

HEMS ABBREVIATIONS GUIDE

AAA	abdominal aortic aneurysm
Abd	Abdomen
AC	antecubital fossa veins
AED	automated external defibrillator
Afib	atrial fibrillation
Aflutter	atrial flutter
AICD	automatic implantable cardioverter/defibrillator
AKA	above the knee amputation
ALS	Advanced Life Support
a-line	arterial catheter
AMA	against medical advice
Amb	ambulatory
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
amp	ampule
AMPLE	Allergies, medications, past medical history, events leading to
AMS	altered mental status
ant	anterior
ante	before
BBB	bundle branch block
BBBB	bilat bundle branch block
BC	birth control
Bid, b.i.d	twice a day
Bilat	bilateral
BKA	below the knee amputation
BLS	basic life support
BM	bowel movement
BP	blood pressure
BR	bed rest
BRADY	bradycardia
BS	Breath sounds
BSA	body surface area
BVM	bag valve mask
BW	birth weight
C-spine	Cervical spine
CA	cancer
CABG	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft
CAD	Coronary Artery Disease
C	centigrade
— c	with
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
C/C	chief complaint
CO	carbon monoxide

CO2	carbon dioxide
CNS	Central Nervous System
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	chest pain
CPPV	continuous positive pressure ventilation
CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CRF	chronic renal failure
CRI	chronic renal insufficiency
C-section	cesarean section
CSF	cerebral spinal fluid
CTA	clear to auscultation
CV	cardiovascular
CVC	central venous catheter
CVI	cerebrovascular incident
CVP	central venous pressure
CXR	chest x-ray
DC	discontinued
DIB	difficulty in breathing
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis
DM	diabetes mellitus
DNR	do not resuscitate
DOA	dead on arrival
DOS	dead on scene
DT's	Delirium Tremens
D50W	50% dextrose
D5LR	dextrose 5% in lactated ringers
D5NS	dextrose 5% in normal saline
DVT	deep vein thrombosis
Dx	Diagnosis
ED	emergency department
EDD	estimated date of delivery
EENT	eyes, ears, nose, and throat
e.g.	for example
EGA	esophageal gastric tube
EKG	electrocardiogram
elix	elixir
EMS	emergency medical services
EMT	emergency medical technician
EMT-P	emergency medical technician (Paramedic)
EMT-S	emergency medical technician (Specialist)
ESRD	end stage renal disease

ENT	ears nose and throat
ETOH	alcohol
FMH	family medical history
FO	foreign object
FTD	full term delivery
F/U	follow up
Fx	fracture
G-tube	Gastrostomy tube
GCS	Glasgow coma scale
GERD	gastro esophageal reflux disease
GI	gastrointestinal
gm	gram
GSW	gun shot wound
gtts	drops
H	hour
H/A	Headache
HB	heart block
HR	Heart Rate
HTN	hypertension
Hx	history
IABP	intra-aortic balloon pump
ICB	intracranial bleeding
ICU	intensive care unit
ICP	intracranial pressure
IM	intramuscular
Inj	injury
Insp	inspiration
IO	intraosseous
IPS	initial patient survey
IR	incident report
IVDA	intravenous drug user
IV	intravenous
JVD	jugular vein distension
KVO	keep vein open
kg	kilogram
lac	laceration
lat	lateral
lb	pound
LBB	long back board
L&D	labor and delivery
LLE	left lower extremity
LMA	laryngeal mask airway

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lpm	liters per minute
LLQ	Left Lower quadrant
L-spine	lumbar spine
LT	left
LUE	left upper extremity
LUQ	left upper quadrant
LMP	last menstrual period
LOC	level of consciousness
LZ	Landing zone
M	mega
Mcg	micrograms
mg	milligrams
MI	myocardial infarction
mL	milliliter (instead of cc)
MVC	motor vehicle crash
NA	not applicable, not available
NAD	no apparent distress
NC	nasal cannula
Neg	negative
NH	nursing home
NICU	neonatal intensive care unit
NIDDM	Non insulin dependant diabetes mellitus
NKDA	no known drug allergies
NPA	nasal pharyngeal airway
NPO	nothing by mouth
NRB	non rebreather
NS	normal saline
NSAIDS	non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
NSR	normal sinus rhythm
N/V	nausea /vomiting
OD	overdose
P	Pulse
PAC	premature atrial contraction
PCP	Primary Care Physician
PCR	Patient Care Record
PE	pulmonary embolism
PEA	pulseless electrical activity
PEARL	pupils equal and reactive to light
Peds	pediatrics
PEEP	positive end-expiratory pressure
PID	pelvic inflammatory disease
PMH	past medical history

PO	per oral
Pt	patient
PVC	premature ventricular contraction
PWD	pink warm and dry
Resp.	respiration
RLE	Right lower extremity
RLQ	Right lower quadrant
RT	Right
R/O	rule out
RUE	Right upper extremity
RUQ	Right upper quadrant
ROM	range of motion
Rx	medication
SOB	shortness of breath
SOP	standard operating procedure
SL	sublingual
ST	sinus tachycardia
SVT	supraventricular tachycardia
s ⁻	without
S/S	signs and symptoms
SpO ₂	oxygen saturation
sz	seizure
T-spine	thoracic spine
temp	temperature
tab	tablet
TB	Tuberculosis
TIA	transient ischemic attack
tx	treatment
UTI	urinary tract infection
v-fib	ventricular fibrillation
vo	verbal order
VQ	ventilation perfusion
VS	vital signs
VT	ventricular tachycardia
WNL	within normal limits
WPW	Wolf Parkinson White syndrome
wt	weight
x	times
y/o	years

YTD	year to date

SYMBOLS	
↑	increase, above, elevated
↓	decrease, diminished, lowered
♀	female
♂	male
#	pound or number
1°	first degree
2°	second degree,
3°	third degree
Δ	change
%	percent
=	equal
+	positive, plus
∅	none