

Table 2.3 Accepted Abbreviations and Symbols

A	Anterior	ASA	Aspirin	CHI	Closed head injury
A:	Assessment	ASAP	As soon as possible	cm	Centimeter
Ⓐ	Assistance	ASHD	Arteriosclerotic heart disease	CNS	Central nervous system
⌞	Before	ASIS	Anterior superior iliac spine	CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
AAROM	Active assistive range of motion	AT	Athletic trainer	c/o	Complains of
a.c.	Before meals	ATC	Certified athletic trainer	cont.	Continue
abd	Abduction	Ⓑ	Bilateral	CMC	Carpometacarpal
ABG	Arterial blood gases	BE	Below elbow	COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
AC joint	Acromioclavicular joint	b.i.d.	Twice a day	CPAP	Continuous positive airway pressure
ACL	Anterior cruciate ligament	BK	Below knee	CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
add	Adduction	BOS	Base of support	CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid
ADL	Activities of daily living	BP	Blood pressure	CT	Computed tomography
ad lib.	As desired; at discretion	bpm	Beats per minute	CTR	Carpal tunnel release
adm	Admitted; admission	BS	Blood sugar; breath sounds; bowel sounds	cu mm	Cubic millimeter
AFO	Ankle foot orthosis	BUN	Blood urea nitrogen	CV	Cardiovascular
AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	Bx	Biopsy	CVA	Cerebrovascular accident
AE	Above elbow	⌞	With	CXR	Chest X-ray
AK	Above knee	C	Celsius; centigrade	d	Day
A-line	Arterial line	CA	Carcinoma; cancer	Ⓓ	Dependent
ALS	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis	C&S	Culture and sensitivity	DC, D/C	Discharge
AMA	Against medical advice	CABG	Coronary artery bypass graft	DC	Doctor of chiropractic medicine
AMB	Ambulation; ambulates; ambulating	CAD	Coronary artery disease	DDS	Doctor of dental surgery
amt	Amount	cal	Calories	DIP	Distal interphalangeal (joint)
ANS	Autonomic nervous system	cap	Capsule	DJD	Degenerative joint disease
ant	Anterior	CAT	Computerized axial tomography	DO	Doctor of osteopathic medicine
AP	Anterior–posterior (anteroposterior)	CBC	Complete blood count	DOB	Date of birth
ARF	Acute renal failure	cc	Cubic centimeter	DOE	Dyspnea on exertion
AROM	Active range of motion	CC, C/C	Chief complaint	DM	Diabetes mellitus
		CGA	Contact guard assist	dr	Dram
		CHF	Congestive heart failure	Dr.	Doctor

From S. Shultz, P. Houghlum, and D. Perrin, 2016. *Examination of musculoskeletal injuries*, 4th ed. (Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics).

DTR	Deep tendon reflexes	HEP	Home exercise program	MD	Muscular dystrophy; medical doctor
DVT	Deep vein thrombosis	HGB, Hgb	Hemoglobin	mg	Milligram
Dx	Diagnosis	HIPS	History, inspection, palpation, special tests	MI	Myocardial infarction
ECG	Electrocardiogram	HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus	ml	Milliliter
ECHO	Echocardiogram	HOPS	History, observation, palpation, special tests	min	Minutes; minimum
ED	Emergency department	HR	Heart rate	mm	Millimeter
EEG	Electroencephalogram	hr.	Hour	MMT	Manual muscle test
EKG	Electrocardiogram	hs	At bedtime	mo	Month
EMG	Electromyogram	Ht	Height	mod	Moderate
ENT	Ear, nose, throat	HTN	Hypertension	MP, MCP	Metacarpophalangeal
ER	Emergency room	Hx	History	MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
ETOH	Ethyl alcohol	I&O	Intake and output	MS	Musculoskeletal; multiple sclerosis
eval.	Evaluation	①	Independent	MVA	Motor vehicle accident
ext	Extension	ICU	Intensive care unit	MVP	Mitral valve prolapse
F	Fahrenheit; fair muscle strength (grade 3)	IDDM	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus	N	Normal muscle strength (grade 5)
f	Female	IM	Intramuscular	neg	Negative
FACP	Fellow of the American College of Physicians	IMP	Impression	NG	Nasogastric
FACS	Fellow of the American College of Surgeons	in.	Inches	NIDDM	Non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
FBS	Fasting blood sugar	IP	Inpatient	NKA	No known allergy
FH	Family history	IV	Intravenous	NKDA	No known drug allergy
flex.	Flexion	kg.	Kilogram	nn	Nerve
fl oz	Fluid ounce	KUB	Kidney, ureter, bladder	noc	Night
FROM	Functional range of motion	L	Left; liter	NPO	Nothing by mouth
ft	Foot; feet	Ⓛ	Left	NSR	Normal sinus rhythm
FUO	Fever of unknown origin	lat	Lateral	NWB	Non-weight bearing
FWB	Full weight bearing	lb	Pound	O	Objective; oriented
Fx	Fracture	LBP	Low back pain	O ₂	Oxygen
G	Good muscle strength (grade 4)	LCL	Lateral collateral ligament	OA	Osteoarthritis
GB	Gall bladder	LE	Lower extremity	OX4	Oriented to time, place, person, situation
GH joint	Glenohumeral joint	LLQ	Left lower quadrant	OBS	Organic brain syndrome
GI	Gastrointestinal	LOC	Loss of consciousness	OH	Occupational history
gm	Gram	LP	Lumbar puncture	OP	Outpatient
g, gr	Grain	LTG	Long-term goal	OR	Operating room
GTT	Glucose tolerance test	LUQ	Left upper quadrant	ORIF	Open reduction, internal fixation
h	Hour	m	Murmur; meter; male	OT	Occupational therapy; occupational therapist
HA, H/A	Headache	max	Maximum	oz	Ounce
H&P	History and physical	MCL	Medial collateral ligament	Ⓟ	After
HBV	Hepatitis B virus	med	Medial	P	Plan; posterior; pulse; poor muscle strength (grade 2)
HCT, Hct	Hematocrit	meds	Medications		
HEENT	Head, eyes, ears, nose, throat	MFT	Muscle function test		

(continued)

Table 2.3 (continued)

PA	Posterior–anterior (posteroanterior); physician assistant	RA	Rheumatoid arthritis	STAT	Immediately
pc	After meals	RBC	Red blood cell count	STD	Sexually transmitted disease
PCL	Posterior cruciate ligament	RD	Registered dietitian	STG	Short-term goal
PE	Physical examination	re:	Regarding	sup	Supination; superior
per	By	rehab	Rehabilitation	Sx	Symptoms
PET	Positron emission tomography	reps	Repetitions	T	Temperature; trace muscle strength (grade 1)
PFT	Pulmonary function test	resp	Respiratory; respiration	T&A	Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease	RLQ	Right lower quadrant	tab	Tablet
PIP	Proximal interphalangeal	RN	Registered nurse	TB	Tuberculosis
PM, p.m.	Afternoon	R/O	Rule out	TBI	Traumatic brain injury
PMH	Past medical history	ROM	Range of motion	tblsp	Tablespoon
PNF	Proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation	ROS	Review of symptoms	TEDS	Thromboembolic disease stockings
PNI	Peripheral nerve injury	RROM	Resistive range of motion	TENS, TNS	Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator
PNS	Peripheral nervous system	RT	Respiratory therapy; respiratory therapist	THR	Total hip replacement
p.o.	By mouth	RTC	Return to clinic	TIA	Transient ischemic attack
pos	Positive	RTO	Return to office	t.i.d.	Three times a day
poss	Possible	RUQ	Right upper quadrant	TKR	Total knee replacement
postop	Postoperation	RSD	Reflex sympathetic dystrophy	TM(J)	Temporomandibular (joint)
PRE	Progressive resistive exercise	Rx	Recipe; prescription; therapy; intervention plan	Tx	Treatment; traction
preop	Preoperation	\overline{s}	Without	UA	Urinalysis
prn	As needed	S	Subjective	UMN	Upper motor neuron
pro	Pronation	SAQ	Short arc quad	URI	Upper respiratory infection
PROM	Passive range of motion	SBA	Standby assistance	US	Ultrasound
PSIS	Posterior superior iliac spine	SCI	Spinal cord injury	UTI	Urinary tract infection
pt	Patient	SC joint	Sternoclavicular joint	UV	Ultraviolet
PT	Physical therapy; physical therapist	SH	Social history	VC	Vital capacity
PT/PTT	Prothrombin time; partial thromboplastin time	SI(J)	Sacroiliac (joint)	VD	Venereal disease
PVD	Peripheral vascular disease	Sig	Instruction to patient; directions for use; give as follows	v.o.	Verbal orders
PWB	Partial weight bearing	SLE	Systemic lupus erythematosus	vol	Volume
Px	Physical examination	SLR	Straight leg raise	VS	Vital signs
q	Every	SOAP	Subjective, objective, assessment, plan	WBC	White blood cell count; white blood count
qd	Every day	SOB	Shortness of breath	w/c	Wheelchair
qh	Every hour	SOC	Start of care	W/cm ²	Watts per square centimeter
q2h	Every 2 hours	SpGr	Specific gravity	WDWN	Well developed, well nourished
q.i.d.	Every other day	S/P	Status post	wk	Week
qt	Quart	sq	Subcutaneous	WFL	Within functional limits
Ⓔ	Right; respiration	SR	Systems review	WNL	Within normal limits
R	Right	S/S	Signs and symptoms	wt	Weight

x	Number of times performed (×2 = twice; ×3 = three times)	⊥	Perpendicular to	−, (−)	Minus; negative
+1 (+2)	Assistance of 1 person (2 persons) required	↔	To and from	#	Number (when placed before the number: #1); pound (when placed after the number: 1#)
y.o.	Years old	←	From; regressing backward	/	Per
yd	Yard	→	To; progressing forward, approaching	%	Percent
yr	Year	1°	Primary	+, &, et.	And
♂	Male	2°	Secondary	°	Degree
♀	Female	~	Approximately; about	√	Flexion
↓	Down; downward; decrease	@	At	/	Extension
↑	Up; upward, increase	>	Greater than	±, +/−	Plus or minus
Δ	Change	<	Less than	//	Parallel to
		=	Equals	// bars	Parallel bars
		+, (+)	Plus; positive		

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