

General Abbreviations

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION
AA	Air Ambulance
AC	Assistance Coordinator
BC	Business Class (seating)
BCBS	Blue Cross/Blue Shield
BD	Baggage Delay
CC	Credit Card
CC Auth	Credit Card Authorization (when charging customer card)
CC Doc	Credit Card Document (when charging On Call card)
CO	Case Overview (summary of case sent to Client)
COB	Confirmation of Benefits
Comp	Companion/Traveling Companion
CW	Case Worker (see also Social Worker)
DC	Death Certificate
EC	Economy Class (seating)
ER	Emergency Room
FH	Funeral Home (may be preceded with “s” for sending or “r” for receiving)
FTF	Fitness to Fly (form in initial letters)
FTT	Fitness to Travel (usually used with cases where travel is by vehicle/RV)
FU	Follow up

FWD	Forward
GOP	Guarantee of Payment (see also PG)
GVA	Global Voyager Assistance (one of the IAG groups representing Russia)
HAL	Holland America (Cruise Line Client)
HCCMIS	Houston Casualty Company Medical Insurance Services (Client)
IAG	International Assistance Group
IKE	IKE Asistencia (one of the IAG groups with offices in Mexico, Colombia, etc.)
Itin	Itinerary
KIT	Keep in Touch
MC	Medical Consult
Med Rls	Medical Release
MR	Medical Report (sometimes Medical Release) OR Medical Referral, depends on context
Non-Med	Non-Medical Escort
O2	Oxygen
OG	Original (usually used with tickets)
Px	Passengers
PG	Payment Guarantee (see also GOP)
Prim Ins	Primary Insurance (health insurance)
PreX	Pre-existing conditions
PT	Patient

RNI	Rescue Nurse International (vendor)
SAC	Senior Assistance Coordinator
SFH	Sending Funeral Home
SOB	Shortness of Breath
SUP	Supervisor
SW	Social Worker (see also CW)
RA	Remote Access System (to confirm coverage for a specific client)
RFH	Receiving Funeral Home
RV	Recreational Vehicle
TA	Travel Agent OR Travel Assistance (depends on context)
T&Cs	Terms & Conditions (insurance benefits)
TC	Trip Cancellation OR Traveling Companion (depends on context)
TD	Trip Delay OR Tour Director (depends on context)
TG	Tour Guide
TL	Tour Leader
TM	Trip Mate (client)
VOB	Verification of Benefits
WM	WorldMark (client)
WNY	Whole Nine Yards (confirmation of coverage, medical release, medical report, FTF)

Medical Terminology Abbreviations

The following list contains some of the most common abbreviations found in medical records. Please note that in medical terminology, the capitalization of letters bears significance as to the meaning of certain terms, and is often used to distinguish terms with similar acronyms.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION
@	At
abd	Abdominal
ABG	Arterial blood gas (lab test that measures oxygen level)
ACLS	Advanced cardiac life support
ADL	Activities of daily living (daily self-care activities such as dressing, bathing, eating)
adm	Admission
afeb	Afebrile, no fever
AKA	Above the knee amputation
AMA	Against medical advice
amb	Ambulate, walk
AMI	Acute myocardial infarction (heart attack)
amt	Amount
ant	Anterior
AOx3	Alert and oriented to person, time, and place
ARDS	Acute respiratory distress syndrome

ARF	Acute renal failure
ASA	Aspirin
asap (ASAP)	As soon as possible
as tol	As tolerated
bil, bilateral	Both sides
BKA	Below the knee amputation
bl wk/bw	Blood work
BP	Blood pressure
BR	Bed rest
BS	Breath sounds
BUN	Blood, urea, nitrogen levels (test of kidney function)
Bx/BX	Biopsy
C & S	Culture and sensitivity
c-spine	Cervical spine
CA	Cancer
CABG	Coronary artery bypass graft (open heart surgery)
CAD	Coronary artery disease
CAT/CT	Computerized axial tomography
CBC	Complete blood count
CC	Chief complaint
CCU	Coronary care unit, critical care unit
CHD	Coronary heart disease

CHF	Congestive heart failure
chol	Cholesterol
CNS	Central nervous system
c/o	Complains of
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	Chest pain
CPK	Creatine phosphokinase (blood test that indicates muscle damage)
CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
Cr	Creatinine (blood test for kidney function)
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident (stroke, brain attack)
CCU	Cardiovascular unit /cardiac care unit
CXR	Chest X ray
d/c	Discharge OR discontinue (depends on context)
DC	Discontinue OR discharge (depends on context)
DM, IDDM	Diabetes mellitus, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
DNR	Do not resuscitate
DOA	Dead on arrival
DOB	Date of birth
DT's	Delirium tremens
DVT	Deep vein thrombosis (clot in vein, often in leg)

Dx	Diagnosis
ECG/EKG	Electrocardiogram (tracing of electrical activity of the heart)
ED	Emergency department
EEG	Electroencephalogram (tracing of electrical activity of the brain)
EENT	Eyes, ears, nose, throat
ER	Emergency room
ETT	Endotracheal tube (breathing tube)
ETA	Estimated time of arrival
etiol	Etiology (cause)
ETOH	Ethanol alcohol
exam	Examination
exp	Exploratory
ext	External, extract, extraction
FBS	Fasting blood sugar
ft	Foot
FUO	Fever of undetermined origin
Fx	Fracture
GB	Gallbladder
GERD	Gastroesophageal reflux disease
GI, GIB	Gastrointestinal, gastrointestinal bleed
GU	Genitourinary
gyn	Gynecology

H & H, H/H	Hemoglobin and hematocrit
HCG	Human chorionic gonadotrophin (pregnancy hormone)
hct	Hematocrit
hgb	Hemoglobin
HOB	Head of bed
hr (h)	Hour
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
H&P	History and physical
HR	Heart rate
hs	Hour of sleep, bedtime
ht	Height
Hx	History
hyst	Hysterectomy (removal of the uterus)
IBS	Irritable bowel syndrome
I & D	Incision and drainage
ICU	Intensive care unit
IM	Intramuscular
ing	Inguinal
inj	Injection
INR	International nationalized ratio (measure of the blood's ability to clot)
isol	Isolation

IUD	Intrauterine device (birth control device)
IV	Intravenous (infusion of substance directly into vein)
K+	Potassium
KCl	Potassium chloride
KUB	Kidney, ureter, bladder (type of x-ray)
L	Lumbar
lac	Laceration (cut)
lab	Laboratory
lap	Laparotomy (large abdominal surgical incision)
lat	Lateral
LD	Lethal dose
LLQ, LLL	Left lower quadrant (abdomen), lobe (lung)
LMP	Last menstrual period
LOC	Level of consciousness
LP	Lumbar puncture
lt	Left
LUQ, LUL	Left upper quadrant (abdomen), lobe (lung)
meds	Medications
MI	Myocardial infarction
min	Minute
MN	Midnight
MRI	Magnetic resonance imagery

MS	Morphine sulfate [narcotic medication] OR Multiple sclerosis [disease] (depends on context)
MVC	Motor vehicle crash
MVA	Motor vehicle accident
NVD	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Na+	Sodium
NC	Nasal cannula
NIDDM	Non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
neuro	Neurology
NGT	Nasogastric tube (tube inserted to decompress the stomach)
nitro	Nitroglycerine (medication often used for chest pain)
NKA	No known allergies
noc	Night
NPO	Nothing by mouth
NS	Normal saline
nsg	Nursing
NSR	Normal sinus rhythm
O ₂	Oxygen
OB	Obstetrics
OD	Right eye OR overdose (depends on context)
OOB	Out of bed
OR	Operating room

ORIF	Open reduction and internal fixation (surgery to repair certain orthopedic condition)
ORTH	Orthopedics
OU	Both eyes
palp	Palpation
PAT	Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia (abnormal rapid heart rate)
PE	Physical exam, pulmonary embolism
PEDS	Pediatrics
per	By, through
PEARL	Pupils equal and reactive to light (and accommodation)
PH, PMH	Past history, past medical history
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
pm	Between noon and midnight
PNA	Pneumonia
po	By mouth
postop, PostOp	After (post) surgery (operative)
preop, PreOp	Before (pre) surgery (operative)
prn	As needed, whenever necessary
PT, pro time	Prothrombin time (blood test for clotting)
pt	Patient
PTT	Partial prothromboplastin time (blood test for clotting)
PTX	Pneumothorax (collapsed lung)

PVC	Premature ventricular contraction (abnormal heart beat)
q	Every
qd	Every day
qhs	Every night at bedtime
R (resp)	Respirations
RA	Room Air
RBC	Red blood cell/count
reg	Regular
RLQ, RLL	Right lower quadrant (abdomen), right lower lobe (lung)
RML	Right middle lobe (lung)
R/O	Rule out
ROM	Range of motion
RUQ, RUL	Right upper quadrant, right upper lobe
rt	Right
Rx	Take (prescription)
S & S	Signs and symptoms
Sats	Oxygen/blood saturation level
SB, SBO	Small bowel, small bowel obstruction (functional obstruction of the intestines)
SOB	Shortness of breath
stat	Immediately
STS	Soft tissue swelling

Sx	Symptoms
T	Temperature
T & A	Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
tab	Tablet
tachy	Tachycardic
TAH	Total abdominal hysterectomy (removal of the uterus and ovaries)
TB	Tuberculosis
temp (T)	Temperature
THR	Total hip replacement
TIA	Transient ischemic attack
tol	Tolerated
TKR	Total knee replacement
TPR	Temperature, pulse, respirations
trach	Tracheotomy, tracheostomy (surgical incision in the neck to create an airway)
TURP	Transurethral resection prostatectomy (removal of the prostate)
UA	Urinalysis
unk	Unknown
URI	Upper respiratory infection
US	Ultrasonic
UTI	Urinary tract infection
V/S, VS	Vital signs

WBC	White blood cell/count (blood test for infection)
w/c, WC	Wheelchair
WNL	Within normal limits
wt	Weight
y/o	Year(s) old