



Health Assistant

Flexible Instruction Day

Assignment #2

Learning Standard	HEALTH/MEDICAL ASSISTING SERVICES, OTHER Code: 51.0899 Career Cluster: Health Science Medical Abbreviations
Task # & Description	1202 Identify the meaning of medical abbreviations

CONTACT INFORMATION/ASSISTANCE

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Instructor E-Mail: blankt@butlertec.us

I will be available by email and/or the Remind app from 7:40-12 and 12:30-3:10 to answer your questions. Please reach out if you are having difficulty completing your assignments.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ All work is due on the day we return to school. This is counted towards your attendance **and** as a grade.
- ✓ Read chapter 6 then complete worksheet. Both are included in this packet.

Name: _____

Session: _____

____ / __20__ points



6

Medical Terminology

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

After completing this chapter, you should be able to:

- Identify basic medical abbreviations selected from a standard list
- Define prefixes, suffixes, and word roots selected from a list of words provided by the instructor
- Spell and pronounce medical terms correctly
- Define, pronounce, and spell all key terms

KEY TERMS

abbreviations

prefix

word roots

eponyms

suffix

6:1 Using Medical Abbreviations

Abbreviations are shortened forms of words, usually just letters. Common examples are AM, which means morning, and PM, which means afternoon or evening.

Abbreviations are used in all health care careers. Sometimes they are used by themselves. At other times, several abbreviations are combined to give orders or directions. Consider the following examples:

BR $\bar{c}$ BRP, FFI qh, VS qid

NPO 8 PM, To Lab for CBC, BUN, and FBS

These examples are short forms for giving directions. The first example is interpreted as follows: bed-rest with bathroom privileges, force fluids every hour, vital signs four times a day. The second example is interpreted as follows: nothing by mouth after eight o'clock in the evening, to the laboratory for a complete blood count, blood urea nitrogen, and fasting blood sugar. As

these examples illustrate, it is much easier to write using abbreviations than it is to write the corresponding detailed messages.

Look at the sample prescription form shown in Figure 6-1. Use the list of abbreviations to determine what the prescription says.

A sample list of abbreviations and symbols follows. This list contains some of the most commonly used abbreviations. Different abbreviations may be used in different facilities and in different parts of the country. It is the responsibility of health care workers to learn the meanings of the abbreviations used in the agencies where they are employed.

Some agencies are prohibiting the use of specific abbreviations or symbols because they are prone to causing errors. The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Facilities has adopted an official *Do Not Use* list containing abbreviations and symbols that cause problems. Some common examples include:

- *IU or U*: abbreviation for international unit or unit; can be mistaken for IV (intravenous) or the number 10; write out "international unit" or "unit"



LEWIS & KING, MD
2501 CENTER STREET
NORTH BOROUGH, OH 12345

Name Juanita Hansen

Address 143 Gregory Lane, Apt. 43 Date 4/7/--

Rx

Suradantin 50 mg Tabs
#50

Sig 50 mg ac & HS po

Generic Substitution Allowed Susan Rice M.D.
 Dispense As Written _____ M.D.
 REPETATUR 0 1 2 3 p.r.n. _____ M.D.

☒ LABEL

FIGURE 6-1 Can you use the list of abbreviations to interpret the prescription? Copyright © Cengage Learning®. All Rights Reserved.

- *qd, qod, qid*: abbreviations for every day, every other day, and four times a day, respectively; can be interchanged if written poorly; for example, an every other day order could be done four times in one day; write out “daily,” “every other day,” or “four times a day”
- *cc*: abbreviation for cubic centimeter; can be read as “u” or “units” if written poorly; write out “milliliter” or “mL” clearly because 1 cubic centimeter equals 1 milliliter
- *Lack of leading zero (.5 mg)*: decimal point is missed and 10 times the dose is given (5 mg instead of .5 mg); write “0.5 mg” or “0.X mg”
- *Trailing zero (2.0 mg)*: decimal point is missed and 10 times the dose is given (20 milligrams instead of 2 milligrams); write “2 mg” or “X mg”
- *sc or SC or SQ*: abbreviations for subcutaneous; can be interpreted as SL for sublingual if written poorly; write as “sub-cue,” “sub-Q,” or “subcutaneously”
- *AD, AS, AU, OD, OS, and OU*: abbreviations for right ear, left ear, both ears, right eye, left eye, and both eyes, respectively; can be mistaken for one another when written poorly; write out “right ear,” “left eye,” and so forth
- *@*: symbol for at; mistaken for the number 2 if written poorly; write out “at”
- *< or >*: symbols for less than or greater than; can be misinterpreted as the number 7 or letter L; write “greater than” or “less than”

- *Apothecary unit symbols such as ℥ or ʒ*: symbols for dram and ounce; easily mistaken for each other; write “dram” or “ounce” or use metric units

NOTE: In the lists that follow, these abbreviations and symbols are included because they are still used in some health facilities, especially in computerized records. Because the letters are not written on the records, the chance of error decreases. It is still safer to spell out the words to avoid medical errors. On the lists that follow, an asterisk (*) has been placed in front of the abbreviation or symbol to alert the user that it is on the Do Not Use list.



Legal

Health care workers must use only the abbreviations or symbols approved by the facility in which they are employed. In addition, extreme care must be used while writing abbreviations and symbols so they are legible and readily understood. It is also important to note that texting abbreviations are not allowed on legal documents in a health care facility. For example, b4 is not acceptable for “before” and UR is not acceptable for “you are.”

NOTE: There is a growing trend toward eliminating periods from most abbreviations. Although the following list does not show periods, you may work in an agency that chooses to use them. When in doubt, follow the policy of your agency.

Learn the abbreviations in the following way:

- Use a set of index cards to make a set of flashcards of the abbreviations found on the abbreviation list. Print one abbreviation in big letters on each card. Put the abbreviation on the front of the card and the meaning on the back of the card.
- Use the flashcards to study the abbreviations. A realistic goal is to learn all abbreviations for one letter per week. For example, learn all of the As the first week, all of the Bs the second week, all of the Cs the third week, and so on until all are learned.
- Follow your instructor’s guidelines for tests on the abbreviations. Many instructors give weekly tests. The tests may be cumulative. They may cover the letter of the week plus any letters learned in previous weeks.

A

*@	at
ā	before
A&D	admission and discharge
A&P	anterior and posterior, anatomy and physiology
āā	of each
Ab	abortion
abd	abdomen, abdominal
ABG	arterial blood gas

ac	before meals
ACLS	advanced cardiac life support
ACTH	adrenocorticotrophic hormone
*AD	right ear
ADH	antidiuretic hormone
ADHD	attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
ad lib	as desired
ADL	activities of daily living
adm	admission
AED	automated external defibrillation
AHA	American Hospital Association
AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
AL	assisted living
am, AM	morning, before noon
AMA	American Medical Association, against medical advice
amal	amalgam
amb	ambulate, walk
amt	amount
ANA	American Nurses' Association
ANP	advanced nurse practitioner
ANS	autonomic nervous system
ant	anterior
AP	apical pulse
approx	approximately
aq, aqua	aqueous (water base)
ARC	AIDS-related complex
ARF	acute renal failure
AROM	active range of motion
ART	accredited records technician
*AS	left ear
as tol	as tolerated
ASA	aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid)
ASAP	as soon as possible
ASCVD	arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease
ASHD	arteriosclerotic heart disease
*AU	both ears
av	average
AV	arteriovenous, atrioventricular
A&W	alive and well
Ax	axilla, axillary, armpit

B

Ba	barium
bacti	bacteriology
B&B	bowel and bladder training
B&C	biopsy and conization
BBB	bundle branch block
BBS	bilateral breath sounds
BE	barium enema
bid	twice a day

bil	bilateral
BI	blood
BI Wk	blood work
BM	bowel movement, bone marrow
BMI	body mass index
BMR	basal metabolic rate
BP	blood pressure
BPH	benign prostatic hypertrophy
BR	bed rest
BRP	bathroom privileges
BS	blood sugar
BSA	body surface area
BSC, bsc	bedside commode
BSE	breast self-examination
BUN	blood urea nitrogen
Bx, bx	biopsy

C

°C	degrees Celsius (Centigrade)
cc, w/	with
Ca	calcium
CA	cancer
CABG	coronary artery bypass graft
CAD	coronary artery disease
cal	calorie
Cap	capsule
CAT	computerized axial tomography
Cath	catheter, catheterize
CBC	complete blood count
CBET	certified biomedical equipment technician
CBR	complete bed rest
*cc	cubic centimeter
CC	chief complaint
CCU	coronary care unit, critical care unit
CDA	certified dental assistant
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CEO	chief executive officer
CEU	continuing education unit
CF	cystic fibrosis
CHD	coronary heart disease
CHF	congestive heart failure
CHO	carbohydrate
chol	cholesterol
CICU	cardiac intensive care unit
ck	check
Cl	chloride or chlorine
cl liq	clear liquids
cm	centimeter
CMA	certified medical assistant
CNP	certified nurse practitioner

CNS	central nervous system
co, c/o	complains of
CO	carbon monoxide, coronary occlusion
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
Comp	complete, compound
cont	continued
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
COTA	certified occupational therapy assistant
CP	cerebral palsy
CPAP	continuous (constant) positive airway pressure
CPK	creatine phosphokinase (cardiac enzyme)
CPR	cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CPT	current procedure terminology
CRTT	certified respiratory therapy technician
CS	central supply or service
C&S	culture and sensitivity
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CSR	central supply room
CST	certified surgical technologist
CT	computerized tomography
Cu	copper
CVA	cerebral vascular accident (stroke)
CVD	cardiovascular disease
Cx	cervix, complication, complaint
CXR	chest X-ray or radiograph

D

d	day
D&C	dilatation and curettage
DA	dental assistant
DAT	diet as tolerated
DC	Doctor of Chiropractic
D/C, dc, disc	discontinue, discharge
DDS	Doctor of Dental Surgery
DEA	Drug Enforcement Agency
del	delivery
Dept	department
DH	dental hygienist
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
Diff	differential white blood cell count
dil	dilute, dissolve
DM	diabetes mellitus
DMD	Doctor of Dental Medicine
DMS	diagnostic medical sonography
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
DNR	do not resuscitate
DO	Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
DOA	dead on arrival
DOB	date of birth
DOD	date of death
DON	director of nursing
DPM	Doctor of Podiatric Medicine

DPT	diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus
Dr	doctor
dr	dram, drainage
DRG	diagnostic related group
drg, drsg, dsg	dressing
D/S	dextrose in saline
DSD	dry sterile dressing
DTs	delirium tremors
DVM	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
DVT	deep vein thrombosis
DW	distilled water
D/W	dextrose in water
Dx, dx	diagnosis

E

ea	each
EBL	estimated blood loss
ECG, EKG	electrocardiogram
ED	emergency department
EEG	electroencephalogram
EENT	ear, eye, nose, throat
elix	elixir
EMG	electromyogram
EMS	emergency medical services
EMT	emergency medical technician
ENT	ear, nose, throat
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ER	emergency room
ESR	erythrocyte sedimentation rate
et, etiol	etiology (cause of disease)
ETT	endotracheal tube
Ex, exam	examination
Exc	excision
Exp	exploratory, expiration
ext	extract, extraction, external

F

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
FAS	fetal alcohol syndrome
FBS	fasting blood sugar
FBW	fasting blood work
FC	Foley catheter
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
Fe	iron
FF, FFI	force fluids
FH	family history
FHR	fetal heart rate
FI, fl	fluid
FSH	follicle-stimulating hormone
ft	foot
FUO	fever of unknown origin
Fx, Fr	fracture

G

GA	gastric analysis, general anesthesia
gal	gallon
GB	gallbladder
Gc	gonococcus, gonorrhea
GERD	gastroesophageal reflux disease
GH	growth hormone
GI	gastrointestinal
Gm, g	gram
gr	grain
gt, gtt, gtts	drop, drops
GTT	glucose tolerance test
GU	genitourinary
Gyn	gynecology

H

H	hydrogen
H&H	hemoglobin and hematocrit
H ₂ O	water
H ₂ O ₂	hydrogen peroxide
H, (h), hypo	hypodermic injection
HA	hearing aid, headache
HBP	high blood pressure
HBV	hepatitis B virus
HCG	human chorionic gonadotrophin hormone
HCl	hydrochloric acid
hct	hematocrit
HCV	hepatitis C virus
HDL	high-density lipoproteins (healthy type of cholesterol)
Hg	mercury
Hgb, Hb	hemoglobin
HHA	home health assistant/aide
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus (AIDS virus)
HMO	health maintenance organization
HOB	head of bed
HOH	hard of hearing
H&P	history and physical
Hr, hr, H, h	hour, hours
HRT	hormone replacement therapy
*HS	hour of sleep (bedtime)
Ht	height
Hx, hx	history
hypo	hypodermic injection
Hyst	hysterectomy

I

I&D	incision and drainage
I&O	intake and output
ICCU	intensive coronary care unit
ICD	international classification of diseases
ICU	intensive care unit
ID	intra dermal, infectious disease
IDDM	insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
IH	infectious hepatitis
IM	intramuscular
imp	impression
in	inch
inf	infusion, inferior, infection
ing	inguinal
inj	injection
int	internal, interior
IPPB	intermittent positive pressure breathing
irr, irrig	irrigation
Isol, isol	isolation
IT	inhalation therapy
IUD	intrauterine device
IV	intravenous
IVP	intravenous pyelogram

J

jt	joint
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K

K	potassium
KCl	potassium chloride
Kg, kg	kilogram
KUB	kidney, ureter, bladder X-ray
KVO	keep vein open

L

L	liter (1,000 milliliters or mL); lumbar
(L), lt, lft	left
L&D	labor and delivery
L&W	living and well
Lab	laboratory
Lap	laparotomy
lat	lateral
lb	pound
LCT	long-term care

LDH	lactate dehydrogenase (cardiac enzyme)
LDL	low-density lipoprotein (unhealthy type of cholesterol)
Ig	large
liq	liquid
LLQ	left lower quadrant
LMP	last menstrual period
LOC	laxative of choice, level of consciousness
LP	lumbar puncture
LPN	licensed practical nurse
LS	lumbar sacral
LTC	long-term care
LUQ	left upper quadrant
LVN	licensed vocational nurse

M

m	minim
MA	medical assistant
Mat	maternity
mcg	microgram
MD	Medical Doctor, muscular dystrophy, myocardial disease
Med	medical, medicine
mEq	milliequivalent
mg	milligram
Mg	magnesium
MI	myocardial infarction (heart attack)
MICU	medical intensive care unit
min	minute
mL	milliliter
MLT	medical laboratory technician
mm	millimeter
MN	midnight
mod	moderate
MOM	milk of magnesia
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MRSA	methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
MS	multiple sclerosis, mitral stenosis, muscular-skeletal
MT	medical technologist
MVA, MVC	motor vehicle accident or collision

N

N	nitrogen
N/A	not applicable
Na	sodium
NA	nurse aide/assistant
NaCl	sodium chloride (salt)

NB	newborn
N/C	no complaints
neg	negative, none
Neur	neurology
NG, ng, N/G	nasogastric tube
NICU	neurological intensive care unit
NIDDM	non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
NIH	National Institutes of Health
nil	none
NKA	no known allergies
NKDA	no known drug allergies
no	number
NO	nursing office
noc, noct	at night, night
NP	nurse practitioner
NPN	nonprotein nitrogen
NPO	nothing by mouth
N/S, NS	normal saline, neurosurgery
Nsy	nursery
N/V, N&V	nausea and vomiting
NVD	nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
NVS	neurological vital signs

O

O ₂	oxygen
O&P	ova and parasites
Ob, Obs	obstetrics
OBRA	Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
od	overdose
*OD	right eye, ocular dextra, Doctor of Optometry
oint	ointment
OJ	orange juice
OOB	out of bed
OP	outpatient
OPD, OPC	outpatient department or clinic
opp	opposite
OR	operating room
Ord	orderly
Orth	orthopedics
os	mouth
*OS	left eye, ocular sinistra
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OT	occupational therapy/therapist
OTC	over the counter
*OU	each eye
OV	office visit
oz	ounce

P

p̄	after
P	pulse, phosphorus
PA	physician's assistant
PAC	premature atrial contraction
PACU	post anesthesia care unit
PAP	Papanicolaou test (smear)
para	number of pregnancies
Path	pathology
Pb	lead
PBI	protein-bound iodine
pc	after meals
PCA	patient-controlled analgesia
PCC	poison control center
PCP	patient care plan
PCT	patient/personal care technician
PDR	<i>Physicians' Desk Reference</i>
PE	physical examination, pulmonary edema, pulmonary embolism
Peds	pediatrics
per	by, through
PET	positron emission tomography
pH	measure of acidity/alkalinity
Pharm	pharmacy
PI	present illness
PID	pelvic inflammatory disease
PKU	phenylketonuria
PM, pm	after noon
PMC	postmortem (after death) care
PMS	premenstrual syndrome
PNS	peripheral nervous system
po	by mouth
PO	phone order
post	posterior, after
post-op	after an operation
PP	postpartum (after delivery)
PPE	personal protective equipment
PPO	preferred provider organization
pre-op	before an operation
prep	prepare
prn	whenever necessary, as needed
PROM	passive range of motion
Psy	psychology, psychiatry
pt	patient, pint (500 mL or cc)
Pt	prothrombin time
PT	physical therapy/therapist
PTT	partial thromboplastin time
PVC	premature ventricular contraction
PVD	peripheral vascular disease
Px	prognosis, physical examination

Q

q, q̄	every
*qd	every day
qh	every hour
q2h	every 2 hours
q3h	every 3 hours
q4h	every 4 hours
qhs	every night at bedtime
*qid	four times a day
qns	quantity not sufficient
*qod	every other day
qol	quality of life
qs	quantity sufficient
qt	quart

R

R	respiration, rectal
® , Rt	right
Ra	radium
RBC	red blood cell
RDA	recommended daily allowance
REM	rapid eye movement
RHD	rheumatic heart disease
RLQ	right lower quadrant
RN	registered nurse
RNA	ribonucleic acid
R/O	rule out
RO	reality orientation
ROM	range of motion
RR	recovery room
RRT	registered respiratory therapist, registered radiologic technologist
RT	respiratory therapy/therapist
RUQ	right upper quadrant
Rx	prescription, take, treatment

S

S	sacral
̄, w/o	without
S&A	sugar and acetone
SA	sinoatrial
*sc, SC	subcutaneous
SCD	sequential compression device

SGOT, SGPT	transaminase test
SICU	surgical intensive care unit
SIDS	sudden infant death syndrome
Sig	give the following directions
sm	small
SNF	skilled nursing facility
SOB	short of breath
sol	solution
sos	if necessary
spec	specimen
SpGr, spgr	specific gravity
SPN	student practical nurse
spt	spirits, liquor
ss	one half
S/S, S&S	signs and symptoms
SSE	soap solution enema
staph	staphylococcus infection
stat	immediately, at once
STH	somatotropic hormone
STI	sexually transmitted infection
strep	streptococcus infection
supp	suppository
Surg	surgery, surgical
susp	suspension
Sx	symptom, sign
syp	syrup

T

T&A	tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
T, Temp	temperature
tab	tablet
TB	tuberculosis
tbsp	tablespoon
TCDB	turn, cough, deep breathe
TF	tube feeding
TH	thyroid hormone
TIA	transient ischemic attack
tid	three times a day
TKR	total knee replacement
TLC	tender loving care
TO	telephone order
tol	tolerated
TPN	total parenteral nutrition
TPR	temperature, pulse, respiration
tr, tinct	tincture
TSH	thyroid-stimulating hormone
tsp	teaspoon
TUR	transurethral resection
TWE	tap water enema
tx	traction, treatment, transplant

U

UA, U/A	urinalysis
ung	ointment
Ur, ur	urine
URI	upper respiratory infection
UTI	urinary tract infection
UV	ultraviolet

V

Vag	vaginal
VD	venereal disease
VDM	Veterinarian Degree of Medicine
VDRL	serology for syphilis, Venereal Disease Research Laboratory
VF	ventricular fibrillation
VO	verbal order
Vol	volume
vp	venipuncture, venous pressure
VS	vital signs (TPR & BP)
VT	ventricular tachycardia

W

WBC	white blood cell
WC	ward clerk/secretary
w/c	wheelchair
WHO	World Health Organization
WNL	within normal limits
w/o, wo	without
W/P	whirlpool
wt	weight

X

x	times (2x means do 2 times)
x-match	cross-match
XR	X-ray

Y

y/o	years old
YOB	year of birth
yr	year
YTD	year to date

Z

Zn	zinc
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Miscellaneous Symbols

*>	greater than
*<	less than
↑	higher, elevate, or up
↓	lower or down
#	pound or number
'	foot or minute
"	inch or second
°	degree
♀ or F	female
♂ or M	male
I or i or ĩ	one
II or ii or ĩĩ	two
V	five
X	ten
L	fifty
C	one hundred
D	five hundred
M	one thousand

STUDENT: Go to the workbook and complete the assignment and evaluation sheets for 6:1, Using Medical Abbreviations.

6:2 Interpreting Word Parts

Medical dictionaries have been written to include the many words used in health care careers. It would be impossible to memorize all such words. By breaking the words into parts, however, it is sometimes possible to figure out their meanings.

A word is often a combination of different parts. The parts include prefixes, suffixes, and word roots (see Figure 6-2).

A **prefix** can be defined as a syllable or word placed at the beginning of a word. A **suffix** can be defined as a syllable or word placed at the end of the word.

The meanings of prefixes and suffixes are set. For example, the suffix *itis* means “inflammation of.” *Tonsillitis* means “an inflammation of the tonsils,” and *appendicitis* means “an inflammation of the appendix.” Note that

the meaning of the suffix is usually placed first when the word is defined.

Word roots can be defined as main words or parts to which prefixes and suffixes can be added. In the example *appendicitis*, the word root is *appendix*. By adding the prefix *pseudo-*, which means “false,” and the suffix *itis*, which means “inflammation of,” the word becomes *pseudoappendicitis*. This is interpreted as a “false inflammation of the appendix.”

The prefix usually serves to further define the word root. The suffix usually describes what is happening to the word root.

When prefixes, suffixes, and/or word roots are joined together, vowels are frequently added. Common examples include *a*, *e*, *i*, *ia*, *io*, *o*, and *u*. These are listed in parentheses in the lists that follow. The vowels are not used if the word root or suffix begins with a vowel. For example, *encephal* (*o*) means brain. When it is combined with *itis*, meaning “inflammation of,” the vowel is not used for *encephalitis*. When it is combined with *gram*, meaning “tracing” or “record,” the vowel *o* is added for *encephalogram*. *Hepat* (*o*) means liver. When it is combined with *itis*, the vowel is not used for *hepatitis*. When it is combined with *megaly*, meaning “enlarged,” the vowel *o* is added for *hepatomegaly*.

Eponyms are terms used in medicine that are named after people, places, or things. They are usually used to identify the individual who identified or discovered a substance, disease, or structure. An eponymous individual is someone who uses his or her name to describe something. Common uses for eponyms in medicine include naming:

- **Anatomical parts:** Achilles tendon, Adam’s apple, Eustachian tube, Langerhans cells, Bartholin gland, Cowper’s gland, circle of Willis, Golgi apparatus
- **Diagnostic tests:** Coombs test, Papanicolaou (Pap) test, Ishihara plates, Wright’s stain, Gram’s stain, Mantoux test, Hirschberg test
- **Diseases:** Alzheimer’s disease, Down syndrome, Parkinson’s disease, Legionnaire’s disease, Lou Gehrig’s disease, Kaposi’s sarcoma, Hodgkin’s disease, Bell’s palsy, Munchausen syndrome
- **Fractures:** Colles’ fracture, Hill-Sachs fracture, hangman’s fracture
- **Instruments or medical devices:** Adson’s forceps, Auvar’s speculum, Allis clamp, Holter monitor,

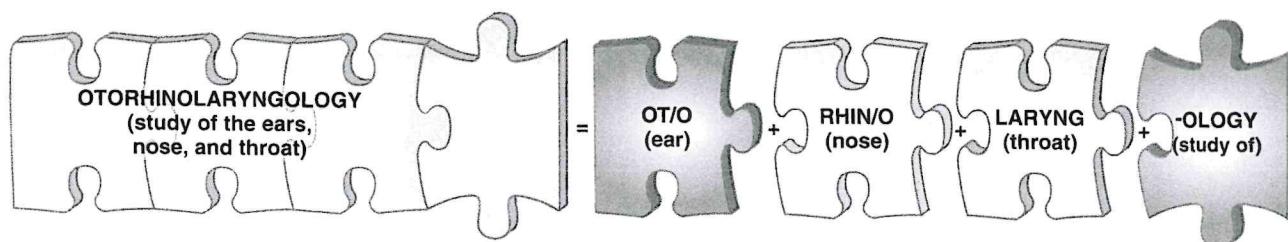


FIGURE 6-2 Prefixes, suffixes, and word roots can be used to interpret the meaning of a word. Copyright © Cengage Learning®. All Rights Reserved.

CHAPTER 6:1 USING MEDICAL ABBREVIATIONS

ASSIGNMENT SHEET

Grade _____ Name _____

INTRODUCTION: Shortened forms of words (often just letters) are called abbreviations. You are probably familiar with some, such as AM, which means morning, and PM, which means afternoon or evening. The world of health care has many of its own abbreviations. At times they are used by themselves. At other times, several abbreviations are used together to give orders or directions.

As a health care worker, many directions will be given to you in abbreviated form. You will be expected to know their meaning. The following assignment will assist you in starting to see how these abbreviations are used, and how you must translate them to understand them.

INSTRUCTIONS: Review the information on standard medical abbreviations. Try to recall the meanings of the following terms before using them as references to complete the exercises.

A. Print the meanings of the following abbreviations.

1. D/C _____
2. OR _____
3. prn _____
4. ac _____
5. stat _____
6. RN _____
7. wt _____
8. Cl _____
9. Rx _____
10. AP _____
11. T _____
12. NPO _____
13. spec _____
14. $\bar{c}$ _____
15. $\bar{s}$ _____
16. $\bar{s}$ _____
17. pt _____
18. BP _____
19. R _____
20. Na _____
21. CDC _____
22. DRG _____
23. LMP _____

24. MRSA _____
25. ♀ _____
26. vp _____
27. AED _____
28. HIPAA _____
29. LTC _____
30. BMI _____

B. Look up the meanings of the following combinations to interpret the orders. Print your answers.

1. TPR am and pm _____

2. 2 gtts bid _____

3. 1 cc IM _____

4. BP q 4 h _____

5. 2 oz OJ qid ac and HS _____

6. Wt and Ht daily in AM _____

7. BR $\bar{c}$ BRP only _____

8. 1000 mL N/S IV _____

9. Do ECG in CCU _____

10. Dissolve 2 tsp NaCl in 1 qt H₂O _____

11. 1000 cc SSE at HS _____

12. Schedule Bl Lab in AM including CBC, BUN, and FBS _____

13. Dilute 1 tab in 1 pt H₂O _____

14. 1 cap po pc and HS _____

15. BP is measured in mm of Hg _____

Name _____

16. NPO pre-op _____

17. Do EENT exam in OPD _____

18. Ob-Gyn _____

19. 500 mg IM 8 AM _____

20. VS stat and q2h _____

21. To PT by w/c for ROMs and ADL bid _____

22. FF1 cl liq to 240 mL q2h _____

23. Insert NG for GERD _____

24. Dx: COPD, O₂ prn, IPPB bid q12h _____

25. Sig: π Cap po tid c̄ food or milk _____

26. Dx: CVA, CT of brain stat _____

27. Rx: 20 mL KCL IV _____

28. EMT is certified for ACLS _____

29. NS IV to KVO _____

30. SCD and PROM post-op _____
