

## Common Abbreviations Used in Medical Documentation

Abbrev.	Meaning of abbreviation	Abbrev.	Abbreviation meaning
ā	before ( <i>abante</i> )	aq// dil.	aqueous water// dilute
p	after ( <i>abante</i> )	D/W	dextrose in water
a.c.	before meals ( <i>ante cibum</i> )	D5W or D5/W	5% dextrose in water
ad lib	as desired ( <i>ad libitum</i> )	NS	normal saline
am, A.M.	morning	cap/caps	capsule/capsules
pm, P.M.	afternoon, evening	tab/tabs	tablet/tablets
n, noct	night	mL	milliliter
h, hr	Hour	mg	milligram
h.s.	hour of sleep; at bedtime ( <i>hora somni</i> )	mcg	microgram
d	day	mEq	milliequivalent
c // s	with // without ( <i>sine</i> )	mU	milliunit
q// q.d.	every ( <i>quaque</i> ) // every day or once a day	cc	cubic centimeter
q.p.m./qpm	Every evening or every afternoon	wt	weight
q.h.s.	every ( <i>quaque</i> ) // every bedtime	g	gram
q.o.d	every other day	kg	kilogram
qh	every hour ( <i>quaque hora</i> )	lb/lbs	pound/pounds
q2h	every two hours	gr	grain
q3h	every three hours	dr	dram
q4h	every four hours	gtt/gtts	drop/drops// mcgtt, µgtt = microdrop
q6h	every six hours	L	liter
q8h	every eight hours	T or tbsp	tablespoon
q12h	every twelve hours	t or tsp	teaspoon
qn	every night ( <i>quaque noct</i> )	oz	ounce
qs	sufficient quantity or sufficient amount	pt	pint
b.i.d//b.i.n	two times a day//twice a night	C	Celsius; centigrade
t.i.d/T.I.D	three times a day ( <i>ter in die</i> )	F	Fahrenheit
q.i.d/Q.I.D	four times a day ( <i>quater in die</i> )	T	temperature
p.c.	after meals ( <i>post cibum</i> )	Dx	diagnosis
prn	as needed/when necessary or required	Rx	prescription, treatment
Stat/STAT	Immediately ( <i>statum</i> ); at once	V/S	Vital signs
p.o.// npo	by mouth ( <i>per os</i> )// nothing by mouth	P	pulse
R/O	Rule out	CBC	complete blood count
Susp	suspension	R	respiration
elix	elixir	BP	blood pressure
amp	ampule	CVP	central venous pressure
Subcut/sq	subcutaneous	CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
IM	intramuscular	GT	gastrostomy tube
IV	Intravenous	NG	nasogastric tube
IVP	Intravenous push	NGT	nasogastric tube
IVPB	Intravenous piggyback	PEG	percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy tube
IVSS	Intravenous Soluset	PR/pr	by way of rectum; by rectum
LIB	left in bag or bottle	Pt	patient
IC	intracardiac	Sig/SIG	directions to the patient
ID	intra dermal	LOS	length of stay
LA	long acting	Supp	suppository
ER/XL	extended release	TPN	Total parenteral nutrition
SR	sustained release	MAR	Medication administration record
daw/d.a.w	Dispense (disp.) as written	USP	Unites States Pharmacopeia
NPO	nothing by mouth ( <i>per ora</i> )	OTC	over the counter
SL	sublingual	PRE-OP	before surgery
KVO	keep vein open	POST-OP	after surgery