

## Abbreviations used in Prescribing Notation

Please note some abbreviations have more than one meaning. Not all the meanings are listed here. It is important to consider the context in which the abbreviation is used to establish if the definition is appropriate.

A	
Ab, ab, abor	abortion
Abdo	abdomen
AC	air conduction
Accom	accommodation of eye
ACTH	adrenocorticotrophic hormone
AD or a.d.	auris dextra (right ear)
AI	artificial insemination
AID	artificial insemination by donor
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
AIH	artificial insemination by husband
ALL	acute lymphocytic leukaemia
ANS	autonomic nervous system
ANT or ant	anterior
APH	antepartum haemorrhage
AS	auris sinistra (left ear)
Astigm.	astigmatism of eye
aud	audiology
AXR	abdominal x-ray

B	
Ba	barium
BBA	born before arrival
BC	bone conduction
BI	bone injury
BM (T)	bone marrow (trephine a cylindrical saw to remove a small disc of bone)
BP	blood pressure
BRO	bronchoscopy
BSO	Bilateral Salpingo-oophorectomy
BT	bone tumour
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
BX, Bx or bx.	Biopsy

C	
C 1-7	cervical vertebrae
CA, Ca or ca.	cancer/carcinoma
CABGS	coronary artery bypass graft surgery
CAD	coronary artery disease
CAT	computerised axial tomography

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CCU	coronary care unit
CDH	congenital dislocation of the hip joint
CHD	coronary heart disease
CLL	chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
CN	cranial nerve
CNS	central nervous system
COAD	chronic obstructive airway disease
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
C-sect, c/sect.	caesarean section
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CSU	catheter specimen of urine
CT	coronary thrombosis
CVA	cerebrovascular accident
CVS	cardiovascular system
CXR	chest x-ray
Cysto	cystoscopy

D	
D & C	dilatation and curettage
Derm, dermat	dermatology
Diff	differential blood count
DSA	digital subtraction angiography
DTR	deep tendon reflex
DU	duodenal ulcer
DXT	deep x-ray therapy
DXRT	deep x-ray radiotherapy

E	
ECG	electrocardiogram
ECT	electroconvulsive therapy
EDD	expected date of delivery
EEG	electroencephalography/gram
EGG	electrogastrogram
EMG	electromyogram/-myography
EMU	early morning urine
ENT	ear, nose and throat
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate

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ETF	Eustachian tube function
EUA	examination under anaesthesia
Ez	eczema

### F

FBC	full blood count
FBE	full blood examination
FSH	follicle stimulating hormone
FTND	full term normal delivery
FX, Fx or fx.	fracture

### G

GI and GII	gravida I and gravida II (first and second pregnancy)
GI	gastrointestinal
ging	gingiva (gum)
GU	gastric ulcer
Gyn	gynaecology

### H

HB or Hb	haemoglobin
H/ct or H.ct	haematocrit

HD	haemodialysis
HGH	human growth hormone
HIV	human immuno-deficiency virus
HRT	hormone replacement therapy

### I

IDDM	insulin dependent diabetes
Ig	immunoglobulin (e.g IgA IgG)
i.m.	intramuscular
IMB	intermenstrual bleeding
IOFB	intra-ocular foreign body in utero within uterus
IUC	idiopathic ulcerative colitis
IUCD	intra-uterine contraceptive device
IUD	intra-uterine death
IUFB	intra-uterine foreign body
i.v.	intravenous
IVF	in vitro fertilisation
IVP	intravenous pyelogram

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K	
KJ	knee jerk
KUB	kidney ureter and bladder

L	
L 1-5	lumbar vertebrae
LA	local anaesthetic
La	labial (lips)
LaG	labia and gingiva (lips and gums)
lat	lateral
LCCS	low cervical caesarian section
LH	luteinising hormone
LLL	left lower lobe
LLQ	left lower quadrant
LMP	last menstrual period
LRTI	lower respiratory tract infection
LUF	luteinised unruptured follicle

M	
MAP	muscle action potential
MCH	mean corpuscular (red cell haemoglobin
MCHC	mean corpuscular haemoglobin concentration
MD	muscular dystrophy
med	medial
Metas	metastasis
MFT	muscle function test
MI	myocardial infarction
MNJ	myoneural junction
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MS	mitral stenosis/muscle shortening muscle strength/muscular skeletal
MSU	midstream urine
MTOP	Medical termination of pregnancy

N	
NAS, nas	nasal
NFTD	normal full term delivery

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NIDDM	non insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
NP	nasopharynx
NPO, n.p.o.	non per os/nothing by mouth
N & V	nausea and vomiting

O	
OA	osteoarthritis
OB-Gyn	Obst-Gyn obstetrics and gynaecology
OD	oculus dexter (right eye) oculo dextro (in the right eye) Odont odontology
OE	otitis externa
OM	otitis media
Ophth	ophthalmology
Ortho	orthopaedics
OS	oculus sinister (left eye) oculo sinistro (in the left eye)
Os	mouth
osteo	osteomyelitis

oto	otology
OU	oculus unitas (both eyes together) oculus uterque (for each eye) oculus utro (in each eye)

P	
pCo2	partial pressure carbon dioxide
PCB	post coital bleed
PF	peak flow
PERL	pupils equal reactive to light
PET	positron emission tomography
PID	pelvic inflammatory disease
PMB	post menopausal bleeding
PNS	peripheral nervous system
PO or p.o.	per os/by mouth
PMT	pre-menstrual tension
POP	pain on palpation/plaster of paris
post.	posterior
PPH	postpartum haemorrhage
pr or PR	per rectum
Pr or pr.	plantar reflex
pros.	prostate
prox.	proximal

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PU	peptic ulcer
PV	per vagina

### R

RA	rheumatoid arthritis
Ra	radium
RBC	red blood count/red blood cell
RE	rectal examination
RF	rheumatoid factor
RFLA	rheumatoid factor like activity
RLQ	right lower
RT	radiotherapy
RUQ	right upper quadrant

### S

SA	sarcoma
SED	skin erythema dose
SOB	short of breath
SOBOE	short of breath on exertion
SPP	suprapubic prostatectomy
ST	skin test

STD	skin test dose/sexually transmitted disease
STOP	surgical termination of pregnancy
Subcu.	suncutaneous
subling.	sublingual/under the tongue
sup.	superior
syph.	syphilis

### T

T	tumour
t	terminal
T 1-12	thoracic vertebrae
T3, T4	triiodothyronine tetraiodothyronine (thyroid hormones)
T & A	tonsils and adenoids or tonsillectomy/ adenoidectomy
Tb	tuberculosis
TD	thymus dependent cells
THR	total hip replacement
TI	thymus independent cells
TJ	triceps jerk
TLD	thoracic lymph duct

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TOP	termination of pregnancy
TSH	thyroid stimulating hormone
TURP	transurethral resection of prostate

U	
UC	ulcerative colitis
U & E	urea and electrolytes
UG	urogenital
UGI	upper gastrointestinal
ung	ointment (unguentum)
URTI	upper respiratory tract infection
US	ultrasonography/ultrasound
UTI	urinary tract infection

V	
VA	visual acuity
VD	venereal disease
VE	vaginal examination
VF	visual field

W	
WBC	white blood cell (count)/ white blood cell
WR	Wasserman reaction (test for syphilis)

X	
XR	X-ray