

COMMONLY USED ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS FOR SCHOOL NURSING

A		CPR	cardio pulmonary resuscitation
AAO x 3	awake, alert, oriented to person, place, time	C.R.	classroom
Assess	Assessment	CHO ct.	carbohydrate count
AB	absent	D	
abd	abdomen	D/C	discontinue
abr	abrasion	DD	developmentally disabled
ac	before meals	demo	demonstrate
a.d.	right ear	D/I	dry & intact
adeq	adequate	disch	discharge
ADL	activities of daily living	Dr.	doctor
admin	administration	drng	drainage
adv	advise	dsg	dressing
a.m.	before noon, morning	DTP	Diphtheria, Tetnus, Pertussis
amb	ambulate	dx	diagnosis
amt	amount	d/t	due to
approx	approximately	E	
ASAP	as soon as possible	ea	each
a.s.	left ear	EEG	electroencephalogram
AX temp	axillary temperature	EFT	extended field trip
B		EKG	electrocardiogram
b.c.p.	birth control pills	equip	equipment
bdg	bandage	ER	emergency room
BID	twice daily	eval	evaluation
bilat	bilateral	ETOH	ethanol, alcohol
BG	blood glucose	exp.	Expired
BM	bowel movement	EC	emergency card
BP	blood pressure	F	
BR	bathroom	fl	fluids
brfst	breakfast	freq	frequency
BTC	back to class	ft	foot
C		FT	field trip
C	centigrade	f/u	follow up
cc	cubic centimeters (liquid measurement)	fx	fracture
cal	calorie	F	female
cath	catheter (ize)	G	
CA	carcinoma	gd	good
CBG	capillary blood glucose	G&D	growth & development
chg	change	gen	general
circ	circulation	GI	gastrointestinal
ck'd/cks	checked/checks	gm	gram
cl & bdg	cleaned and bandaged	Gma	grandma
CNP	certified nurse practitioner	Gpa	grandpa
c/o	complained of	gr	grain
comm	communication	gtts	drops
conf	conference	GU	genitourinary
C.P.	cerebral palsy		
CPAP	continuous positive air pressure		

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GSW	gunshot wound	LLL	left lower lobe
GTT	glucose tolerance test	LLQ	left lower quadrant
H		LMP	last menstrual period
HC	Health Card	LOC	loss of consciousness
HF	Health Folder	LOM	left otitis media
Hm	home	loz	lozenge
HD	hearing difficeit	LPN	licensed practical nurse
HO	Health Office	LUL	left upper lobe
hr	heart rate	LUQ	left upper quadrant
h.s.	at bedtime	M	
h/o	history of	M	male
H ₂ O	water	mcg	microgram
H ₂ O ₂	hydrogen peroxide	max	maximum
h/a	headache	mg	milligram
HA	Health Assistant	MD	medical doctor
ht	height	MR	mental retardation
HTN	hypertension	med	medication
hx	history	mes	message
H	holiday	mid	middle
I		ml	milliliter
I	intervention	min	minute
IEP	Individualized Education Plan	mm	millimeter
IM	intramuscular	MMR	Measles/Mumps/Rubella
immu	immunization	mod	moderate
ICU	Intensive Care Unit	MS	multiple sclerosis
info	information	MVA	motor vehicle accident
inj	injection	N	
ins	insurance	NS	normal saline
intro	introduction	N/A	not applicable
irrig	irrigation	NAD	no apparent distress
IV	intravenous	nebs	nebulizer/nebulization
I & O	intake and output	nec	necessary
IPV	injectable polio vaccination	neg	negative
IUP	intrauterine pregnancy	NPH	insulin
J-K		NPO	nothing by mouth
JIA	Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis	NR	non-reactive
JRA	Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis	nsg	nursing
Kg	kilograms	nutr	nutrition
L		N/V	nausea and vomiting
L	left	NM	no medication
lab	laboratory	NSH	note sent home
lac	laceration	NBCSN	Nat'l Board Certified School Nurse
lb.	pound	O	
LD	learning disabled	O ₂	oxygen
LE	lower extremity	occ	occasionally
lg	large	o.d.	right eye
liq.	liquid	oint	ointment
		OHI	other health impaired

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OJ	orange juice	RN	Registered Nurse
OK per _____	permission given by _____	R/O	rule out
OPV	oral polio vaccine	ROM	range of motion
o.s.	left eye	RR	respiratory rate
OT	occupational therapist	Rpt	report
OTC	over the counter	R/T	related to
o.u.	both eyes	RUL	right upper lobe
oz	ounce	RUQ	right upper quadrant
		Rx	prescription
P		S	
P	pulse	s/a	stomachache
pc	after meals	SC	school closed
P.C.	parent contact	s/t	sore throat
PE	physical exam	SBHC	school based health center
P.E.	physical education	sch	school
PERLA pupils equal and react	to light with accommodation	SL	sublingual
PERRLA	pupils equal, round, reactive to light with accommodation	sl	slight
pos	positive	sm	small
post	posterior	SOB	short of breath
PPD	purified protein derivative	sq	subcutaneous
PPP	pedal pulses palpable	s/s	signs and symptoms
PRN	as needed	stu	student
prob	problem	STD	sexually transmitted disease
prog	prognosis	stat	at once
pt	patient	supp	suppository
PT	physical therapist	SW	social worker
p/u	pick up/picked up	SN	school nurse
p.m.	evening	sx	symptoms
po	oral	T	
Q		TBI	traumatic brain injury
q	every	T	temperature
qd	every day	tblsp	tablespoon (15cc or ml)
qh	every hour	TC	telephone call
qmo	every month	Tdap	Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis
qod	every other day	TID	three times a day
qow	every other week	TLC	tender loving care
QID	four times a day	TM	tympanic membrane
R		TMJ	temporomandibular joint
R	right	TPR	temperature, pulse, respiration
RA	rheumatoid arthritis	tr	trace
ref	refused	trach	tracheostomy
re:	regarding	T.O.	telephone order
RICE	rest, ice, compression, elevate	tsp	teaspoon (5 cc or ml)
reg	regular	tx	treatment
req	request	U	
resp	respiration	UA	urinalysis
RLL	right lower lobe	U.A.P.	unlicensed assistive personnel
RLQ	right lower quadrant	URI	upper respiratory infection
		UTC	unable to contact

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UTI	urinary tract infection	plus +
		questionable ?
vag	vaginal	right ®
V		times X
V.O.	verbal order	with c
vol	volume	without s
VM	voice message	zero/none Ø
VS	vital signs	
VSD	ventricular septal defect	
W		
c	with	
w/	with	
WBC	white blood count	
w/c	wheelchair	
wk	week	
wnd	wound	
WNL	within normal limits	
s	without	
w/o	without	
wt	weight	
X-Y-Z		
x	times	
y/o	year old	
yr	year	

ABBREVIATION SYMBOLS

After	p
approximately	≈
at	@
before	a
change	Δ
check	✓
decrease	↓
degree	°
equals	=
every	q
female	♀
foot	,
greater than	>
inch	"
increase	↑
leading or progressing to	→
left	(L)
less than	<
male	♂
minus	-
number, pounds	#
one time	x1
oxygen	O ₂
per	/
percent	%