

Australian Medical Abbreviations:

Please also consult your GP, specialist or medical professional and do your own research.

A

AAA	abdominal aortic aneurysm
A&E	accident and emergency
abdo	abdomen/abdominal
ABG	arterial blood gas
ac	before meals
ACLS	advanced care life support
ACS	acute coronary syndrome
AED	automatic external defibrillator
AF, A/F	atrial fibrillation/atrial flutter
AFlut	atrial flutter
AICD	automated implantable cardioverter defibrillator
ALS	advanced life support
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
angio	angiogram
ART	arterial line (used for invasive pressure monitoring)
ATLS	advanced trauma life support
AV	atrioventricular
AVR	aortic valve replacement

B

BGL	blood glucose level
BLS	basic life support
BP	blood pressure

C

Ca	cancer/calcium
CABG	coronary artery bypass graft
CAD	coronary artery disease
Card	cardiac
cap	capsule
CCB	calcium channel blocker
CCF	congestive cardiac failure
CCU	coronary care unit
CF	cystic fibrosis
CHF	congestive heart failure
cm	centimetre
CNS	central nervous system

COAD	chronic obstructive airway disease
CO	carbon monoxide
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPAP	continuous positive airways pressure
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CT	computerised tomography
CVA	cerebrovascular accident
CVL	central venous line
CWMS	colour warmth movement sensation
CXR	chest x-ray

D

DCI	decompression illness
DIC	disseminated intravascular coagulation
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis
DM	diabetes mellitus
DOB	date of birth
Dr	doctor
DVT	deep vein thrombosis

E

eARF	electronic ambulance report form
ECG	electrocardiogram
ED	emergency department
EEG	electroencephalograph
EMD	electromechanical dissociation
Emerg	emergency department
ENT	ear, nose and throat
ERYC	erythromycin
ETT	endotracheal tube

FAST	focused abdominal sonography for trauma
FBC	full blood count
FiO ₂	fractional inspired oxygen concentration
FR	first responder

G

g	gram(s)
GA	general anaesthesia
GABA	gamma amino butyric acid

GI gastrointestinal
GIT gastrointestinal tract
GORD gastro-oesophageal reflux disorder
GP general practitioner
GU gastric ulcer

H

Hb haemoglobin
HI head injury
HIV human immunodeficiency virus
hrs hours
Hx history

I

ID band patient identification band/bracelet
IBS irritable bowel syndrome
IDC indwelling catheter
IDDM insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
IHD ischaemic heart disease
IM intramuscular
IMI intramuscular injection
IO intraosseous
ICC intercostal catheter
ICD implantable cardioverter defibrillator
ICP intracranial pressure
ICU intensive care unit
INH inhalation
inj injection
IV intravenous
IV inf intravenous infusion
IVABs intravenous antibiotics
IVI intravenous injection
IV Morph intravenous morphine

J

JVP jugular venous pressure

K

KCl potassium chloride
kg kilogram
Ko'd knocked out
KSAR known severe adverse reactions
KVO keep vein open

L

L)	left
L	litre
LA	local anaesthetic
LAD	left anterior descending (coronary artery)
lat	lateral
LBBB	left bundle branch block
LFT	liver function test
LMA	laryngeal mask airway
L/min	litres per min
LMA	laryngeal mask airway
LOC	loss of consciousness
LVF	left ventricular failure

M

MAOIs	monoamine oxidase inhibitors
MAP	mean arterial pressure
Max	maximum
mcg	microgram
mg	milligram
MI	myocardial infarction
mL	millimetre(s)
mmHg	millimetres of mercury
mmol	millimole
MO	medical officer (doctor)
MS	multiple sclerosis
MVA	motor vehicle accident
MVR	mitral valve replacement

N

n/a	not applicable
NAD	nil abnormality detected
NAS	intranasal
NC	nasal cannulae
NEB	nebulised
NFR	not for resuscitation
NG/NGT	nasogastric tube
NMDA	N-Methyl D-Aspartate
NOF	neck of femur
NOK	next of kin
NSAIDs	non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs
NSTEMI	non-ST elevation myocardial infarct

O

Obs	observations / vital signs
OE	on examination
OPD	outpatient's department
OT	occupational therapy
O2	oxygen

P

P	pulse
PaCO ₂	partial pressure of carbon dioxide (arterial)
PaO ₂	partial pressure of oxygen (arterial)
PAC	premature atrial contraction
PCI	percutaneous coronary intervention (coronary angioplasty)
PE	pulmonary embolism
PEA	pulseless electrical activity
PEF	peak expiratory flow
Physio	physiotherapist
PID	pelvic inflammatory disease
PJC	premature junctional contraction
PMHx	past medical history
PO	Per oral
post-op	post-operative
PPE	personal protective equipment
PPH	post-partum haemorrhage
p.r	per rectum
prn	when required
Pt	patient
PV	per vaginal
PVD	peripheral vascular disease
PVC	premature ventricular contraction

Q

R

R)	right
RBBB	right bundle branch block
RLQ	right lower quadrant
ROSC	return of spontaneous circulation
RSI	rapid sequence induction
RUQ	right upper quadrant
RV	right ventricle
RVF	right ventricular failure

S

SaO ₂	oxygen saturation
SB	sinus bradycardia
sc	subcutaneous
SFM	simple face mask
sl	sublingual
SNRI	serotonin and noradrenaline re-uptake inhibitor
SOB	shortness of breath
SR	sinus rhythm
SSRI	selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor
ST	sinus tachycardia
STEMI	elevation myocardial infarction
SUBCUT	subcutaneous
SUBLING	sublingual
SVT	supraventricular tachycardia

T

TCA	tricyclic antidepressant
TCP	transcutaneous pacing
THR	total hip replacement
TIA	transient ischaemic attack
TKR	total knee replacement
TNK	tenecteplase
Tx	transplant

U

U/A	urinalysis
UDB	urinary drainage bag
URTI	upper respiratory tract infection
UTI	urinary tract infection

V

V/Q	ventilation perfusion (lung scan)
VEB	ventricular ectopic beat
VF	ventricular fibrillation
VT	ventricular tachycardia
WNL	within normal limits

W

WBC	white blood cells
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Y

y/o year old

Miscellaneous

#	fracture
1/60	one minute
1/24	one hour
1/7	one day
1/52	one week
1/12	one month
<	less than
>	greater than
≤	less than or equal to
≥	greater than or equal to

Emergency ID Australia