency syndrome |
| AIN | Assistant in Nursing |
| amp. | ampoule |
| APPT | activated partial thromboplastin time |
| asp. | aspirate |
| b.d / b.i.d | twice a day (Latin) |
| BAL | blood alcohol level |
| bgl | blood glucose level |
| BIBA | brought in by ambulance |
| BMR | basal metabolic rate |
| BNO | bowels not opened |
| BO | bowels opened |
| BP | blood pressure |
| BS | breath sounds; bowel sounds |
| bsl | blood sugar level |
| c.c | with meals/food (Latin) |
| c/o | complains of |
| CA / Ca | cancer; carcinoma; calcium |
| CABG | coronary artery bypass graft |
| CAD | coronary artery disease |
| CAT | coaxial or computerised axial tomography |
| CBT | cognitive behavioural therapy |
| CCF | congestive cardiac failure |
| CD | Controlled Drug |
| CHF | chronic heart failure |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|------------------|---|
| CNS | central nervous system; Clinical Nurse Specialist |
| COAD | chronic obstructive airways disease (Australia COPD) |
| CO ₂ | carbon dioxide |
| CP | Care Plan |
| CPD | Continous Professional Development |
| CSF | cerebrospinal fluid |
| CSSD | Central Sterile Supply Depot |
| CSU | catheter specimen of urine |
| CT | cerebral tumour; coronary thrombosis; computerized tomography |
| CVP | Central Venous Pressure |
| CVA | cardiovascular accident; cerebrovascular accident |
| CVS | cardiovascular system; cerebrovascular system |
| Cx | cervix |
| CXR | chest X-ray |
| D/C | discharge |
| D&V | diarrhoea and vomiting |
| DKA | diabetic ketoacidosis |
| DOB | date of birth |
| dpm | drops per minute |
| DTs | delirium tremens (Latin) |
| DVT | deep venous thrombosis |
| Dx | diagnosis |
| EBP | Evidence of Best Practice |
| ECG | electrocardiogram |
| EDD | expected date of discharge |
| EN | Enrolled Nurse |
| EEG | electroencephalogram |
| ENT | ear, nose and throat |
| ETT | endotracheal tube |
| ESR | erythrocyte sedimentation rate |
| EUA | examination under anaesthesia |
| FB | foreign body |
| FBC | full blood count; Fluid Balance Chart |
| FH | family history |
| FOB | faecal occult blood |
| FUO | fever of unknown origin |
| GA | general anaesthetic |
| GB | gall bladder |
| GCS | Glasgow Coma Scale |
| GP | General Practitioner |
| GTN | glyceryl trinitrate |
| GTT | glucose tolerance test |
| GU | gastric ulcer |
| H ₂ O | water |
| Hb / Hgb | haemoglobin |
| HCA | Health Care Assistant |
| HDU | high dependency unit |
| Hep B | hepatitis B |
| HR | heart rate |
| HS | heart sounds |
| HT | hypertension |
| hypo | hypoglycaemic attack |
| ICF | intracellular fluid |
| ICP | Integrated Care Pathway |
| ICS | intercostal space |
| ICU | intensive care unit |
| IDC | indwelling catheter |
| IDDM | Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus |
| i.m / IM | intramuscular |
| INR | International Normalised Ratio |
| in situ | in place |
| IU | international unit |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|----------------|--|
| i.v / IV | intravenous |
| IV Abs | IV antibiotics |
| IVC | inferior vena cava; intravenous cannula |
| IVT | Intravenous Therapy |
| K | potassium |
| KCl | potassium chloride |
| L | left |
| L/L | litres per litre |
| LA | left atrium; local anaesthetic |
| lap. chole | laparoscopic cholecystectomy |
| LOC | level of consciousness |
| LV | left ventricle |
| M/F | male/female |
| mane | in the morning (Latin) |
| mcg | microgram |
| mg | milligram |
| MI | myocardial infarction |
| ml | millilitre |
| mmol/L | millimols per litre |
| MRI | magnetic resonance imaging |
| MRSA | Methicillia Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus |
| MSU | mid-stream urine |
| MSW | Medical Social Worker |
| NA | not applicable |
| Na | sodium |
| NAD | no abnormality detected; non-adhesive dressing |
| NBM | Nil by Mouth |
| n.c | nasal cannulae |
| NG | nasogastric |
| NIDDM | non-insulin dependent; diabetes mellitus |
| nocte | at night (Latin) |
| NOK | next of kin |
| NP | Nurse Prescriber |
| NPU | not passed urine |
| NSAIDS | non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs |
| N/S | Normal Saline |
| O ₂ | oxygen |
| o.d | daily (Latin) |
| O/E | on examination |
| OA | on admission |
| OAP | old age pensioner |
| OCP | oral contraceptive pill |
| Obs. | observations |
| OJ | orange juice |
| OPD | outpatient department |
| OT | operating theatre; occupational therapist |
| OTC | over-the-counter medication |
| P | pulse; protein; parity |
| p.o | by mouth (Latin) |
| p.r | by rectum (Latin) |
| p.r.n | as required |
| p.v | by vagina (Latin) |
| PACU | Post Anaesthesia Care Unit |
| PCA | patient controlled analgesia |
| PE | pulmonary embolism |
| PEG | Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy |
| PERLA | pupils equal and reactive to light and accommodation |
| PH | past history |
| PICC | peripherally inserted central catheter |
| PMH | past medical history |
| PONV | post-operative nausea and vomiting |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|------------------|--|
| POP | plaster of Paris |
| Pt. Ed | patient education |
| PUO | pyrexia of unknown or uncertain origin |
| PVD | peripheral vascular disease |
| q.d.s / q.i.d | four times a day (Latin) |
| R | right; respiration |
| RBC | red blood cell (count); red blood corpuscles |
| Rehab | rehabilitation |
| RMO | Resident Medical Officer |
| RN | Registered Nurse |
| ROM | range of motion |
| RR | Respiratory Rate |
| RTA | road traffic accident |
| RTI | respiratory tract infection |
| RTW | return to ward |
| Rx | take (in prescriptions); treatment (in case notes) (Latin) |
| s.c | subcutaneous |
| s.l | sublingual |
| SaO ₂ | oxygen saturation |
| SG | specific gravity |
| SHO | Senior House Officer |
| SLT | Speech and Language Therapist |
| SOB | short of breath |
| SOOB | sit out of bed |
| sphyg. | sphygmomanometer |
| stat. | immediately (Latin) |
| T | temperature |
| T&A | tonsils and adenoids |
| t.d.s / t.i.d | three times a day (Latin) |
| tabs | tablets |
| TEDS | Thromboembolism deterrent stockings |
| TIA | transient ischaemic attack |
| TIME | tissue, infection, moisture balance, edges of wound |
| TPR | temperature, pulse, respiration |
| u/a | urinalysis |
| U | urea; unit |
| URTI | upper respiratory tract infection |
| USS | ultrasound scan |
| UTI | urinary tract infection |
| VAC | vacuum assisted closure |
| VS | vital signs |
| WCC | white cell count |
| WNL | within normal limits |
| XR | X-ray |