

*Dictionary of Abbreviations  
in Medicine and the Related  
Sciences*

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## PREFACE

It was apparent several years ago that the widespread use of abbreviations in medical literature had reached a point where a handy source of reference had become a necessity. The original edition of this dictionary, the first of its kind in the field of medicine and the related sciences, was published in the United States in 1960 in the hope that it would fulfil that need and, at the same time, help to introduce a measure of standardization into an otherwise chaotic field. The success of that edition, and of its successor, has now led to the need for a third edition.

The scope of the dictionary has again been widened, and many more definitions have been added. My aim, as before, has been to include abbreviations that have come into common use in the medical sciences during the intervening years.

Full stops separating the letters have been omitted from entries in line with the current trend of writing abbreviations without stops, and to avoid duplication (and pontification) where both styles are employed. Abbreviations are given throughout the book in capitals except where common usage dictates the use of small letters. Where there is more than one way of abbreviating a term, no attempt has been made to state which is correct, but simply to list all forms likely to be encountered. Needless to say, wherever there is any possibility of confusion in the context, words should be spelled out in full. The use of italic has been reserved for translations of Latin terms defined in the dictionary.

I should like to thank those who have aided in the revision by calling attention to errors and suggesting new abbreviations to be listed; especially appreciated were the suggestions of Adam G. N. Moore of Aberdeen, Scotland. I am grateful also to the Upjohn Company, the Bronson Methodist Hospital, the Borgess Hospital and Western Michigan University, all of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and to the editorial staff of the F. A. Davis Company and my British publishers for their contributions and helpful suggestions.

EDWIN B. STEEN  
Kalamazoo 1970

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# A

- A:**  
 absorbance (symbol for in spectrophotometry)  
 acceptor  
 acetum  
 adenine  
 adenosine  
 adrenaline  
 adult  
 allergy(ist)  
 amphetamine  
 Angstrom unit  
 annum (L) *year*  
 anterior  
 aqueous  
 area (of heart shadow)  
 argon (chemical symbol for)  
 arteria
- a:**  
 accommodation  
 acid  
 acidity, total  
 ampere  
 anode  
 anterior  
 aqua (L) *water*  
 area  
 artery  
 asymmetric  
 axial
- α:**  
 alpha (first letter of Greek alphabet)  
 Symbol designating *first*  
 In organic compounds, refers to the carbon atom which is next to the carbon atom bearing the active group of molecules.
- Å:** Angstrom unit  
**A<sub>2</sub>:** aortic second sound  
**AA:**  
 achievement age  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Associations of Anesthetists  
**ā, ā:** ana (Gr. *of each*)  
 Used to designate the same quantity of each ingredient in a prescription
- aaa:** amalgam  
**AAAS:** American Association for the Advancement of Science  
**AAD:** alloxazine adenine dinucleotide (FAD)  
**AAE:**  
 acute allergic encephalitis  
 American Association of Endodontists  
**AAF:**  
 acetic-alcohol-formalin (a fixing fluid)  
 acetylaminofluorine  
 Army Air Force  
 ascorbic acid factor (a corticotrophin in ACTH)  
**AAGP:** American Academy of General Practice  
**AAL:** anterior axillary line  
**AAALAC:** American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care  
**AAMC:** American Association of Medical Colleges  
**AAMMC:** American Association of Medical Milk Commissioners  
**AAMRL:** American Association of Medical Record Librarians  
**AAO:**  
 American Association of Orthodontists  
 amino acid oxidase  
**AAOO:** American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology  
**AAOP:** American Academy of Oral Pathology  
**AAP:**  
 American Academy of Pediatrics  
 American Academy of Periodontology  
**AAPHP:** American Association of Public Health Physicians  
**AATCC:** American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists

**AB:**

Artium Baccalaureus (L) *Bachelor of Arts*

asthmatic bronchitis  
axiobuccal

**AB-100:** bis (ethyleneimido) phosphorurethane, an anti-tumour agent

**Ab:** antibody

**ab:**

abortion  
about

**abbr:** abbreviation(ed)

**abbrev:** abbreviation(ed)

**ABC:**

atomic, biological, chemical (with reference to warfare)

aconite, belladonna, chloroform  
axiobuccocervical

**ABCC:** Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission

**ABCP:** Association of Blind Chartered Physiotherapists

**abd:**

abdomen(inal)  
abduction(or)

**abdom:** abdomen(inal)

**ABG:** axiobuccogingival

**ABL:** axiobuccolingual

**Abn:** abnormal

**abnor:** abnormal

**ABOB:** N<sup>1</sup>N<sup>1</sup>-anhydrobis (B-hydroxyethyl) biguanide hydrochloride

**ABP:** arterial blood pressure

**ABr test:** agglutination test for brucellosis

**abras:** abrasions

**ABS:**

acronitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymer

acute brain syndrome  
alkylbenzyl sulfonates

**abs:**

absent  
absolute

**abs feb:** absente febre (L) *in the absence of fever*

**abstr:** abstract

**abt:** about

**ABY:** acid bismuth yeast (agar)

**AC:**

acetylcholine

adrenal cortex

air conduction

alternating current

anodal closure

antiphlogistic corticoid

atriocarotid

auriculocarotid

axiocervical

**Ac:**

accelerator (ex., *Ac-globulin*)

acetyl

acryl group

actinium (chemical symbol for)

**ac:**

acute

ante cibum (L) *before meals*

**ACA:** American College of Apothecaries

**acad:** academy

**ACC:** anodal closure contraction

**acc:**

accident

accommodation

according

**AcCh:** acetylcholine

**accid:** accident(al)

**ACCI:** anodal closure clonus

**AcCoA:** acetyl coenzyme A

**accom:** accommodation

**accur:** accuratissime (L) *most carefully, accurately*

**ACD:**

absolute cardiac dullness

actinium emanation (chemical symbol for)

**ACD sol:** citric acid, trisodium citrate, dextrose solution

**ACE:**

adrenal cortical extract

American Council of Education

**ACE mixture:** alcohol-chloroform-ether mixture

**ACF:** accessory clinical findings

**ACH:**

adrenal cortical hormone

arm, chest, height

**ACH index:** arm girth, chest depth, hip width index (of nutrition)

**Ach:** acetylcholine

**AchS:** Associate of the Society of Chiropractors

**ACHe:** acetylcholinesterase

- ACI:** anticonus index  
**acid p'tase:** acid phosphatase  
**ACN:** acute conditioned necrosis  
**ACNM:** American College of Nurse-Midwives  
**ACO:** anodal closing odour  
**ACOG:** American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
**acous:** acoustics(ical)  
**ACP:**  
     acetyl carrier protein  
     Animal Care Panel  
     anodal closing picture  
     Association of Clinical Pathologists  
**ACPP:** adrenocorticipolypeptide  
**ACR:**  
     American College of Radiology  
     anti-constipation regimen  
**ACr:** acrylic  
**ACS:**  
     American Cancer Society  
     American Chemical Society  
     American College of Surgeons  
     anodal closing sound  
     antitreticular cytotoxic serum  
**ACSP:** Advisory Council on Scientific Policy  
**act:** active  
**ACTe:** anodal closure tetanus  
**ACTH:** adrenocorticotrophic hormone  
**ACTN:** adrenocorticotrophin  
**ACTP:** adrenocorticotrophic polypeptide  
**AD:**  
     adenoidal degeneration  
     alcohol dehydrogenase  
     anodal duration  
     auris dextra (L) *right ear*  
     average deviation  
     diphenylchlorarsine  
     drug addict  
**ad:**  
     adde or addetur (L) *let them be added*  
     axiodistal  
**ADA:**  
     American Dental Association  
     American Diabetic Association  
     American Dietetic Association  
**ADADS:** Assistant Director Army Dental Service
- ADAV&RS:** Assistant Director Army Veterinary and Remount Services  
**ADC:**  
     Aid to Dependent Children  
     albumin, dextrose, catalase (with reference to bacteriological media)  
     anodal duration contraction  
     axiodistocervical  
**add:**  
     adde (L) *add*  
     adductor(ion)  
**add c trit:** adde cum tritu (L) *add trituration*  
**ad def an:** ad defectionem animi (L) *to the point of fainting*  
**ad deliq:** ad deliquium (L) *to fainting*  
**addict:** addiction  
**addn:** addition  
**ADE:** acute disseminated encephalitis  
**ad effect:** ad effectum (L) *until effectual*  
**ad feb:** adstante febre (L) *fever being present*  
**ADG:** axiodistogingival  
**ad gr acid:** ad gratum aciditatem (L) *to an agreeable acidity*  
**ad gr gust:** ad gratum gustum (L) *to an agreeable taste*  
**ADH:** antidiuretic hormone (vasopressin)  
**adhib:** adhibendus (L) *to be administered*  
**ADI:** axiodistoinclusal  
**ad int:** ad interim (L) *meanwhile*  
**adj:**  
     adjective  
     adjunct  
**ADL:** activities of daily living  
**ad lib:** ad libitum (L) *at pleasure*  
**ADMS:** Assistant Director Medical Services  
**adm:**  
     administration  
     admission  
     admitted  
**admin:**  
     administer  
     administration  
**admov:** admove, admoveatur (L) *apply, let it be applied*



- ad neut:** ad neutralizandum (L) *to neutralization*
- ADO:** axiodistoclusal
- ADP:** adenosine diphosphate
- ad part dolent:** ad partes dolentes (L) *to the painful parts*
- ad pond om:** ad pondus omnium (L) *to the weight of the whole*
- ADR:** Accepted Dental Remedies
- Adr:** adrenaline
- ADS:**  
antidiuretic substance (SEE *ADH*)  
Army Dental Services
- ad sat:** ad saturandum (L) *to saturation*
- adst feb:** adstante febre (L) *when fever is present*
- ADT:**  
a placebo, meaning A (any), D (what you desire), T (thing)  
agar-gel diffusion test
- ADTe:** tetanic contraction
- ad us:** ad usum (L) *according to custom*
- ad us ext:** ad usum externum (L) *for external use*
- A/DV:** arterio/deep venous
- AD virus:** adenovirus
- adv:** adversum (L) *against, adverse to*
- ad 2 vic:** ad duas vices (L) *at two times, for two doses*
- A5D5W:** alcohol 5%, dextrose 5%, in water
- ADX:** adrenal-ectomized
- AE:**  
antitoxic unit (German abbreviation for)  
above elbow
- AEA:** Atomic Energy Authority
- AEA solution:** alcohol, ether, acetone solution
- AEC:**  
at earliest convenience  
Atomic Energy Commission
- AEE:** Atomic Energy Establishment
- AEG:** air encephalogram
- aeg:** aegra (L) *the patient*
- AEq:** age equivalent
- aeq:** aequales (L) *equal*
- AER:**  
acoustic evoked response  
aldosterone excretion rate
- AERE:** Atomic Energy Research Establishment
- Aero:** Aerobacter
- AES:**  
American Encephalographic Society  
American Epidemiological Society
- AET:** 2-amino-ethylisothiuronium bromide
- aet:** aetas (L) *age*
- aetat:** aetatis (L) *of age*
- AF:**  
acid-fast  
albumin-free (tuberculin)  
Armed Forces  
atrial fibrillation  
audio frequency  
auricular fibrillation
- af:** audiofrequency
- AFB:**  
acid-fast bacillus  
American fowlbrood
- aff:**  
affarent  
affinis (L) *having an affinity with but not identical with*
- AFIP:** Armed Forces Institute of Pathology
- AFL:** anti-fatty liver (with reference to a factor on pancreatic tissue)
- AFQT:** Armed Forces Qualification Test
- AFRD:** acute febrile respiratory disease
- AFRI:** acute febrile respiratory illness
- AG:** atrial gallop  
axiognival
- A/G ratio:** albumin-globulin ratio
- Ag:**  
antigen  
silver (L) *argentum* (chemical symbol for)
- AGA:** accelerated growth area (embryology)
- AGCT:** Army General Classification Test
- ag feb:** agrediente febre (L) *when the fever increases*
- AGG:** agammaglobulinaemia
- agg:** agglutination(ed)
- aggl:** agglutination(ed)

- agglut:** agglutination(ed)  
**AGGS:** antigas gangrene serum  
**agit:** agita (L) *shake, stir*  
**agit ante sum:** agita ante sumendum  
 (L) *shake before taking*  
**agit vas:** agitatio vase (L) *the vial being shaken*  
**agt:** agent  
**AGV:** aniline gentian violet  
**Ah:** hypermetropic astigmatism  
**AHA:**  
 American Heart Association  
 American Hospital Association  
**AHD:** auto-immune haemolytic disease  
**AHE:** acute haemorrhagic encephalomyelitis  
**AHF:**  
 American Hospital Formulary  
 antihaemolytic factor (factor VIII)  
**AHG:**  
 antihaemophilic globulin  
 antihuman globulin  
**AHMC:** Association of Hospital Management Committees  
**AHN:** assistant head nurse  
**AHP:** acute haemorrhagic pancreatitis  
**AHT:** antihyaluronidase titer  
**AI:**  
 aortic insufficiency  
 artificial insemination  
 axioincisal  
**AIA:** allyso-propylacetamide  
**AIBA:** amino-isobutyric acid  
**AIBS:** American Institute of Biological Sciences  
**AICAR:** amino-imidazolecarboxamide ribonucleotide  
**AICF:** auto-immune complement fixation  
**AID:**  
 acute infectious disease  
 Agency for International Development  
 artificial insemination by donor (heterologous insemination)  
**AIH:** artificial insemination by husband (homologous insemination)  
**AIHC:** American Industrial Health Conference  
**AIIMS:** All-India Institute of Medical Sciences  
**AInsuf:** aortic insufficiency  
**AIP:** Anatumerculin, Petragnani's Integral  
**AIR:** amino-imidazole ribonucleotide  
**AJ:** ankle jerk  
**AK:** above knee  
**AK amp:** above knee amputation  
**AKC:** Associate King's College (Lond.)  
**AL:**  
 adaptation level  
 alignment mark (cardiography)  
 axiolingual  
**Al:** aluminium (chemical symbol for)  
**al:** auris laeva (L) *left ear*  
**ALA:** amino-levulinic acid  
**ALa:** axiolabial  
**ALa L:** axiolabiolingual  
**alb:** albumin  
**albus:** (L) *white*  
**ALC:**  
 avian leukosis complex  
 axiolinguocervical  
**alc:** alcohol  
**alcoh:** alcohol  
**AlcR:** alcohol rub  
**AlCr:** aluminium crown  
**ALD:** aldolase  
**aldo:** aldosterone  
**ALG:**  
 antilymphocyte globulin  
 axiolinguogingival  
**alk:** alkaline  
**alk p'tase:** alkaline phosphatase  
**ALO:** axiolinguoclusal  
**ALP:** anterior lobe of pituitary  
**ALS:**  
 amyotrophic lateral sclerosis  
 antilymphocytic serum  
**alt:**  
 alternate  
 altitude  
**alt dieb:** alternus diebus (L) *every other day*  
**alt hor:** alternus horis (L) *every other hour*  
**alt noc:** alternus nocta (L) *every other night*  
**alv:** alveolar

- alv adst:** alvo adstricta (L) *when the bowels are constipated*  
**alv deject:** alvi dejectiones (L) *discharge from the bowels*  
**Alvx:** alveolectomy  
**ALW:** arch-loop-whorl  
**AM:**  
 actomyosin  
 amperemeter  
 amplitude modulation  
 ante meridiem (L) *before noon*  
 Artium Magister (L) *Master of Arts*  
 aviation medicine  
 axiomesial  
 meter-angle  
**Am:**  
 American  
 americium (chemical symbol for)  
 amyl  
**am:**  
 ametropia  
 meter-angle  
 myopic astigmatism  
**AMA:**  
 against medical advice  
 American Medical Association  
**AMAL:** Aero-Medical Acceleration Laboratory  
**amb:** ambulatory  
**ambig:** ambiguous  
**ambul:** ambulation (ory)  
**AMC:**  
 arthrogryposis multiplex congenita  
 axiomesiocervical  
**AMD:** axiomesiodistal  
**AMDS:** Association of Military Dental Surgeons  
**AMEL:** Aero-Medical Equipment Laboratory  
**Amer:** American  
**AMG:** axomesiogingival  
**Amh:** mixed astigmatism with myopia predominating  
**AMI:**  
 acute myocardial infarction  
 axiomesio-incisal  
**AML:** acute myoblastic leukaemia  
**ammon:** ammonia  
**AMNH:** American Museum of Natural History  
**amor:** amorphous  
**amorph:** amorphous  
**AMP:**  
 adenosine monophosphate  
 amphetamine  
**amp:**  
 ampere, amperage  
 amplification  
 ampoule  
 amputation  
**amph:** amphoteric  
**ampl:** amplius (L) *large*  
**ampul:** ampulla (L) *ampul, ampule*  
**AMS:**  
 Army Medical Service  
 Association of Military Surgeons  
 auditory memory span  
**AMSC:** Army Medical Specialist Corps  
**amt:** amount  
**amu:** atomic mass unit  
**An:**  
 actinon (chemical symbol for)  
 anisometropia (eyes requiring different refractive corrections)  
 anode(al)  
**A<sub>n</sub>:** normal atmosphere  
**ANA:**  
 American Nurses' Association  
 anaesthesia(ic)  
**Anaes[th]:** anaesthesia(ic)  
**anal:**  
 analgesic  
 analysis(ize)  
**Anal Psychol:** analytical psychology  
**ANAP:** agglutination negative, absorption positive  
**Anat:** anatomy(ical)  
**ANC:** Army Nurse Corps  
**AnCC:** anodal closure contraction  
**ANDRO:** androsterone  
**AnDTe:** anodal duration tetanus  
**Anesth:** anesthetic  
**an ex:** anode excitation  
**ANF:**  
 American Nurses' Foundation  
 antinuclear factors  
**Ang:** angle, especially angle of scapula  
**anh:** anhydrous  
**anhyd:** anhydrous  
**Ann:** annals  
**AnOC:** anodal opening contraction  
**ANP:** A-norprogesterone  
**ANS:** autonomic nervous system

- ANT:** 2-amino-5-nitro-thiazol  
(Enheptin)  
**ant:** anterior  
**antag:** antagonistic  
**ant ax line:** anterior axial line  
**ante:** ante (L) *before*  
**Anthrop:** anthropology  
**anthropom:** anthropometry  
**ant jentac:** ante jentaculum (L)  
*before breakfast*  
**Ant pit:** anterior pituitary (anterior lobe of pituitary)  
**Ant sup spine:** anterior superior spine (of ilium)  
**ANTU:** alpha-naphthyl-thiourea (a rat poison)  
**AO:**  
   anodal opening  
   opening of atrioventricular valves  
**AOAC:** Association of Official Agricultural Chemists  
**AOC:** anodal opening contraction  
**AOCl:** anodal opening clonus  
**AO diag:** acridine-orange diagnosis (for cancer)  
**AOD:** arterial occlusive disease  
**AOM:** Master of Obstetric Art  
**AOO:** anodal opening odour  
**AOP:** anodal opening picture  
**Aort regurg:** aortic regurgitation  
**Aort sten:** aortic stenosis  
**AOS:** anodal opening sound  
**AOT:** Association of Occupational Therapists  
**AOA:** American Occupational Therapy Association  
**AOTe:** anodal opening tetanus  
**AO technique:** acridine-orange technique (two-colour fluorescence test for cancer cells)  
**AP:**  
   action potential  
   alkaline phosphatase  
   alum precipitated (with reference to vaccines)  
   anterior pituitary  
   anteroposterior  
   aortic pressure  
   appendectomy  
   arithmetic progression  
   artificial pneumothorax  
   axiopalpal  
**3-AP:** 3-acetylpyridine (an antagonist to nicotinic acid)  
**A&P:** auscultation and percussion  
**AP:** apothecary  
**ap:** ante prandium (L) *before dinner*  
**A<sub>2</sub>>P<sub>2</sub>:** aortic second sound greater than pulmonary second sound  
**A<sub>2</sub><P<sub>2</sub>:** aortic second sound lesser than pulmonary second sound  
**APA:**  
   American Pharmaceutical Association  
   American Physiotherapy Association  
   American Psychiatric Association  
**6-APA:** 6-amino penicillanic acid  
**APAF:** antipernicious anaemia factor (SEE *EMF*)  
**APC:**  
   antiphlogistic corticoid  
   aperture current  
   aspirin, phenacetin, and caffeine (a proprietary preparation)  
   atrial premature contractions  
**APC virus:** adenoidal, pharyngeal, conjunctival virus  
**APD:** action potential duration  
**APE:** anterior pituitary extract  
**APF:** animal protein factor  
**APH:** anterior pituitary hormone  
**APHA:** American Public Health Association  
**APhA:** American Pharmaceutical Association  
**APIM:** Association Professionnelle Internationale des Médecins  
**APL:** anterior-pituitary-like substance  
**AP&Lat:** anteroposterior and lateral  
**APMR:** Association for Physical and Mental Rehabilitation  
**apoth:** apothecary  
**app:**  
   apparent  
   appendix  
**appar:**  
   apparatus  
   apparent  
**appl:**  
   appliance  
   applied

- applan:** applanatus (L) *flattened*  
**applicand:** applicandus (L) *to be applied*  
**appr:** approximate(ly)  
**approx:** approximate(ly)  
**APR:** anterior pituitary reaction  
**aprax:** apraxia  
**APRL:** American Prosthetic Research Laboratory  
**APS:** adenosine phosphosulphate  
**APT:** alum-precipitated toxoid  
**APTA:** American Physical Therapy Association  
**AQ:** accomplishment or achievement quotient  
**aq:**  
   aqua (L) *water*  
   aqueous  
**aq astr:** aqua astricta (L) *frozen water*  
**aq bull:** aqua bulliens (L) *boiling water*  
**aq comm:** aqua communis (L) *common water*  
**aq dest:** aqua destillata (L) *distilled water*  
**aq ferv:** aqua fervent (L) *hot water*  
**aq fluv:** aqua fluvialis (L) *river water*  
**aq font:** aqua fontana (L) *spring water*  
**aq mar:** aqua marina (L) *sea water*  
**aq niv:** aqua nivalis (L) *snow water*  
**aq pluv:** aqua pluvialis (L) *rain water*  
**aq pur:** aqua pura (L) *pure water*  
**aq tep:** aqua tepida (L) *lukewarm water*  
**aqu:** aqueous  
**AR:**  
   achievement ratio  
   active resistance (exercises)  
   alarm reaction  
   analytical reagent  
   apical-radial  
   arsphenamine  
   atrophic rhinitis (of swine)  
**A/R:** apical/radial  
**Ar:** argon (chemical symbol for)  
**ARBOR virus:** arthropod borne virus  
**ARC:**  
   anomalous retinal correspondence  
   American Red Cross  
**Arch:** archives
- ARCS:** Associate of the Royal College of Science  
**ARD:** acute respiratory disease  
**ARDC:** Air Research and Development Command  
**Arg:** arginine  
**ARIC:** Associate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry  
**ARM:** artificial rupture of the membranes  
**ARNMD:** Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Diseases  
**AR pulse:** apical-radial pulse  
**ARP:**  
   Advanced Research Projects  
   American Registry of Pathologists  
**ARPT:** American Registry of Physical Therapists  
**ARRC:** Associate of the Royal Red Cross  
**Ars:** arsphenamine  
**ARSPH:** Associate of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health  
**ART:** Accredited Record Technician  
**art:**  
   artery(ial)  
   articulation  
**artic:** articulation  
**artif:** artificial  
**art insemin:** artificial insemination  
**AS:**  
   aortic stenosis  
   aqueous solution  
   aqueous suspension  
   arteriosclerosis  
   auris sinistra (L) *left ear*  
**A-S:** ascendance-submission  
**As:**  
   arsenic (chemical symbol for)  
   astigmatism  
**ASA:**  
   American Standards Association  
   aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid)  
**ASC:** acetylsulphanilyl chloride  
**asc:**  
   arteriosclerosis(tic)  
   ascending  
**ASCP:** American Society of Clinical Pathologists

- ascr**: ascriptum (L) *ascribed to*  
**ASCVD**: arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease  
**ASD**: atrial septal defect  
**ASDR**: American Society of Dental Radiographers  
**ASF**: aniline, sulphur and formaldehyde (microscopy)  
**ASGB**: Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland  
**AsH**: hypertrophic astigmatism  
**ASHBM**: Associate Scottish Hospital Bureau of Management  
**ASHD**: arteriosclerotic heart disease  
**ASL**: antistreptolysin titre  
**ASLIB**: Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux  
**ASLO**: antistreptolysin-O  
**AsM**: myopic astigmatism  
**ASME**: Association for the Study of Medical Education  
**ASO**: American Society of Orthodontists  
**ASO titre**: anti-streptolysin titre  
**ASOS**: American Society of Oral Surgeons  
**ASP**: aspartic acid  
**AspN**: asparagine  
**ASR**: aldosterone secretion rate  
**ASRT**: American Society of Radiologic Technologists  
**ASS**: anterior superior spine (of ilium)  
**Assoc**: association  
**assocd**: associated (with)  
**asst**: assistant  
**Ast**: astigmatism  
**A sten**: aortic stenosis  
**Asth**: asthenopia  
**ASTI**: antispasticity index  
**ASTM**: American Society for Testing and Materials (Standards)  
**ASTO**: antistreptolysin O  
**As tol**: as tolerated  
**A/SV**: arterio/superficial venous  
**asym**: asymmetrical  
**AT**:  
     achievement test  
     alt Tuberculin (Ger., *old tuberculin*)  
**AT<sub>7</sub>**: hexachlorophene (an anti-infective agent)  
**AT<sub>10</sub>**: dihydro-tachysterol  
**At**: astatine (chemical symbol for)  
**at**: atom(ic)  
**ATCC**: American Type Culture Collection  
**ATHC**: allotetra-hydrocortisol  
**athsc**: atherosclerosis  
**ATLAS**: an electronic digital computer  
**atm**: atmosphere(ic)  
**atmos**: atmosphere(ic)  
**at no**: atomic number  
**ATP**: adenosine triphosphate  
**ATPase**: adenosine triphosphatase  
**ATPD**: ambient temperature and pressure, dry  
**ATPS**: ambient temperature and pressure, saturated  
**ATR**: Achilles tendon reflex  
**atr**: atrophy  
**ATS**:  
     antitetanic serum  
     anxiety tension state  
**AT type**: adenine and thymine type (with reference to pentosenucleic acids)  
**at wt**: atomic weight  
**AU**:  
     angstrom unit  
     antitoxin unit (diphtheria) both ears  
**Au**: gold (L) *aurum* (chemical symbol for)  
<sup>198</sup>**AU**: radioactive gold (chemical symbol for)  
**auct**: auctorum (L) *of authors*  
**aud**: auditory  
**aur**: auricle(ular)  
**aur fib**: auricular fibrillation  
**auric**: auricular  
**AuSH**: Australian serum hepatitis  
**aux**: auxiliary  
**AV**:  
     anteversion (ed)  
     aortic valve  
     arteriovenous  
     atrioventricular  
     auriculoventricular  
**av**:  
     average  
     avoirdu pois  
**AVA**: arteriovenous anastomosis  
**AVC**: allantoid vaginal cream

**AVMA:** American Veterinary Medical Association  
**avdp:** avoidrupois  
**AVT:** arginine vasotinin  
**AW:** atomic warfare  
**A & W:** alive and well  
**AWF:** adrenal weight factor (a corticotrophin in ACTH)  
**ax:** axis(al)  
**ax grad:** axial gradient  
**Az:** azote or nitrogen  
**A-Z:** Aschheim-Zondek  
**AZT:** Aschheim-Zondek test (for pregnancy)

## B

**B:**  
**Bacillus** (in genus and species names)  
**balneum**  
**barometric**  
**base** (in chemical formulas)  
**base** (of prism)  
**bath**  
**Baumé scale**  
**behaviour**  
**Benoist scale**  
**benzoate**  
**blue**  
**body** (in psychology, all the body except nervous system)  
**boron** (chemical symbol for)  
**brother**  
**b:**  
**bis** (L) *twice, two times*  
**boils at** (when followed by a figure designating degrees)  
**born**  
**β:**  
**beta** (second letter of Greek alphabet)  
**In chemistry**, in organic compounds, it refers to the carbon atom next to the carbon atom bearing the active group of molecules  
**Symbol designating second**  
**BA:**  
**Bachelor of Arts**

**balneum arenae** (L) *sand bath*  
**Biological Abstracts**  
**blood agar**  
**bronchial asthma**  
**buccoaxial**  
**B/A:**  
**boric acid**  
**backache**  
**Ba:** barium (chemical symbol for)  
**BAA:** benzoyl arginine amide  
**BAC:**  
**bacterial antigen complex**  
**British Association of Chemists**  
**buccoaxiocervical**  
**bact:**  
**bacteria(al)**  
**bacteriology**  
**BAD:** British Association of Dermatology  
**Ba enem:** barium enema  
**BAG:** buccoaxiagingival  
**BAGG:** buffered azide glucose glycerol (broth)  
**BAL:** British anti-lewisite (2, 3, dimercaptopropanol)  
**bal:**  
**balance(d)**  
**balsam**  
**bal arenae:** balneum arenae (L) *sand bath*  
**bal mar:** balneum maris (L) *salt or sea-water bath*  
**bal vap:** balneum vapour (L) *steam or vapour bath*  
**BAN:** British Association of Neurologists  
**BAO:** Bachelor of the Art of Obstetrics  
**British Association of Otolaryngologists**  
**BAP:** brachial artery pressure  
**BAPhysMed:** British Association of Physical Medicine  
**BAPS:**  
**British Association of Paediatric Surgeons**  
**British Association of Plastic Surgeons**  
**BAPT:** British Association of Physical Training  
**bar:** barometer(ric)  
**BAS:** benzyl analogue of serotonin  
**bas:** basophil(s)

- BASH:** body acceleration synchronous with heart beat  
**basos:** basophils  
**BAUS:** British Association of Urological Surgeons  
**BB:** both bones (with reference to fractures)  
**BBA:** born before arrival  
**BBB:**  
     blood-brain barrier  
     bundle-branch block  
**BBC:** brombenzylcyanide (a war gas)  
**BBS:** a commercial scabicide  
**BBT:** basal body temperature  
**BC:**  
     Bachelor of Surgery  
     birth control  
     bone conduction  
     buccocervical  
**BC 51:** A cholinesterase inhibitor  
**BCC:** Birth Control Clinic  
**BCCG:** British Co-operative Clinical Group  
**BCG:**  
     Bacille Calmette-Guérin  
     ballistocardiogram  
     bromcresyl green (an indicator)  
**BCG test:** bicolour guaiac test  
**BCH:** basal cell hyperplasia  
**BCh:** Bachelor of Surgery  
**BChD:** Bachelor of Dental Surgery  
**BChir:** Bachelor of Surgery  
**BCIC:** Birth Control Investigation Committee  
**BCNU:** 1, 3 bis 2-chlorethyl-nitrosourea  
**BCP:** bromcresyl purple (an indicator)  
**BCS:** British Cardiac Society  
**BD:**  
     base of prism down  
     buccodistal  
**Bd:** board  
**bd:** bis die (L) *twice a day*  
**BDA:** British Dental Association  
**BDAC:** Bureau of Drug Abuse Control  
**BDB:** bis-diazotized-benzidine  
**BDG:** buffered desoxycholate glucose (broth)  
**BDentSci:** Bachelor of Dental Science (Dublin)  
**BDS:** Bachelor of Dental Surgery  
**BDSc:** Bachelor of Dental Science  
**BE:**  
     Bacillen Emulsion (Ger.)  
     barium enema  
     below elbow  
**Be:** beryllium (chemical symbol for)  
**Bé:** Beaumé (specific gravity scale)  
**beg:** begin  
**beh:** behaviour(ism)  
**BEI:** butanol-extractable iodine  
**ben:** bene (L) *well, good*  
**Benz:** benzidine  
**BES:** balanced electrolyte solution  
**bet:** between  
**BF:**  
     bouillon filtré (Fr. *bouillon filtrate* tuberculin; Denys' tuberculin)  
     buffered  
     butter fat  
**BFP:** biological false positive  
**BFR sol:** buffered Ringer's solution  
**BG:** buccogingival  
**B-G:** Bordet-Gengou (bacillus)  
**BGG:** bovine gamma globulin  
**BGLB:** brilliant green lactose broth  
**BGGRA:** British Gelatine and Glue Research Association  
**BGS:** British Geriatrics Society  
**BH:** brain hormone  
**BHC:** benzene hexachloride (an insecticide and scabicide)  
**BHIB:** beef heart infusion broth  
**BHL:** biological half-life  
**BHN:** bphenium hydroxynaphthoate  
**BHyg:** Bachelor of Hygiene  
**BI:** base of prism in  
**Bi:** bismuth (chemical symbol for)  
**BIAC:** Bioinstrumentation Advisory Council  
**bib:** bibe (L) *drink*  
**biblio:** bibliography  
**BIBRA:** British Industrial Biological Research Association  
**bicarb:** bicarbonate  
**BID:** brought in dead  
**bid:** bis in die (L) *twice a day*  
**bhor:** bihorium (L) *during two hours*  
**Bi Isch:** between ischial tuberosities  
**BIL:** bilirubin (test)  
**bilat:** bilateral  
**bili, bilirub:** bilirubin



**biochem:** biochemistry(al)  
**biol:** biology(ical)  
**Biophys:** biophysics  
**BIOS:** British Intelligence Objective Subcommittee  
**BIP:**  
     bacterial intravenous protein  
     bismuth iodoform paraffin  
**BIPP:** bismuth iodoform petroleum paste  
**BIR:**  
     basic incidence rate  
     British Institute of Radiology  
**BiSP:** between ischial spines  
**BIT:** between great trochanters  
**BITU:** benzyl-thiourea  
**BJ:** biceps jerk  
**B&J:** bone and joint  
**BK:** below knee (with reference to amputation stump)  
**Bk:** berkelium (chemical symbol for)  
**BKA:** below the knee amputation  
**BKTT:** below knee to toe  
**BKWP:** below knee walking plaster  
**BL:** buccolingual  
**bl:**  
     bleeding  
     blood  
     blue  
**BLB mask:** Boothby-Lovelace-Bulbular mask (for oxygen administration)  
**Bl C:** blood culture  
**bl cult:** blood culture  
**BLG:** beta-lactoglobulin  
**Bl S:** blood sugar  
**Bl T:** blood type  
**BLU vapour:** B-propionolactone (a disinfectant)  
**BM:**  
     Bachelor of Medicine  
     basal metabolism  
     bowel movement  
     buccomesial  
**bm:** balneum maris (L) sea-water bath  
**BMA:** British Medical Association  
**BMB:** British Medical Bulletin  
**BMJ:** British Medical Journal  
**BMPP:** benign mucous membrane pemphigus  
**BMR:** basal metabolic rate

**BMS:** Bachelor of Medical Science  
**BMSA:** British Medical Students' Association  
**BSMJ:** British Medical Students Journal  
**BNA:** Basle (Basel) Nomina Anatomica  
**BNF:** British National Formulary  
**BO:**  
     base of prism out  
     body odour  
     bowels open  
     bucco-occlusal  
**Bo:** bohemia (now called rhenium) (chemical symbol for)  
**bo:** bowel  
**B&O:** belladonna and opium  
**BOA:**  
     born on arrival  
     British Orthopaedic Association  
**BOD:** biochemical oxygen demand  
**BodUnits:** Bodansky units (with reference to alkaline phosphatase)  
**BOEA:** ethyl biscoumacetate.  
**boil:** boiling  
**bol:** bolus (L) a large pill  
**BOP:** Buffalo orphan prototype (with reference to viruses)  
**BOR:** bowels open regularly  
**Bot:** botany, botanical  
**BOW:** bag of waters (amniotic sac)  
**BP:**  
     bed pan  
     biotic potential  
     biparietal (diameter of head)  
     birth place  
     blood pressure  
     British Pharmacopoeia  
     buccopalpal  
     bypass  
**bp:** boiling point  
**BPA:** British Paediatric Association  
**BPB:** bromophenol blue (an indicator)  
**BPC:** British Pharmaceutical Codex  
**BPH:** benign prostatic hypertrophy  
**BPharm:** Bachelor of Pharmacy  
**BPL:** B-propionolactone  
**BP 120/80 lar:** blood pressure 120 (systolic), 80 (diastolic), left arm reclining or recumbent