

Master List of Prescription Abbreviations

Abbreviation	From the Latin	Meaning
aa	ana	of each
ad	ad	up to
a.c.	ante cibum	before meals
a.d.	aurio dextra	right ear
ad lib.	ad libitum	use as much as one desires; freely
admov.	admove	apply
agit	agita	stir/shake
alt. h.	alternis horis	every other hour
a.m.	ante meridiem	morning, before noon
amp		ampule
amt		amount
aq	aqua	water
a.l., a.s.	aurio laeva, aurio sinister	left ear
A.T.C.		around the clock
a.u.	auris utrae	both ears
bis	bis	twice
b.i.d.	bis in die	twice daily
B.M.		bowel movement
bol.	bolus	as a large single dose (usually intravenously)
B.S.		blood sugar
B.S.A		body surface areas
cap., caps.	capsula	capsule
c	cum	with (usually written with a bar on top of the "c")
c	cibos	food
cc	cum cibos	with food, (but also cubic centimetre)
cf		with food
comp.		compound
cr., crm		cream
D5W		dextrose 5% solution (sometimes written as D ₅ W)
D5NS		dextrose 5% in normal saline (0.9%)
D.A.W.		dispense as written
dc, D/C, disc		discontinue
dieb. alt.	diebus alternis	every other day
dil.		dilute

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disp.		dispense
div.		divide
d.t.d.	dentur tales doses	give of such doses
D.W.		distilled water
elix.		elixir
e.m.p.	ex modo prescripto	as directed
emuls.	emulsum	emulsion
et	et	and
ex aq	ex aqua	in water
fl., fld.		fluid
ft.	fiat	make; let it be made
g		gram
gr		grain
gtt(s)	gutta(e)	drop(s)
H		hypodermic
h, hr	hora	hour
h.s.	hora somni	at bedtime
ID		intra dermal
IM		intramuscular (with respect to injections)
inj.	injectio	injection
IP		intraperitoneal
IV		intravenous
IVP		intravenous push
IVPB		intravenous piggyback
L.A.S.		label as such
LCD		coal tar solution
lin	linimentum	liniment
liq	liquor	solution
lot.		lotion
M.	misce	mix
m, min	minimum	a minimum
mcg		microgram
mEq		milliequivalent
mg		milligram
mist.	mistura	mix
mitte	mitte	send

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mL		millilitre
nebul	nebula	a spray
N.M.T.		not more than
noct.	nocte	at night
non rep.	non repetatur	no repeats
NS		normal saline (0.9%)
1/2NS		half normal saline (0.45%)
N.T.E.		not to exceed
o ₂		both eyes, sometimes written as o ₂
o.d.	oculus dexter	right eye
o.s.	oculus sinister	left eye
o.u.	oculus uterque	both eyes
oz		ounce
per	per	by or through
p.c.	post cibum	after meals
p.m.	post meridiem	evening or afternoon
prn	pro re nata	as needed
p.o.	per os	by mouth or orally
p.r.		by rectum
pulv.	pulvis	powder
q	quaque	every
q.a.d.	quoque alternis die	every other day
q.a.m.	quaque die ante meridiem	every day before noon
q.h.	quaque hora	every hour
q.h.s.	quaque hora somni	every night at bedtime
q.1h	quaque 1 hora	every 1 hour; (can replace "1" with other numbers)
q.d.	quaque die	every day
q.i.d.	quater in die	four times a day
q.o.d.		every other day
qqh	quater quaque hora	every four hours
q.s.	quantum sufficiat	a sufficient quantity
R		rectal
rep., rept.	repetatur	repeats
RL, R/L		Ringer's lactate
s	sine	without (usually written with a bar on top of the "s")

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s.a.	secundum artum	use your judgement
SC, subc, subq, subcut		subcutaneous
sig		write on label
SL		sublingually, under the tongue
sol	solutio	solution
s.o.s., si op. sit	si opus sit	if there is a need
ss	semis	one half
stat	statim	immediately
supp	suppositorium	suppository
susp		suspension
syr	syrupus	syrup
tab	tabella	tablet
tal., t	talus	such
tbsp		tablespoon
troche	trochiscus	lozenge
tsp		teaspoon
t.i.d.	ter in die	three times a day
t.d.s.	ter die sumendum	three times a day
t.i.w.		three times a week
top.		topical
T.P.N.		total parenteral nutrition
tr, tinc., tinct.		tincture
u.d., ut. dict.	ut dictum	as directed
ung.	unguentum	ointment
U.S.P.		United States Pharmacopoeia
vag		vaginally
w		with
w/o		without
X		times
Y.O.		years old