

Common Medical Terms

- Ambulate - To Move from One Place to Another
- Aphasia - Inability to Speak or Understand Speech
- Angina - Chest Pain
- Anterior – toward the front side of the body
- Lateral – away from the midline of the body; the side of the body
- Posterior – toward the backside of the body
- Proximal – closest to; the nearer of two points on the body
- Aseptic - Preventing infection
- Contracture - Shortening of a Joint or Muscle
- Cyanosis - Blue Coloration of the Skin or Mucous Membranes
- Decubitus – Bed sores, lesions or ulcers
- Distal- Farthest from; the farther of two points on the body
- Dysphagia - Difficulty swallowing
- Dyspnea – Difficulty breathing
- Edema - Swelling
- Emesis - Vomit
- Incontinent - Inability to Control Bladder or Bowels
- Logrolling - Rolling Patients to the Side
- Medial – toward or nearer the midline of the body
- Micturition - Urination
- Prosthesis - Artificial Limb or Other Body Part
- Prone Position - Lying on the Belly
- Supine Position - Lying Face-Up
- Trendelenburg Position - Lying Face-Up with Feet Elevated
- Purulent - Relating to Pus
- Serous – Clear to yellow fluid that leaks out from body/orifice/wound

Common Medical Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| AC | Before Meals |
| ADL | Activities of daily living |
| amb | Ambulate |
| AROM | Active range of motion |
| BID | Twice a day |
| BP | Blood pressure |
| c | with |
| c/o | Complains of |
| CPR | Cardiopulmonary resuscitation |
| d/c | discontinue |
| DNR | Do not resuscitate |
| DOB | Date of birth |
| Fx | fracture |
| HOB | Head of bed |
| H | hour |
| HR | Heart rate |
| Hs | Bedtime or evening |
| I&O | Intake & output |
| NOC | night |
| NPO | Nothing by mouth |
| N/V | Nausea/vomiting |
| OOB | Out of bed |
| pc | After meals |
| PO | By mouth |
| Pt/pt | patient |
| PT | Physical therapy |
| PRN | As needed |
| PROM | Passive range of motion |
| Q | every |
| QD | Every day or daily |
| QID | Four times a day |
| QOD | Every other day |
| QHS | Every bedtime or evening |
| ROM | Range of motion |
| SOB | Shortness of breath |
| TID | Three times a day |
| Tx | treatment |
| VS | Vital signs |
| w/c | wheelchair |

Conversion chart

| | |
|----------|---------|
| 1,000 mg | 1 g |
| 1000 g | 1 kg |
| 1 kg | 2.2 lbs |
| 1 cm | 10 mm |
| 1 m | 100 cm |
| 1 in | 2.54 cm |
| 12 in | 1 ft |
| 1 oz | 30 ml |
| 8 oz | 240 ml |
| 240 ml | 1 cup |
| 1,000 ml | 1 L |

Mg: milligram

G: gram

Kg: kilogram

ml: milliliter

L: liter

Oz: ounce

Cm: centimeter

m: meter

mm: millimeter

in: inch

ft: foot/feet

lbs: pounds