ABBREVIATIONS AND MEDICAL TERMS

MEDICAL VERBIAGE

• Words are broken into parts
  – Prefix-The beginning
  – Root-The essential meaning of the term
  – Suffix-The ending

• Descriptive
  – Where
  – What
  – Why

PREFIXES

• Aden/o
  – Gland
• Arthr/o
  – Joint
• Bio
  – Life
• Carcin/o
  – Cancer
• Cardi/o
  – Heart
• Cephal/o
  – Head
• Cyst/o
  – Bladder
• Nephr/o
  – Kidney
PREFIXES

• Cyt/o
  – Cell
• Derm
  – Skin
• Encephal/o
  – Brain
• Enter/o
  – Intestines
• Eryth
  – Red
• Gastr/o
  – Stomach
• Gynec/o
  – Female
• Hemat/o
  – Blood
• Hepat/o
  – Liver
• Lapar/o
  – Abdomen

PREFIXES

• Leuk
  – White
• Neur/o
  – Nerve
• Onc/o
  – Tumor
• Ophthal
  – Eye
• Osteo
  – Bone
• Path/o
  – Disease
• Psych/o
  – Mind
• Ren/o
  – Kidney
• Rhin/o
  – Nose
• Sarc/o
  – Skin
• Thromb/o
  – Clotting
SUFFIXES

- **-al**  
  - Pertaining to
- **-algia**  
  - Pain
- **-cyte**  
  - Cell
- **-emia**  
  - Blood condition
- **-globin**  
  - Protein
- **-gram**  
  - Record
- **-ia**  
  - Condition
- **-ic**  
  - Pertaining to
- **-ism**  
  - Condition/process
- **-logist**  
  - Specialist in

SUFFIXES

- **-logy**  
  - Study of
- **-oma**  
  - Tumor
- **-opsy**  
  - To view
- **-osis**  
  - Abnormal condition
- **-scope**  
  - Instrument to visualize
- **-scopy**  
  - Visualization
- **-sis**  
  - State of
- **-tomy**  
  - Process of cutting into
MORE PREFIXES

- **Endo**
  - Inside
- **Exo**
  - Outside
- **Hyper**
  - Excessive
- **Hypo**
  - Less than normal
- **Contra**
  - Against
- **Pro**
  - Before
- **Re**
  - Back (ie Resect)
- **Sub**
  - Below
- **Trans**
  - Across

ABBREVIATIONS

- **AB**-Antibody
- **Abd**-Abdomen
- **ACE**-Angiotensin Converting Enzyme
- **ac**-Before meals
- **pc**-After meals
- **AD**-Right ear
- **AU**-Each ear
- **AS**-Left ear
- **OD**-Right eye

- **OU**-Each eye
- **OS**-Left eye
- **BP**-Blood pressure
- **Bx**-Biopsy
- **A/P**-Anteroposterior
- **BPH**-Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy
- **BSE**-Breast Self Exam
- **CABG**-Coronary Artery Bypass Graft
ABBREVIATIONS

• c-With
• s-Without
• CVA-Cerebrovascular Accident (stroke)
• CSF-Cerebrospinal Fluid
• Dx-Diagnosis
• ETOH-Ethanol alcohol
•Fx-Fracture
• FBS-Fasting Blood Sugar
• RBS-Random Blood Sugar
• GC-Gonococcus (Gonorrhea)
• GTT-Glucose Tolerance Test
• gtt-Drops
• HDL-High Density Lipoproteins (Heroes)
• LDL-Low Density Lipoproteins (Losers)
• HCT-Hematocrit
• Hgb-Hemaglobin

ABBREVIATIONS

• HEENT-Head Eyes Ears Nose Throat
• H/O-History of
• HTN-Hypertension
• CAD-Coronary Artery Disease
• IBS-Irritable Bowel Syndrome
• IVP-Intravenous Pyelogram
• LFT-Liver Function Test
• LMP-Last Menstrual Period
• Mets-Metastasis
• MVP-Mitral Valve Prolapse
• NKA-No Known Allergies
• N/V-Nausea and Vomiting
• OA-Osteoarthritis
• OV-Office Visit
ABBREVIATIONS

- PAC-Premature Atrial Contraction
- PVC-Premature Ventricular Contraction
- PVD-Peripheral Vascular Disease
- QS-Quantity Sufficient
- RA-Rheumatoid Arthritis
- ROM-Range of Motion
- ROS-Review of Systems
- SOB-Shortness of Breath
- Sx-Symptoms/signs
- TIA-Transient Ischemic Attack
- UA-Urinalysis
- UGI-Upper GI
- URI-Upper Respiratory Infection
- VSD- Ventricular Septal Defect
- VTach- Ventricular Tachycardia

ABBREVIATIONS

- SVT-Supraventricular Tachycardia
- yo-Years old
- RUQ-Right Upper Quadrant
- LUQ-Left Upper Quadrant
- RLQ-Right Lower Quadrant
- LLQ-Left Lower Quadrant
- STD-Sexually Transmitted Disease
- PRN-As Necessary
- HS-At bedtime
- KUB-Kidneys Ureters Bladder (x-ray)
- LUL-Left Upper Lobe
- RUL-Right Upper Lobe
- LLL-Left Lower Lobe
- RML-Right Middle Lobe
- RLL-Right Lower Lobe
- DOA-Dead on Arrival
- LBM-Last Bowel Movement
ABBREVIATIONS

• LP-Lumbar Puncture (Spinal Tap)
• BMR-Basal Metabolic Rate
• BRP-Bathroom Privileges
• PEG-Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy
• TENS-Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation
• CPAP-Continuous Positive Airway Pressure
• GERD-Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease
• LASER-Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation
• PID-Pelvic Inflammatory Disease

ABBREVIATIONS

• S/P-Status post
• CBCD-Complete Blood Count with Differential
• CMP-Complete Metabolic Panel
• BMP-Basic Metabolic Panel
• BBS-Bilateral Breath Sounds
• H/P-History and Physical
• PCN-Penicillin
• ASA-Aspirin (Acetylsalicylic Acid)
• CTA-Committee on Thrombotic Agents
• DCN-Darvocet

ABBREVIATIONS

• BNP-Brain Natriuretic Peptide
• H/H-Hemoglobin/Hematocrit
• NS-Normal Saline
• RL-Ringer’s Lactate
• HOH-Hard of Hearing
• BS-Bowel Sounds
• VS-Vital Signs
• IVDU-IV Drug Use
• MSM-Men Sex with Men
• PT-Physical Therapy or Prothrombin Time
• PTT-Partial Thromboplastin Time
• INR-International Normalized Ratio
UNACCEPTABLE ABBREVIATIONS

- QD-Every day
- QID-Every 4 hours
- U-Unit
- Trailing zeroes
- Lack of leading zeroes
- MSO4
- MgSO4

EXAMPLES

- Contraindicated-Against reason/indications
- Arthroscopy-Visualization of joint
- Nephrectomy-Surgical removal of kidney
- Meningitis-Inflammation of Meninges
- Neuralgia-Nerve pain
- Rhinitis-Inflammation of nasal passages (Runny Nose)
- Hypovolemia-Decreased volume
- Homeostasis-State of balance