T – one
TT – two
TTT – three (and so on)
1° - Primary
2° - Secondary
  - Approximately
+ - positive / present
- - Negative / absent
↓ - Decrease/ Low
↑ - Increase/ High
Δ - Change
O-- - Male
O-- - female

- A -
AAA – Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
ABD – Abdomen/ abduct (move out)
ABN- abnormal; active bulimia nervosa;
ABX – Antibiotics
ABXR - Abdominal Xray
ACE- angiotensin converting enzyme
ACL- anterior cruciate ligament
AED – Automatic external defibrulator
ADD – attention deficit disorder
ADL – activities of daily living
ACLS – acute cardiac life support
ALS – acute life support
AMA – Against Medical Advice
AMI-acute myocardial infarction
ac-before meals
ad lib-as desired
adm-admission
Afib-atrial fibrillation
AFO-ankle-foot orthosis
AKA- above knee amputation
ALS-amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
Amt.-amount
Ant.- anterior
A/O- alert and oriented
AOB- alcohol on breath
AP – anterior-posterior
ARDS-adult respiratory distress syndrome
AROM-active range on motion
artificial rupture of membranes
ASAP-as soon as possible
ATN-acute tubular necrosis
A+W-alive and well
AXR – abdominal xray

- B -
BID-two a day
BAC-blood alcohol concentration
BCP-birth control pills
Bilat.-bilateral
Bili- bilirubin
BKA-below knee amputation
BLE-both lower extremities
BLS-basic life support
BM-bowel movement
BMI-body mass index
BMT-bowel movement
BN-bulimia nervosa
BOM-bilateral otitis media
BP – Blood pressure
BPH-benign prostatic hypertrophy
BR- bed rest
BRBPR-bright red blood per rectum
BS- blood sugar
  Bowel sounds
  Breath sounds
  Bronchial secretion
BS+ - bowel sounds active (positive)
BSO-bowel sounds active (positive)
BUQ- both upper quadrants
BX – Biopsy

- C -
C1-C7- cervical vertebrae
C&S- culture and sensitivity
c – with
CA - cancer
CABG- coronary artery bypass graft
CAD- coronary artery disease
Cal- calories
CAT- computerized axial tomography
Cath - catheterization
CBC – Complete Blood Count
CBD- common bile duct
cc- cubic centimeters
CC- chief complaint
CCU-coronary care unit
CHF- congestive heart failure
Chol- cholesterol
Cig – cigarettes / smoking
CK- creatinine kinase

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CN - cranial nerve
CNS – central nervous system
C/O – Complains of / Complaint
COPD- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Cor or card- cardiac/ heart/ cardiology
CP- cerebral palsy
   Chest pain
CPAP- continuous positive airway pressure
CPK - creatinine phosphokinase
CPR – cardiopulmonary respiration
Creat - creatinine
C/S - cesarean section
CSF- cerebrospinal fluid
CS – Cervical Spine / culture & sensitivity
CT – Computed tomography scan
CV – Cardiovascular / heart
CVA – cerebrovascular accident / stroke
CVD – cardiovascular disease
CX – culture / cervical xray
CXR – chest xray

  - D -

D&C- dilation and curettage
D&V- diarrhea and vomiting
D5W- 5% dextrose and sterile water
D/c – Discontinue / Discharge
DH- drug history
DJD- degenerative joint disease
Diff – differential / differential diagnosis
DM – diabetes mellitus
   Diastolic murmur
DNKA- did not keep appointment
DNR- do not resuscitate
DOA- dead on arrival
DOB- date of birth
DOE- dyspnea on exertion
DRE- digital rectal examination
Dsg- dressing
DTR- deep tendon relexes
DT’s- delirium tremens
DUB0 dysfunctional uterine bleeding
DUI- driving under influence
DR– Doctor / delivery room
dx – Diagnosis

  - E -

EBL- estimated blood loss
ECF- extended care facility
ECG (or EKG) – electrocardiogram (heart)
ED – emergency dept.
EDC- estimated date of confinement

  - F -

EDC- estimated date of confinement
EEG – electroencephalogram (brain)
EMG - electromyogram/ electromyography
EMS- emergency medical service
ENT- ear, nose and throat
EOM- extraocular movement
ERCP- endoscopic retrograde Cholangiopancreatography
ESRD- end-stage renal disease

  - G -

ESR- estimated blood loss
ET- emergency transfer
ETH- alcohol / alcoholic
ER – emergency room
FBS- fasting blood sugar
FFP- fresh frozen plasma
FH- family history

  - H -

FHR- fetal heart rate
FOB- fecal occult blood
FOS- full of stool/ constipated
From – Full range of motion
FT- full term
FTT- failure to thrive
FX - fracture
F/u – Follow up

  - I -

G Tube- gastrosomy tube
GA- general anesthesia
GB- gall bladder
GCS- Glasgow Coma Scale
GERD- gastroesophageal reflux disease
GFR- glomerulo filtration rate
GI- gastrointestinal
Gm-gram

  - J -

GSW- Gunshot wound
Gtt- drops
GU0 genitourinary
GYN- gynecology

  - K -

H/A – Headache
H2O- water
HA or H/A- headache
Hb. Or Hgb- hemoglobin
HBP- high blood pressure
Hct- hematocrit
HD0 hemodialysis
Hemodynamically
HDL- high density lipproteins (cholesterol)
HEENT – head, eyes, ears, nose & throat

  - L -

”RUANE ATTORNEYS MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS CHART” © RUANE ATTORNEYS 2010
Hem- Hematology
Hep. Lock- heparin lock
Hgb- hemoglobin
HIDa- hepatobiliary (scan)
h.o- history of
H.O.- house officer
HOB- head of bed
HOH- heard of hearing
HPI- history of present illness
HRT- hormone replacement therapy
HS or h.s.- at bedtime
HSV- herpes simplex virus
Ht- height
H/H – Hemoglobin & Hematocrit
H & P – History and Physical
HR – heart rate
Htn.- Hypertension
hx – History

- I -

I&D- incision and drainage
I&O- intake and output
ICP- intracranial pressure
ICU- intensive care unit
ID- Infectious Disease
IDDM- insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, type 1
IM- intramuscular or into the muscle
Imp.- impression
Inj.- injection
Injured
IOC- Intern on call
Irref- irrefular
IUD- intrauterine devise
IUFD- intrauterine fetal death
IUFD- intrauterine fetal death
IUP- intrauterine pregnancy
IV- intravenous
IVP- intravenous pyelogram

- J -

J Tube- jejunostomy tube
J-P- Jackson Pratt drain
JVD- jugular venous distention

- K -

K+ - potassium
KCL- potassium chloride
Kg- kilogram
KVO- keep vein open

L – left
L2, L3- lumbar vertebrae
L&W- living and well
L&D- labor and delivery
Lac.- laveration
LAD- left anterior descending (coronary artery)
lap- laparotomy
Lat – lateral
Lb.- pound
LBP- lower back pain
LCA- left coronary artery
LDL- low density lipoprotein (cholesterol)
LE – Lower Extremity
LFT- liver function tests
LL- lower left extremity
LLQ- lower left quadrant (abdomen)
l/min- liter per minute
LMP- last menstrual period
LNMP- last normal menstrual period
LOC- loss of consciousness
Level of consciousness
LOS- length of stay
LP- lumbar puncture
Light perception
LPN- licensed practical nurse
LS – Lumbar Spine / Lumbar Sacral
LUE- left upper extremity
LUQ- left upper quadrant

- M -

MAP- mean arterial pressure
Max- maximuM
ME- Medical examiner
med – Medical / Medication / medial
mEq- millequivalent
Mets- metastasis
MGF- maternal grandfather
MI – myocardial infarction / heart attack
MICU- medical intensive car unit
MOM- milk of magnesi
MRA- magnetic resonance angiography
MRCP- magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography
MRI – Magnetic resonance imaging scan
MRSA- methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus
MS- morphine sulfate
MVA- motor vehicle accident
MVP- mitral valve prolapse
MVR- mitral valve replacement
N&V - nausea & vomiting  
Na - sodium  
NaCl - sodium chloride  
NAD - no apparent distress  
Neg - negative  
NG - nasogastric  
NGT - nasogastric tube  
NICU - neonatal intensive care unit  
NIDDM - non insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, type II  
NKA - no known allergies  
NOS - not otherwise specified  
NP - nurse practitioner  
NPO - nothing by mouth  
NSAID - non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug  
Nsg - nursing  
NSR - normal sinus rhythm  
NSVD - normal spontaneous vaginal delivery  
NTG - nitroglycerin  
NWB - non-weight bearing  
NL - Normal  
NS - normal saline / non specific  
NT - nontender  
NVD - nausea, vomiting, diarrhea  

- O -

O2 - oxygen  
O2 sat. - oxygen saturation  
OB - obstetrical  
OB/GYN - obstetrics and gynecology  
Obs - observation  
OBS - organic brain syndrome  
OC - on call  
     Oral contraceptive  
OCID - obsessive-compulsive disorder  
OCN - on call note  
OD - right eye  
O/D - overdose  
Oint - ointment  
O.M. - otitis media  
OOB - out of bed  
OR - operating room  
ORIF - open reduction with internal fixation  
OS - left eye  
OT - occupational therapy  
OTC - over-the-counter (pharmaceuticals)  
OV - office visit  
OU - both eyes  
OW - once per week  

- P -

p - after  
P- Pulse  
PACU - post anesthesia care unit  
Pop= papanicolaou test (pap smear)  
PAT - pre admission testing  
PA view - posterioranterior view on x-ray  
PCA - patient controlled anesthesia pump  
PD - peritoneal dialysis  
Ped - pediatric  
PEEP - positive and expiratory pressure  
Per os- by mouth  
PET Scan - positron emission tomography  
PFT - pulmonary function test  
ph - symbol for expression of concentration of hydrogen ions (degree of acidity)  
PH - past history  
     Pulmonary hypertension  
PI - present illness  
PICC Line - peripherally inserted central catheter for delivery of medication into the bloodstream.  
PID - pelvic inflammatory disease  
PMD - private medical doctor. Primary medical doctor  
Post-op - postoperative  
p.r.- per rectum  
PRBC - packed red blood cells  
Preop - preoperative  
PA - physician assistant / Posterior-anterior / pulmonary artery  
Pe- Physical exam / pulmonary embolus  
PEA - pulseless electric activity (of the heart)  
PERRLA - pupils equal, round, react to light and accommodate  
PPD - permanent partial disability  
PRN - As necessary / as needed  
PROM - passive range of motion premature rupture of membranes  
PSA - prostate-specific antigen  
PST - pre-surgical testing  
PT - physical therapy  
     Prothrombin time  
Pt - patient / client / physical therapy  
PTA - prior to admission  
PTCA - percutaneous transluminal coronary, angioplasty (balloon angioplasty)  
PTT - partial thromboplastin time  
PVC - premature ventricular contraction  
PWB - partial weight bearing  
PUL (or PULM) - pulmonary / lungs / respirations  
PVD - peripheral vascular disease
**Q**
- q- each, every (quaque)
- qd- every day (quaque die)
- qh- every hour (quaque hora)
- QD – every day
- q.n.s-quantity not sufficient
- qid- four times daily
- qs- sufficient quantity (quantum sufficiat)
- q2h, q3h, etc- every two hours, every 3 hours, etc.
- QS – every shift / sufficient
- QHS – before bed
- QID – four times per day
- QOD – every other day

**R**
- Rt – right
- R- respirations
- RBC- red blood cells
- RCA- right coronary artery
- FDS- respiratory distress syndrome
- Reg.- regular
- RLE- right lower extremity
- RLL- right lower lobe (lung)
- RLQ- right lower quadrant (abdomen)
- ROS- review of systems
- R/R- recovery rate
- RR- recovery room
- RSD- reflex sympathetic dystrophy
- RSR- regular sinus rhythm
- RTO- return to office
- RUE- right upper extremity
- RUL- right upper extremity
- RUL- right upper lobe (lung)
- RUQ- right upper quadrant (abdomen)
- Rays – radiology / radiology report / radiologist
- Resp – respirations / respiratory /
- RN - nurse
- R/O – Rule Out
- Rom – Range of motion
- RRR – regular rate and rhythm
- RTC (or RTO) – return to clinic (or Return to office or to hospital)
- Rx – Prescription / medication / treatment

**S**
- s - without
- SBO- small bowel obstruction
- s.c.-subcutaneous
- SCA- subclavian artery
- SDA- same day admission
- SDH- subdural hematoma
- SG- specific gravity
- SH- social history
- SICU- surgical intensive care unit
- SL- under the tongue
- SLR- straight leg raising
- Sm-small
- SNF- skilled nursing facility
- S.O.A.P-subjective objective assessment plan
- Sp gr- specific gravity
- SROM- spontaneous rupture of membranes
- Staph- staphylococcal, staphylococcus
- Stat- immediately (statim)
- STD- sexually transmitted disease
- Strep- streptococcus
- SVC- superior vena cava
- Sob – Short of breath
- SP – Status Post (after)
- SS – sign & symptoms
- SX – social history / symptoms

**T**
- T – temperature
- Tab- tablet
- TAH- total abdominal hysterectomy
- T&A- tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
- TBO- traumatic brain injury
- Tbsp- tablespoon
- TCDB- turn, cough, deep breathe
- TEE- transesophageal echocardiography
- TKR- total knee replacement/revision
- TLC- triple lumen catheter
- TO- telephone order
- TPN- total parenteral nutrition
- TPR- temperature, pulse, respirations
- Tsp- teaspoon
- TID – three times per day
- TS – Thoracic Spine
- Tx – Treat / Treatment
UA - Urinalysis
UE – Upper Extremity
UGI- upper gastrointestinal
ULQ- upper left quadrant
Umb.-navel/ umbilical cord
UOP- urine output
URI- upper respiratory infection
URQ- upper right quadrant
UTI- urinary tract infection
U/S – Ultrasound

VA- visual activity
VF- ventricular fibrillation
VO- verbal order
Vol- volume
Vs- against or versus
VSD- ventricular septal defect
VASC – Vascular
VS – vital signs
VSS – Vital signs stable

w/- with
WB- weight bearing
WBT- weight bearing to tolerance
W/C- wheel chair
w/o- without
wt- weight
w/u- workup
WBC – white blood count
WNL – Within normal

XR- x-ray
x-match- cross match

yr- year
YO – year old