

Approved Abbreviations

The following is the Project's list of approved medical abbreviations used in this document. The Drug.com article "Medical Abbreviations on Pharmacy Prescriptions" at <https://www.drugs.com/article/prescription-abbreviations.html> is considered the reference of authority.

Abbreviation	Description
ACS	acute coronary syndrome
AED	automatic external defibrillator
A-FIB	atrial fibrillation
ALS	advanced life support
AMS	altered mental status
ASA	aspirin
AV	atrioventricular
AVPU	neurological status measure: alert, verbal, pain, unresponsive
BiPAP	bi-level positive airway pressure
BLS	basic life support
BP	blood pressure
BPM	beats per minute
BSA	body surface area
BSI	body substance isolation
BVM	bag-valve-mask
CABG	coronary artery bypass graft
CAD	coronary artery disease
CARES	Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival
CC	chief complaint
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CHF	congestive heart failure
CNS	central nervous system
CO	carbon monoxide
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	chest pain
CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure
CPI	continuous performance improvement
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
C-SECTION	caesarean section
C-SPINE	cervical spine

Approved Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
CT	cat scan, Cardiac Technician
CVA	cerebrovascular accident (stroke)
D5W	5% dextrose in water
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis
DNI	do not intubate
DNR	do not resuscitate
DT	delirium tremens
Dx	diagnosis
ECPR	extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation
EEG	electroencephalogram
EENT	eye, ear, nose, and throat
EGD	extraglottic device
EKG	electrocardiogram
EMS	emergency medical services
EMT	emergency medical technician
ePCR	electronic patient call/care record/report
ET	endotracheal
ETA	estimated time of arrival
ETCO ₂	end-tidal CO ₂
ETOH	ethanol (alcohol)
ETT	endotracheal tube
FBAO	foreign body airway obstruction
FiO ₂	fraction of inspired oxygen
g	gram(s)
GI	gastrointestinal
gtts	drops
GU	gastrourinary
GYN	gynecology (gynecological)
HFNC	high flow nasal cannula
HR	heart rate (hour)
ICU	intensive care unit
IM	intramuscular
IO	intraosseous
IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing

Approved Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
IV	Intravenous
IVP	intravenous push
J	joules
JVD	jugular vein distension
kg	kilogram
KVO	keep vein open
L	liter
LMA	laryngeal mask airway
LPM	liters per minutes
LR	lactated Ringer's
MAT	multifocal atrial tachycardia
mcg	microgram(s)
MED	medicine
mg	milligram(s)
mg/dL	milligrams per deciliter
MI	myocardial infarction (heart attack)
mL	milliliter
mmHg	millimeters of mercury
mmol	millimole
MOLST	medical orders for life-sustaining treatment
MS	mental status
msec	millisecond
MVC	motor vehicle crash
N/V	nausea/vomiting
NC	nasal cannula
NRB	non-rebreather
NS	normal saline
NSR	normal sinus rhythm
OB/GYN	obstetrics/gynecology
O ₂	oxygen
P	pulse
PAC	premature atrial contraction
PCR	Patient call/care record/report
PE	pulmonary embolus

Approved Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
PEA	pulseless electrical activity
PO	orally
POLST	physician orders for life-sustaining treatment
PPE	personal protection equipment
prn	as needed
PVC	premature ventricular contraction
q	every (e.g. q 3-5 minutes)
RR	respiratory rate
RSI	rapid sequence intubation
Rx	medicine
sat	saturation
SBP	systolic blood pressure
SC	subcutaneous
SCBA	self-contained breathing apparatus
SCUBA	self-contained under-water breathing apparatus
SGD	supraglottic device
SL	sublingual
SOB	shortness of breath
ST	sinus tachycardia
SVT	supraventricular tachycardia
T	temperature
TBSA	total body surface area
TCA	tricyclic antidepressants
TIA	transient ischemic attack
TID	three times a day
TKO	to keep open
VF	ventricular fibrillation
VS	vital signs
VT	ventricular tachycardia
yo	years old (years of age)