

APPROVED MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

PURPOSE

To identify the abbreviations and symbols which an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Paramedic may use for documentation purposes in Marin County.

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation / Symbol	Description
♀	female
♂	male
⊕	positive
⊖	negative
°C	degrees Celsius
°F	degrees Fahrenheit
(L)	left
(R)	right
1°	primary
2°	secondary
<	less than
>	greater than
@	at
Δ	change
↓	decrease(d)
↑	increase(d)
≈	approximately
x	times
ā	before
A/O	alert and oriented
A/S	at scene / arrived at scene
abd	abdomen
AC	antecubital
AFIB	atrial fibrillation
AICD	Automatic Internal Cardiac Defibrillator
AKA	above the knee amputation
ALOC	altered level of consciousness
ALS	Advanced Life Support
AM	morning
AMA	against medical advice
AMI	acute myocardial infarction
AOS	arrived on scene
approx	approximately
ASA	acetylsalicylic acid, aspirin
ASAP	as soon as possible
ATF	arrived to find
B/C	because
BBB	bundle branch block
BG	blood glucose
BGL	blood glucose level

Bilat	bilateral
BKA	below the knee amputation
BLS	Basic Life Support
BM	bowel movement
BP	blood pressure
bpm	beats per minute
BSA	burn surface area
BVM	bag valve mask
Ā	with
C/C	chief complaint
C/O	complain of
C2	code two
C3	code three
CA	cancer
CAD	coronary artery disease, computer assisted dispatch
CHF	congestive heart failure
CHP	California Highway Patrol
CMPA	Central Marin Police Authority
CO	complain of / carbon monoxide
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CP	chest pain
CPAP	continuous positive airway pressure
CPR	cardio pulmonary resuscitation
CPSS	Cincinnati prehospital stroke scale
CSM	circulation, sensation, movement
CVA	cerebral vascular accident
DDM	designated decision maker
DKA	diabetic ketoacidosis
DM	Diabetes mellitus
DNI	Do not intubate
DNR	do not resuscitate
DVT	deep vein thrombosis
dx	diagnosis
ECG	electrocardiogram
ED	emergency department
EKG	electrocardiogram
EMD	Emergency Medical Dispatch
EMS	Emergency Medical Service
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
EMT-P	Paramedic
ENRT	enroute
ER	Emergency Room
ESO	electronic PCR software
ET	endotracheal
ETA	estimated time of arrival
ETCO ₂	end-tidal carbon dioxide
ETI	endotracheal intubation
ETOH	alcohol
ETT	endotracheal tube
F	female

FTF	Field transfer form
fx	fracture
G	Gram
G	gauge
GCS	Glasgow Coma Scale
GI	gastrointestinal
gm	gram
GSW	gunshot wound
gtt(s)	drop(s)
GU	genitourinary
h	hour
H/N/B	head, neck, back
H ₂ O	water
HA	headache
HHN	hand-held nebulizer
HOB	Head of bed
HR	heart rate
HTN	hypertension
Hwy	highway
hx	history
ICD	Internal Cardiac Defibrillator
ICU	intensive care unit
IM	intramuscular
IN	intranasal
IO	intraosseous
IV	intravenous
IVP	intravenous push
JVD	jugular venous distension
KED	Kendrick Extrication Device
kg	kilograms
KSR	Kaiser San Rafael
KTL	Kaiser Terra Linda
L	liter
L	left
lac	laceration
LKW	Last known well
LL	left lateral
LLQ	left lower quadrant
LOC	loss of consciousness / level of consciousness
LS	lung sounds
Lt	left
LVO	Large vessel occlusion
LUQ	left upper quadrant
LZ	Landing zone
m	min
M	male
m/o	Month old
mA	Milliamp
MAD	mucosal atomization device
MCSO	Marin County Sheriff's Office (deputy)
MD	medical doctor

mEq	milliequivalent
mg	milligram
mg/Dl	milligrams per deciliter
MGH	Marin General Hospital
MI	myocardial infraction
MICU	mobile intensive care unit
MIN	minimum / minute
ml	milliliter
MOI	mechanism of injury
MPH	miles per hour
MS	morphine sulfate / multiple sclerosis
MSo4	morphine
MVA	motor vehicle accident
MVC	motor vehicle crash
MVPD	Mill Valley Police Department
N&V or N/V or NV	nausea and vomiting
NaCL	Sodium Chloride
NAD	no apparent distress
NC	nasal cannula
NCH	Novato Community Hospital
NEG	negative
Neuro	neurological
NITRO	nitroglycerin
NKDA	no known drug allergies
NPA	nasopharyngeal airway
NPD	Novato Police Department
NRB	non-rebreather mask
NS	normal saline
NSR	normal sinus rhythm
NTG	nitroglycerine
NVD	nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
O ₂	oxygen
O ₂ sat	peripheral capillary oxygen saturation
OD	overdose
ODT	orally disintegrating tablet
OPA	oropharyngeal airway
̄	after
P/W/D	pink warm dry
PAC	premature atrial contraction
PALP	palpitation
PARA	parity, e.g. gravid 2, para 1 means the patient has been pregnant twice and given birth once; also written G2P1
PCN	penicillin
PE	pulmonary edema / pedal edema / patient exam
PEA	pulseless electrical activity
PERL	pupils equal reactive to light
PERRL	Pupils equal, round, reactive to light
PJC	premature junctional contraction
PM	evening
PMD	primary/personal/private medical doctor
PO	by mouth

POC	position of comfort
POLST	Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment
PRN	as needed
PSYCH	psychiatric
PT	patient
PTA	prior to arrival
PTS	patients
PTSD	post traumatic stress disorder
Pulse Ox	peripheral capillary oxygen saturation
PVC	premature ventricular contraction
PVH	Petaluma Valley Hospital
PVT	private
PX	pain
q	every
R	right
RA	room air
RAS	released at scene
RLQ	right lower quadrant
RMC	routine medical care
RN	registered nurse
ROM	range of motion
ROSC	return of spontaneous circulation
RP	reporting party
RPM	respirations per minute
RR	respiratory rate
Rt	right
Rx	prescription
̄	without
S. Brady	sinus brady
S. Tach	sinus tachycardia
S/NT/ND	Soft, non-tender, no distention
S/P	status post
S/S	signs and symptoms
SBP	systolic blood pressure
SC, SQ	subcutaneous
SL	sublingual
SM	small
SMR	spinal motion restriction
SNF	skilled nursing facility
SOB	shortness of breath
SPO ₂	peripheral capillary oxygen saturation
SRC	STEMI Receiving Center
SRPD	San Rafael PD
STEMI	ST Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction
SVT	supraventricular tachycardia
TACH	tachycardia
TB	tuberculosis
TEMP	temperature
TIA	transient ischemic attack
TKO	to keep open
TOC	transfer of care

TRANS	transport / transfer
TTT	Trauma Triage Tool
TX	treatment
UCSF	University California San Francisco
UOA	upon our arrival
USGC	United States Coast Guard
UTI	urinary tract infection
UTL	unable to locate
UTO	unable to obtain
V	victim
V/S or VS	vital sign
VA	Veteran's Administration
VAD	Ventricular Assist Device
VF	ventricular fibrillation
VL	Video laryngoscopy
VT	ventricular tachycardia
W/	with
w/c	wheelchair
w/o	wide open
WBC	white blood count
WNL	within normal limits
Y/O or YO	Year(s) old