


A

A&O	alert and oriented
A&P	anterior and posterior/ auscultation and percussion
A&W	alive and well
A2	aortic second sound
A	ankle jerk/reflex/ artery/ assessment/ abortion or miscarriage
a 	ante, before
aa	of each
AA	affected area
A-a gradient	alveolar to arterial gradient
AAA	abdominal aortic aneurysm
AAS	acute abdominal series
AB	abortion
ab	antibody
abd	abdomen
ABG	arterial blood gas
ABN	abnormal
Abnl	abnormal
ABO	a system of classifying blood groups
ABP	arterial blood pressure
ABR	auditory brainstem response
abs	absent
AC	anterior chamber
Ac	acute
ac	before meals
ACA	anterior cerebral artery
ACBE	air contrast barium enema

acc	accident
accom	accommodation
ACE	angiotensin converting enzyme
acid phos.	acid phosphate
ACL	anterior clavicular line/ anterior cruciate ligament
ACLS	advanced cardiac life support
ACTH	adrenocorticotropic hormone
AD	auris dexter (right ear)
Ad	up to, to
ad	alternating days/ as directed
ad hib	to be administered
ad lib	as desired
ADA	American Diabetes Association
ADD	attention deficit disorder/ average daily dose
add	abductor, abduction
ADH	antidiuretic hormone
ADHD	attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder
ADL	activities of daily living
adm	admission
AE	above elbow
A/E	air entry to lungs/ accident and emergency
AEA	above elbow amputation
AED	automatic external defibrillator
AF	atrial fibrillation/ afebrile
AFB	acid fast bacteria
Afib or AF	atrial fibrillation
AFIP	Armed Forces Institute of Pathology
AFL	atrial flutter
AFO	ankle-foot orthosis
AFP	alpha-fetoprotein

A/G	albumin/globulin ratio
AGA	appropriate gestational age
AI/R	aortic incompetence/insufficiency/ regurgitation
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
AJ	ankle jerk
AK	above knee
a.k.a.	also known as/ alcoholic ketoacidosis
AKA	above knee amputation
alb	albumin
alc	alcohol
alk phos	alkaline phosphate
ALL	acute lymphocytic/lymphoblastic leukemia
ALS	amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
ALT	alanine aminotransferase (formerly SGPT)/ alternating with
alt die (dieb)	every other day
alt h (hor)	every other hour
alt noc (noct)	every other night
am	morning
AMA	against medical advice/ American Medical Association
amb	ambulating/ ambulatory
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
AML	acute myeloid leukemia
amnio	amniocentesis
amp	ampule/ amputation
amt	amount
AN	anorexia nervosa
ANA	antinuclear antibody
anes	anesthesia
ann fib	annulus fibrosis

ANS	autonomic nervous system
ant	anterior
ante	before
ANUG	acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
anxty	anxiety
Ao	aorta
A/O	alert and oriented
AOB	alcohol on breath
AODM	adult onset diabetes mellitus
AOM	acute otitis media
AoR	aortic valve replacement
AP	antero-posterior/ ante partum
ap	before dinner
A-P	anteroposterior
AP resection	abdominal perineal resection of the rectum
AP/LAT	anterior, posterior, and lateral
APC	aspirin, phenacetin, and caffeine/ atrial premature contractions
aph	aphasia
appt	appointment
APR	abdominoperineal resection
APTT or PTT	activated partial thromboplastin time
aq	water
AR	aortic regurgitation
ARD	acute respiratory distress
ARDS	adult respiratory distress syndrome
ARF	acute respiratory failure/ acute rheumatic fever
AROM	artificial rupture of membranes
art	arterial
AS	left ear/ abdominal system/ aortic stenosis

as tol	as tolerated
ASA	aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid)/ American Society of Anesthesiologists
ASA 1	normal healthy patient
ASA 2	patient with mild systemic disease
ASA 3	patient with severe systemic disease
ASA 4	patient with incapacitating systemic disease that is constant threat to life
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
ASCVD	atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
ASD	atrial septal defect
ASHD	atherosclerotic heart disease
ASO	antistreptolysin O
AST	aspartate aminotransferase (formerly SGOT)
at flutter	atrial flutter
ATLS	advanced trauma life support
ATN	acute tubular necrosis
ATNR	asymmetrical tonic neck reflex
ATP	adenosine triphosphate
AU	both ears
aud	auditory
aur fib	auricular fibrillation
AV	arteriovenous/ atria ventricular valves
A-V	atrio-ventricular
AVF	arteriovenous fistula
AVM	arteriovenous malformation
A-VO₂	arteriovenous oxygen difference
AVR	aortic valve replacement
A/W	alive and well
Ax	axilla/ axillary
AXR	abdominal x-ray

A-Z	Ascheim-Zondek test
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B

B	biceps jerk/reflex/ bath
BA	barium
Bab	Babinski sign
bact	bacteriology
BaE	barium enema
BAER	brainstem auditory evoked response
BAL	broncho-alveolar lavage
Bas	basal/ basilar
baso	basophile
BBB	bundle branch block
BBT	basal body temperature
BCA	basal cell atypia
BCAA	branched chain amino acids
BCC	basal cell carcinoma
BCD	basal cell dysplasia
BCE	basal cell epithelioma
BCG	bacillus Calmette-Guerin vaccine (tuberculosis vaccine)
BCP	birth control pill
BDP	burn dressing change
BE	barium enema/ below elbow
BEA	below elbow amputation
BEE	basal energy expenditure
B/f	black female
BFP	biological false positive

BG	blood glucose
bic	biceps
bid	bis in die (twice a day)
BIH	bilateral inguinal hernia
bilat	bilateral/ bilaterally
bili	bilirubin
bin	twice during the night
BiW	twice weekly
BJ	biceps reflex
BK	below knee
bk	back
BKA	below knee amputation
bl cult	blood culture
bld	blood
BLS	basic life support
BIT	bleeding time
BM	bowel movement/ bone marrow
B/m	black male
BMI	body mass index
BMR	basal metabolic rate
BMT	Bone Marrow Transplant
BN	bulimia nervosa
BNO	bowels not opened
body wt	body weight
bol	pill
BOM	bilateral otitis media
BOMA	otitis media, both ears, acute
BOR	bowels open regularly
BOW	bag of water
B/P	blood pressure

BPD	bronchopulmonary dysplasia
BPd	diastolic blood pressure
BPH	benign prostatic hypertrophy
bpm	beats per minute
BPs	systolic blood pressure
BR	bedrest/ bathroom
Br	breech presentation
brach	brachial
BRBPR	bright red blood per rectum
BrBx	breast biopsy
broncho	bronchoscopy
BRP	bathroom privileges
BS	bowel sounds/ breath sounds/ blood sugar
BSA	body surface area
BSB	bedside bag
BSC	bedside commode
BSD	bedside drainage
BSO	bilateral salpingoophorectomy
BSP	bromsulphalein
BSS	balanced salt solution
BST	blood serologic test
BT	bleeding time
BTL	bilateral tubal ligation
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
BW	birth weight
BX, Bx	biopsy

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C

c&s	culture and sensitivity
C	cervical/ Caucasian
C.	centigrade/ Celsius complement/ gallon
c []	con, with
C-1 to C-7	cervical vertebrae
CI-XII	first to twelfth cranial nerve
CA	cancer, carcinoma
Ca	calcium
CAA	crystalline amino acids
CAB	coronary artery bypass
CABG/S or CAG/S	coronary artery (bypass) graft/surgery
CAD	coronary artery disease
CAHD	coronary atherosclerotic heart disease
Cal	calorie
cap	capsule
CAPD	continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis
car.	carotid
card.	cardiac
card cath	cardiac catheterization
CAT	computerized axial tomography
cath	catheterization/ catheter
CAV	cytoxan, adrimycin, and vincristine
CB	Cesarean birth
CBC	complete blood count
CBD	common bile duct
CBE	cerebral blood flow
CBG	capillary blood gas
CBR	complete bed rest
cc	chief complaint/ cubic centimeter

CCU	Coronary Care Unit/ clean catch urine
CCV	critical closing volume
CD	cardiac disease/ contagious disease
CDC	Center for Disease Control
CDS	chemical dependency screen
CEA	carcinoembryonic antigen
Cerv.	cervix/ cervical
CF	cystic fibrosis/ cardiac failure
CFS	chronic fatigue syndrome
cg	centigram
CGL	chronic granulocytic leukemia
CHD	congestive heart disease/ congenital heart disease/ coronary heart disease
Chem. or Chemo	chemotherapy
CHF	congestive heart failure
CHN	Community Health Nurse
CHO	carbohydrate
Chol.	cholesterol
Chr	chronic
CI	color index/ cardiac insufficiency/ cardiac index
CIS	carcinoma in situ
CJD	Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
Cl	chloride, chlorine
Clav.	clavicle
cldy	cloudy
CLL	chronic lymphocytic leukemia
Cl.T	clotting time
cm	centimeter
CML	chronic myeloid leukemia
CMS	circulation motion sensation

CMV	cytomegalovirus
CN	cranial nerve
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife
CNS	central nervous system
cnst	constipation
CO	carbon monoxide/ cardiac output
c/o	complains of
CO₂	carbon dioxide
COAD	chronic obstructive airways disease
cochl	spoon, spoonful
COLD	chronic obstructive lung disease
collyre	eye lotion (drops)
COM	chronic otitis media
comb	combine/ combination
comm	communicable
COMP	compound/ compress
conc	concentration, concentrate
cons	consultation
cont.	contractions/ continued
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Cor	heart
CP	chest pain/ cerebral palsy
cp	cerebrospinal fluid
CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure
CPC	clinicopathological conference
CPD	cephalo-pelvic disproportion
cpd	compound
CPK	creatine phosphokinase
CPPB	continuous positive pressure breathing
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation/ C-reactive

	protein
CPS	Child Protective Services
CPT	chest physical therapy
CR	closed reduction
cran	cranial
CRCL	creatinine clearance
CRD	chronic respiratory disease
creat	creatinine
CRF	chronic renal failure
CRP	C-reactive protein
C/S or CS	Cesarean section
CSF	cerebral spinal fluid
C-spine	cervical spine
CSW	Certified Social Worker
CT (or CAT)	computed (axial) tomography/ chest tube
CTS	carpal tunnel syndrome
cu	cubic
CV	cardiovascular
c.v.	tomorrow night
CVA	cerebrovascular accident/ costovertebral angle
CVAT	CVA tenderness
CVC	central venous catheter
CVD	cardiovascular disease
CVL	central venous line
cvp	central venous pressure
CVS	cardiovascular system
CX or Cx	cervix or cervical spine
CXR	chest x-ray
cyath	glassful
Cysto	cytoscopy

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D

D&C	dilatation and curettage
D&E	dilation and evacuation
D&R	dilation and radium implant
D&V	diarrhea and vomiting
D5RL	5% dextrose and lactated ringers
D5W	dextrose 5% in sterile water
D	right (as it pertains to body part - OD)/ dextrose
DAP	distal airway pressure
DAT	diet as tolerated
DAW	dispense as written
db	decibel
DBE	deep breathing exercise
DBP	diastolic blood pressure
D/C	discontinue/ discharge
DD	discharge diagnosis
DDAVP	desmopressin acetate
DDX	differential diagnosis
decr.	decreased
decub.	lying down
def.	devacation
dehyd.	dehydrated
DES	Diethylstilbestrol
DFT	Dobhoff feeding tube
D/H	drug history
DI	diabetes insipidus
DIAG	diagnosis

diam	diameter
DIC	disseminated intravascular coagulation/ disseminated coagulopathy
DIFF, diff	diferential blood count
dil	dilute, diluted
dim	diminished
DIND	delayed ischemic neurologic deficit
DIP	distal interphalangeal (joint)
dis	disease
disch	discharge
disp	disposition
dist	distilled/ distal
DIU	death in utero
div.	divorced
DJD	degenerative joint disease
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis
dI or D/L	decliter (100 ml)
DLE	disseminated lupus erythematosis
DM	diabetes mellitus/ diastolic murmur
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid/ did not attend
DNKA	did not keep appointment
DNR	do not recussitate
DNRCC	do not recussitate comfort care
DO	doctor of osteopathy
DOA	dead on arrival
DOB	date of birth
DOE	dyspnea on exertion
Dors	dorsal
DOS	day of surgery
dp	dorsalis pedis (pulse)

DPL	diagnostic peritoneal lavage
DPT	diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (toxoids/vaccine)
DR	delivery room
dr	dram
DRE	digital rectal examination
drsg.	dressing
DS	disseminated (multiple) sclerosis
D/S	discharge summary
DSA	digital subtraction angiography
DSD	dry sterile dressing
DSE	debutamine stress echocardiogram
DSM-IV	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
DT	diphtheria, tetanus
d/t	due to
DTR	deep tendon reflexes
DT's	delirium tremens
DU	duodenal ulcer
DUB	dysfunctional uterine bleeding
DUI	driving under the influence
DVT	deep vein thrombosis
DW	distilled water
D/W	dextrose in water
Dx	diagnosis
DXT	deep x-ray treatment

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E

e	without
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ea	each
EAA	essential amino acids
EAM	external auditory meatus
EBL	estimated blood loss
EBV	Epstein-Barr virus
EC	enteric coated
ECF	extracellular fluid/ extended care facility
ECG	electrocardiogram
ECHO	enterocytopathogenic human orphan virus
<i>E.coli</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>
ECS	endocervical scrape
ECT	electroconvulsive therapy
ED	emergency department
EDC	estimated date of confinement
EDD	expected date of delivery
EEG	electroencephalogram
EF	ejection fraction
EFAD	essential fatty acid deficiency
eff	effusion/ effacement
eg	for example
EGD	endoscopic gastroduodenoscopy
EKG	electrocardiogram
elev	elevated
ELF	elective low forceps
elix.	elixir
ELOS	estimated length of stay
EmBx	endometrial biopsy
EMG	electromyogram
emp	as directed
EMS	endometrial scrape/ emergency medical service

EMU	early morning specimen of urine
EMV	eyes, motor, verbal response (Glasgow Coma Scale)
En.	enema
ENG	head engaged (baby)
ENT	ears, nose, and throat
Eoc.	eosinophiles
EOM	external ocular muscles/ extraocular movement
Epis.	episiotomy
Epis. LML	left mediolateral episiotomy
Epis. Med.	medial episiotomy
Epis. RML	right mediolateral ipisiotomy
ER	emergency room/ endoplasmic reticulum
ERA	estradiol receptor assay
ERCP	endoscopic retrograde cholangio-pancreatogram
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
EST	electroshock therapy
ESWL	extracorporeal shockwave lithotripsy
ET (or et)	endotracheal/ endotracheal tube/ and
ETH	elixir of terpin hydrate
etiol	etiology
ETOH	ethyl alcohol, ethanol
ETT	endotracheal tube
EUA	examine under anesthesia
EVAL	evaluation
ex.	exercise/ example
exc	excision
exp. lap.	exploratory laparotomy
expir	expiration/ expiratory
ext	external/ extract

ext. gen.	external genitalia
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F

F	Fahrenheit/ finger/ female
FA	fluorescent antibody
F.A.	first aid
FB	foreign body
Fb	finger breadth
FBC	full blood count
FBS/G	fasting blood sugar/glucose
FD	forceps delivery/ fully dilated
FDA	Food & Drug Administration
FDP	flexor digitorum profundus
Fe def.	iron deficiency
FESS	functional endoscopic sinus surgery
FEF	forced expiratory flow
FEKG	fetal electrocardiogram
fem	femoral
fem pop	femoral popliteal
fet.	fetal
FEV	forced expiratory volume
ff	force fluids
FFP	fresh frozen plasma
FGC	full gold crown
FH	family history/ fetal heart
fh	fundal height
FHH/R	fetal heart heard/regular
FHR	fetal heart rate

FHR-UC	fetal heart rate - uterine contraction
FHT	fetal heart tones
FHx or F/H or FH	family history
FiO₂	fraction of inspired oxygen concentration
fl	fluid
fl. dr.	fluid dram
fl. oz.	fluid ounce
flac.	flaccid
fld.	fluid
flex	flexor/ flexion
FM	finger movement
FNA	fine needle aspiration
FPAL	full term premature abortion living
Fr	French size feeding tube
fract.	fractional
FRC	functional residual capacity
FROM	full range of movement
FS	finger stick
FSH	follicle stimulating hormone
FT	full term
ft	foot, feet (measure)
FTD	formal thought disorder/ failure to descend
FTND	full term normal delivery
FTT	failure to thrive
F/U	follow-up
FUB	functional uterine bleeding
FUO	fever of unknown origin
FVC	forced vital capacity
FW	fetal weight

Fx	fracture
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G

G6PD	glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase
G	gravida
g	gram(s)
G.A.	general anesthesia
gastroc	gastrocnemius
GB	gallbladder/ Guillain-Barré Syndrome
GBS	gallbladder series
GC	gonococcus/ gonorrhea
GCS	Glasgow Coma Scale
GE	gastroenterology/ grade equivalent
G/E	gastroenteritis
gen. or genl.	general
GERD or GORD	gastrointestinal/esophageal (oesophageal) reflux disease
gest.	gestation
GETT	general by endotracheal tube
GFR	glomerular filtration rate
GG	Gamma globulin
ggt	drop
GH	growth hormone
GI or GIT	gastrointestinal or gastrointestinal tract
glu or gluc	glucose
gm	gram
Gm+	gram positive
Gm-	gram negative

Gm%	grams per 100 cc
GMA	grand mal attack
GP	general practitioner/ general paralysis
gr	grain (dosage)
Grav.	pregnancy
GSS	Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker syndrome
GSW	gun shot wound
GT	gastrostomy tube
gt, gtt	drop, drops
Gt. tr.	gait training
GTT	glucose tolerance test
GU or GUT or GUS	gastric ulcer/ genitourinary tract/system
GUM	genito-urinary medicine
G/W	glucose and water
GXT	graded exercise tolerance (stress test)
GYN, gyn	gynecology

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H

H&C	hot and cold
H&P	history and physical
H₂O	water
H₂O₂	hydrogen peroxide
H	Hydrogen/ history/ hypodermic
h	hour
HA or H/A	headache
HAA	hepatitis B surface antigen
HAF	hyperalimentation fluid

HASCVD	hypertensive arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease
HAV	hepatitis A virus
HB	heart block
Hb, Hgb	hemoglobin
HBIG	hepatitis B immune globulin
HBP	high blood pressure
HC	head circumference
HCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
HCl	hydrochloric acid, hydrochloride
HCO₃	bicarbonate
Hct	hematocrit
HCVD	hypertensive cardiovascular disease
Hd	head/ Hodgkin's disease
h.d.	at bedtime
HDL	high-density lipoprotein
HDN	hemolytic disease of the newborn
HEENT	head, eyes, ears, nose, throat
Hem	Hematology
Hem Pro	hematology profile
Hep. Lock	Heparin lock
hern.	hernia
Hg	mercury
Hgb	hemoglobin
HGH	human growth hormone
HGO	hepatic glucose output
HH	hiatal hernia/ hard of hearing/ health history
H/H	Henderson-Hasselbach equation/ hemoglobin/hematocrit
HI	hemagglutination inhibition/ head injury
HIDA(scan)	hepatobiliary scan

HIE	hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy
hist.	history/ histology
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HJR	hepatojugular reflex
HKAFO	hip knee ankle foot orthosis
HL	hearing loss
HLA	human leukocyte antigen
HM	hand movement
HMD	hyaline membrane disease
HMG	human menopausal gonadotropin
HNP	herniated nucleus pulposus
HNPU	has not passed urine
HO	house officer/ history of
h/o	history of
HOB	head of bed
horiz.	horizontal
hpf	high power field
HPI	history of present illness
HPL	human placental lactogen
HR	heart rate
Hr	hour
HRF	Health Related Facility
H.R.S.T.	heat, reddening, swelling, tenderness
HS	heart sounds
hs	hora somni (at bedtime)
HSG	hysterosalpingography
HSM	hepatosplenomegaly
HSV	herpes simplex virus
HT	height/ heart
HTLV-III	human lymphotropic virus, type III (AIDS agent,

	HIV
HTN	hypertension
HVD	hypertensive vascular disease
Hx	History
Hyperal.	hyperalimination
hypo	hypodermically
Hz	Hertz (cycles per second)

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I

I&D	incision and drainage
I&O	intake and output
I131	radioactive iodine
I	radioactive iodine
IA	intra-arterially/ Inferior Alveolar (oral injection site)
IABP	intra-aortic balloon pump
IBD	inflammatory bowel disease
IBS	irritable bowel syndrome
i.c.	intracutaneous(ly)
ICCU	intensive coronary care unit
ICF	intracellular fluid
ICP	intracranial pressure
ICS	intercostal space
ICT	insulin coma therapy
ICU	intensive care unit
ID	intra-dermal/ identification/ Infectious Disease
i.d.	during the day
IDDM	insulin dependent diabetes mellitus

ADM	infant of diabetic mother
I/E	inspiratory/ expiratory
IEAD	implanted epidural access device
Ig	immunoglobulin
IgA	immunoglobulin A
IgD	immunoglobulin D
IgE	immunoglobulin E
IgG	immunoglobulin G
IgM	immunoglobulin M
IH	infectious hepatitis
IHD	ischemic heart disease
IHSS	idiopathic hypertrophic subaortic stenosis
IGT or IGTN	ingrown toenail
IM	intramuscular/ intramedullary
IMA	inferior mesenteric artery
IMB	intermenstrual bleeding
IMCU	intermediate medical care unit
imp.	impression
IMP	inpatient multidimensional psych scale
IMV	intermittent mandatory ventilation
In.	inches
Inc. AB	incomplete abortion
incr.	increased (ing)
in d	daily
in situ	in natural or normal position
Inev. AB	inevitable abortion
INF	intravenous nutritional fluid
inf	inferior/ infusion
infect	infectious
INH	isonicotinic acid hydrazide

inhal	inhalation
inj	inject/ injured
INR	coagulant response time
inspir	inspiration/ inspiratory
instill	instillation
int.	internal
INTHC	intrathecally
IO	inferior oblique
IOP	intraocular pressure
IP	intraoperative
IPJ	interphalangeal joint
IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing
IQ	intelligence quota
IRBBB	incomplete right bundle branch block
IRDM	insulin resistant diabetes mellitus
IRDS	idiopathic respiratory distress syndrome
irreg.	irregular
IS	intercostal space
ISQ	"in status quo," nothing has changed
IST	insulin shock therapy
IT	interthecal
ITP	idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura
ITU	intensive therapy unit
IU	international unit
IUC	intrauterine catheter
IUCP	intrauterine contraceptive device
IUD	intrauterine contraceptive device
IUFD	intrauterine fetal death
IUGR	intrauterine growth retardation
IUP	intrauterine pregnancy

IUTP	intrauterine term pregnancy
IV	intravenous (injection)
IVAD	implanted vascular access device
IVag	intravaginal
IVC	inferior vena cava/ intravenous cholangiogram
IVD	intervertebral disc
IVF	intravenous fluid
IVP	intravenous pyelography
IVPB	intravenous piggyback
IVU	intravenous urogram
Ix	investigations

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J

J	joint
JODM	juvenile onset diabetes mellitus
J-P	Jackson Pratt drain
JRA	juvenile rheumatoid arthritis
jt.	joint
JVD	jugular venous distention
JVP	jugular venous pulse

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K

17-KGS	17-ketogenic steroids
17-KS	17-ketosteroids
K	serum potassium (kalium)/ knee jerk/reflex
kcal	Kilocalorie (food calorie)

KCl	potassium chloride
kg	kilogram
KJ or K-J	knee jerk
KK	knee kick
KO	keep open
KOH	potassium hydroxide
KOR	keep open rate
KSS	Kearns=Sayre syndrome
KUB	kidney, ureter, bladder (x-rays)
KVO	keep vein open

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L

L&D	labor and delivery
L&W	living and well
L2, L3	second, third lumbar vertebrae
L	left/ liver/ lower/ light/ lumbar
l	liter
LA	left antrum/ left atrial
lab	laboratory
lac	laceration
lacr	lacrima
lact	lactic
LAD	left anterior descending (coronary artery)
LAE	left atrial enlargement
LAHB	left anterior hemiblock
lam.	laminectomy
LAO	left anterior oblique
LAP	left atrial pressure/ leukocyte alkaline

	phosphatase
lap.	laparotomy
lat	lateral
LATS	long-acting thyroid stimulator
LAVH	laparoscopic assisted vaginal hysterectomy
lax	laxative
LB	large bowel
lb	pound (measure)
LBBB	left bundle branch block
LBP	low back pain
LBW	low birth weight
LCA	left coronary artery
LCM	left costal margin
LD	lethal dose
LDH	lactic acid dehydrogenase
LDL	low-density lipoprotein
LE	lupus erythematosus
LE/UE	lower/upper extremity
LEprep	lupus erythematosus preparation
LES	lower esophageal sphincter
leuc.	leukocytes
LF	low forceps/ low flap
LFA	left frontoanterior
LFD	low forceps delivery
LFP	left fronoposterior
LFT	liver function test/ left frontotransverse
lg	large/ leg
LGA	large for gestational age
LGV	lymphogranuloma venereum
LH	luteinizing hormone

LHRH	luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone
LHT	left hypertrophia
LICS	left intercostal space
LIF	left iliac fossa
L/RIH	left/right inguinal hernia
lig	ligament
LIH	left inguinal hernia
liq	liquid
LKS	liver, kidney, spleen
LL	lower lid
LLE	left lower extremity
LLG	left lateral gaze
LLL	left lower lobe (lung)
LLQ	left lower quadrant (abdomen)
LMA	left mentoanterior
LMD	family doctor
l/min	liter per minute
LML	left mediolateral
LMP	last menstrual period/ left mentoposterior
LMT	left mentotransverse
LN	lymph node
LNMP	last normal menstrual period
LOA	left occiput anterior
LOC	loss of consciousness/ level of consciousness/ laxative of choice
LOM	left otitis media
LOP	left occiput posterior
LOS	length of stay
LOT	left occiput temporal
lot	lotion

LP	lumbar puncture/ light perception
lpf	low power field
LPN	licensed practical nurse
LPO	left posterior oblique
LR	lactated ringers
LRQ	lower right quadrant
LS	lumbosacral/ lymph system
Ls.	loose
LSA	lateral sacrum anterior
LSB	left sternal border
LSCS or LUSCS	lower (uterine) segment caesarean section
LSK	liver, spleen, kidneys
LSO	left salpingo-oophorectomy
LSP	left sacrum posterior
LST	left sacrum transverse
lt	left/ light
LTCS	low transverse Cesarean section
LUE	left upper extremity
Lues	syphilis
LUL	left upper lobe
LUQ	left upper quadrant
LV	left ventricular
LVEDP	left ventricular end diastolic pressure
LVF	left ventricular failure
LVH	left ventricular hypertrophy
LWCT	Lee-White Clotting Time, coagulation time
Lymphs	lymphocytes
lytes	electrolytes

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M

M&C (S)	microscopy and culture (sensitivity of bacteria)
M	meter/ Molar
m	murmur/ micron/ married/ male/ mother/ mass
m.	minim
m g	microgram
m l	microliter
m m	micrometer, micron
m mole	micromole
m Osm	micro-osmole
MA	mental age
MA	mental age
macro.	macrocytic/ macroscopic
MAO	monoamine oxidase
MAP	mean arterial pressure
MAST	medical antishock trousers
max.	maximum/ maxillary
MBC	maximum breathing capacity
MBT	maternal blood type
MCA	motorcycle accident
MCD	minimal cerebral dysfunction
mcg (µg)	microgram
MCH	mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration
MCHC	mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration
MCL	midcostal line/ midclavicular line
MCP	metacarpophalangeal joint
MCT	medium chain triglyceride
MCV	mean corpuscular volume
MD	medical doctor/ muscular dystrophy

MDI	metered dose inhaler
Mdnt.	midnight
MDP	methylene diphosphate
MDR	Minimum Daily Requirement
MDS	myelodysplastic syndrome
ME	myalgic encephalomyelitis/ middle ear/ medical examiner
MEC	medical emergency clinic
MED	minimum effective dose
med	medicine
MEN	multiple endocrine neoplasia
mEq	milliequivalent
mEq./l	milliequivalents per liter
MERRF	myoclonic epilepsy with ragged red muscle fibers
MET	metabolic equivalent
MET/S	metastases
MG	myasthenia gravis
Mg	magnesium
mg	milligram
mg%	mg/100cc/ milligram per cent
mg/dl	milligrams per deiliter
MGJ	mucogingival junction
m.g.r.	murmurs, gallops, or rubs
MgSO₄	magnesium sulfate
MH	marital history
MI	myocaridal infarction/ mitral incompetence/ mitral insufficiency
micro	microcytic/ microscopic
MICU	medical intensive care unit
mid	middle
min	minute

Mitr.I	mitral insufficiency
mitte or mite	dispense this number of tablets
ml	milliliter
MLD	minimum lethal dose
MLF	medial longitudinal fasciculus
MM	mucous membrane
mM	millimole
mm	millimeter/ millimicron (nanometer)/ muscles
MMEF	maximal mid expiratory flow
mmol or Mmol	millimole
MMPI	Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory
MmR	mumps, measles, rubella
Mn.	manganese/ midnight
mo	month
mod	moderate
mol wt	molecular weight
MOM	milk of magnesia
mono.	monocyte
MP	metacarpophalangea/ metacarpophalangeal
MPA	malpractice attorney
MR	medial rectus/ mental retardation/ mitral regurgitation/ may repeat
MRCP	magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
M.R.L.	medical record librarian
MRM	modified radical mastectomy
mRNA	messenger RNA
MRSA	Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
MS	multiple sclerosis/ morphine sulfate/ mitral stenosis
Ms	murmurs

ms	mitral stenosis
MSE	mental state examination
MSH	melanocyte-stimulating hormone
MSL	midsternal line
MSO₄	morphine sulfate
MSS	mulculo-skeletal system/ massage
MSU or MSSU	mid-stream urine sample
MT	metacarpophalangeal (joint)
M.T.	muscles and tendons/ medical technologist/technician
mtDNA	mitochondrial DNA
MTP	metatarso-phalangeal (joint)
MUGA	multigated acquisition (scanning)
MVA	motor vehicle accident
MVC	motor vehicle collision
MVI	multivitamin injection
MVP	mitral valve prolapse
MVR	mitral valve replacement
MVV	maximum voluntary ventilation
MW	Mallory Weiss/ mean weight/ microwave/ Minot-von Willebrand
Mw, mol wt	molecular weight

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N

N&V	nausea and vomiting
N&W	normal and well
N₂	nitrogen
N₂O	nitrous oxide
N	normal (strength of solution)/nitrogen

n.	nerve
N/A	not applicable
Na	sodium (L. natrium)
NaCl	sodium chloride
NAD	nothing abnormal discovered/ no active disease
NAS	no added salt
NB	newborn
nb	note well
NBI	no bone injury
NBM	nothing by mouth
NBS	normal bowel sounds/ normal breath sounds
NCV	nerve conduction velocity
ND	nasoduodenal
NED	no evidence of disease
Neg	negative
NER	no evidence of recurrence
NERD	no evidence of recurrent disease
Neur.	Neurology
NFR	not for resuscitation
NG	nasogastric
ng	nanogram (millimicron)
NGT	nasogastric tube
NI	no insurance
NIC	neonatal intensive care
NICU	neonatal intensive care unit
NIDDM	noninsulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NIH	National Institute of Health
NKA	no known allergies
NKDA	no known drug allergies
nl	normal/ normal limits

NM	neuromuscular
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
NOC or Nocte or noct.	at night, nocturnal
norm	normal
NOS	not otherwise specified
NP	neuropsychiatric
NPH	neural protamine Hagedorn (insuline)
NPN	nonprotein nitrogen
NPO	nothing per os (nothing by mouth)
nr	not be repeated
NRM	no regular medications
NS	normal saline/ nervous system/ neurosurgery
Ns.	nerves
NSAID	nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug
NSD	normal spontaneous delivery
NSR	normal sinus rhythm
NST	non-stress test
NSU	nonspecific urethritis
NSVD	normal spontaneous vaginal delivery
NT	nasotracheal
N/T	numbness and tingling
NTG	nitroglycerine
NTND	nontender nondistended
NTP	normal temperature and pressure
nullip	never gave birth
NV	next visit
N/V	nausea and vomiting
NVD	nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
NWB	non-weight bearing

NYD	not yet diagnosed
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O

17 OH	17 hydroxy steroid
17-OHCS	17-hydroxcorticosteroids
O2 or O₂	both eyes/ oxygen
O₂ cap	oxygen capacity
O₂ sat	oxygen saturation
O	eye/ oral
o	none/ without
O.	pint
OA	osteoarthritis
OB or OBG	obstetrics
OB/GYN	Obstetrics and Gynecology
OBS	organic brain syndrome
Obs	observation
OC/COC	(combined) oral contraceptive
OCC.	occipital/ occasional
OCD	Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
OCG	oral cholecystogram
OCT	orthotopic cardiac transplant
OD	oculus dexter (right eye)
od	omni die (every day, daily, once daily)
O/E or oe	on examination
O/EGD	oesophago (esophago)-gastro-duodenoscopy
OH	occupational history/ overhang (dental restoration)
OHD	organic heart disease

OHI	oral hygiene instruction
oint	ointment
OJ	orange juice (or Orenthal James, if you're a sports fan)
OL, OS	left eye
OM (R/L)	otitis media
om	in the morning
OMS	organic mental syndrome
on	at night
OOB	out of bed
Op.	operation
OPC	outpatient clinic
OPD	outpatient department
OPG	oculoplethysmography
Ophth.	Ophthalmology
OPO	Organ Procurement Organization
OPV	oral polio vaccine
OR	operating room/ open reduction
ORIF	open reduction and internal fixation (of fracture)
ORT	operating room technician
Ortho.	Orthopaedic Surgery
OS	oculus sinister (left eye)
os	opening/ mouth/ bone
OT	occupational therapy
ot.	ear
OTC	over the counter
Oto	Otolaryngology
OU	both eyes
OV	office visit
OW	otherwise

OXPHOS	oxidative phosphorylation
oz	ounce

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P

p&a	percussion and auscultation
P&N	Psychiatry and Neurology
P&PD	percussion and postural drainage
P2	pulmonic second heart sound
P	after/ phosphorus/ pressure/ pulse/ para
p	after/ post
PA	postero-anterior/ physician's assistant/ pernicious anemia
PABA	para-aminobenzoic acid
PAC	premature atrial/auricular contraction
PaCO₂	arterial CO ₂ tension
PACU	post anesthesia care unit
PAF	paroxysmal atrial fibrillation
palp	palpation/ palpable
PaO₂	arterial O ₂ tension
PAP	pulmonary artery pressure
Pap	Papanicolaou smear
Para	prior births/ paraplegic
paren.	parenterally
PARU	post anesthesia recovery unit
PAS	para-amniosalicylic acid/ pulmonary artery systolic pressure
PAT	paroxysmal atrial tachycardia/ pregnancy at term
Path.	Pathology
PAWP	pulmonary artery wedge pressure

PB	peripheral blood
Pb	lead
PBI	protein bound iodine
pc	after meals
PCA	posterior cerebral
PCB	post-coital bleeding
PCC	post-coital contraception
PCL	posterior cruciate ligament
PCO₂	CO ₂ partial pressure/ carbon dioxide concentration
PCP	primary care physician
PCV	packed cell volume (of blood)
PCWP	pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
PD	pupillary distance/ peritoneal dialysis
pd	pupillary distance
PD&C	postural drainage and cupping
PDA	patent ductus arteriovenous
PDN	private duty nurse
PDR	Physician's Desk Reference
pdr.	powder
PE	pulmonary embolism/ physical examination/ pleural effusion
peds	pediatrics
PEEP	positive end expiratory pressure
PEG	percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy/ pneumoencephalogram
PEN	Penicillin
per	through/ by
perf	perforation
PERLA or PERRLA	pupils equal reactive to light and accomodation/ pupils equal, round, react to light and

	accommodation
PET	positron emission tomography
PF(R)	peak flow (rate)/ push fluids
PFC	persistent fetal circulation
PFM	porcelain fused to metal
PFT	pulmonary function tests
pg	picogram (micromicrogram)
PGV	proximal gastric vagotomy
PH	past history
pH	hydrogen ion concentration
PHN	post-herpetic neuralgin
phar, pharm	pharmacy
PHYS.	physical/ physiology
PI	present illness/ pulmonary insufficiency
PICA	posterior inferior coronary artery
PICC	peripherally inserted central catheter
PICU	pulmonary intensive care unit
PID	pelvic inflammatory disease/ prolapsed intervertebral disc
PIP	proximal interphalangeal (joint)
Pit.	Pitocin
PKU	phenylketonuria
Plac.	placenta
plts.	platelets
PM&R	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
PM	post mortem examination/ petit mal
P.M.	afternoon/ private medical doctor
PMH	past medical history
PMI	point of maximal impulse
PMNs	polymorphonuclear cells (leukocytes)

PMS	premenstrual syndrome
PMT	premenstrual tension
PN	poorly nourished/ practical nurse
PNC	prenatal clinic/ premature nodal contraction
PND	paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea/ post nasal drip
pneu.	pneu.
PNI	peripheral nerve injury
PNX	pneumothorax
PO	per os (by mouth)
PO₂	oxygen pressure (or tension)
POC	product of conception
p.o.d.	postoperative day
p.o.f.	pillow on face
POI	post operative instructions
polys	polymorphonuclear leukocytes
POMR	problem oriented medical record
POP	progesterone only pill/ plaster of paris
poplit.	pulmonary capillary wedge pressure
pos.	positive
post.	posterior
POSTOP	postoperative
pot. or potass.	potassium
PP	postprandial/ pulsus paradoxus
pp	post partum/ post prandial
PPBS	post-prandial blood sugar
PPD	purified protein derivative (of tuberculin)
PPF	protein plasma fractional
PPH	post partum hemorrhage
ppm	parts per million
PPN	peripheral parenteral nutrition

PPPG	post prandial plasma glucose
PPs	peripheral pulses
PR	per rectum/ Proctology
PRBC	packed #000066 blood cells
PRE	progressive resistive exercise
prem	premature
pre-op	preoperative
prep.	prepare for
primip.	first pregnancy
p.r.m.	according to circumstances
PRN or prn	as needed
Pro time	prothrombin time
prod.	productive
Prog.	prognosis
PROM	passive range of motion/ premature rupture of membranes
pron.	pronator, pronation
pros.	prostate/ prostatic
prosth.	prosthesis
prot.	protein/ Protestant
pro. time	prothrombin time
PrP	prion protein
PS	pulmonary stenosis/ psychotic/ Plastic Surgery
PSA	prostate-specific antigen blood test/ Posterior Superior Alveolar (oral injection site)
PSH	past surgical history
psi	pounds per square inch
PSMA	progressive spinal muscular atrophy
PSVT	paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia
Psych.	Psychiatry
PT	physical therapy/ posterior tibial artery pulse

Pt	patient
PTA	prior to admission/ percutaneous transluminal angioplasty
PTB	patellar tendon bearing
PTC	percutaneous transhepatic cholangiogram
PTCA	percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (balloon)
PTH	parathyroid hormone
PTHC	percutaneous transhepatic cholangiogram
PTSD	post-traumatic stress disorder
PTT, APTT	partial thromboplastin time
PTX	pneumothorax
PU	peptic ulcer/ passed urine
PUD	peptic ulcer disease
PUPPP	pruritic urticarial papules & plaques of pregnancy
PV	per vagina/ plasma volume/ peripheral vascular
PVC	premature ventricular contraction
PVD	peripheral vascular disease
PVR	past surgical history
PVT	previous trouble
PWB%	partial weight bearing with percent
Px	physical examination

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Q

q2h, q3h, etc.	every 2, 3, etc. hours
q	every
QA	quality assurance
qam	every morning
qd	every day

qh	every hour
qhs	once in the evening (drug dosing)
qid or qds	four times a day
q.i.w.	four times a week
q.l.	as much as desired
qn	every night
QNS	quantity not sufficient
qod	every other day
q.o.n.	every other night
q.p.	as much as you please
QQ	each/ every
q.q.h.	every four hours
qs	sufficient quantity
Qs/Qt	shunt fraction
Qt	total cardiac output
qt.	quart
qts.	drops
quad.	quadriplegic
quant.	quantitative/ quantity
q.v.	as much as you wish
q.w.	every week

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R

R	right/ respiration rate/ roentgen/ rectal/ rub/ rectal temperature
R1, R2	first year, second year resident
R to L&A	react to light and accommodation
RA	rheumatoid arthritis/ right atrium/ refractory anemia

RAD	right atrial axis deviation
rad	radiation absorbed dose/ radial
RADS	reactive airways dysfunction syndrome
RAE	right atrial enlargement
RAI	radioactive iodine
RAIU	radioactive iodine uptake
r.a.m.	rapid alternating movements
RAO	right anterior oblique
RAP	recurrent abdominal pain/ right atrial pressure
R.A.S.	right arm sitting
RAtx	radiation therapy
RBBB	right bundle branch block
RBC	red blood cell
RBP	retinol-binding protein
RBS	random blood sugar
RCA	right coronary artery
RCS	reticulum cell sarcoma
RCT	root canal therapy
RCU	respiratory care unit
RD	respiratory distress/ reaction to degeneration
RDA	recommended daily allowance
RDS	respiratory distress syndrome
RDW	red cell distribution width
RE	reconditioning exercise
rect.	rectum/ rectally/ rectus muscle
reg	regular
rehab	rehabilitation
Rep	let it be repeated
resp	respiratory/ respirations
RF	rheumatic fever/ rheumatoid factor


RFA	right frontoanterior
RFP	right frontoposterior
RFT	renal (kidney) function tests/ respiratory function tests/ right frontotransverse
RH	right hyperphoria
Rh	rhesus blood factor
Rh neg. (Rh-)	rhesus factor negative
Rh pos. (Rh+)	rhesus factor positive
RHD	rheumatic heart disease
RHF	right heart failure
RHT	right hypertrophia
RIA	radioimmunoassay
RIF	right iliac fossa
RIH	right inguinal hernia
R/L	right/left
R/L HC	right/left hypochondrium
RLA	Rancho Los Amigo Scale
RLE	right lower extremity
RLF	retrolental fibroplasia
R/LIF	right/left iliac Fossa
RLL	right lower lobe
R/LOL or RLOP	right/left occipito lateral/posterior
RLQ	rhesus right lower quadrant
RMA	right mentoanterior
RML	right middle lobe/ right mediolateral
RMP	right mentoposterior
RMSF	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
RMT	right mentotransverse
RN	registered nurse
RNA	ribonucleic acid

R/O	rule out
ROA	right occipital anterior
ROM	range of motion/ rupture of membranes/ right otitis media
ROP	right occipital posterior
ROS	review of systems
ROT	right occipital transverse
RP	retrograde pyelogram
RPG	retrograde pyelogram
RPO	right posterior oblique
RQ	respiratory quotient
RR	recovery room/ respiratory rate
RRE or RR&E	round, regular, and equal
rRNA	ribosomal RNA
RRP	radical retropubic prostatectomy
RRR	regular rate and rhythm
RRT	Registered Respiratory Therapist
RS	respiratory system
RSA	right sacrum anterior
RSD	reflex sympathetic dystrophy
RSI	repetitive strain injury
RSO	right salpingo-oophorectomy
RSP	right sacrum posterior
RSR	regular sinus rhythm
RST	right sacrum transverse
RT	radiation therapy/ respiratory therapy
rt	right
RTA	road traffic accident
RTC	return to clinic
RU	resin uptake

RUC	regular uterine contraction
RUE	right upper extremity
RUG	retrograde urethrogram
RUL	right upper lobe
RUQ	rhesus right upper quadrant
RV	residual volume
RVH	right ventricular hypertrophy
Rx	prescription, take/ treatment

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S

S&A	sugar and acetone
S&RP	scaling and root planning
S&S	signs and symptoms
S1	first heart sound
S	left (as it pertains to a body part-OS)/ supinator (jerk/reflex)/ sensation/ sensitive/ serum
s 	without
SA	sinoatrial
Sa	Saline
SAA	synthetic amino acid
SAH	systemic arterial hypertension
SaO₂	rhesus factor negative
SA node	sino atrial node
sat	saturated
SB	stillborn
SBE	subacute bacterial endocarditis
SBFT	small bowel follow through (x-ray)
SBG	serum blood glucose

SBO	small bowel obstruction
SBP	systolic blood pressure
SBS	short bowel syndrome
SC or SQ or subq	subcutaneous
SC	sickle cell
SCA	subclavian artery
SCC	sickle cell crisis
SCD	sudden cardiac death
schiz	schizophrenia
SCN	Special Care Nursery
Scr	serum creatinine
SCU	special care unit
SDH	subdural hematoma
sec	second
Sed Rate	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
segs	segmented neutrophils
SEM	systolic ejection murmur
sem. ves	seminal vesicles
Sens.	sensory/ sensation
sep	separated
Sept. AB	septic abortion
Serol.	serology/ serological test
SG	specific gravity/ Swan-Ganz
SGA	small for gestational age
SGGT	serum gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase
s.gl.	without correction (without glasses)
SGOT	serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
SGPT	serum glutamic-pyruvic transaminase
SH	social history/ serum hepatitis

SHO	senior house officer
SI	sacro-iliac (joint)/ international system of units/ stroke index
SIADH	syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone
SIB	sibling
SICU	surgical intensive care unit
SIDS	sudden infant death syndrome
sig	imprint, let it be labeled
SIJ	sacroiliac joint
SIMV	synchronous intermittent mandatory ventilation
skel.	skeletal
SL	sublingual/ under the tongue
Sl.	slightly
SLE	systemic lupus erythematosus
SLR	straight leg raising
sm	small
SMA	superior mesenteric artery
SMA-14	routine admission chemistry
SMO	slips made out
SMR	submucosal resection
SNS	sympathetic nervous system
SO	superior oblique
SO₄	sulfate
SOAP	subjective, objective assessment plan
SOB	shortness of breath
sod.	sodium
SOL	space occupying lesion
sol	solution
solve	solvent/ dissolve
SOM	secretary otitis media

sono.	sonogram
SOS	in an emergency/ repeat once if urgent
sp.	spine/ spinal
S/P	status post (previous condition)
sp. cd.	spinal fluid
sp gr	specific gravity
spec	specimin
spg	sponge
sp&H	speach and hearing
spin.	spine/ spinal
spont.	spontaneous
SQ	subcutaneous
SR	sinus rhythm/ system review/ superior rectus muscle/ sedimentation rate/ stimulus response
SROM	spontaneous rupture of membranes
SS	social service
ss [*/]	one-half
SSC	stainless steel crown
SSE	soap suds enema
SSKI	saturated solution of potassium iodide
SSS	sick sinus syndrome
ST	Speech Therapy
st	stage (of disease)
st.	stomach
Staph	staphylococcus
stat or STAT	immediately
STD	sexually transmitted disease
STI	sexually transmitted infection
stom	stomach
strep	streptococcus

STS	serologic test for syphilis
subcut	subcutaneous
subq or subc	subcutaneous
subling.	sublingual
sulf.	sulfate
sup	superior
supin.	supination
supp	suppository
surg.	surgery
SVC	superior vena cava
SVD	spontaneous vaginal delivery
SVR	systemic vascular resistance
SVT	supra ventricular tachycardia
SWD	short wave diathermy
Sx	symptom/ surgery
SXR	skull x-ray
sys	system
syst.	systolic

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T

T&A	tonsillectomy & adenoidectomy
T&C/S	type and cross match/type and screen
T&H	type and hold
T of F	tetralogy of Fallot
T1	first thoracic vertebra
T3	triiodothyronine
T₄	total serum thyroxine
T ↑/↓	temperature raised upwards or downwards

T (with a circle with a dot at the center)	trachea central
T	temperature/ thoracic to be followed by number designating specific thoracic vertebra/ triceps jerk/reflex
TA	tendon Achilles
TAB	therapeutic abortion
tab	tablet
TAH	total abdominal hysterectomy
T.A.T.	tetanus antitoxin
TATT	tired all the time
TB, Tbc	tuberculosis
TBG	total binding globulin
TBI	total body irradiation
TBLS	term birth living child
tbs, tbsp	tablespoon
TCDB	turn, cough, deep breath
TCI	to come in-date (date that a person is due to be admitted to the hospital)
Td	tetanus-diphtheria toxoid
TEE	transesophageal echocardiography
temp	temperature
TENS	transient electric nerve stimulation
TESD	total end systolic diameter
T.F.	tuning fork
TFT	thyroid function test
TGA	transposition great vessels
THERAP	therapy/ therapeutic
thor.	thorax/ thoracic
THR	total hip replacement

TI	tricuspid insufficiency
TIA	transient ischemic attack/ transient ischemic shock
TIBC	total iron-binding capacity
tid	ter in die (three times a day)
TIG	tetanus immune globulin
TIP	terminal interphalangeal (joint)
TIUP	term intrauterine pregnancy
t.i.w.	three times per week
TKO	to keep open... or technical knock out, sports fans!
TKR	total knee replacement
TLC	total lung capacity/ tender loving care
TM	tympanic membrane (ear drum)
TMJ	temporomandibular joint
TNI	total nodal irradiation
TNM	tumor, nodes, and metastases
TNTC	too numerous to count
TO	telephone order
to AA	to affected areas
TOA	tubo-ovarian abscess
T, OD	tension, right eye
TOPV	trivalent oral polio vaccine
TORCH (titer)	toxoplasmosis others (hepatitis, beta strep, flu, mumps, etc.) rubella, cytomegalovirus (CMV), herpes virus II
TP	term pregnancy
TPA	tissue plasminogen activator/ thrombo proteolytic activity
TPN	total parenteral nutrition
TPR	temperature, pulse, respiration

tr	tincture/ trace
trach	tracheostomy
tRNA	transfer RNA
TS	tricuspid stenosis
TSH	thyroid stimulating hormone
TSHr	total shoulder replacement
tsp	teaspoon
TSS	toxic shock syndrome
T, T.	temperature, thoracic
TT	thrombin time
TTI	total thromboplastin index
TTP	thrombotic thrombocytopenia purpura
T-Tube	cholangiogram
TU	tuberculin unit
TUNA	transurethral needle ablation
TUR	transurethral resection (of prostate)
TURB	transurethral resection of the bladder
TURBT	TUR bladder tumors
TURP	tranurethral resection of prostate
TV	tidal volume
TVH	total vaginal hysterectomy
TVR	tricuspid valve replacement
tw	twice a week
TWE	tap water enema
Tx	treatment/ traction/ transplant

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U

U&Es	urea and electrolytes
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U	unit
U/A, UA	urinalysis
UAC	uric acid
UAL	umbilical arterial line
UC	ulcerative colitis/ uterine contractions
UCD	usual childhood diseases
UCG	urinary chorionic gonadotropin
UCHG	usual childhood diseases
ud	as directed
UG	upward gaze
UGI	upper gastrointestinal
UL	upper lid
uln	ulnar
ULQ	upper left quadrant
ung	ointment
unilat.	unilateral
UO	urine output
u/o	under observation for
UOP	urine output
Ur.	urine
URD	upper respiratory disease
URI	upper respiratory infection
Urol.	Urology
URQ	upper right quadrant
US	ultrasound
USA	unstable angina
USI	urinary stress incontinence
USN	ultrasonic nebulizer
USP	United States Pharmacy
USPHS/A	United States Public Health Service/

	Administration
USS	ultra sound scan
ut.	uterus/ uterine
UTD	up to date
UTI	urinary tract infection
UUN	urinary urea nitrogen
UVL	ultraviolet light

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V

V&T	volume and tension (pulse)
V	volume/ vein
VA	visual acuity
vag	vaginal
vc	vital capacity
VCS	vasoconstrictor substance
VCU	voiding cystourethrogram
VCUG	voiding cysourethrogram
VD	venereal disease
Vd	void
VDRL	Venereal Disease Research Laboratories (test for syphilis)
vent.	ventilator
vert.	vertical
VF	visual fields/ ventricular fibrillation
Vfib	ventricular fibrillation
VG	vein graft
VHD	valvular heart disease
VI	volume index

V.I.	vaginal irrigation
via	by way of
VIPS	voluntary interruption of pregnancy and sterilization service
vit.	vitamin
VLDL	very low-density lipoproteins
VM	vestibular membrane
VMA	vanillylmaleic acid
VN	visiting nurse
VO	verbal order
VOD	vision right eye
vol	volume
VOS	vision left eye
VP	venous pressure/ venticulo-peritoneal
VPC	ventricular premature contraction
V/Q	ventilation - perfusion
V.R.	right vision/ ventilation rate/ vocal resonance
VS	vital sign/ vesicular sound/ volumetric solution
VSA	vital signs absent
VSD	ventricular septal defect
VSS	vital signs stable
V/S/TOP	vaginal suction termination of pregnancy
VT	ventricular tachycardia
VTX	vertex
Vx	vertex presentation

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W

W	widowed/ white
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W/A	while awake
Wass.	Wasserman
WB	whole blood
WBC	white blood count/ white blood cells
WBT	weight bearing to tolerance
W/C or wh.ch.	wheelchair
W/D	well developed
WDWM	well developed and well nourished
WE	wide excision
W/f	white female
WHO	World Health Organization
WIC	women, infants, and children program
wk	week
WM	white male
W/m	white male
W/N	well nourished
w/n	within
WNL	within normal limits
WP	whirlpool
WPW	Wolf-Parkinson-White
wt	weight
w/u	workup
w/v	weight by volume
w/w	weight in weight

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X

X	times/ exophoria distance
x[*]	except

XRT	X-ray therapy
XT	exotropia distance

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Y

Y/O	year old
yrs.	years

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Z

ZE	Zollinger-Ellison
ZOE	zinc oxide eugenol

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Symbols

0	not present/ no abnormality
+/-	uncertain/ equivocal
+	present/ noted
++	present significantly
+++	present in excess
=	equivalent to
3	OK/ satisfactory