

ARTICLE 14 APPROVED STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

When completing any type of medical documentation, or other official departmental or county form or documentation, only the following list of abbreviations are to be used. No other abbreviations or short hand notations are acceptable unless specifically stated in this or another article.

The standard notation for a Forsyth County Fire Department or Rescue Squad is to refer to them by station number for example Forsyth Rescue Squad is Sta.7. Vehicles are referred to as follows:

- Engines for fire trucks and abbreviated E-unit number.
- Aerials for all types of ladder trucks, elevating platforms, etc. and abbreviated A-unit number.
- Rescue vehicles are referred to as rescue squad and are abbreviated as R-unit number.
- Medic units are abbreviated as M-unit number.
- Ambulances are referred to as unit XX where XX is the unit number.
- The Supervisor's unit is referred to as S-1, the Director's vehicle is C-1, the Operations Officer's vehicle is C-2, the Administrative Officer's vehicle is C-3, and the Training Officer's vehicle is T-1.
- References to other vehicle types are not abbreviated.

Note: The most commonly used abbreviations are in bold face type.

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|--|------------------------|
| Abdomen | abd |
| Abortion | ab |
| Above-Knee Amputation | AKA |
| Accelerated Idioventricular Rhythm | AIVR |
| Acquired Immunodeficiency Disease Syndrome | AIDS |
| Acute Miocardial Infarction | AMI |
| Acute Renal Failure | ARF |
| Admission | Adm |
| Adenosin | AND |
| Adrenalin | ADR |
| Advanced Burn Life Support | ABLS |
| Advanced Cardiac Life Support | ACLS |
| Aerial | A - unit number |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|---|-----------------------|
| After | p |
| Afternoon | pm |
| After surgery | post-op |
| Against Medical Advice | AMA |
| Alabama | AL |
| Alaska | AK |
| Alert, Oriented: (to person, place, time, and situation) | A/O x 4(3,2,1) |
| Ambulance | AMB |
| Ambulatory | Amb |
| Amount | Amt |
| Animal Control Officer | ACO |
| Anterior | Ant |
| Anterior-Posterior | A-P |
| Anterior-Posterior and Lateral | A-P & Lat |
| Aortic Stenosis | AS |
| Aortic Valve Replacement | AVR |
| Apnea and Bradycardia | A/B |
| Approximate | Approx (~) |
| Arizona | AZ |
| Arkansas | AR |
| Arrived to Find | ATF |
| Arrived On-scene | AOS |
| Arterial Blood Gas | ABG |
| Arterial | A |
| Arteriovenous | AV |
| As often as necessary | Prn |
| Aspirin | ASA |
| As Soon As Possible | ASAP |
| Asymmetrical | Asym |
| At night | noct, noctis |
| At once | Stat |
| Atrial fibrillation | Afib |
| Atrial Flutter | AF |
| Atrial Tachycardia | AT |
| Atropine | ATR |
| Auscultation | Aus |
| Automatic External Defibrillator | AED |
| Automatic Implantable Cardioverter/Defibrillator | AICD |
| Average | Avg |
| Axillary | Ax |
| Bag-Valve-Mask | BVM |
| Balance | Bal |
| Basic Trauma Life Support | BTLS |
| Bathroom | BR |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Before | A |
| Before Meals | Ac |
| Below-Knee Amputation | BKA |
| Benadryl | Ben |
| Blind Insertion Airway Device | BIAD |
| Bilateral | Bilat |
| Bilateral Breath Sounds | BBS |
| Black Female | BF |
| Black Male | BM |
| Blood | Bl |
| Blood Pressure | BP |
| Blood Sugar | B/S |
| Body Surface Area | BSA |
| Body weight | body wt |
| Both eyes | OU |
| Bowel Movement | Bm |
| Bowel sounds | Bs |
| Breath Sounds | BS |
| Bretylium | Bret |
| Bronkosol | Bronk |
| Bundle Branch Block | BBB |
| By mouth | Po |
| Calcium Chloride | CaCl |
| California | CA |
| Cancer | CA |
| Capsules | Caps |
| Captain | Cpt. <u>CPT</u> |
| Carbon Dioxide | CO ₂ |
| Carbon Monoxide | CO |
| Cardiac Care Unit | CCU |
| Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation | CPR |
| Cardiovascular Disease | CVD |
| Carotid Sinus Massage | CSM |
| Catheter, Catheterization | Cath |
| Centimeter | Cm |
| Central Nervous System | CNS |
| Cerebrospinal Fluid | CSF |
| Cerebrovascular Accident | CVA |
| Cervical Spine | C-Spine |
| Cervical Collar | CCLR |
| Cesarean Section | C-sect or C/S |
| Champion Trauma Score | CTS |
| Chemotherapy | Chemo |
| Chest Pain | CP |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Chest X-Ray | CXR |
| Chief Complaint | CC or C/C |
| Chronic | Chr |
| Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease | COPD |
| Chronic Renal Failure | CRF |
| Circumference | Circum |
| Closed Head Injury | CHI |
| Colonel | COL |
| Colorado | CO |
| Complaint/ concern of | c/o |
| Complete Blood Count | CBC |
| Compound | Cpd |
| Congestive Heart Failure | CHF |
| Connecticut | CT |
| Continue | Cont |
| Contractions | Ctx |
| Cooperative | Coop |
| Coronary Artery Disease | CAD |
| Coronary Care Unit | CCU |
| Corporal | CPL |
| Cubic centimeter | cc or cm³ |
| Date Of Birth | DOB |
| Dead On Arrival | DOA |
| Decubitus | Decub |
| Delaware | DE |
| Delivery | Del |
| Demand Valve | DV |
| Demonstrate | Demo |
| Department Of Clinics | DOC |
| Dependent | D |
| Dextrose in Water | D/W |
| Dextrose 5% in Water | D₅W |
| Dextrose 50% | D₅₀ |
| Diabetes Insipidous | DI |
| Diabetes Mellitus | Dm |
| Diagnosis | Dx |
| Diameter | Dia |
| Diastolic Blood Pressure | DBP |
| Dilatation and Curettage | D&C |
| Dilute | Dil |
| Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis | DTP |
| Direct | Dir |
| Discharge | Disch |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|---|-----------------------|
| Discontinue | D/C |
| Disposition | Dispo |
| Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation | DIC |
| Dorsal Spine | D-Spine |
| Dorsalis Pedis | DP |
| District of Columbia | DC |
| Dozen | Dz |
| Dressing | Dsg |
| Drop | Gtt |
| Dyspnea On Exertion | DOE |
| Ear, Nose, and Throat | ENT |
| Electrocardiogram | ECG |
| Electroencephalogram | EEG |
| Electrophysiological | EP |
| Emergency Medical Service | EMS |
| Emergency Medical Technician; basic | EMT |
| Emergency Medical Technician; Defibrillation | EMT-D |
| Emergency Medical Technician; Intermediate | EMT-I |
| Emergency Medical Technician; Paramedic | EMT-P |
| Emergency Medicine | EM |
| Emergency Room/Department | ER / ED |
| End-Stage Renal Failure | ESRF |
| Endotracheal Tube | ET or ETT |
| Enema | E or en |
| Engine Company (fire truck) | E- unit number |
| Epinephrine | Epi |
| Epithelium | epith |
| Equipment | equip |
| Equilavent | eq |
| Ethyl Alcohol | ETOH |
| Etiology | etiol |
| Evaluate | eval |
| Every | q |
| Every date | qd |
| Every hour | qh |
| Every 2 hours | q 2h |
| Every 3 hours | q 3h |
| Every 4 hours | q 4h |
| Every other day | qod |
| Every night | q.n. |
| Examination | exam |
| Except | x |
| Examination | exam |
| Except | x |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|---|----------------------|
| Expiratory | expir |
| Expired | exp |
| External | Ext |
| External Auditory Canal | EAC |
| External Carotid Artery | ECA |
| External Jugular | EJ |
| Extraocular Movements | EOM |
| Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat | EENT |
| Face Shield | FS |
| Fahrenheit | F^o |
| Family History | FH |
| Federal Bureau of Investigation | FBI |
| Female | f |
| Fibrillation | fib |
| Fire Department | FD |
| Florida | FL |
| Fluid | fl |
| Foot/feet | ft |
| Foreign Body | FB |
| Foreign Body Object | FBO |
| Forsyth County | FC |
| Forsyth County Animal Control | FCAC |
| Forsyth County Emergency Medical Service | FCEMS |
| Forsyth County Fire Department | FCFD |
| Forsyth Medical Center | FMC |
| Forsyth Memorial Hospital | FMH |
| Forsyth County Sheriff Department | FCSO |
| Four times a day | qid |
| Fraction of Inspired Oxygen | FIO ₂ |
| Fracture | Fx |
| Frequency | freq |
| Gallbladder | GB |
| Gallop | G |
| Gastrointestinal | GI |
| Gastrostomy Tube | GT |
| General or generalized | gen |
| Genitourinary | GU |
| Georgia | GA |
| Glasgow Coma Scale | GCS |
| Glucose | glu |
| Gonorrhea/Gonococcus | GC |
| Gram | g or gm |
| Gunshot Wound | GSW |
| Gynecology | GYN |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|--|---------------------|
| Half | ee |
| Hand Held Nebulizer | HHN |
| Hawaii | HI |
| Hazardous Materials | Haz-Mat |
| Headache | HA |
| Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat | HEENT |
| Head Bed | HB |
| Head Immobilizer | HI |
| Head of Bed | HOB |
| Height | ht |
| High Volume IV | HVIV |
| History | Hx |
| Hour(s) | hr |
| Hour of sleep | hs |
| Human Immunodeficiency Virus | HIV |
| Hypertension | HTN |
| Hypertensive Cardiovascular Disease | HCVD |
| Hysterectomy | hys |
| Idaho | ID |
| Illinois | IL |
| Independent | I |
| Immediately | STAT |
| Impressions | Imp |
| Inch | in |
| Indiana | IN |
| Infection | infec |
| Inferior | inf |
| Infectious Disease Service | IDS |
| Inguinal | ing |
| Injury | inj |
| Inspiration | inspir |
| Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus | IDDM |
| Intensive Care Nursery | ICN |
| Intensive Care Unit | ICU |
| Intermittent Positive Pressure | IPP |
| Internal | int |
| Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump | IABP |
| Intracranial Pressure | ICP |
| Intramuscular | IM |
| Intraosseus | IO |
| Intrauterine Device | IUD |
| Intravenous | IV |
| Iowa | IO |
| Irregular | irreg |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|--|---------------------------|
| Irrigation | irrig |
| Joint | jt |
| Jugular Vein Distention | JVD |
| Junctional Rhythm | JR |
| Junctional Tachycardia | JT |
| Kansas | KS |
| Keep Vein Open | KVO |
| Kentucky | KY |
| Kernersville Fire Department | KFD |
| Kernersville Police Department | KPD |
| Kilogram(s) | kg |
| King Police Department | King PD |
| Kilometer | km |
| Laboratory | lab |
| Labor & Delivery | L&D |
| Laceration | lac |
| Lactated Ringer | LR |
| Last Menstrual Period | LMP |
| Lateral | lat |
| Law Enforcement | law enf. or LE |
| Leave of Absence | LOA |
| Left | L |
| Left eye | o.s. |
| Left Lower Lobe (Lung) | LLL |
| Left Lower Quadrant | LLQ |
| Level of Consciousness | LOC |
| Licensed Practical Nurse | LPN |
| Lieutenant | LT |
| Lieutenant Colonel | LTC |
| Physio-Control Life Pack 5/10/11/12 | LP5/LP10/LP11/LP12 |
| Limitation of Movement | LOM |
| Liquid | Liq |
| Liter | l |
| Local Medical Doctor | LMD |
| Long Spine Board | LSB |
| Loss of conciousness | loc |
| Louisiana | LA |
| Lumbar-Sacral spine | L-S spine |
| Major | MAJ |
| Maine | ME |
| Maryland | MD |
| Massachusetts | MS |
| Maximum | max |
| Mean Arterial Pressure | MAP |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Measure | meas |
| Mechanical CPR | MCPR |
| Mechanism of Injury | MOI |
| Medic Unit | M- unit number |
| Medical Control Officer | MCO |
| Medical Doctor | MD |
| Medical Park Hospital | MPH |
| Medicine | Med |
| Menstrual | menst |
| Meter | M |
| Michigan | MI |
| Microgram(s) | mcg |
| Middle | mid |
| Miles per hour | mph |
| Military Anti Shock Trousers | MAST |
| Milk of Magnesia | MOM |
| Milliequivalent | mEq |
| Milliequivalent per liter | mEq/l |
| Milligram | mg |
| Millileter | ml |
| Millimeter | mm |
| Milliosmole | mOsm |
| Miocardial Infarction | MI |
| Minnesota | MN |
| Minute(s) | min |
| Miscellaneous | misc |
| Mississippi | MS |
| Missouri | MO |
| Mitral Valve Replacement | MVR |
| Mixture | Mix |
| Mobile Intensive Care Unit | MICU |
| Mobile Oxygen Carrier | MOC |
| Montana | MT |
| Morning | am |
| Morphine Sulfate | MS or MSO₄ |
| Movement of Extremities | MOE |
| Motor Vehicle Accident | MVA |
| Murmur | m |
| Muscle | musc |
| Multiple Sclerosis | MS |
| Myocardial Infarction | MI |
| Nasal Cannula | NC |
| Nasotracheal | NT |
| Nasotracheal Airway | NTA |

| Meaning | Abbreviation |
|--|------------------------------|
| Nausea and Vomiting | N/V |
| Nebraska | NE |
| Nebulizer | Neb |
| Neck Vein Distention | NVD |
| Negative | neg (-) |
| Negative log of H ⁺ ion concentration | pH |
| Neonatal Intensive Care Unit | NICU |
| Neurologic, Neurology | Neuro |
| Nevada | NV |
| New Hampshire | NH |
| New Jersey | NJ |
| New Mexico | NM |
| New York | NY |
| Nitroglycerin | NTG |
| No Apparent Distress | NAD |
| No Known Allergies | NKA |
| No Known Drug Allergies | NKDA |
| Non Rebreather Mask | NRM |
| Normal | nl |
| Normal Sinus Rhythm | NSR |
| Normal Saline | NS |
| North Carolina | NC |
| North Carolina Baptist Hospital | NCBH |
| North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services | NCOEMS - may use OEMS |
| North Carolina State Highway Patrol | NCSHP - may use SHP |
| North Dakota | ND |
| Not Applicable | N/A |
| Nothing by Mouth | NPO |
| Number of births | para |
| Number of pregnancies | grav |
| Nursing | nsg |
| Oblique | Obl |
| Obstetrics | OB |
| Occasional | occas |
| Of each | AA |
| Ohio | OH |
| Oklahoma | OK |
| Operating room | OR |
| Oregon | OR |
| Orogastric | OG |
| Oropharyngeal Airway | OPA |
| Orthopedics | Ortho |
| Ounce | oz |
| Overdose | OD |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|--|----------------------|
| Over The Counter | OTC |
| Oxygen | O₂ |
| Oxygen Tension Arterial Blood | pAO ₂ |
| Paraxysmal Atrial Tachycardia | PAT |
| Paraxysmal Nocturnal Dyspnea | PND |
| Paraxysmal Supraventricular Tachycardia | PSVT |
| Paraxysmal Ventricular Tachycardia | PVT |
| Past Medical History | PMH |
| Patient | pt |
| Patient Controlled Analgesia | PCA |
| Pediatric | ped |
| Pediatric Advanced Life Support | PALS |
| Pediatric Intensive Care Unit | PICU |
| Pelvic Inflammatory Disease | PID |
| Pennsylvania | PA |
| Peptic Ulcer Disease | PUD |
| Percussion and Auscultation | P&A |
| Peripheral Vascular Disease | PVD |
| Physical | phys |
| Physical Examination | PE |
| Physical Therapy | PT |
| Physician Assistant | PA |
| Piedmont Dialysis Center | PDC |
| Pneumatic Anti-Shock Garment | PASG |
| Piont of Maximum Impulse | PMI |
| Positive | pos (+) |
| Positive End Expiratory Pressure | PEEP |
| Posterior | post |
| Posterior-Anterior | P-A |
| Postoperative | post-op |
| Pound | lb |
| Pregnant | preg or grav |
| Prehospital Trauma Life Support | PHTLS |
| Premature Atrial Contractions | PAC |
| Premature Junctional Contractions | PJC |
| Premature Ventricular Contractions | PVC |
| Prepare | prep |
| Prescription | Rx |
| Primigravida, secundigravida, etc. | G1, G2, etc. |
| Primiparaous, secuniparaous, etc. | P1, P2, etc. |
| Prior to our arrival | poa |
| Psychiatry | psych |
| Puerto Rico | PR |
| Pulmonary | pul |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|---|--|
| Pulse | P |
| Pulse Oximetry | SAO ₂ |
| Pupils Equal, Round, Reactive to Light | PERRL |
| Quadrant | quad |
| Qualitative | qual |
| Quantitative | quant |
| Range Of Motion | ROM |
| Red Blood Cell | RBC |
| Regarding | Re: |
| Registered Nurse | RN |
| Rehabilitation | rehab |
| Respiration | resp |
| Respiratory Rate | RR |
| Rescue unit (vehicle) | R- X (where X is the unit number) |
| Retrograde | retro |
| Rhode Island | RI |
| Right | R |
| Right eye | OD |
| Right Lower Extremity | RLE |
| Right Lower Lobe | RLL |
| Right Lower Quadrant | RLQ |
| Right Upper Extremity | RUE |
| Right Upper Lobe | RUL |
| Right Upper Quadrant | RUQ |
| Room | rm |
| Rule Out | R/O |
| Scoop stretcher | scoop |
| Second | sec |
| Secondary | 2^o |
| Section | sect |
| Segment | seg |
| Sergeant | SGT |
| Short Of Breath | SOB |
| Short Spine Board | SSB |
| Sign and Symptoms | S&S |
| Sinus Bradycardia | SB |
| Sinus Rhythm | SR |
| Sinus Tachycardia | ST |
| Sodium Bicarbonate | NaHCO₃ |
| Solution | Soln |
| South Carolina | SC |
| South Dakota | SD |
| Spinal Fluid | SF |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Spontaneous | spont |
| Square | sq |
| Square centimeter | cm ² |
| State Bureau of Investigation | SBI |
| Station | Sta. |
| Subcutaneous | SQ |
| Superior | sup |
| Supraventricular Tachycardia | SVT |
| Sugery | su |
| Symmetrical | sym |
| Symptom | sx |
| Syrup | syr |
| Syrup Of Ipecac | SOI |
| Systolic Blood Pressure | SBP |
| Tablespoon | tbsp |
| Tablet | tab |
| Technique | tech |
| Temperature | temp |
| Temperature, Pulse, and Respiration | TPR |
| Temperomandibular | TM |
| Teminal | term |
| Tennessee | TN |
| Texas | TX |
| Therapy | Tx |
| Thoracic | thor |
| Three times a day | tid |
| Thumper CPR | TCPR |
| Tolerance | tol |
| Trachea | trach |
| Traction Spint | TS |
| Transient Ischemic Attack | TIA |
| Transport | x-port or TRx |
| Treatment | Tx |
| Tuberculosis | TB |
| Twice a day | bid |
| Unable to Locate | UL |
| Uncooperative | uncoop |
| Unifocal PVC | UPVC |
| Upper Respiratory Infection | URI |
| Urinary Tract Infection | UTI |
| Utah | UT |
| Vagina | vag |
| Vascular | vasc |
| Venereal Disease | VD |

| <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Abbreviation</i> |
|---|---|
| Ventricular Fibrillation | VF |
| Ventricular Tachycardia | VT |
| Verbal order | vo |
| Vermont | VT |
| Versus | vs |
| Veterans Administration | V.A. |
| Virgin Islands | VI |
| Virginia | VA |
| Vision | vis |
| Visual Acuity | VA |
| Vital Signs | V/S |
| Vital Signs Stable | VSS |
| Vitamin | vit |
| Volume | vol |
| Volunteer Fire Department | VFD |
| Washington | WA |
| Water | H₂O |
| Week | wk |
| West Virginia | WV |
| Weight | wt |
| WFBMC | Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center |
| Wheelchair | W/C |
| White Blood Cell | WBC |
| White Female | WF |
| White Male | WM |
| With | c |
| Without | s |
| Winston-Salem | W-S |
| Winston-Salem Fire Department | WSFD |
| Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools | WSFCS |
| Winston-Salem Police Department | WSPD |
| Wisconsin | WI |
| Wyoming | WY |
| Year | yr |
| Year old | y/o |

SYMBOLS

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| And | & |
| At | @ |
| Change | Δ |
| Decrease | \downarrow |
| Degree | $^{\circ}$ |
| Equals | = |
| Female | E |
| Greater than | > |
| Increase | \uparrow |
| Less than | < |
| Male | Γ |
| None, Not, No | o |
| Not equal to | \neq |
| Number | # |
| Parallel | // |
| Per | / |
| Percent | % |
| Perpendicular | \perp |
| Question | ? |
| Times | X |