

Common Acceptable Abbreviations

RECOMMENDED ABBREVIATIONS FOR ABSTRACTORS

Even in the age of computerized abstracts with coded fields, text is still required to supplement and support coded information. In writing this text, registrars rely on abbreviations, especially in response to time and record space constraints. Abbreviations can generate confusion, however, as they may vary among different institutions and different specialties. Because abbreviations should be understood by any reader, only those that are clear and precise should be used. The NAACCR Recommended Abbreviations Lists, below, were compiled for cancer abstractors and the agencies to which they submit their data.

These consist of two main lists of over 600 words/terms and their recommended abbreviations/symbols, as well as a special table of context-sensitive abbreviations. The first list is ordered by the words/terms for which an abstractor seeks an abbreviation, and the second is ordered by abbreviation/symbol, paired with the complete word or term. The context-sensitive abbreviations table consists of a subset of the abbreviations, for which a different context for the same abbreviation conveys a different meaning (for example, CA may mean calcium or carcinoma, and ML may mean milliliter or middle lobe). For these context-sensitive abbreviations, the meaning of the abbreviation should be readily apparent from its context.

NAACCR Recommended Abbreviation List Ordered By Abbreviation/Symbol

Abbreviation/Symbol	Word/Term(s)
^	Above or elevated
&	And
≈	Approximately
@	At
=	Equals
>	Greater than, more, or more than
<	Less or less than
-	Negative or minus
#	Number or pound(s)
+	Plus or positive
X	Times
A	
A FIB	Atrial fibrillation
A FLUTTER	Atrial flutter

A&P	Auscultation & percussion
A/P	Abdomen/Pelvis
AA	African American
AB	Antibody
ABD	Abdomen (abdominal)
ABG	Arterial blood gases
ABN	Abnormal
ABNL	Abnormal
ABS	Absent/Absence
ABST	Abstract/Abstracted
ABX	Antibiotics
AC	Adrenal cortex
ACBE	Air contrast barium enema
ACH	Adrenal cortical hormone
ACID PHOS	Acid phosphatase
A-COLON	Ascending Colon
ACTH	Adrenocorticotrophic hormone
ADENOCA	Adenocarcinoma
ADENOP	Adenopathy
ADH	Antidiuretic hormone
ADJ	Adjacent
ADL	Activities of daily living
ADM	Admission/Admit
ADR	Adverse drug reaction
AFF	Affirmative
AFP	Alpha-fetoprotein
AG	Antigen
AGL	Acute granulocytic leukemia
AI	Aromatase inhibitor
AI	Atrial stenosis/insufficiency/incompetence
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AIHA	Autoimmune hemolytic anemia
AIN III or AIN 3	Anal intraepithelial neoplasia, grade III
AK(A)	Above knee (amputation)

AKA	Also known as
ALB	Albumin
ALK PHOS	Alkaline phosphatase
ALL	Acute lymphocytic leukemia
ALND	Axillary Lymph node dissection
ALS	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
AM	Before noon
AMA	Against medical advice
AMB	Ambulatory
AMI	Acute myocardial infarction
AML	Acute myelogenous leukemia
AMP	Amputation
AMT	Amount
ANAP	Anaplastic
ANGIO	Angiography/Angiogram
ANS	Autonomic nervous system
ANT	Anterior
AODM	Adult-onset Diabetes Mellitus
AP	Abdominal perineal
A-P	Anteroposterior
APC	Atrial premature complexes
APP	Appendix
APPL'Y	Apparently
ARC	AIDS-related condition (complex)
ARD	AIDS-related disease
ARDS	Acute Respiratory Distress (Disease) Syndrome
ARF	Acute renal failure
ARRHY	Arrhythmia
ART	Artery (ial)
AS	Arteriosclerosis/Arteriosclerotic
ASA	Aspirin, Acetylsalicylic acid
ASAP	As soon as possible
ASCVD	Arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease
ASHD	Arteriosclerotic heart disease

ASP	Aspiration
ASPVD	Arteriosclerotic Peripheral Vascular Disease
ASSOC	Associated
A-STEN	Aortic stenosis
ATN	Acute tubular necrosis
ATP	Adenosine triphosphate
ATR	Achilles tendon reflex
AUT	Autopsy
AV	Arteriovenous
AVG	Average
AVM	Arteriovenous malformation
AX	Axilla(ry)
AXLND	Axillary Lymph node dissection
B	
B/F	Black female
B/L	Bilateral
B/M	Black male
BA	Barium
BAD	Bipolar affective disorder
BCC	Basal cell carcinoma
BCG	Bacillus Calmette-Guerin
BD	Bile duct
BE	Barium enema
BF	Black female
BID	Twice a day (daily)
BIL	Bilateral
BK(A)	Below knee (amputation)
B/L	Bilateral
BM	Black Male
BM	Bone marrow
BM	Bowel movement
BMBX	Bone marrow biopsy
BMI	Body mass index
BMT	Bone marrow transplant

BNA	Block Numbering Area
BOT	Base of tongue
BP	Blood pressure
BPH	Benign prostatic hypertrophy/hyperplasia
BR	Bloom-Richardson
BRACHY	Brachytherapy
BRBPR	Bright red blood per rectum
BRCA 1 and BRCA 2	Breast cancer susceptibility gene
BRM	Biological response modifier
BRO	Brother
BSA	Body surface area
BSC	Bone scan
BSO	Bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
BT	Bladder tumor or Brain tumor
BUN	Blood urea nitrogen
BUS	Bartholin's, Urethral & Skene's
BV	Blood volume
BX	Biopsy
C	
C/A/P	Chest, abdomen, pelvis
C/O	Complaint (-ning) of
C/W	Consistent with
C1-C7	Cervical vertebrae
CA	Calcium
CA	Carcinoma
CA 125	Cancer antigen 125
CA 19-9	Carbohydrate antigen 19-9
CA++	Calcification(s)
CABG	Coronary artery bypass graft
CAD	Coronary artery disease
CALC(S)	Calcification(s)
CAP(S)	Capsule(s)
CBC	Complete blood count
CC	Chief complaint or Cubic centimeter

CCU	Coronary care unit
CEA	Carcinoembryonic antigen
CF	Cystic fibrosis
CFN	Centimeters from nipple
CGA	Serum chromogranin A
CGL	Chronic granulocytic leukemia
CGY	Centigray
CHD	Congenital heart disease
CHEMO	Chemotherapy
CHF	Congestive heart failure
CHG	Change
CHR	Chronic
CIG	Cigarettes
CIN	Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
CIN III or CIN 3	Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia, grade III
CIS	Carcinoma in situ
CISH	Chromogenic in situ hybridization
CLL	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia
CLR	Clear
CM	Centimeter
CML	Chronic myeloid (myelocytic) leukemia
CNS	Central nervous system
CO60	Cobalt 60
COLD	Chronic obstructive lung disease
CONT	Continue/continuous
CONTRA	Contralateral
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology (codes)
CRC	Cyclic redundancy code
CRF	Chronic renal failure
CRM	Circumferential resection margin
CS	Collaborative stage
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
C-SF	Colony stimulating factor

C-SPINE	Cervical spine
CT	CAT/CT scan/Computerized axial tomography
CTC	Circulating tumor cells
CUC	Chronic ulcerative colitis
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident
CVD	Cardiovascular disease
CXR	Chest X-ray
CYSTO	Cystoscopy
CYTO	Cytology
D	
D&C	Dilatation and curettage
D/C	Discharge
D/T	Due to
DC	Discontinue(d)
DCIS	Ductal carcinoma in situ
DCO	Death Certificate Only
D-COLON	Descending colon
DDX	Differential diagnosis
DECR	Decrease(d)
DERM	Dermatology
DES	Diethylstilbestrol
DIAM	Diameter
DIC	Disseminated intravascular coagulopathy
DIFF	Differentiated/differential
DISCH	Discharge
DJD	Degenerative joint disease
DK	Don't/Doesn't know
DM	Diabetes mellitus
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DOA	Dead on arrival
DOB	Date of birth
DOD	Date of death
DOE	Dyspnea on exertion
DRE	Digital rectal examination

DTC	Disseminated tumor cells
DTR	Deep tendon reflex
DVT	Deep vein thrombosis
DX	Diagnosis
DZ	Disease
E	
E.G.	For example
E/O	Evidence of
EBRT	External beam radiotherapy
ECG/EKG	Electrocardiogram
ED	Emergency department
EEG	Electroencephalogram
EENT	Eye, ear, nose, throat
EGD	Esophagogastro-duodenoscopy
EGFR	Epidermal growth factor receptor
ELEV	Elevated
EMG	Electromyogram
ENL	Enlarged
ENLGD	Enlarged
ENT	Ears, nose, and throat
EOD	Extent of Disease
ER	Emergency room
ER(A)	Estrogen receptor (assay)
ERCP	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography
ESRD	End stage renal disease
ETOH	Alcohol
EUA	Exam under anesthesia
EV	Electron volt
EVAL	Evaluation
EXAM	Examination
EXC(D)	Excision/excised
EXP	Expired
EXP LAP	Exploratory laparotomy
EXPL	Exploratory

EXPL LAP	Exploratory laparotomy
EXT	Extend/extension
F	
FAP	Familial adenomatous polyposis
FCOT	First course of treatment
FHX	Family History
FISH	Fluorescence in situ hybridization
FL	Fluid
FLIPI	Follicular lymphoma international prognostic index
FLOW CYTO	Flow cytometry
FLURO	Fluoroscopy
FNA	Fine needle aspiration
FNAB	Fine needle aspiration biopsy
FOM	Floor of mouth
FREQ	Frequent/Frequency
FS	Frozen section
FTSG	Full thickness skin graft
FU	Follow-up
FUO	Fever of unknown origin
FX	Fracture
FX(S)	Fractions(s)
G	
GB	Gallbladder
GE	Gastroesophageal
GEN	General/Generalized
GERD	Gastroesophageal reflux disease
GI	Gastrointestinal
GIST	Gastrointestinal stromal tumors
GR	Grade
GU	Genitourinary
GY	Gray
GYN	Gynecology
H	
H&E	Hematoxylin and Eosin

H&P	History and physical
H/H	Hemoglobin and hematocrit
H/O	History of
HAV	Hepatitis A (virus)
HBV	Hepatitis B (virus)
HCG	Human chorionic gonadotropin
HCT	Hematocrit
HCV	Hepatitis C (virus)
HCVD	Hypertensive cardiovascular disease
HDR	High dose rate
HDV	Hepatitis D (virus)
HEM/ONC	Hematology/Oncology (ist)
HEP A	Hepatitis A (virus)
HEP B	Hepatitis B (virus)
HEP C	Hepatitis C (virus)
HEP D	Hepatitis D (virus)
HER2	Human epidermal growth factor receptor 2
HF	Hispanic female
HGB	Hemoglobin
HGSIL	High grade squamous intraepithelial lesion
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HM	Hispanic male
HORM	Hormone
HOSP	Hospital
HPI	History of present illness
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
HR(S)	Hour/Hours
HRT	Hormone replacement therapy
HSM	Hepatosplenomegaly
HTLV	Human T-Lymphotropic Virus, (Type III)
HTN	Hypertension
HVD	Hypertensive vascular disease
HX	History
HYST	Hysterectomy

I	
I&D	Incision & drainage
I-131	Iodine 131
IBD	Inflammatory bowel disease
ICB	Intracavitary brachytherapy
ICM	Intercostal margin
ICS	Intercostal space
ICU	Intensive care unit
IDC	Infiltrating/invasive ductal carcinoma
IDDM	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
IG	Immunoglobulin
IHC	Immunohistochemical
IHSS	Idiopathic hypertrophic subaortic stenosis
ILD	Interstitial lung disease
IM	Intramuscular
IMP	Impression
IMRT	Intensity modulated radiation therapy
INCL	Includes/Including
INCR	Increase(d)
INF	Inferior
INFIL	Infiltrating
INFILT	Infiltrating
INPT	Inpatient
INT	Internal
INV	Invade(s)/invading/invasion
INVL	Involve(s)/involvement/involving
IP	Inpatient
IPI	International prognostic index (for lymphoma)
IPPB	Intermittent positive pressure breathing
IPS	International prognostic score
IPSI	Ipsilateral
IRREG	Irregular
IT	Intrathecal
ITC	Isolated tumor cells

ITP	Idiopathic thrombocytopenia
IV	Intravenous
IVC	Inferior vena cava
IVCA	Intravenous cholangiogram
IVP	Intravenous pyelogram
J	
JAK2	Janus kinase 2
JRA	Juvenile rheumatic arthritis
JVD	Jugular venous distention
K	
KG	Kilogram
KS	Kaposi sarcoma
KUB	Kidneys, ureters, bladder
KV	Kilovolt
L	
L1-L5	Lumbar vertebra
LAB	Laboratory
LAD	Lymphadenopathy
LAN	Lymphadenopathy
LAP	Laparotomy
LAT	Lateral
LAV	Lymphadenopathy-associated virus
LB(S)	Pound(s)
LBBS	Left bundle branch block
LCIS	Lobular carcinoma in situ
LCM	Left costal margin
LDH	Lactic dehydrogenase
LDR	Low dose rate
LE	Lower extremity
LFT	Liver function test
LIN	Laryngeal intraepithelial neoplasia
LINAC	Linear accelerator
LIQ	Lower inner quadrant
LLE	Left lower extremity

LLL	Left lower lobe
LLQ	Left lower quadrant
LMP	Last menstrual period
LN(S)	Lymph node(s)
LND	Lymph node dissection
LOQ	Lower outer quadrant
LPN	Licensed practical nurse
LRG	Large
LS	Lumbosacral
LSO	Left salpingo-oophorectomy
L-SPINE	Lumbar spine
LS SCAN	Liver/spleen scan
LT	Left
LUE	Left upper extremity
LUL	Left upper lobe
LUOQ	Left upper outer quadrant
LUQ	Left upper quadrant
LVI	Lymph/vascular invasion / Lymphovascular invasion
M	
M/DIFF	Moderately differentiated
MAL	Malignant
MALIG	Malignant
MAMMO	Mammogram
MAND	Mandible/mandibular
MAT	Multifocal atrial tachycardia
MAX	Maximum
MC	Medical center
MC(H)	Millicurie (hours)
MCG	Microgram
MCID	Mixed combined immunodeficiency
M-CSF	Macrophage colony-stimulating factor
MCN	Mucinous cystic neoplasm
MCTD	Mixed connective tissue disease
MD	Moderately differentiated

MDS	Myelodysplastic syndrome
MED	Medication
MED ONC	Medical oncology (ist)
METS	Metastatic/Metastasis
MEV	Million electron volts
MG	Myasthenia gravis
MG(H)	Milligram (hours)
MGF	Maternal grandfather
MGM	Maternal grandmother
MGUS	Monoclonal gammopathy of uncertain significance
MI	Myocardial infarction
MIBB	Minimally invasive breast biopsy
MICRO	Microscopic
MIN	Minimum
MIN	Minute
MIS	Melanoma in situ
ML	Middle lobe
ML	Milliliter
MM	Millimeter
MMG	Mammogram
MO(S)	Months
MOD	Moderate(ly)
MOD DIFF	Moderately differentiated
MPVC	Multifocal premature ventricular contraction
MRCP	Magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
MRM	Modified radical mastectomy
MRSA	Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
MS	Multiple sclerosis
MSB	Main stem bronchus
MSI	Microsatellite instability
MULT	Multiple
MV	Megavolt
MVP	Mitral valve prolapse

N	
N&V	Nausea and vomiting
N/A	Not applicable
N/V	Nausea and vomiting
NA	Not applicable
NE	No evidence
NEC	Not elsewhere classified
NED	No evidence of disease
NEG	Negative
NEOPL	Neoplasm
NET	Neuroendocrine tumor
NEURO	Neurology
NH	Nursing home
NHL	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma
NIDDM	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NL	Normal
NML	Normal
NORM	Normal
NOS	Not otherwise specified
NR	Not recorded
NR	Not reportable
NSCCA	Non-small cell carcinoma
NSCLC	Non-small cell lung carcinoma
NSF	No significant findings
NVD	Neck vein distention
O	
OB	Obstetrics
OBS	Organic brain syndrome
OBST	Obstructed (-ing, -ion)
ONC	Oncology (ist)
OP	Outpatient
OP RPT	Operative report
OR	Operating room
ORTHO	Orthopedics

OTO	Otology
OUTPT	Outpatient
OZ	Ounce
P	
P/DIFF	Poorly differentiated
P32	Phosphorus 32
PAC	Premature atrial contraction
PALP	Palpated (-able)
PAP	Papanicolaou smear
PAP	Papillary
PATH	Pathology
PBSCT	Peripheral blood stem cell transplant
PCP	Primary care physician
PCV	Polycythemia vera
PD	Poorly differentiated
PE	Physical examination
PEDS	Pediatrics
PERC	Percutaneous
PET	Positron emission tomography
PGF	Paternal grandfather
PGM	Paternal grandmother
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
PIN III or PIN 3	Prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia, grade III
PLT	Platelets
PMH	Past/personal (medical) history
PMP	Primary medical physician
PNS	Peripheral nervous system
POOR DIFF	Poorly differentiated
POS	Positive
POSS	Possible
POST	Posterior
POST OP	Postoperative(-ly)
PPD	Packs per day
PR	Per rectum

PR(A)	Progesterone receptor (assay)
PRE-OP	Preoperative(-ly)
PREV	Previous
PROB	Probable (-ly)
PROCTO	Proctoscopy
PS	Performance status
PSA	Prostatic specific antigen
PT	Patient
PT	Physiotherapy/Physical therapy
PTA	Prior to admission
PTC	Percutaneous transhepatic cholecystogram
PTCC	Papillary transitional cell carcinoma
PUD	Peptic ulcer disease
PULM	Pulmonary
PVD	Peripheral vascular disease
P VERA	Polycythemia vera
PY	Pack years
Q	
Q	Every
QD	Every day
QUAD	Quadrant
R	
R/O	Rule out
RA	Rheumatoid arthritis
RAD	Radiation absorbed dose
RAD ONC	Radiation Oncology
RAEB	Refractory anemia with excess blasts
RAI	Radioactive iodine
RAIU	Radioactive iodine uptake
RAL	Robotic assisted laparoscopy
RARP	Robotic assisted radical prostatectomy
RBBB	Right bundle branch block
RBC	Red blood cells (count)
RCC	Renal cell carcinoma

RCM	Right costal margin
RCS	Reticulum cell sarcoma
RE	Regarding
REC	Recommend
REC'D	Received
REFRACT ANEM	Refractory anemia
REG	Regional
REG	Regular
RESEC	Resection (ed)
RHD	Rheumatic heart disease
RIA	Radioimmunoassay
RIQ	Right inner quadrant
RLE	Right lower extremity
RLL	Right lower lobe
RLQ	Right lower quadrant
RMC	Regional medical center
RML	Right middle lobe
ROF	Review of outside films
RONC	Radiation Oncology
ROQ	Right outer quadrant
ROS	Review of outside slides
RRP	Radical retropubic prostatectomy
RSO	Right salpingo-oophorectomy
RSR	Regular sinus rhythm
RT	Radiation therapy
RT	Right
RUE	Right upper extremity
RUL	Right upper lobe
RUQ	Right upper quadrant
RX	Prescription
RXT	Radiation therapy
S	
S/P	Status post
S1-S5	Sacral vertebra

SATIS	Satisfactory
SB	Small bowel
SCC	Squamous cell carcinoma
SCF	Supraclavicular fossa
SCID	Severe combined immunodeficiency syndrome
S-COLON	Sigmoid colon
SCT	Stem cell transplant
SCV	Supraclavicular
SGOT	Serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase
SGPT	Serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase
SH	Social history
SHX	Social history
SIADH	Syndrome of inappropriate ADH
SIG COLON	Sigmoid colon
SIL	Squamous intraepithelial lesion
SIN III or SIN 3	Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia
SLE	Systemic lupus erythematosus
SLL	Small lymphocytic lymphoma
SLN	Sentinel lymph node
SLNBX	Sentinel lymph node biopsy
SM	Small
SmCC	Small cell carcinoma
SO	Salpingo-oophorectomy
SOB	Short(ness) of breath
SPEC	Specimen
SPEP	Serum protein electrophoresis
SQ	Squamous
SS	Summary stage
SSF	Site Specific Factor
S-SPINE	Sacral spine
SSS	Sick sinus syndrome
STSG	Split thickness skin graft
SQCC	Squamous cell carcinoma
SUBCU	Subcutaneous

SUBQ	Subcutaneous
SUGG	Suggestive
SURG	Surgery/Surgical
SUSP	Suspicious/suspected
SVC	Superior vena cava
SX	Symptoms
T	
T1-T12	Thoracic vertebra
TAH	Total abdominal hysterectomy
TAH-BSO	Total abdominal hysterectomy- bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy
TB	Tuberculosis
TB	Tumor board
TCC	Transitional cell carcinoma
T-COLON	Transverse colon
TIA	Transient ischemic attack
TNM	Tumor, node, metastasis
TOB	Tobacco
TRANS-COLON	Transverse colon
TRUS	Transrectal ultrasound
TS	Tumor size
T-SPINE	Thoracic spine
TTP	Thrombotic thrombocytopenia purpura
TUR	Transurethral resection
TURB	Transurethral resection bladder
TURP	Transurethral resection prostate
TVC	True vocal cord
TVH	Total vaginal hysterectomy
TX	Treatment
U	
UE	Upper extremity
UGI	Upper gastrointestinal (series)
UIQ	Upper inner quadrant
UNDIFF	Undifferentiated

UNK	Unknown
UOQ	Upper outer quadrant
URI	Upper respiratory infection
US	Ultrasound
UTI	Urinary tract infection
V	
VAG	Vagina/Vaginal
VAG HYST	Vaginal hysterectomy
VAIN III or VAIN 3	Vaginal intraepithelial neoplasia (grade III)
VIN III or VIN 3	Vulvar intraepithelial neoplasia (grade III)
VGP	Vertical growth phase
VGR	Vertical growth rate
VS	Vital signs
W	
W/	With
W/DIFF	Well differentiated
W/F	White female
W/M	White male
W/O	Without
W/U	Work-up
WBC	White blood cells (count)
WD	Well differentiated
WELL DIFF	Well differentiated
WF	White female
WK(S)	Week(s)
WL	Weight loss
WM	White male
WNL	Within normal limits
WPW	Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome
WT	Weight
X	
XR	Xray
XRT	External radiation therapy
Y	

Y/O	Year old
YO	Year old
YR(S)	Year(s)
Z	



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