



# San Benito County Emergency Medical Services Agency

## APPROVED ABBREVIATIONS

Policy : 4110  
Effective : May 1, 2014  
Reviewed : March 1, 2014

### I. Purpose

To establish a list of abbreviations for commonly used terminology for patient care documentation.

### II. Approved Abbreviations

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <            | less than  |
| >            | greater than   |
| @            | at   |
| A.Fib        | atrial fibrillation                                  |
| abd          | abdomen  |
| A/O, A and O | alert and orientated                                 |
| ALOC         | altered level of consciousness                       |
| AM           | before noon; time should be expressed in 24 h format |
| AMA          | against medical advice                               |
| Approx.      | approximately  |
| ASA          | acetylsalicylic acid, aspirin                        |
| ASAP         | as soon as possible                                  |
| auto         | automobile   |
| BG chem      | blood glucose level                                  |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| bid                | twice a day   |
| BM                 | bowel movement  |
| BP                 | blood pressure  |
| bpm                | beats per minute  |
| BSA                | body surface area   |
| BVM                | bag valve mask  |
| c (with line over) | with  |
| C/C                | chief complaint   |
| C/o                | complaint of  |
| C/P                | chest pain  |
| CA                 | cancer  |
| CAD                | coronary artery disease   |
| CBG                | Capillary blood glucose   |
| CBL, clear bilat.  | Clear bilaterally   |
| CCU                | coronary care unit  |
| CHF                | congestive heart failure  |
| CNS                | central nervous system  |
| Cont.              | continued   |
| CO                 | Carbon Monoxide   |
| COPD               | chronic obstructive pulmonary disease   |
| CPR                | cardiopulmonary resuscitation   |
| CRIC               | needle cricothyroidotomy  |
| CT                 | Computerized tomography   |
| CVA                | cerebral vascular accident  |
| DCAPBTLS           | Deformity, contusions, abrasions, punctures, burns, tenderness, lacerations, swelling |
| DC, d/c            | discontinue   |
| DOD                | Doctor's On Duty  |
| DH                 | Dominican Hospital  |

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| dl    | deciliter   |
| DOE   | dyspnea on exertion   |
| DX    | diagnosis   |
| ECG   | electrocardiogram   |
| ED    | Emergency Department  |
| EKG   | electrocardiogram   |
| EMT-D | provider of BLS service and the ALS service automated<br>defibrillation                                 |
| EMT   | provider of BLS service only  |
| EMT-P | EMT-Paramedic, provider of BLS and ALS level of services;<br>also MICP, Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic |
| epi   | epinephrine   |
| ET    | endotracheal  |
| ETA   | estimated time of arrival   |
| ETI   | endotracheal intubation   |
| ETCO2 | End tidal CO2   |
| ETOH  | alcohol   |
| ETT   | Endotracheal Tube   |
| exam  | examination   |
| f/u   | follow-up   |
| fx    | fracture  |
| GCS   | Glasgow Coma Scale  |
| GI    | gastrointestinal  |
| Gm    | gram  |
| GSW   | gunshot wound   |
| Gtt   | drop  |
| GYN   | gynecological   |
| H&P   | history and physical  |
| H2O   | water   |

|        |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|
| HA     | headache                     |
| HazMat | Hazardous Material           |
| HCTZ   | hydrochlorothiazide          |
| HH     | Hollister Hills              |
| HHH    | Hazel Hawkins Hospital       |
| HR     | heartrate                    |
| HTN    | hypertension                 |
| Hx     | history                      |
| ICU    | intensive care unit          |
| IM     | intramuscular                |
| IN     | Intranasal                   |
| IO     | intraosseous                 |
| IV     | intravenous                  |
| IVP    | intravenous push             |
| JVD    | jugular venous distension    |
| Kg     | kilogram                     |
| Lpm    | liter per minute             |
| Lac.   | laceration                   |
| LLQ    | left lower quadrant          |
| LMP    | last menstrual period        |
| LNMP   | last normal menstrual period |
| LROM   | limited range of motion      |
| LTD    | King Laryngeal Tube          |
| LOC    | loss of consciousness        |
| LS     | lung sounds                  |
| LUQ    | left upper quadrant          |
| m/o    | month old                    |

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| MAE   | moves all extremities  |
| MCA   | motorcycle accident  |
| mcg   | microgram  |
| MCL   | mid-clavicular line  |
| mEq   | milliequivalent  |
| mg    | milligram  |
| MI    | myocardial infarction  |
| MICN  | Mobile Intensive Care Nurse; also ARN, Authorized Registered Nurse |
| ml    | Milliliter   |
| MVA   | Motor vehicle accident   |
| N/V   | nausea and vomiting  |
| NaCL  | Sodium Chloride  |
| NAD   | no apparent distress   |
| NC    | nasal cannula  |
| neuro | neurological   |
| NKDA  | no known drug allergies  |
| NPA   | nasopharyngeal airway  |
| NRB   | Non-rebreather mask  |
| NS    | normal saline  |
| NSR   | normal sinus rhythm  |
| NTG   | nitroglycerine   |
| O2    | oxygen   |
| OB    | obstetrics   |
| od    | right eye  |
| OD    | overdose   |
| OPA   | oropharyngeal airway   |
| os    | left eye   |

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| ou                   | both eyes  |
| PTA                  | prior to arrival   |
| pre                  | before   |
| post                 | after  |
| PAC                  | premature atrial contraction   |
| PASTE                | Provocation/Associated Chest Pain/Severity-Sputum/Time/Exercise Tolerance                                |
| PASTMEDS             | Provocation/Associated Chest Pain/Severity/Time/Medications/Exercise Tolerance/Diagnoses/Sputum          |
| PCN                  | penicillin   |
| PE                   | physical examination   |
| PEA                  | pulseless electrical activity  |
| ped                  | pedestrian   |
| pedi                 | pediatric  |
| PERRL                | pupils equal, round, reactive to light   |
| PM                   | afternoon, time should be expressed in 24 h format   |
| PMD                  | primary (private) physician  |
| PND                  | paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea, difficulty breathing that awakens the patient from sleep or prevents sleep |
| PO                   | by mouth   |
| POV                  | privately owned vehicle  |
| post-op              | post operative   |
| PQRST                | Provocation/Quality/Region-Radiation/Severity/Time   |
| PR                   | per rectum   |
| PRN                  | as needed  |
| Pt                   | patient  |
| PVC                  | premature ventricular contraction  |
| q (with a line over) | every  |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| RR                 | Respiratory rate                           |
| RAS                | released at scene                          |
| Resp.              | respiratory                                |
| RLQ                | right lower quadrant                       |
| RMC                | Regional Medical Center, San Jose          |
| ROM                | range of motion                            |
| RUQ                | right upper quadrant                       |
| Rx                 | prescription                               |
| s (with line over) | without                                    |
| s/p                | status post                                |
| s/s                | signs and symptoms                         |
| SC                 | subcutaneous                               |
| SCMC               | Santa Cruz Medical Clinic                  |
| SL                 | sublingual                                 |
| SLH                | St. Louise Regional Hospital               |
| SNF                | skilled nursing facility                   |
| SUMC               | Stanford University Medical Center         |
| SOB                | shortness of breath, equivalent to dyspnea |
| ST                 | sinus tachycardia                          |
| stat               | immediately                                |
| SQ                 | subcutaneous                               |
| SVMH               | Salinas Valley Memorial Hosp.              |
| SVT                | supraventricular tachycardia               |
| SX                 | symptom                                    |
| Temp.              | temperature                                |
| TB                 | tuberculosis                               |
| TIA                | transient ischemia attack                  |
| tid                | three times a day                          |

|        |                                   |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| TKO    | to keep open                      |
| TOC    | Transfer of care form             |
| Tx     | treatment                         |
| UNK    | unknown                           |
| VMC    | Santa Clara Valley Medical Center |
| V-tach | ventricular tachycardia           |
| Vag.   | vaginal                           |
| VS     | vital signs                       |
| WCH    | Watsonville Community Hospital    |
| WNL    | within normal limits              |
| w/o    | wide open                         |
| y/o    | year old                          |