

Abbreviation	Meaning
aarom	assistive active range of motion
abd	abdomen
ac	before a meal
ad lib	as desired
ADL	activities of daily living
adm	admission, admitted
AM	morning
amb	ambulate, ambulatory, able to walk
amt	amount
approx	approximately
arom	active range of motion
as tol	as tolerated
ASAP	as soon as possible
ax	axillary
bid	twice a day
BLS	Basic Life Support
BM	bowel movement
BP, B/P	blood pressure
BR	bed rest
BSC	Bedside Commode
c	with
c/o	complains of
Ca	cancer
cath	catheter
CBC	Complete blood count
CBR	complete bed rest
cc	cubic centimeter
CCU	Cardiac care unit/ coronary care unit
CDC	Center for Disease Control
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
cl liq	clear liquids
CNA	Certified Nursing Assistant
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident or stroke
dc, d/c	discontinue
disch	discharge
DJD	degenerative joint disease

Abbreviation	Meaning
DM	Diabetes Mellitus
DNR	do not resuscitate
DOA	dead on arrival
DOB	date of birth
DON	Director of Nursing
DR	dining room
dsg./drsg	dressings
DVT	Deep vein thrombosis
DX	Diagnosis
EKG	Electrocardiogram
ENT	ear, nose, throat
ER	Emergency Room
ESRD	End stage renal disease
FBS	Fasting blood sugar
FF	Force fluids
fl (fld)	fluid
ft	feet
Fx	Fracture
GI	Gastrointestinal
gt, gtt	drop, drops
Gyn	Gynecology
h (hr)	hour
H ₂ O	water
HAV	Hepatitis A Virus
HBV	Hepatitis B Virus
HCV	Hepatitis C Virus
HOB	head of bed
HOH	Hard of hearing
HS, hs	Hour of sleep (bedtime)
ht.	height
HTN	Hypertension
Hx	History
I&O	intake and output
ICU	Intensive care unit
IDDM	Insulin dependent DM
in	inch
Isol	Isolation
IV	intravenous

Abbreviation	Meaning
Lab	Laboratory
lb.	pound
liq	liquid
LLE	Lower Left Extremities
LPN	Licensed Practical nurse
LUE	Left upper extremities
LVN	Licensed Vocational nurse
meds	medications
MI	myocardial infarction
mL	milliliter
MS	Multiple sclerosis
N&V	nausea and vomiting
NA	Nursing Assistant
neg	negative
NGT	Nasogastric tube
NIDDM	noninsulin dependent DM
NKA	No known allergies
no.	number
noc	night
NPO	nothing by mouth
O2	oxygen
ocbed	occupied bed
OJ	orange juice
OOB	out of bed
OT	occupational therapy
OTC	Over the counter
oz	ounces
pc	after meals
per	by, through
PM	afternoon, evening
PO	By mouth
Post op spec	After surgery urine specimen
PRN	as needed
prom	Passive Range of Motion
pt	patient
PT	physical therapy
q	every
q2, q3, etc	every 2 hrs, every 3 hours, etc.

Abbreviation	Meaning
qd	every day
qh	every hour
qhs	every night at bedtime
qid	Four times a day
qod	every other day
R	rectal or respirations
R/O	rule out
RBC	red blood cells
rehab	rehabilitation
resp	respiration
RLE	right lower extremities
RN	Registered Nurse
ROM	range of motion
s	without
S/S	signs and symptoms
SOB	shortness of breath
spec	specimen
ST	speech therapy
STAT	At once, immediately
TB	Tuberculosis
Tbsp	Tablespoon
TIA	Transsichemic attack/stroke
tid	three times a day
TLC	Tender Loving Care
TPR	temperature, pulse, respirations
tsp.	teaspoon
TY	tympanic
U/A	Urinalysis
unbed	unoccupied bed
UTI	urinary tract infection
VS	vital signs
w/c	wheelchair
WA	while awake
WBC	White blood cells
wt	weight