



AMERICAN BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Common Abbreviations

GENERAL MEDICAL TERMS

ACE	angiotensin converting enzyme
ACLS	advanced cardiac life support
AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ALT	alanine aminotransferase
AST	aspartate aminotransferase
BiPAP	bi-level positive airway pressure
BNP	brain natriuretic peptide
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
CBC	complete blood count
CK-MB	creatinine kinase-myocardial band
CNS	central nervous system
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CT	computerized tomography
ECG	electrocardiogram
ED	emergency department
EMS	emergency medical services
EMT	emergency medical technician
FAST	focused assessment with sonography for trauma
GI	gastrointestinal
hCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HPF	high powered field
ICU	intensive care unit
INR	international normalized ratio
MI	myocardial infarction
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
NSAID	nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug
OR	operating room
PERRL	pupils equal, round, reactive to light
PT	prothrombin time
PTT	partial thromboplastin time
RBC	red blood cells
tPA	tissue plasminogen activator
US	ultrasound
WBC	white blood cells

VITAL SIGNS

BP	blood pressure
P	pulse
R	respirations
T	temperature

ROUTES OF ADMINISTRATION

IM	intramuscular
IV	intravenous
IVP	intravenous push
po	orally
PR	per rectum

UNITS OF MEASURE

kg	kilogram
mg	milligram
g	gram
mcg	microgram
pg	picogram
m	meter
cm	centimeter
in	inch
L	liter
dL	deciliter
mL	milliliter
mm Hg	millimeters of mercury
mEq	milliequivalent
min	minute
hr	hour
WT	weight
C	centigrade
F	Fahrenheit