

**Georgia Division of Public Health  
 Statewide Standard List  
 ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, AND SYMBOLS**

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
(L)	left
(R)	right
/hpf	per high power field
ā	before
A and O	alert and oriented
A and P	auscultation and percussion
aa	of each
AACRN	Advanced AIDS Certified Registered Nurse
AAHIVM	American Academy of HIV medicine
AB	abortion
abd	abdomen
ac	before meals
ACHES	Abdominal pain, chest pain, headache, eye problems, and severe leg pains (early danger signs of oral contraceptive adverse effects)
ACRN	AIDS Certified Registered Nurse
ACTG	AIDS Clinical Trial Group
ADA	American Dietetic Association
ADAP	AIDS Drug Assistance Program
ADC	AIDS Dementia Complex
ADLs	Activities of daily living
AED	automated external defibrillator
AETC	AIDS Education and Training Centers
AF	anteflexed
AFB	acid-fast bacilli
AGCUS	atypical glandular cells of undetermined significance
AGN	Acute glomerulonephritis
AHYD	Adolescent Health and Youth Development
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
AIN	anal intraepithelial neoplasia
AlkPhos	alkaline phosphatase
ALT	alanine aminotransferase
amb	ambulatory
AMBU	air-shields manual breathing unit
amnio	amniocentesis

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
amt	amount
ant	anterior
Anti-HBc	Hepatitis B antibodies to the core antigen
Anti-HBs	Hepatitis B antibodies to the surface antigen
Anti-HCV	Hepatitis C Virus Antibodies
AP	ante partum
appt	appointment
APRN	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
ARC	AIDS-Related complex
ART	antiretroviral therapy
ARV	antiretroviral
ASAP	as soon as possible
ASCUS	atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance
ASQ	Ages and Stages Questionnaire
AST (formally SGOT)	aspartate aminotransferase
AV	anteverted
AV nicking	arteriovenous nicking (or arterial narrowing)
AVN	avascular necrosis
BA	bacillary angiomatosis
bact	bacterial
BAMT	Blood assay for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>
BBS	bilateral breath sounds
BBT	basal body temperature
BC	Board Certified
BCA	bichloroacetic acid
BCCP	Breast and Cervical Cancer Program
BCM	body cell mass
BCW	Babies Can't Wait
b-DNA test	branched DNA Assay
BF	breastfeeding
BFC	breastfeeding class
BFR syndrome	body fat redistribution syndrome
bid	twice a day
bilat	bilateral
bili	bilirubin
BM	bowel movement
BMD	bone mineral density
BMI	body mass index
BP	blood pressure

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
BRAIDED	benefits, risks, alternatives, inquiries, decision, explanation, documentation
BS	bowel sounds
BS and O	bilateral salpingectomy and oophorectomy
BSE	breast self exam
BTB	break through bleeding
BTL	bilateral tubal ligation
BTM	BreastTest and More
BUM	back-up method
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
BUS	Bartholin's, Urethral, and Skene's Glands
BV	bacterial vaginosis
Bx	biopsy
c	with
C	Celsius
C and S	culture and sensitivity
c/o	complains of
Ca	calcium
CA	carcinoma or cancer
CAD	coronary artery disease
caps	capsules
cath	catheter/catheterization
CBC	complete blood count
CBE	clinical breast exam or Child Birth Educator (when used behind a name)
CBO	Community Based Organization
CC	chief complaint
CCR5	Cell surface molecule, which is needed along with the primary receptor, the CD4 cell, in order to fuse with the membranes of the immune system cells.
CD4 percentage	percentage of T-lymphocytes with the CD4 surface receptor
CD4:CD8 ratio	ratio of CD4 T-lymphocytes to CD8 T-lymphocytes
CD4+ count	CD4+ T-lymphocyte count, CD4+ T-helper/inducer cells.
CD8 count	CD8 T-lymphocyte count, CD8 T-suppressor cells
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC-NAH	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National AIDS Hotline

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
cert	certification
CF	Children 1 <sup>st</sup>
CHD	coronary heart disease
CHF	congestive heart failure
chla	chlamydia
CHO	carbohydrate
chol	cholesterol
cig	cigarette
CIN I, II, or III	cervical intraepithelial neoplasia, grade 1, 2, or 3
circ	circumcision
CIS	carcinoma in situ
CKC	Cold-knife cone/conization
CLD	chronic lung disease
cm	centimeter
CME	continuing medical education
CMO	care management organization
CMT	cervical motion tenderness
CMV	cytomegalovirus
CMS	Children's Medical Services
CNM	Certified nurse midwife
CNS	central nervous system
colpo	colposcopy
cong	congenital
CoNM	county nurse manager
cont	continued
contra(s)	contraindication(s)
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
cp	chest pain
CP	Cerebral Palsy
CPD	cephalopelvic disproportion
CPK	creatine phosphokinase
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CrCl	creatinine clearance
cryo	cryotherapy
CS	cesarean section
CSF	cerebral spinal fluid
CT scan	computed tomography scan
CTA	clear to auscultation
CTL	Cytotoxic T Lymphocyte; also known as Killer T-cells
CVA	cerebrovascular accident
CVAT	Costovertebral angle tenderness
CVD	cardiovascular disease

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
CWSN	Children with Special Needs
cx	cervix
CXR	chest X-ray
D	deltoid
D and C	dilation and curettage
D and E	dilation and evacuation
d/f	dark field
D/T	due to
DASH	Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension Meal Plan
DBP	diastolic blood pressure
del	delivery
dept	department
derm	dermatology
DFA	direct fluorescent antibody
DFCS	Division of Family and Children's Services
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
disc	discussed
dist	distilled
DJD	degenerative joint disease
dk	dark
dL	deciliter (100mL)
DM	diabetes mellitus
DMAC	Disseminated Mycobacterium Avium Complex
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
DNKA	did not keep appointment
DOB	date of birth
DOE	dyspnea on exertion
DOT	directly observed therapy
DRE	digital rectal exam
DSPS	Diagnostic, Screening and Preventive Services
DTR	deep tendon reflexes
DUB	dysfunctional uterine bleeding
DVT	deep vein thrombosis
DX	diagnosis
e.g.	for example
EAB	elective abortion
EBF	exclusively breastfed
EBV	Epstein-Barr virus
EC	emergency center

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ECC	endocervical curettage
ECG	electrocardiogram
ECHO	echocardiogram
ECP	emergency contraceptive pill
EDC	estimated date of confinement
educ	education
EEG	electroencephalography
EENT	ear, eyes, nose, throat
EFW	estimated fetal weight
EGA	estimated gestational age
EIA	enzyme immunosorbent assay
EL	early latent
elec	elective
ELISA	enzyme linked immunosorbent assay
EMS	emergency medical system
enc	encourage
ENT	ear, nose, throat
EOMI	extraocular movements intact
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPI	epidemiology or epidemiologist
epith	epithelial
EPSDT	Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (Program)
ER	emergency room
ESIP	engineered sharps injury protection
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
ET	estrogen therapy
ETOH	alcohol
eval	evaluation
ext	external
ext gen	external genitalia
F	fahrenheit
F # P # A # L #	full-term, pre-term, abortions, living
F and C	foam and condoms
FBG	fasting blood glucose
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
Fe	iron
FF	force fluids
FFF	fully formula fed
FH	Family Health
FHT	fetal heart tones
Fis	fusion inhibitors
fl	fluid
fm	family

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
FNP	Family Nurse Practitioner
FOB	father of baby
FOBT	fecal occult blood test
FP	family planning
FPC	food package code
FPS	family planning services
FS	food stamps
FSH	follicle stimulating hormone
FT	full term
F/T	full time
FTA	fluorescent treponema antigen (test for syphilis)
FTA-ABS	fluorescent treponemal antibody absorption
FTP	failure to progress
FTT	failure to thrive
F/U	follow-up
FUO	fever of unknown origin
F/V	fruits and vegetables
Fx	fracture
FYI	for your information
G # P # A #	gravidity, parity, abortions
G6-PD	glucose 6 phosphate dehydrogenase
GA	Georgia
GB	gallbladder
GBHC	Georgia Better Health Care
GBS	group B strep
GC	gonorrhea (gonorrhea cocci)
G-CSF	granulocyte-colony stimulating factor
GE	gastroesophageal
GERD	gastroesophageal reflux disease
gest	gestational
GF	grandfather
GFR	glomerular filtration rate
GGT	gamma glutamic transpeptidase
GI	gastrointestinal
glu	glucose
gm	gram
gm/dL	grams per deciliter
GM-CSF	granulocyte macrophage-colony stimulating factor
GNID	gram negative intracellular diplococci
GNRH	gonadotropin releasing hormone
GP	glycoprotein

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
GRITS	Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services
GS	gram stain
GTT	glucose tolerance test
gtt	drop
GU	genitourinary
GYN	gynecology
H and P	history and physical
H. influenza	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>
H/A	headache
H <sub>2</sub> O	water
HAART	highly active antiretroviral therapy
HAD	HIV-associated dementia
HAV	hepatitis A virus
HbA1c	hemoglobin A1c
HBIG	hepatitis B immune globulin
HBP	high blood pressure
HBsAg	hepatitis B surface antigen
HBV	hepatitis B virus
HC	Health Check
HCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
Hct	hematocrit
HCV	hepatitis C virus
HD	health department
HDL	high density lipoproteins
HEENT	head, eyes, ears nose, & throat
Helper T Cells	Lymphocytes bearing the CD4 marker that are responsible for many of the immune responses.
Hg	mercury
Hgb	hemoglobin
HGH	human growth hormone
HGSIL	high grade squamous intra epithelial lesions
HHV-8	human herpesvirus-8
Hi-cal	high calorie
Hi-pro	high protein
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HIV-1 RNA	HIV viral load
HIVAN	HIV-associated nephropathy
Hi-vit	high vitamin
HLA	Human Leukocyte Antigen
HMO	health maintenance organization
H/O	History of



<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
hosp	hospital
HPI	history of present illness
HPTN	HIV Prevention Trials Network
HPV	human papilloma virus
HR	heart rate
hr	hour
<b>HRT</b>	<b>hormone replacement therapy</b>
HRIFU	(High Risk Infant Follow-Up)
HRNE	high risk nutrition education
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration (U.S.)
HSV	herpes simplex virus
HSV 1 or 2	Herpes simplex virus 1 or 2
ht	height
HT	hormone therapy
HTLV 1 or 2	Human T Cell Lymphotropic Virus Type 1 or 2
HTN	hypertension
HVTN	HIV Vaccine Trials Network
hx	history
I and D	incision and drainage
I and O	intake and output
IAS	International AIDS Society
IAS-USA	International AIDS Society-U.S.A
IBCLC	International Board Certified Lactation Consultation
ICS	intercostal space
ICTF	Indigent Care Trust Fund
ID	intradermal
IDDM	insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
IDSA	Infectious Diseases Society of America
IDU	injection drug users
i.e.	that is
IFN-g	Interferon-gamma
Ig	Immunoglobulin
IgA	Immunoglobulin A
IgE	Immunoglobulin E
IgG	Immunoglobulin G
IgM	Immunoglobulin M
IGRA	Interferon-gamma release assay tests
IHD	ischemic heart disease
IHS	Indian Health Service
IL-2	Interleukin 2
IM	intramuscular

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Imm	immunizations
in	inch
IN	intranasal
infl	inflammation
info	information
inst	instruction, instructed
int	internal
intravag	intravaginal
invol	involution
IOP	intraocular pressure
IRB	Institutional Review Board
irreg	irregular
ITP	Idiopathic Immune Thrombocytopenia Purpura
IUD	intrauterine device
IUFD	intrauterine fetal demise
IUFGR	intrauterine fetal growth restriction
IUI	intrauterine insemination
IUP	intrauterine pregnancy
IV	intravenous
IVDA	IV drug abuse
IVIG	intravenous immune globulin
JTPA	Job Training Partnership Act
JVD	jugular vein distention
kg	kilogram
KS	Kaposi's sarcoma
KUB	kidney, ureter, bladder (x-ray)
L	liter
L and D	labor and delivery
LA	left arm
lab	laboratory
lap	laparoscopy
Lat	lateral
LAT	left anterolateral thigh
lax	laxative
lb(s)	pound(s)
LCM	left costal margin
LD	left deltoid
LD	Licensed Dietitian (when used behind a name)
LDL	low-density lipoproteins
LE	lower extremities
LEEP	loop electro-excisional procedure
LF	low fat

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
LFA	left forearm
LFT	liver function test
LFTS	liver function test series
LG	left gluteal/gluteus
LGA	large for gestational age
LGM	left upper outer gluteus maximus
LGSIL	low-grade squamous, intra-epithelial lesion
LGV	lymphogranuloma venereum
LH	luteinizing hormone
LL	late latent
LLE	left lower extremity
LLFA	left lower forearm
LLL	left lower lobe
LLQ	left lower quadrant
LLSB	left lower sternal border
LMP	last menstrual period
LNG IUS	a specific type of intrauterine system
LNMP	last normal menstrual period
LOC	level of consciousness
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
LR	low risk
LRNE	low risk nutrition education
LPC	lactation peer counselor
LRSB	lower right sternal border
LS	lumbosacral
LSB	left sternal border
LT	left thigh
LTBI	latent TB infection
LUL	left upper lobe
LUQ	left upper quadrant
LUT	left upper thigh
LVH	left ventricular hypertrophy
LVL	left vastus lateralis
LWA	last WIC appointment
M	murmur
m	meter
M. tb	Mycobacterium tuberculosis
M/C	Medicaid
M/S	musculoskeletal
MAC	mycobacterium avium complex
MAI	mycobacterium avium intracellular
MAL	mid-axillary line
mammo	mammogram

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
MAP	mean arterial pressure
mcg	microgram
MCL	mid-clavicular line
MCV	Mean corpuscular volume
MD	medical doctor
MDR	Multidrug-resistant
MDR-TB	multidrug-resistant tuberculosis
med	medicine, medication
mEq	milliequivalent
mg	milligram
mg/dL	milligrams per deciliter
MGF	maternal grandfather
MGM	maternal grandmother
MH	mental health
MHC	major histocompatibility complex
MI	myocardial infarction
mid	middle
min	minute
ML	midline
mL	milliliter
MLE	midline episiotomy
mm	millimeter
mm <sup>3</sup>	cubic millimeter
mmHg	millimeters of mercury
MMWR	Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Review
mo	month
mod	moderate
MP	menstrual pain
MPC	mucopurulent cervicitis
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MRSA	methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
MSAFP	maternal serum alpha-fetoprotein
MSM	men having sex with men
MTD	amplified Mycobacterium tuberculosis direct test
mthy	monthly
multip	multipara
MVA	motor vehicle accident
MVP	mitral valve prolapse
N and T	nose and throat
N/A	not applicable
N/V	nausea and vomiting
Na	sodium

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
NAAT	nucleic acid amplification tests
NAEPP	National Asthma Education and Prevention Program (U.S.)
NB	newborn
NDA	next doctors appointment
NE	not evaluated/not examined
NEFS	nutrition education flowsheet
neg	negative
NET	non emergency transport
NFP	natural family planning
NGU	non-gonococcal urethritis
NHL	Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
NHLBI	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
NI	not indicated
NIAID	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (U.S.)
NIDDM	non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
NIH	National Institutes of Health (U.S.)
NK Cells	natural killer cells
NKA	no known allergies
NKDA	no known drug allergies
NKFA	no known food allergies
NP	nurse practitioner
NPNC	no prenatal care
NPO	nothing by mouth
NS	normal saline
nsg	nursing
NSR	normal sinus rhythm
NSSP	normal size, shape, position
NSU	non-specific urethritis
NSV	non-specific vaginitis
NSVD	normal, spontaneous, vaginal delivery
NT	non-tender
NUG	necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis
nullip	nullipara
NUP	necrotizing ulcerative periodontitis
nut educ	nutrition education
nutr	nutritionist (when used behind a name)
NWA	next WIC appointment
O/R	oral, rectal
O <sub>2</sub>	oxygen
OB	obstetrics or obstetrical
OB-Gyn	obstetrics and gynecology

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
OC	oral contraceptive
occ	occasional
OD	overdose
OGTT	oral glucose tolerance test
OHL	oral hairy leukoplakia
OI	opportunistic infection
oint	ointment
OM	otitis media
OR	operating room
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OTC	over the counter
outpt	outpatient
oz	ounce
P	pulse
$\bar{p}$	after
PA	physician's assistant
pap	Papanicolaou smear
path	pathology
PBF	partially breastfed
pc	after meals, after food
PCM	Perinatal Case Management
PCP	<i>Pneumocystis jiroveci (carinii)</i> pneumonia
PCR	polymerase chain reaction test
PDR	Physician's Desk Reference
PE	physical examination
PEM/CAID	presumptive eligibility Medicaid
PEP	postexposure prophylaxis
PERRLA	pupils equal, round, react to light & accommodation
pg/mL	picogram per milliliter
PGF	paternal grandfather
PGL	persistent generalized lymphadenopathy
PGM	paternal grandmother
pH	potential of hydrogen (measure of acidity/alkalinity)
PH	public health
PHN	public health nurse
PHP	primary health care provider
PHT	Public Health Technician
PI	present illness
PID	pelvic inflammatory disease

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
PIH	pregnancy induced hypertension
pks	packs
PKU	phenylketonuria
pm	afternoon, evening
PMH	past medical history
PML	Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy
PMS	premenstrual syndrome
PN	prenatal
PNC	prenatal care
PO	by mouth, orally
POS	problem oriented system
poss	possible
post	posterior
post-op	after operation
POTx	proof of treatment
PP	post partum
PPD	purified protein derivative (antigen used for TB skin test)
PPE	personal protective equipment
PPNG	penicillinase producing <i>Neisseria gonorrhoea</i>
pptl	post-partum tubal ligation
PR	per rectum
preg	pregnant
preg prev	pregnancy prevention
prep	preparation
primip	primipara
prn	as often as necessary
prob	probably or probable
PROM	premature rupture of membranes
PRS	Pregnancy Related Services
PSA	prostate specific antigen
psych	psychiatry
PT	prothrombin time
PTL	preterm labor
pt	patient
PTT	partial thromboplastin time
P/U	pick up
PVC	premature ventricular contraction
PWA	person with AIDS
q	every
q2h	every two hours
q3h	every three hours

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
q4h	every four hours
QFT	QuantiFERON - a type of blood assay for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>
QFT-G	QuantiFERON Gold
qh	every hour
qhs	at bedtime
qid	four times daily
qn	every night or nightly
qns	quantity not sufficient
QPNG	quinolone-resistant <i>Neisseria gonorrhoea</i>
qs	quantity sufficient
R/F	refill
R/O	rule out
R/S	reschedule
R/T	related to
RA	right arm
RAT	right anterolateral thigh
RBC	red blood cells
RCM	right costal margin
RD	Registered Dietitian (when used behind a name)
RD	right deltoid
RDA	recommended daily allowance
rec	recommend or recommended
reck	recheck
ref	referral/refer
reg	regular
rel	related
REM	rapid eye movement
resp	respiration(s)
RF	retroflexed
RG	right gluteal/gluteus
RGM	right upper outer gluteus maximus
Rh	Rhesus blood factor
RIBA	recombinant immunoblot assay
RLFA	right lower forearm
RLL	right lower lobe
RLQ	right lower quadrant
RN	Registered Nurse
RNA	ribonucleic acid
RNC	Registered Nurse Certified
ROI	Release of information
ROM	range of motion
ROS	review of systems



<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
RPR	rapid plasma reagin
RRR	regular rate and rhythm
RSM	Right from the Start Medicaid
RSR	regular sinus rhythm
RSV	Respiratory syncytial virus
RT	right thigh
RTC	return to clinic
RTF	ready to feed
RTI	reverse transcriptase inhibitors
RT-PCR	reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction
RUQ	right upper quadrant
RUT	right upper thigh
RV	retroverted
RVT	right vastus lateralis
Rx	therapy, treatment
Ryan White CARE Act	Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act
$\bar{s}$	without
S/P	status post
S/S	signs and symptoms
S=D	size equals date
SA	stomach ache
SAB	spontaneous abortion
SBP	systolic blood pressure
SCJ	squamous columnar junction
SCM	sternocleidomastoid
SCr	serum creatinine
SE	side effects
SEATEC	Southeast AIDS Education and Training Center
sed rate	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
SENDSS	State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System
SF	sugar free
SGA	small for gestational age
SGOT	serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
SGPT	serum glutamic-pyruvic transaminase
SHAPP	Stroke and Heart Attack Prevention Program
SIDS	sudden infant death syndrome
SIL	squamous intraepithelial lesion
sl	slightly
sm	small

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
SMBG	self monitoring blood glucose
SOAP	Subjective, Objective, Assessment, Plan
SOB	shortness of breath
sono	sonogram
sp	species
spec	specimen
SPF	sun protective factor
SST	Social Services Technician
staph	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
STAT	immediate and once only (latin:statim)
STD	sexually transmitted disease
STI	structured treatment interruption
strep	<i>Streptococcus</i>
STS	serological test for syphilis
surg	surgery or surgical
subQ	subcutaneous
SVD	spontaneous vaginal delivery
SVR	sustained virologic response
sx	symptoms
T-cell count	CD4+ T-lymphocyte count
T and A	tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
TAB	therapeutic abortion
tab	tablet
TAH	total abdominal hysterectomy
TAM	teenage mother
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
TB	tuberculosis
TBW	total body weight
TCA	trichloroacetic acid
TD	transdermal
TE	toxoplasmic encephalitis
temp	temperature
TFZ	transformation zone
TG	triglycerides
TIA	transient ischemic attack
tid	three times daily
tl	tubal ligation
TLC	total lymphocyte count
TM	tympanic membrane
TNF-a	Tumor Necrosis Factor - alpha
TNTC	too numerous to count
TOP	termination of pregnancy
TPPA	<i>Treponema pallidum</i> particle

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
	agglutination
TPR	temperature, pulse, respiration
Trich	<i>Trichomonas</i>
TSE	testicular self exam
TSH	thyroid stimulating hormone
TST	tuberculin skin test
TU	tuberculin unit
TUPP	Tobacco Use Prevention Program
TVH	total vaginal hysterectomy
tx	treatment
UA	urinalysis
UCG	urine chorionic gonadotropin
ULNS	upper limits of normal size
umb	umbilicus or umbilical
UOQ	upper outer quadrant
URI	upper respiratory infection
US	ultrasound
USPHS	United States Public Health Services
ut	uterus
UTD	up to date
UTI	urinary tract infection
UV	ultraviolet
V and H <sub>2</sub> O	vinegar and water
VAERS	vaccine adverse event reporting system
vag	vagina or vaginal
VAIN	vaginal intraepithelial neoplasia
VC	voucher code
VCF	vaginal contraceptive film
VD	venereal disease
VDRL	Venereal Disease Research Laboratory flocculation test for syphilis, quantitative
via	by way of
VIN	vulvar intraepithelial neoplasia
VIP	voluntary interruption of pregnancy
Viral Load Test	Test that measures the quantity of HIV RNA in the blood. Results are expressed as the number of copies per millimeter of blood.
Vit	vitamin
VL	viral load
VS	vital signs
vs	versus
VVC	vulvovaginal candidiasis
VZIG	Varicella-zoster immune globulin

<b>Abbreviation or Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
VZV	Varicella Zoster Virus
WBC	white blood cells
w/c	wheelchair
WG	whole grain
WH	women's health
WHMP	Women's Health Medicaid Program
WHNP	Women's Health Nurse Practitioner
WHO	World Health Organization
WIC	Women, Infants and Children
wk	week
WN	well nourished
WNL	Within normal limits
wt	weight
y.o.	year(s) old
yr	year

<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Definition</b>
∅	none
⊖	with no
♀	female
♂	male
↑	increase
↓	decrease
#	number
%	percent
Δ	change
∞	infinity
1°	primary or first degree
2°	secondary or second degree
3°	tertiary or third degree
÷	divided by or division
~	approximately
(-)	negative
(+)	positive
°	degree
=	equals
≠	not equal to
X	times
@	at
√	check or checked

### Patient Safety-Error Prone Abbreviations and Dose Expressions

The table below contains a select number of common abbreviations and dose designations used in public health documentation that are associated with being “error prone” according to the Institute of Safe Medication Practices, the National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention, and the Joint Commission.

**NOTE:** These abbreviations and dose designations are not to be used in public health documentation.

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Intended Meaning</b>
AD, AS, AU	right ear, left ear, each ear ▲
cc	cubic centimeter ▲
D/C	discontinue ▲
HS	half strength or hour of sleep ▲
IU	international unit * ▲
QD or qd	every day * ▲
QOD or qod	every other day * ▲
SC or SQ	subcutaneous ▲
TIW	three times a week ▲
U or u	unit * ▲
ug	microgram ▲
<b>Dose Designations</b>	<b>Intended Meaning</b>
Trailing zero after the decimal point (e.g. 1.0)	1 mg * ▲
No leading zero before a decimal dose (e.g. .5mg)	0.5 mg * ▲
<b>Symbols</b>	<b>Intended Meaning</b>
<	less than
≤	less than or equal to
>	greater than
≥	greater than or equal to
&	and

\* Included on the Joint Commission’s “minimum list” of dangerous, abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols that must be included on an organization’s “Do Not Use” list, effective January 1, 2004. An updated list of frequently asked questions about this Joint Commission requirement can be found on their website at [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org).

▲ Included on the chart of dangerous abbreviations from the National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention [www.nccmerp.org/council/council2002-06-11.html](http://www.nccmerp.org/council/council2002-06-11.html). The American Society of Health Care Pharmacists and the FDA endorse the recommendations from this council.

**NOTE:** Symbols listed on the “Do Not Use” list may only appear on laboratory generated reports and can not be documented in the clinical health record.