**COMMONLY USED MEDICAL ACRONYMS**

**AAA: Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm**

**ABG: Arterial Blood Gas**

**ACE: Angiotensin Converting Enzyme; ACE-Inhibitor**

**ACL: Anterior Cruciate Ligament**

**ADL: Activities of Daily Living**

**AFib: Atrial Fibrillation**

**A Flutter: Atrial Flutter**

**AKA: Above Knee Amputation**

**ARDS: Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome**

**ARF: Acute Renal Failure**

**ASCUS: Atypical Squamous Cells of Unknown Significance( pap smear result)**

**ASD: Atrial Septal Defect**

**ATN: Acute Tubular Necrosis**

**AVB: Atrio-Ventricular Block**

**BKA: Below Knee Amputation**

**BAC: Blood Alcohol Content**

**BMI: Body Mass Index**

**CABG: Coronary Artery Bypass Graft**

**CAD: Coronary Artery Disease**

**CHF: Congestive Heart Failure**

**CIN: Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasm**

**COPD: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease**

**CPAP: Continuous Positive Airway Pressure**

**CKD: Chronic Kidney Disease**

**CSF: Cerebrospinal Fluid**

**CVA: Cerebrovascular Accident**

**CVAT: Costovertebral Angle Tenderness**

**CVP: Central Venous Pressure**

**CXR: Chest Xray**

**DIC: Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation**

**DKA: Diabetic Ketoacidosis**

**DM: Diabetes Mellitus**

**DNR: Do Not Resuscitate**

**DTR: Deep Tendon Reflex**

**DVT: Deep Vein Thrombosis**

**DX: Diagnosis**

**ECG/EKG: Electrocardiogram**

**EMT: Emergency Medicine Technician**

**EMG: Electromyogram**

**ERCP: Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography**

**ESRD: End Stage Renal Disease (renal failure)**

**FBS: Fasting Blood Sugar**

**FHR: Fetal Heart Rate**

**FHT: Fetal Heart Tones**

**FX: Fracture**

**GDM: Gestational Diabetes Mellitus**

**GERD: Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease**

**GFR: Glomerular Filtration Rate**

**GI: Gastrointestinal**

**GU: Genitourinary**

**Hgb: Hemoglobin**

**HbA1c: Hemoglobin A1c**

**Hct: Hematocrit**

**H/H: Hemoglobin/Hematocrit**

**HCG: Human Chorionic Gonadotropin**

**HEENT: Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat**

**HPV: Human Papilloma Virus**

**HR: Heart Rate**

**HRT: Hormone Replacement Therapy**

**HTN: Hypertension**

**Hx: History**

**IABP: Intra-aortic Balloon Pump**

**IADLs: Instrumental Activities of Daily Living**

**IBS: Irritable Bowel Syndrome**

**IBW: Ideal Body Weight**

**ICP: Intracranial Pressure**

**ICS: Intercostals**

**IHD: Ischemic Heart Disease**

**IJ: Internal Jugular Vein (RIJ—right IJ, LIJ—left IJ)— used for venous access**

**IM: Intramuscular**

**INR International Normalization Ratio**

**IUD: Intrauterine Device**

**IVC: Inferior Vena Cava**

**IVDA: Intravenous Drug Abuse/Abuser**

**IVF: In Vitro Fertilization**

**IVP: Intravenous Pyelography**

**JVD: Jugular Vein Distention**

**JVP: Jugular Venous Pressure**

**K: Potassium**

**KVO: Keep Vein Open (also TKO)—low-flow IV infusion**

**L&D: Labor and Delivery**

**LAD: Left Anterior Descending (coronary artery)**

**LCL: Lateral Collateral Ligament**

**LCX: Left Circumflex Artery (coronary artery)**

**LE: Lower Extremity**

**LFTs: Liver Function Tests**

**LLQ: Left Lower Quadrant**

**LIMA: Left Internal Mammary Artery (used for CABG)**

**LMP: Left Menstrual Period**

**LP: Lumbar Puncture**

**LUQ: Left Upper Quadrant  
LVAD: Left Ventricular Assist Device**

**LVEF: Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction**

**LVF: Left Ventricular Function**

**LVH: Left Ventricular Hypertrophy**

**MAP: Mean Arterial Pressure**

**MCL: Medial Collateral Ligament**

**MDI: Metered Dose Inhaler**

**MI: Myocardial Infarction (heart attack)**

**MVA: Motor Vehicle Accident**

**Na: Sodium**

**NAD: No Acute Distress**

**NED: No Evidence of Disease**

**NG: Nasogastric**

**NGT: Nasogastric Tube**

**NKA: No Known Allergies**

**NKDA: No Known Drug Allergies**

**NPO: Nothing by mouth**

**NSAID: Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drug**

**NSR: Normal Sinus Rhythm**

**NWB: Non-Weight bearing**

**OD: Right Eye**

**OD: Overdose**

**ORIF: Open Reduction Internal Fixation**

**OS: Left Eye**

**OU: Both Eyes**

**PCA: Patient Controlled Analgesia**

**PD: Peritoneal Dialysis**

**PDA: Patent Ductus Arteriosus**

**PE: Pulmonary Embolism**

**PEG: Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (e.g. PEG tube)**

**PERRLA: Pupils Equal, Round, Reactive to Light and Accommodation**

**PFT: Pulmonary Function Tests**

**PICC: Peripherally Inserted Central Venous Catheter**

**PID: Pelvic Inflammatory Disease**

**PMI: Point of Maximal Impulse**

**PND: Paroxysmal Nocturnal Dyspnea**

**PRBC: Packed Red Blood Cells**

**PRN: As needed (Pro Re Nata)**

**PSA: Prostate Specific Antigen**

**PSVT: Paroxysmal Supraventricular Tachycardia**

**PT: Prothrombin Time**

**PTCA: Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty**

**PTT: Partial Thromboplastin Time**

**PUD: Peptic Ulcer Disease**

**PWB: Partial Weight Bearing**

**RA: Rheumatoid Arthritis**

**RCA: Right Coronary Artery**

**RHD: Rheumatic Heart Disease**

**RLQ: Right Lower Quadrant**

**RSV: Respiratory Syncytial Virus**

**RUQ: Right Upper Quadrant**

**Rx: Prescription**

**SAB: Spontaneous Abortion (Miscarriage)**

**SBO: Small Bowel Obstruction**

**SCM: Sternocleidomastoid Muscle**

**SLE: Systemic Lupus Erythematosus**

**SNF: Skilled Nursing Facility**

**STD/STI: Sexually Transmitted Disease/Sexually Transmitted Infection**

**SUI: Stress Urinary Incontinence**

**SVC: Superior Vena Cava**

**SVT: Supraventricular Tachycardia**

**Sx: Symptoms**

**Sz: Seizure**

**TBI: Traumatic Brain Injury**

**THR: Total Hip Replacement**

**TIA: Transient Ischemic Attack  
TKO: To Keep Open (see also KVO)—low-flow IV infusion**

**TM: Tympanic Membrane**

**TNTC: Too Numerous To Count**

**TPN: Total Parenteral Nutrition**

**TTN: Transient Tachypnea of the Newborn**

**TURP: Transurethral Resection of the Prostate**

**Tx: Treatment**

**UA: Urinalysis**

**UGI: Upper Gastrointestinal**

**UPJ: Ureteropelvic Junction**

**URI: Upper Respiratory Infection**

**US: Ultrasound**

**UTI: Urinary Tract Infection**

**VA: Visual Acuity**

**VBAC: Vaginal Birth After Caesarean Section**

**VF/VFib: Ventricular Fibrillation**

**VPC: Ventricular Premature Contraction (also PVC)**

**VSD: Ventricular Septal Defect**

**VT/VTach: Ventricular Tachycardia**

**W/C: Wheelchair**

**WBC: White Blood Cell**

**WDWN: Well-Developed Well –Nourished**

**WNL: Within Normal Limits**