

Acronyms/Terminology	Definition
<b>ADLs</b>	Activities of Daily Living (Roper, Logan & Tierney Model)
<b>amylase</b>	Enzyme produced by pancreas/salivary glands. Amylase's main job is to digest carbohydrates. When the pancreas is diseased/inflamed, amylase is released into the blood and can be measured.
<b>a/w</b>	Awaiting
<b>AXR</b>	Abdominal X-ray
<b>BC</b>	Blood Culture
<b>BD</b>	bis die = Latin for twice a day
<b>bilateral</b>	Bilateral = both sides (i.e. both kidneys)
<b>BNO</b>	Bowels Not Opened
<b>Bx</b>	Biopsy
<b>Cholangio CA</b>	Cholangiocarcinoma = cancer of the epithelial tissue in the bile ducts which drain bile from the liver into the small intestine.

<b>cholecystitis</b>	Inflammation of the gallbladder, usually due to obstruction of the cystic duct with gallstones, bile builds up in gallbladder causing pressure, then irritation and swelling.
<b>Clexane</b>	Enoxaparin is a low molecular weight heparin, trade names Lovenox, Xaparin and Clexane, among others. It is an anticoagulant used to prevent/treat deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism, and is given as a subcutaneous injection.
<b>clodiprogrel</b>	antiplatelet drug for preventing clotting (trade name Plavix).
<b>CT</b>	X-ray computed tomography (x-ray CT) uses computer-processed x-rays to produce virtual 'slices' of specific areas of the scanned object, allowing the user to see what is inside it without cutting it open.
<b>CTPA</b>	CT pulmonary angiogram = scan of the pulmonary arteries to diagnose pulmonary embolism
<b>CVP</b>	Central venous pressure is the pressure of blood in the thoracic vena cava, near the right atrium of the heart. It describes how much blood is returning to the heart and how efficient the heart is at pumping the blood into the arterial system. It works for approximating right atrial pressure and hence determining a right ventricular end diastolic volume.
<b>CXR</b>	Chest X-ray
<b>Dehissed (wound)</b>	Describes a wound that is open (i.e. where levels beneath the pigment layer of the epidermis are clearly visible)
<b>D &amp; F</b>	Diet and Fluids (i.e. can eat and drink)
<b>Diazepam</b>	Anxiolytic/hypnotic with no excessive sedation or analgesia, but can cause amnesia, hypotension and constipation. Works by increasing GABA (inhibitory neurotransmitter) in brain.
<b>DN</b>	District Nurse

<b>EGFR</b>	Estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate is a test that is used to assess how well your kidneys are working. The test estimates the volume of blood that is filtered by your kidneys over a given period of time. It involves a blood test which measures a chemical called creatinine (a breakdown product of muscle). Creatinine is normally cleared from the blood by the kidneys but if your kidneys are not working properly, the level of creatinine in the blood goes up. The EGFR is then calculated from your age, sex and blood creatinine level.
<b>ERCP</b>	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography = technique that combines the use of endoscopy and fluoroscopy to diagnose and treat certain problems of the biliary or pancreatic ductal systems. Through the endoscope, the physician can see the inside of the stomach and duodenum and inject radiographic contrast into the ducts in the biliary tree and pancreas so they can be seen on X-rays. Primarily done to diagnose problems with pancreas/bile ducts (e.g. gallstones).
<b>ERP</b>	Enhanced Recovery Programme
<b>ESBL</b>	Extended-spectrum beta-lactamase = beta-lactamase is an enzyme that some bacteria produce which breaks the beta-lactam ring in some antibiotics (e.g. penicillin, carbapenams etc.) ESBL bacteria are resistant to a much wider range of antibiotics (e.g. members of the family Enterobacteriaceae commonly show resistance to penicillins but not to expanded-spectrum cephalosporins)
<b>EWS</b>	Early Warning Score
<b>FD</b>	Free Draining
<b>Flatus passed</b>	flatulence
<b>Flomax</b>	Generic name = Tamsulosin Used in the treatment of difficult urination, a common symptom of enlarged prostate. This and other medications in the class called alpha blockers, work by relaxing bladder neck muscles and muscle fibres in the prostate itself and make it easier to urinate.
<b>G/A</b>	General Anaesthetic
<b>Gastrografin</b>	Generic drug name = Diatrizoic acid It is a radiocontrast agent containing iodine.

<b>Gastrojejunal anastomosis</b>	Anastomosis = connection; (e.g. if the stomach has been attached to the jejunum and the duodenum removed – the connection between the remaining parts is an anastomosis or connection/joining)
<b>gent</b>	Gentamicin antibiotic - active against mostly Gram- bacteria including Pseudomonas, Proteus, Serratia, and the Gram+ Staphylococcus. Not used for N. gonorrhoeae, N. meningitidis or Legionella pneumophila infections.
<b>G &amp; S</b>	Group & Save = check blood group and then reserve some for surgery
<b>HDU</b>	High Dependency Unit
<b>Hickman line</b>	A central venous catheter most often used for the administration of chemotherapy or other medications, as well as for the withdrawal of blood for analysis.
<b>HPU</b>	Has Passed Urine
<b>Hydronephrosis</b>	'water on the kidney' = distension and dilation of the renal pelvis and calyces, usually caused by obstruction of the free flow of urine from the kidney.
<b>IDDM</b>	Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus
<b>ileostomy</b>	A surgical opening constructed by bringing the end or loop of small intestine (the ileum) out onto the surface of the skin, waste passes through the opening into a stoma.
<b>incarcerated umbilical hernia</b>	An umbilical hernia is a sac formed from the inner lining of your abdominal cavity that pushes through a hole in the abdominal wall at the belly button.
<b>IV ABX</b>	Intravenous antibiotics

<b>IVI</b>	Intravenous Infusion
<b>(L)</b>	Left Eye
<b>L/A</b>	Local Anaesthetic
<b>laproscopic</b>	Keyhole surgery
<b>MDT</b>	Multi Disciplinary Team
<b>MI</b>	Myocardial Infarction = heart attack
<b>MRCP</b>	Magnetic Resonance Cholangiopancreatography = MRI scan to produce pictures of the liver, bile ducts, gallbladder and pancreas.
<b>MSU</b>	Midstream Specimen of Urine = used to test for infection.
<b>MUST score</b>	Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool
<b>NAD</b>	Means results were negative.
<b>NBM</b>	Nil By Mouth
<b>Neb</b>	Nebuliser

<b>nephrostomy</b>	<p>An artificial opening created between the kidney and the skin which allows for urinary diversion directly from the renal pelvis.</p> <p>An urostomy is a related procedure performed more distally along the urinary system to do the same thing.</p>	
<b>NG (tube)</b>	Nasogastric (tube)	
<b>NIDDM</b>	Non-Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus	
<b>NJ (tube)</b>	Nasojejunal (tube)	
<b>OGD</b>	<p><b>Oesophagogastrroduodenoscopy</b> = a diagnostic endoscopic procedure that shows the upper part of the gastrointestinal tract up to the duodenum.</p>	
<b>OT</b>	Occupational Therapist	
<b>PCA</b>	Patient-Controlled Analgesia	
<b>PE</b>	Pulmonary Embolism = blockage of a main artery in the lung	
<b>Pigtail drain</b>	<p>Drain inserted and then curled using a wire to help keep the drain stay in. Uncurl to remove.</p>	
<b>Piriton</b>	<p>Generic name = Chlorphenamine It is an antihistamine used in the prevention of the symptoms of allergic conditions such as rhinitis and urticaria.</p>	

<b>plastics</b>	Plastic surgery
<b>PR (bleed)</b>	Per Rectal (bleed)
<b>PTC</b>	Percutaneous transhepatic cholangiography (PTHC or PTC) or percutaneous hepatic cholangiogram is a radiologic technique used to visualize the anatomy of the biliary tract. A contrast medium is injected into a bile duct in the liver, after which X-rays are taken. It allows access to the biliary tree in cases where endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) has been unsuccessful.
<b>PRN</b>	Pro Re Nata = Latin for as required
<b>PUed</b>	Passed Urine
<b>Ⓡ</b>	Right Eye
<b>ROU</b>	Recurrent Oral Ulceration
<b>rpt</b>	Repeat
<b>RUQP</b>	Right Upper Quarter (abdominal) Pain – can be sign of liver/gallbladder disease.
<b>SB</b>	Seen By/SKIN Bundle (NB! check context)

<b>SC</b>	Self Caring
<b>Sed.</b>	Sedation
<b>Siggy</b>	Sigmoid colon
<b>SKIN bundle</b>	Surface, Keep moving, Incontinence, Nutrition = a tool to help identify/prevent pressure ulcers.
<b>SPC</b>	Suprapubic Catheter
<b>stoma</b>	A stoma (ostomy) is a surgically created opening on the abdomen which allows stool or urine to exit the body. There are 3 main types of stoma – colostomy (colon opening), ileostomy (end of small intestine opening) and urostomy (ureter + small piece of intestine opening).
<b>STU</b>	Surgical Triage Unit
<b>SW</b>	Social Worker
<b>T.A.C.E</b>	Transcatheter arterial chemoembolization is a minimally invasive procedure performed in interventional radiology to restrict a tumour's blood supply. Small embolic particles coated with chemotherapeutic agents are injected selectively into an artery directly supplying a tumour.
<b>TAZ</b>	Tazocin = Piperacillin/tazobactam is a combo antibiotic of piperacillin (extended-spectrum penicillin) and tazobactam ( $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor). Trade name Tazocin (UK) or Zosyn (USA). It works for many Gram+ and Gram- bacteria (e.g. Pseudomonas aeruginosa).
<b>TCI</b>	To Come In

<b>TEDS</b>	Thromboembolism-deterrent Stockings = compression socks used to support the venous and lymphatic drainage of the leg.
<b>TPN</b>	Total Parenteral Nutrition = patient will be Nil By Mouth and fed intravenously.
<b>Trop I</b>	Troponin I = regulatory protein (one of three Troponin C, T and I) that controls the calcium-mediated interactions between actin and myosin in cardiac and skeletal muscles. Troponin I and T are specific to cardiac muscles so those are used to diagnose MI.
<b>TTO</b>	To Take Out = prescriptions for patients to take home with them when they leave care on the ward.
<b>TVN</b>	Tissue Viability Nurse
<b>TWOC</b>	Trial With Out Catheter
<b>USS</b>	Ultrasound Scan
<b>VIP score</b>	Visual Infusion Phlebitis score = check done to assess redness/pain/infection of a line insertion site.
<b>VTBI</b>	Volume To Be Infused (amount of drug left to go in the body)
<b>Waterlow</b>	Assessment tool used to predetermine risk of developing a pressure sore

<p><b>whipple</b></p>	<p>Pancreaticoduodenectomy = usually performed to treat cancerous tumours, it is the removal of the distal half of the stomach (antrectomy), the gall bladder and its cystic duct (cholecystectomy), the common bile duct (choledochectomy), the head of the pancreas, duodenum, proximal jejunum, and regional lymph nodes.  Reconstruction consists of attaching the pancreas to the jejunum (pancreaticojejunostomy) and attaching the hepatic duct to the jejunum (hepaticojejunostomy) to allow digestive juices and bile respectively to flow into the gastrointestinal tract and attaching the stomach to the jejunum (gastrojejunostomy) to allow food to pass through.</p>
<p><b>Zomorph</b></p>	<p>Generic drug name = morphine sulphate It is an opioid analgesic.</p>