

Commonly Used Medical Acronyms and Terminology

0/5	Absent Strength- no observable movement
1/5	Trace Strength- able to activate the muscle group, movement may or may not occur
2/5	Poor Strength- able to move with gravity eliminated or some movement against gravity
3/5	Fair Strength- able to move against gravity but cannot accept resistance to movement
4/5	Good Strength- able to move against gravity and accept some resistance
5/5	Normal Strength- able to move against gravity and accept full resistance
↑	increased
↓	decreased
A	Assist
A+Ox3	Alert and Oriented to person, place and time
ABduction	Movement AWAY from the middle
Absent Strength	0/5- no observable movement
A.D.	Assistive device
ADDuction	Movement TOWARD the middle
ADL	Activities of daily living
AEA	Above Elbow Amputee
AFO	Ankle-Foot-Orthosis (brace)
AKA	Above Knee Amputee
ALS	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
Amb	Ambulation
Anterior	Front of the body
AROM	Active range of motion
ASIA	American Spinal Cord Association
ASIS	Anterior Superior Iliac Spine- a bony landmark on the pelvis
B	Bilateral or Both
BEA	Below Elbow Amputee
BID	twice a day
BKA	Below Knee Amputee
BLE	Bilateral (or Both) Lower Extremities
BOS	Base of Support
BP	Blood Pressure
BS	Bowel Sounds or Breath Sounds
BUE	Bilateral (or Both) Upper Extremities
c	with
c/o	complains of
CAD	Coronary Artery Disease
CGA	Contact Guard Assistance (touching)
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
COG	Center of gravity
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CP	Cerebral Palsy
CTA	Clear to Auscultation (lungs)
CVA	Cerbral Vascular Accident (stroke)
D	Dependent
d/c	discharge
Dependent Balance	Unable to move within the base of support, full external support required
Distal	Away from the trunk (ie; hands and feet)
DM	Diabetes Mellitus
Dorsiflexion	Flexion of the ankle
Dx	Diagnosis
Dyspnea	Shortness of breath
ELR	Elevating leg rest
EtOH	Alcohol
Extension	Straightening of a limb
Fair Balance	Able to move within the base of support and accept minimal to no balance challenges
Fair Strength	3/5- able to move against gravity but cannot accept resistance to movement
FIM score of 0	The activity does not occur
FIM score of 1	Total Assistance-The patient expends less than 25% of the effort

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FIM score of 2	Maximal Assistance- The patient expends 25% - 49% of the effort
FIM score of 3	Moderate Assistance- The patient expends 50% - 75% of the effort
FIM score of 4	4- The patient expends more than 75% of the effort
FIM score of 5	Supervision- Standby, cueing or coaxing, without physical contact
FIM score of 6	Modified Independence- The patient uses an adaptive or assistive device
FIM score of 7	Complete Independence
Flexion	Bending of a limb
FWW	Front wheeled walker or Four wheeled walker
Good Balance	Able to move outside the base of support and accept mild balance challenges
Good Strength	4/5- able to move against gravity and accept some resistance
h/o	history of
HTN	Hypertension (high blood pressure)
Hx	History
I	Independent
IADL	Instrumental activities of daily living
Inferior	Toward the foot
KAFO	Knee-Ankle-Foot Orthosis (brace)
L	Left
Lateral	Further from the midline of the body
LE	Lower Extremity
LLE	Left Lower Extremity
LOB	Loss of balance
LUE	Left Upper Extremity
MAX	Maximal assistance
Maximal Assistance	2- The patient expends 25% - 49% of the effort
MD	Muscular Dystrophy
Medial	Nearer to the midline of the body
MI	Myocardial Infarction (heart attack)
MIN	Minimal assistance
Minimal Assistance	4- The patient expends more than 75% of the effort
MMT	Manual muscle (strength) test
MOD	Moderate assistance
Moderate Assistance	3- The patient expends 50% - 75% of the effort
MOD I	Modified independent
MS	Multiple Sclerosis
MRADL	Mobility related activities of daily living
MVA	Motor vehicle accident
MWC	Manual wheelchair
NIIDM	Non-Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus
NKA	No known allergies
Normal Balance	Able to move outside the base of support and accept full balance challenges
Normal Strength	5/5- able to move against gravity and accept full resistance
OA	Osteoarthritis
OI	Osteogenesis Imperfecta
PAD	Peripheral Artery Disease (same as PVD)
PCA	Personal Care Assistant
Plantarflexion	Extension of the ankle (pointing the toe)
PMD	Power mobility device
Poor Balance	Able to move within the base of support with the assistance of external support (holding on)
Poor Strength	2/5- able to move with gravity eliminated or some movement against gravity
Posterior	Rear of the body
POV	Power operated vehicle (scooter)
ppt	Posterior Pelvic Tilt (slouched sitting posture)
PRN	As needed
PROM	Passive range of motion
Proximal	Near the trunk (upper arm, thigh)
pt.	patient
PVD	Peripheral Vascular Disease (same as PAD)

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PWC	Power wheelchair
QID	Four times a day
R	Right
r/o	rule out
RA	Rheumatoid Arthritis
RLE	Right Lower Extremity
ROM	Range of Motion
RUE	Rght Upper Extremity
s	without
s/p	status post
s/t	stated that
Sx	Symptoms
SBA	Stand By Assistance (near but not touching)
SCI	Spinal Cord Injury
SMA	Spinal Muscular Atrophy
SOB	Shortness of Breath
Superior	Toward the head
Supervision	5- Standby, cueing or coaxing, without physical contact
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
TID	Three times a day
Total Assistance	1- The patient expends less than 25% of the effort
Trace Strength	1/5- able to activate the muscle group, movement may or may not occur
UE	Upper Extremity
WC	Wheelchair
WFL	Within Functional Limits
WNL	Within Normal Limits