APPROVED MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

A

_ = before
@ = at
ABC = airway, breathing, circulation
abdomen
A/C = antecubital fossa
ACLS = advanced cardiac life support
A.D. = right ear
ALS = advanced life support
AMA = against medical advice
a.m. = morning
AMI = acute myocardial infarction
amp. = ampule
amt. = amount
AP = anteroposterior
ASA = aspirin
ASAP = as soon as possible
ASHD = arteriosclerotic heart disease
ATV = all terrain vehicle
A/V = atrioventricular

B

bbb = bundle branch block
BBS = bilateral breath sounds
B/F = black female
B/M = black male
b.i.d. = twice a day
BLS = basic life support
BM = bowel movement
BP = blood pressure
BSA = body surface area (burns)
BSI = body substance isolation
BVM = bag/valve/mask
C

C = with
CA = cancer
CABG = coronary artery bypass graft
CAD = coronary artery disease
CAO = conscious, alert, oriented
C/C = chief complaint
CCU = coronary care unit
CHD = congenital heart disease
CHF = congestive heart failure
cm = centimeter
CNS = central nervous system
C/O = complains of
CO₂ = carbon dioxide
COPD = chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP = chest pain
CPR = cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CSF = cerebrospinal fluid
C-spine = cervical spine
CVA = cerebrovascular accident

D

DC = discontinue
DCAP- BLS = deformity, contusions, abrasions, penetrations, burns, lacerations, and swelling
D & C = dilation and curettage
diff. = differential
DOA = dead on arrival
DNR = do not resuscitate
DNRO = do not resuscitate order
D5W = 5% dextrose in water
D25 = dextrose 25%
D50 = dextrose 50%
DX. = diagnosis
ED  = emergency department
EENT = eyes, ears, nose and throat
ECG or EKG = electrocardiogram
EEG  = electroencephalogram
e.g. = for example
EGTA = esophageal gastric tube airway
EMD  = electromechanical dissociation
EMS  = emergency medical services
EMT  = emergency medical technician
ENT  = ears, nose and throat
EOA  = esophageal obturator airway
EOM  = extraocular movement
epi  = epinephrine
ER   = emergency room
ET tube = endotracheal tube
ETA  = estimated time of arrival
ETOH = ethyl alcohol

FBAO = foreign body airway obstruction
fl.  = fluid
flex. = flexion
ft.  = foot
FROM = full range of motion
fx   = fracture

g   = gauge (diameter)
GCS  = glasgow coma scale
Gm   = gram
GSW  = gunshot wound
gtt. = drop
GU   = genitourinary
GYN  = gynecology
**MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS**

Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

H

H/F = hispanic female
H/M = hispanic male
HBP = high blood pressure
hr. = hour
HEENT = head, ears, eyes, nose and throat
HIV = human immune deficiency virus
hgb = hemoglobin
hosp. = hospital
HTN = hypertension
Hx = history

I

ICU = intensive care unit
I & D = incision and drainage
IM = intramuscular
I & O = intake and output
IO = intraosseous
IUD = intrauterine device
IV = intravenous
IVP = intravenous push

J

JVD = jugular vein distention

K

kg. = kilogram
KCl = potassium chloride

L

(L) or lt. = left
lac. = laceration
lat = lateral
LBBB = left bundle branch block
MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

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lb(s) = pound(s)
L & D = labor and delivery
L/min or lpm = liters per minute
LLQ = left lower quadrant
LMA = laryngeal mask airway
LMP = last menstrual period
LOC = loss of consciousness
LP = lumbar puncture
LR = lactated ringers
LUQ = left upper quadrant

M

MAE = moves all extremities
MAST = medical anti-shock trousers
mA = milliampere
mcg = microgram
MCI = mass casualty incident
meds = medications
mEq = milliequivalent
MI = myocardial infarction
min. = minute
mg. = milligram
mkd. = marked
ml. = milliliter
mod. = moderate
MOE = movement of extremities
MS = morphine sulfate

N

N₂O = nitrous oxide
NaCl = sodium chloride
NAD = no acute distress
neg. = negative
NKA = no known allergies
n/g = nasogastric
NPO = nothing by mouth
NS = normal saline
NSR = normal sinus rhythm
NTG = nitroglycerin
N & V = nausea and vomiting

O

O₂ = oxygen
OB = obstetrics
OBS = organic brain syndrome
OD = overdose - also means right eye
OPQRST = onset, provocation, quality, radiation, severity, time
ophth = ophthalmology
OR = operating room
OS = left eye
OU = both eyes

P

PA = posteroanterior
PAC = premature atrial contraction
\( \text{PaCO}_2 \) = partial pressure of CO₂ in arterial blood
\( \text{PaO}_2 \) = partial pressure of O₂ in arterial blood
PAT = paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
PDR = physician’s desk reference
PE = pulmonary edema
per = by
PERL = pupils equal and reactive to light
PERLA = pupils equal and reactive to light, and accommodation
PID = pelvic inflammatory disease
PJC = premature junctional contraction
p.m. = evening
PMD = private medical doctor
PO = mouth
post = after
pre = before
prn = as needed
PSVT = paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia
pt. = patient
PVC = premature ventricular contraction
Px. = physical history

Q

q = every
q.h. = hourly
q.i.d. = four times daily
q.o.d. = every other day

R

RBBB = right bundle branch block
RBC = red blood count
(R) OR rt. = right
RLQ = right lower quadrant
R/O = rule out
ROM = range of motion
RUQ = right upper quadrant

S

s = without
SAMPLE = signs/symptoms, allergies, medications, past Hx, last oral intake, events prior
SaO₂ = percentage of oxygen in arterial blood
SIDS = sudden infant death syndrome
SL = sublingual
SOAP = subjective, objective, assessment, plan
SOB = short(ness) of breath
sol. = solution
spec. = specimen
Sub. Q (SQ) = subcutaneously
SpO₂ = percentage of oxygen in the blood via pulse oximeter
(equal to SaO₂)
T

tab. = tablet
TB = tuberculosis
temp. = temperature
TIA = transient ischemic attack
t.i.d. = three times daily
TMJ = temporomandibular joint
TPR = temperature, pulse and respiration
Tx. = treatment

U

UA = urinalysis
ULQ = upper left quadrant
URI = upper respiratory infection
URQ = upper right quadrant

V

V-fib (VF) = ventricular fibrillation
V-tach (VT) = ventricular tachycardia
VD = venereal disease
via = by way of
vol. = volume
VS = vital signs

W

WBC = white blood count
W/F = white female
W/M = white male
WNL = within normal limits
wt. = weight

Y

Y/O = years old
Miscellaneous

≈ = approximately
< = less than
> = more than
- = negative
+ = plus/positive
# = number
% = percent
@ = at
= change
♂ = male
♀ = female
↑ = increase
↓ = decrease
(R) = right
(L) = left