Medical Terminology Information Sheet:

Medical Chart Organization:
- Demographics and insurance
- Flow sheets
- Physician Orders
- Visit notes
- Laboratory results
- Radiology results
- Consultant notes
- Other communications

Types of Patient Encounter Notes:
- History and Physical
  - PE  Physical Exam
  - Lab  Laboratory Studies
  - Radiology
    - x-rays
    - CT and MRI scans
    - ultrasounds
  - Assessment- Dx (diagnosis) or DDx (differential diagnosis) if diagnosis is unclear
  - R/O = rule out (if diagnosis is unclear)
  - Plan- Further tests, consultations, treatment, recommendations
- The “SOAP” Note
  - S = Subjective (what the patient tells you)
  - O = Objective (info from PE, labs, radiology)
  - A = Assessment (Dx and DDx)
  - P = Plan (treatment, further tests, etc.)
- Discharge Summary
  - Narrative in format
  - Summarizes the events of a hospital stay
  - Subjective terminology is used in the history section (CC, HPI, etc.)
  - Physical examination terminology

Medical History Terms:
- CC  Chief Complaint of Patient
- HPI  History of Present Illness
- ROS  Review of Systems
- PMHx Past Medical History
- PSHx Past Surgical History
- SHx & FHx Social & Family History
- Medications and medication allergies
- NKDA = no known drug allergies

Physical Examination Terms:
- PE= Physical Exam
- (+) = present
- (-) = Φ = negative or absent
- nl = normal
- wnl = within normal limits

Laboratory Terminology:
- CBC = complete blood count
- Chem 7 (or Chem 8, 14, 20) = chemistry panels of 7,8,14,or 20 chemistry tests
- BMP = basic Metabolic Panel
- CMP = complete Metabolic Panel
- LFTs = liver function tests
- ABG = arterial blood gas
- UA = urine analysis
- HbA1C = diabetes blood test
Medical Terms by Body System

HEENT – Head, Ears, Eyes, Nose & Throat:
- Occipital – back of the head
- Photophobia – intolerant of light
- Phonophobia – intolerant of sounds
- Diplopia – double vision
- Epistaxis – nosebleed
- Rhinorrhea – runny nose or nasal discharge
- Otorrhea – discharge from the ear
- Tinnitus – ringing noise in the ear
- NCAT = normocephalic, atraumatic
- PERRL = Pupils Equal Round and Reactive to Light
- Erythema = redness
- Exudate (tonsilar) = most commonly white spots on the tonsils, but can be any fluid or cellular matter deposited on any tissue
- Purulent = consisting of pus
- Injected = blood vessel congestion, such as red eye
- BRBPR – Bright Red Blood per Rectum
- Melena – tarry black stool
- BS = bowel sounds – normoactive, hyperactive, hypoactive, absent
- TTP = Abdomen tender to palpation, often in a single quadrant/area
- Guarding = involuntary or voluntary guarding of painful area.
- Rebound pain = worse pain as examining hand is quickly pulled away

Genitourinary (GU):
- GenitoUrinary (GU)
- Dysuria = painful urination
- Hematuria = blood in the urine

Musculoskeletal & Extremities:
- Musculoskeletal (MS)
- Extremities (Ext)
- Myalgias = Muscle Aches
- Arthralgias = Joint Aches
- Edema = swelling
  - Peripheral
  - Pulmonary

Skin:
- Dermatologic (Derm)
- Pruritic and non-pruritic = itchy and non-itchy
- Spot
  - Macule - flat discoloration <10mm in diameter
- Bumps
  - Papule – bump 5mm or less
  - Nodule – well defined bump > 5mm
- Plaque – raised area
- Sacs
  - Vesicle – fluid filled sac <5mm
  - Bulla – fluid filled sac >5mm
  - Pustule – sac filled with pus
- Erosion – superficial loss of skin
- Ulcer – deeper loss of skin
- Scale – dry, flaky areas of skin
- Erythema – redness

Other:
- Neurologic (Neuro)
- Paresthesias = tingling sensation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>O2</td>
<td>oxygen</td>
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<tr>
<td>(R)</td>
<td>refused</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>before (ante)</td>
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<td>a fib.</td>
<td>atrial fibrillation</td>
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<td>a. tach.</td>
<td>atrial tachycardia</td>
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<td>a.c. or a/c</td>
<td>before meals</td>
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<td>A.D.L.</td>
<td>Activities of Daily Living</td>
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<td>A.T.</td>
<td>Activity Therapy</td>
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<td>Alcoholics Anonymous</td>
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<td>Ab</td>
<td>abortion</td>
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<td>abdomen</td>
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<td>ABG</td>
<td>arterial blood gases</td>
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<td>ABP</td>
<td>arterial blood pressure</td>
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<td>Right ear</td>
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<td>ad lib</td>
<td>As desired</td>
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<td>AMA</td>
<td>against medical advise</td>
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<td>amount</td>
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<td>angiogram</td>
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<td>APC</td>
<td>Aspirin - Phenacetin - Caffeine</td>
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<td>approx.</td>
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<td>as tollerated</td>
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<td>ASA</td>
<td>acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin)</td>
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<td>AWOL</td>
<td>absent without leave</td>
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<td>Ax</td>
<td>axilla</td>
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<td>b.i.d.</td>
<td>(BID) twice a day</td>
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<td>B/P</td>
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<td>barium enema</td>
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<td>BUN</td>
<td>blood urea nitrogen</td>
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<td>Bx</td>
<td>behavior</td>
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<td>with</td>
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<td>complains of</td>
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<td>cancer</td>
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<td>Ca. or Calc.</td>
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<td>CABG</td>
<td>coronary artery bypass &amp; graft</td>
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<td>calorie</td>
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<td>cap.</td>
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<td>card.</td>
<td>computerized axial tomography</td>
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<td>(CT scan) complete blood count</td>
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<td>CC</td>
<td>chief complaint</td>
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<td>cc</td>
<td>cubic centimeter</td>
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<td>chol.</td>
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<td>centimeter</td>
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<td>CNS</td>
<td>central nervous system</td>
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<td>carbon dioxide</td>
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<td>cont</td>
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<td>contributary</td>
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<td>COPD</td>
<td>chronic obstructive pulmonary disease</td>
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<td>COR 0</td>
<td>acute heart stoppage</td>
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<td>cpd</td>
<td>compound</td>
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<td>cardio-pulmonary resuscitation</td>
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<td>cran</td>
<td>cranial</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSF</td>
<td>cerebral spinal fluid</td>
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<td>CVA</td>
<td>cerebrovascular accident (stroke)</td>
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<td>D &amp; C</td>
<td>dilatation &amp; curettage</td>
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<td>D.C.</td>
<td>Doctor of Chiropractic</td>
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<td>Doctor of Osteopathy</td>
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<td>D/C</td>
<td>discharge</td>
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<td>discontinue</td>
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<td>D5W</td>
<td>dextrose 5% in water</td>
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<td>DD</td>
<td>date dictated</td>
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<td>decr</td>
<td>decreased</td>
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<td>Dilute</td>
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<td>dis</td>
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<td>drunk</td>
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<td>deciliters</td>
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<td>DOA</td>
<td>dead on arrival</td>
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<td>DOB</td>
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<td>dr</td>
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<td>Dr.</td>
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<td>DS</td>
<td>discharge summary</td>
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mEq/l       milliequivalent per liter
Mg          milligram
MI          myocardial infarction (heart attack)
Mm          millimeter
Mo          mother
MR          mental retardation
MR#         medical record number
NA          not available
Na+         no applicable
NBS         no bowel sounds
Neg         negative
Ng          naso-gastric
NKA         no known allergies
NMR         nuclear magnetic resonance
No.         number
Noct        night
norm        normal
NPN         non-protein nitrogen
NPO         nothing by mouth
nullip      nulliparous (no pregnancies)
o.d.        once a day
O.T.        occupational therapy
OB          obstetrics
OBS         organic brain syndrome
OD          Right eye
Od          over dose
Opd         out-patient department
Ops         operations
OR          operating room
Orth        orthopedic
OS          Left eye
OU          Both eyes
outpt       outpatient
Oz          ounce
P           right
P & A        percussion & auscultation
P.E.        physical examination
P.I.D.       pelvic inflammatory disease
p.o.        by mouth
PA          postero-anterior
palp        palpated
PBI         protein bound iodine
Pc          after meals
Pdr         powder
Ped         pediatrics
Pen         penicillin
Per         by
PERLA       pupils equal reactive to light
            and accomodation
pH          measure of acidity or alkalinity
Ph.D        Doctor of philosophy
phys        physical
PM          afternoon
PN          progress note
pneu        pneumonia
pos         positive
post        posterior
postop      postoperative, after surgery
PPD         purified protein derivative
preop       preoperative, before surgery
prep        prepare for
prev        previous
pm          whenever necessary
pros        prostate
prox        proximal
Psy. Ser.    psychological services
PT          physical therapy
pt          patient
pvc         preventricular contraction
pwd         powder
q            every
q.__h       every ___ hour
q.d.        every day
q.h.        every hour
q.n.        every night
q.o.d.      every other day
QA          quality assurance
QAC         quality Assurance Coordinator
QAP         quality Assurance Program
QAR         quality Assurance Review
qns         quantity not sufficient
R           right
R.D.        registered dietician
R.N.        registered nurse
R.O.        reality orientation
R.T.P.      recreational Therapeutic Pass
R/O         rule out
rad         radial
RBC         red blood count
rbc         Red blood cells
rect        rectal
Rh          rhesus blood factor
RLQ         right lower quadrant
ROS         review of systems
RR          respiratory rate
RUQ         right upper quadrant
Rx          prescription, take
s           without
S.H.        state hospital
S/A         sugar and acetone
Sa          saline
Schiz. schizophrenia
Sed rate erythrocyte sedimentation rate
serol serology
SGOT serum glutomie oxalacetic transaminase
SGPT serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase
Sibs siblings
SIDS sudden infant death syndrome
Sig to write, to take
Sl slight
SOAPE subjective, objective, assessment, plan, evaluation
SOB shortness of breath
Soc. hx social history
Soc. Ser. social service
Sol solution
Sos when necessary
Sp spine
sp. cd. spinal cord
sp. fl. spinal fluid
sp. gr. specific gravity
Spec. specimen
SQ subcutaneous
Staph staphylococcus
Stat immediately
Strep streptococcus
subcut subcutaneous
Sup superior
Surg surgery
Sx symptoms
Sys system
T & A tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
T.A. therapeutic assignment
t.i.d. three times a day
T.O. telephone order
Tab tablet
TB tuberculosis
Tbsp. tablespoon
temp. temperature
thor thorax
thromb thrombosis
TLC tender loving care
TM tympanic membrane (eardrum)
TP treatment plan
TPR temperature, pulse, respiration
tsp. teaspoon
Tx treatment