

Z-R1  
COMMON MEDICAL  
ABBREVIATIONS



**Abbreviation.....Definition**

@..... at

- AAA..... abdominal aortic aneurysm  
ABD..... abdomen  
ABC..... airway, breathing, circulation  
AC..... antecubital  
ACLS..... advanced cardiac life support  
AED..... automatic external defibrillator  
A-fib..... atrial fibrillation  
AIDS..... acquired immune deficiency syndrome  
ALS..... advanced life support  
AKA..... also known as/ above the knee amputation  
A.M.A., AMA..... against medical advice  
APAP..... acetaminophen  
APGAR..... infant assessment scale  
APPROX..... approximately  
ARDS..... Acute/Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome  
ASA..... aspirin  
AV..... atrioventricular
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- BBB..... bundle branch block  
bilat..... bilateral  
BKA ..... below knee amputation  
BLS..... basic life support  
BM..... bowel movement  
BP..... blood pressure  
BS/BG..... blood sugar/glucose  
BSA..... Body Surface Area  
BVM..... bag valve mask
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- CABG..... coronary artery bypass graft  
CAD..... coronary artery disease  
CA..... cancer

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Cath..... catheterization  
CC..... chief complain  
CCU..... coronary care unit/critical care unit  
CHF..... congestive heart failure  
CNS..... central nervous system  
C/O..... complains of  
CO.....carbon monoxide  
CO2..... carbon dioxide  
COPD..... chronic obstructive pulmonary disease  
CP..... chest pain  
CPR..... cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
CSF..... cerebral spinal fluid  
CT scan..... computerized axial tomography  
CVA..... cerebral vascular accident

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D/C..... discontinue or discharge  
DM.....diabetes mellitus  
DNR ..... do not resuscitate  
DOA..... dead on arrival  
DT's..... delirium tremens  
DVT..... deep vein thrombosis  
D5W..... dextrose 5% in water  
DX..... diagnosis

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ECG/EKG..... electrocardiogram  
EEG..... electroencephalogram  
EJ..... external jugular  
EMS..... Emergency Medical Services  
EMT..... Emergency Medical Technician  
ETA..... estimated time of arrival  
ETOH..... ethyl alcohol  
ET..... endotracheal tube  
EXT..... external (extension)

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F..... female

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FB..... foreign body

FX..... fracture

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g..... gram(s)

GCS..... Glasgow Coma Scale

GI..... gastrointestinal

GSW..... gunshot wound

gtts..... drops

GU..... genitourinary

GYN..... gynecology

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HA..... headache

HEENT..... head, ears, eyes, nose, throat

HR..... heart rate/hour

HTN..... hypertension

Hx..... history

hyper..... above or high

hypo..... below or low

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ICP..... intracranial pressure

ICU..... intensive care unit

IM..... intramuscular

IO..... intraosseous

IV..... intravenous

IVP..... intravenous push

IVPB..... intravenous piggy back

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J..... joules

JVD..... jugular vein distension

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Kg..... kilogram

KVO..... keep vein open

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LAC..... laceration

L&D..... labor and delivery

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LAT..... lateral  
LBBB..... left bundle branch block  
lb..... pound  
LLQ.....left lower quadrant  
LMP.....last menstrual period  
LOC..... loss of consciousness/level of consciousness  
LR..... lactated ringers  
L-Spine..... lumbar spine  
LSB..... long spine board  
LUQ..... left upper quadrant

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mcg..... microgram  
MCI..... mass casualty incident  
MDI ..... metered dose inhaler  
ME..... medical examiner  
mEq..... millequivalent  
MED..... medication/ medium  
mg..... milligram  
MICU..... medical intensive care unit  
MI..... myocardial infarction  
MOI..... mechanism of injury  
MRI..... magnetic resonance imaging  
MVA..... motor vehicle accident

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NaCl..... sodium chloride  
NAD..... no acute distress  
NC..... nasal cannula  
NEB..... nebulizer  
NKA, NKDA..... no known allergies, no known drug allergies  
NPO.....Nothing by mouth  
NRM, NRB..... non-rebreather mask  
NS..... normal saline  
NSR ..... normal sinus rhythm  
NTG..... nitro- nitroglycerine  
N/V..... nausea and vomiting

<b>Z-R1 COMMON MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS</b>		
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N/V/D..... nausea, vomiting and diarrhea

O2..... oxygen  
O2Sat..... oxygen saturation by pulse oximeter  
OB..... obstetrics  
OD..... overdose  
OPA..... oralpharyngeal airway  
OPQRST.....onset, provoking factors, quality, radiation, severity, time.  
OTC..... over the counter

PAC..... premature atrial contraction  
PALP..... palpation  
PALS..... pediatric advanced life support  
PCN..... penicillin  
PE..... physical examination/ pulmonary embolism/pulmonary edema  
PEA..... pulseless electrical activity  
PEEP..... positive end expiratory pressure  
PERRL..... pupils equal round and reactive to light  
PJC..... premature junctional contraction  
PMHx..... past medical history  
PO..... orally  
POV..... privately owned vehicle  
PRN, prn..... as needed  
PSVT..... paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia  
PT..... patient  
PTA..... prior to arrival  
PVC..... premature ventricular contraction

R/O..... rule out  
ROM..... range of motion/movement  
(R)..... right  
RLQ..... right lower quadrant  
RUQ..... right upper quadrant

Rx..... prescription therapy

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SL..... sublingual  
 SOB..... short of breath  
 SpO2..... oxygen saturation by pulse oximeter  
 STAT..... at once  
 STD..... sexually transmitted disease  
 SQ..... subcutaneous  
 START..... simple triage & rapid treatment  
 SVT..... supraventricular tachycardia  
 SZ..... seizure  
 SX..... symptom

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Temp..... temperature  
 TIA..... transient ischemic attack  
 TKO..... to keep open  
 Tx..... treatment

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URI..... upper respiratory infection  
 UTI..... urinary tract infection

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V-fib.....ventricular fibrillation  
 V/S.....vital signs  
 VT.....ventricular tachycardia

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W/.....With  
 W/C..... Wheel Chair  
 W/O.....Without  
 WNL..... within normal limits  
 WPW..... Parkinson-White Syndrome

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YO.....years old

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**Symbols**

M or ♂ ..... male

Z-R1 COMMON MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS		
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- F or ♀ ..... female
- + ..... positive
- ..... negative
- ? ..... questionable
- Ψ ..... psychiatric
- ~ ..... approximately
- > ..... greater than
- = ..... equal
- Δ ..... change
- L ..... left
- R ..... right

