

ACCEPTABLE ABBREVIATIONS

A

| | |
|----------------|--|
| A ₂ | aortic second heart sound |
| AAL | anterior axillary line |
| abd | abdomen |
| AEG | arterial blood gases |
| a.c. | before meals |
| AC | air conduction |
| ACE | angiotensin-converting enzyme |
| ACTH | adrenocorticotrophic hormone |
| ADH | antidiuretic hormone |
| ADL | activities of daily living |
| adm | admission |
| AF | atrial fibrillation |
| AFB | acid fast bacillus |
| AI | aortic insufficiency |
| AICD | automatic implantable cardioverter/defibrillator |
| AJ | ankle jerk |
| AKA | above-knee amputation |
| alb | albumin |
| alk | alkaline phosphatase |
| p'tase | |
| AMA | against medical advice |
| ANA | antinuclear antibody |
| A&Ox3 | Awake & oriented to person, place, time and date |
| AP | anteroposterior |
| ARDS | adult respiratory distress syndrome |
| ARF | acute renal failure |
| AS | aortic stenosis |
| ASCVD | atherosclerotic heart disease |
| ASLO | antistreptolysin-O |
| AV | atrioventricular |
| A-V | arteriovenous |
| AVSS | afebrile, vital signs stable |
| AWMI | anterior wall myocardial infarct |

B

| | |
|-----|------------------------------|
| BBB | bundle branch block (R or L) |
| BC | bond conduction |
| BCG | bacilli Calmette-Guerin |
| BKA | below knee amputation |
| BMI | body mass index |
| BP | blood pressure |

B

| | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| BPH | benign prostatic hypertrophy |
| BRBR | bright blood per rectum |
| BSO | bilateral salpingo oophorectomy |
| BUN | blood urea nitrogen |
| Bx | biopsy |

C

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| C | centigrade, Celsius |
| CBC | complete blood count |
| CC | chief complaint |
| CHF | congestive heart failure |
| cm | centimeter |
| CN II-XII | cranial nerves 2-12 |
| CNS | central nervous system |
| CO ₂ | carbon dioxide |
| COPD | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease |
| CP | Chest pain |
| CPC | Clinicopathological conference |
| CPK | creatine phosphokinase |
| CPR | cardiopulmonary resuscitation |
| CRF | chronic renal failure |
| C&S | culture and sensitivities |
| CSF | cerebrospinal fluid |
| CTA | clear to auscultation |
| CVA | cerebral vascular accident |
| | costovertebral angle |
| CVP | central venous pressure |
| CXR | chest x ray |

D

| | |
|------|-------------------------------|
| DAW | dispense as written |
| D/C | discontinue |
| D&C | dilatation and curettage |
| D5S | 5% dextrose in water |
| DDx | differential diagnosis |
| diff | differential white cell count |
| DJD | degenerative joint disease |
| DOA | dead on arrival |
| DOE | dyspnea on exertion |
| DP | dorsalis pedis (pulse) |
| DTR | deep tendon reflexes |

D

| | |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| DT's | delirium tremens |
| DPT | diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus |
| DVT | deep vein thrombosis |
| Dx | diagnosis |

E

| | |
|---------------|---|
| ECG or EKG | electrocardiogram |
| ECHO | echocardiogram |
| EEG | electroencephalogram |
| EF | ejection fraction |
| EGD | esophogastroduodenoscopy |
| EMG | electromyogram |
| ENT | ear, nose and throat |
| EOM | extraocular movement |
| EOMI | extraocular muscles intact |
| ERCP | endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography |
| ESR | erythrocyte sedimentation rate |
| ETT | endotracheal tube |
| exam | examination |

F

| | |
|-----|------------------------------|
| F | Fahrenheit |
| FBS | fasting blood sugar |
| Fe | iron |
| FH | family history |
| FSH | follicle-stimulating hormone |
| FUO | fever of unknown origin |
| Fx | fracture |

G

| | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| G | gravida |
| GC | gonococcus |
| GCS | Glasgow coma scale |
| GERD | Gastroesophageal reflux disease |
| G.I. | gastrointestinal |
| gr. | grain |
| GTT | glucose tolerance test |
| gtts | drops |
| Gyn | gynecology |
| G.U. | genito-urinary |
| gm + | gram positive |
| gm - | gram negative |

H

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| HB | heart block |
| HBP | high blood pressure |
| Hct | hematocrit |
| HE | hard exudate |
| HEENT | head, eyes, ears, nose, throat |
| Hgb | hemoglobin |
| HBag | hepatitis B antigen |
| 5HIAA | 5-hydroxy indole acetic acid |
| HCO ₃ | bicarbonate |
| HCVD | hypertensive cascular disease |
| HDL | high density lipoproteins |
| HJR | hepatojugular reflex |
| Hg | mercury |
| H ₂ O | water |
| h.p.f. | high power field |
| H.P.I. | history of present illness |
| Hx | history |
| H&P | history and physical |

I

| | |
|------------------|---|
| IAN | intern admission note |
| IBS | irritable bowel syndrome |
| ¹³¹ I | radioactive iodine |
| I&D | incision and drainage |
| IHSS | idiopathic hypertropic aortic stenosis |
| IASD | intra-atrial septal defect |
| ICA | internal artery |
| ICS | intercostals space |
| I:E | inspiratory to expiratory time ratio |
| IM | intramuscular |
| IOP | intraocular pressure |
| I&O | intake and output |
| IPPB | intermittent positive pressure breathing |
| IQ | intelligence quotient |
| IU | international units |
| IUD | intrauterine device |
| IV | intravenous |
| IVP | intravenous pyelogram |
| IVCD | intraventricuoar conduction delay |

J

JVD jugular venous distention
 JVP jugular venous pressure

K

K or K⁺ potassium
 Kg kilogram
 KJ Knee jerk
 KUB kidney, ureter, bladder
 17K 17-Ketosteroid
 17-KS 17-Ketosteroids

L

L. liter
 LA left atrium
 lab laboratory
 LAC laceration
 l&a light & accommodation
 LAD left axis deviation
 left anterior descending
 LAE left atrial enlargement
 LAL left axillary line
 lap laparotomy
 LAP leucocyte alk p'tase
 LATS long acting thyroid stimulator
 lb pound
 LBBB left bundle branch block
 LBP low back pain
 LDH lactic dehydrogenase
 LDL low density lipoprotein
 LE lupus erythematosus
 LIMA left internal mammary artery (graft)
 LSK liver, spleen, kidney
 LLE left lower extremity
 LLL left left lobe
 LMP last menstrual period
 LP lumbar puncture
 LSB left sternal border
 LUE left upper extremity
 LUL left upper lobe
 LUQ left upper quadrant
 LV left ventricle
 LVAD left ventricular assist device
 LVH left ventricular hypertrophy
 L&W living & well

M

M Molar
 M murmur
 M₁ mitral first second
 M₂ mitral second sound
 MBC maximum breathing capacity
 mcg microgram
 MCL mid clavicular line
 MCP meta carpal phalangeal joint
 MCV mean corpuscular volume
 MD medical doctor
 mEq milliequivalent
 mg milligram
 MI myocardial infraction
 min minute, minim
 mM millimoles
 mm millimeter
 mOsm millio'smoles
 MMS Mini-Metal State (examination)
 MR mitral regurgitation
 mental retardation
 MS mitral stenosis, morphine S04,
 multiple sclerosis
 MSL midsternal line
 MVP motor vehicle accident
 mitral valve prolapse
 MVV maximum voluntary ventilation

N

NAD no active disease
 no acute distress
 NGT nasogastric tube
 NKDA no know drug allergies
 NL normal
 NPO nothing by mouth
 NSR normal sinus rhythm
 N&V nausea and vomiting
 Na sodium

O

O eye
 OD right
 O₂ oxygen
 OI opportunistic infection
 OOB out of bed
 OPD out-patient department

OR operating room
 ORIF open reduction internal fixation
 OS left eye
 OT occupational therapy
 OMS organic mental syndrome
 OU both eyes

Q

q very
 qns quantity not sufficient
 QRS ventricular depolarization wave

P

\bar{P} after
 PA pulmonary artery, pernicious anemia, posteroanterior
 P2>A2 pulmonic second sound greater than aortic second sound
 PAO₂ alveolar O₂ tension
 arterial O₂ tension
 P&A percussion & auscultation
 PAP Papanicolaou
 PAT paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
 PC after meals
 pCO₂ carbon dioxide pressure
 PE physical examination pulmonary embolism
 PERLA pupils equal, react to light and accommodation
 PFO patent foramen ovale
 PH past history
 pH hydrogen ion concentration
 PI present illness
 P.I.D. pelvic inflammatory disease
 PIP proximal interphalangeal
 PMI point of maximal impulse
 PND paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea
 p.o. by mouth
 pO₂ partial pressure of oxygen
 POD-1 post operative day one
 pre op preoperative
 post op after operation
 PPD packs per day
 PR per rectum
 PT prothrombin time
 PTA prior to admission
 PTT partial thromboplastin time
 PVC's premature ventricular contractions
 PVD peripheral vascular disease
 PW posterior wall

R

R respirations
 RA rheumatoid arthritis
 right atrium
 RBBB right bundle branch block
 r.b.c. red blood cells
 RBC red blood count
 RLL right lower lobe
 RLQ right lower quadrant
 RML right middle lobe
 R/O rule
 ROS review of systems
 RR respiratory rate
 RTA renal tubular acidosis
 RUL right upper lobe
 RUQ right upper quadrant
 RVH right ventricular hypertrophy
 Rx therapy or treatment
 RT right, radiotherapy
 REM rapid eye movement
 ROM range of motion
 RSR regular sinus rhythm

S

\bar{S} without
 S₁, S₂ first, second, third, and fourth
 S₃, S₄ heart sounds
 SB sinus bradycardia
 SBE subacute bacterial endocarditis
 SH special history
 SOB shortness of breath
 sp gr specific gravity
 s/p status post
 SR systems review
 stat immediately
 Sx signs or symptoms
 ST sinus tachycardia
 STD sexually transmitted diseases

T

| | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| T | temperature |
| T&A | tonsillectomy & adenoidectomy |
| tbc | tuberculosis |
| TAH | total abdominal hysterectomy |
| TIA | transient ischemic attacks |
| TMJ | temporomandibular joint |
| TPR | temperature, pulse, respirations |
| TUR | transurethral resection |
| Tx | treatment; transfusion |

♂
♀
>
<
↑
↓
=
/

Symbols

male
female
greater than
less than
increase
decrease
equals
per

U

| | |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| U | unit |
| UGI | upper gastrointestinal |
| URI | upper respiratory infection |
| UTI | urinary tract infection |

V

| | |
|------|--|
| VD | venereal disease |
| VDRL | venereal disease research Laboratory test |
| VF | ventricular fibrillation |
| VMA | vanillyl mandelic acid |
| VS | vital signs |
| VSD | ventricular septal defect |
| VT | ventricular tachycardia |
| VP | venous pressure |
| VSS | vital signs stable |

W

| | |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| w.b.c. | white blood cells |
| WBC | white blood count |
| WD, WN | well developed, well nourished |
| WNL | within normal limits |
| Wt. | Weight |

X

| | |
|---------|-------------|
| x-match | cross match |
|---------|-------------|