

## Abbreviations

Care should be taken with the use and interpretation of abbreviations. Some hospitals and specialities have their own lists of accepted abbreviations. The following examples generally are widely accepted although there is often more than one meaning to an abbreviation. Latin terms should be written in lower case.

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
A & P	Auscultation and Percussion	APH	Ante Partum Haemorrhage
A, Acc	Accommodation	ARD	Acute Respiratory Disease
ABE	Acute Bacterial Endocarditis	ARF	Acute Respiratory Failure, Acute Renal Failure
ABG	Arterial Blood Gas	AS	Aortic Stenosis
AC	Air Conduction, Alternating Current, Adrenal Cortex, Axiocervical	ASD	Atrial Septal Defect
ac	Before Meals	ASHD	Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease
ACG	Angiocardiography	AV	Atrioventricular, Arteriovenous
ACTH	Adrenocorticotrophic Hormone	AVN	Aretervenous Malformation
ADH	Antidiuretic Hormone	BA	Barium
ADL	Activities Of Daily Living	BBB	Bundle Branch Block
AE	Above The Elbow, Air Entry	BBT	Basic Body Temperature
AF	Atrial Fibrillation	BC	Bone Conduction
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome	BCC	Basal Cell Carcinoma
AJ	Ankle Jerk	bd (bid)	Twice Daily (Bis In Die)
AK	Above The Knee	BE	Below The Elbow
AML	Acute Myoblastic Leukaemia	BK	Below The Knee
AMI	Acute Myocardial Infarction	BMR	Basal Metabolic Rate
ANC	Antenatal Clinic	BP	Blood Pressure
ANF	Antinuclear Factor	BPM	Beats Per Minute
AP	Abdominal Peritoneal	BS	Bowel Sounds
		BUN	Blood, Urea, Nitrogen
		bx	Biopsy

## 2 Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
C̄	With	CRF	Chronic Respiratory Failure, Chronic Renal Failure
C/O	Complains Of	C & S	Culture and Sensitivity
C1, C2, etc	First And Second Cervical Vertebrae Etc. (C1-7)	CSF	Cerebrospinal Fluid
Ca	Calcium	CT Scan	Computerised Axial Tomography
Ca	Carcinoma	CVA	Cerebral Vascular Accident
CABG	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft	CVP	Central Venous Pressure
CAL	Chronic Airway Limitation	CVS	Chorionic Villus Sampling
CBC	Complete Blood Count	Cx	Cervix
C/C, CC	Chief Complaints	CXR	Chest X-Ray
cc	With Meals		
CCF	Congestive Cardiac Failure	D & C	Dilatation And Curettage
CCU	Coronary Care Unit	DIP	Distal Interphalangeal (Joint)
CDC	Calculated Date Of Confinement	DKA	Diabetic Ketoacidosis
CDH	Congenital Dislocation Of Hip	DM	Diastolic Murmur
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure	DOB	Date of Birth
CIS	Carcinoma In Situ	DVT	Deep Vein Thrombosis
cm	Centimeters	Dx	Diagnosis
CNS	Central Nervous System	ECG	Electrocardiogram
C/O	Complains Of	EDC	Estimated Date Of Confinement
COAD	Chronic Obstructive Airways Disease	EEG	Electroencephalogram.
COH	Carbohydrate	EGU	Evacuation Of A Gravid Uterus
COLD	Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease	EMG	Electromyogram
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	ENG	Electronystagmogram
CPAP	Continuous Positive Airway Pressure		

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
ENT	Ear, Nose And Throat
E/O	Excision Of
EOM	Extraocular Muscles
EPF	Exophthalmos Producing Factor
EPS	Exophthalmos Producing Substance
ERCP	Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio- pancreatography
ESR	Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate
EUA	Examination Under Anaesthetic
FBC	Full Blood Count
FBS	Fasting Blood Sugar
FH	Family History
FS	Frozen Section
FSH	Follicle Stimulating Hormone
F/U	Follow Up
FX, #	Fracture
GA	General Anaesthetic
GH	Growth Hormone
GI	Gastrointestinal
GIT	Gastrointestinal Tract
Grav	Pregnancies
GTT	Glucose Tolerance Test
GU	Genitourinary
Gyn.	Gynaecology

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
HD	Hip Disarticulation
Hg	Mercury
HI	Hypodermic Injection
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HNPU	Has Not Passed Urine
HVD	Hypertensive Vascular Disease
Hx	History
IDDM	Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus
IF	Interstitial Fluid
IHD	Ischaemic Heart Disease
IM	Intramuscular
IOP	Intraocular Pressure
IS	Intercostal Space
IUCD	Intrauterine Contraceptive Device
IV	Intravenous
IVC	Inferior Vena Cava
IVP	Intravenous Pyelogram
K	Potassium
KB	Knee Bearing
KUB	Kidneys, Ureters, Bladder
L	Left (Also S - Sinistro)
L	Litre

## 4 Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
L1, L2, etc	First And Second Lumbar Vertebrae Etc. (L1-L5)	MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
LA	Left Atrium	MS	Mitral Stenosis Multiple Sclerosis
LFT	Liver Function Tests	MSU	Mid Stream Urine
LH	Luteinising Hormone	MUA	Manipulation Under Anaesthetic
LIF	Left Iliac Fossa	MVA	Motor Vehicle Accident
LLQ	Lower Left Quadrant	Myop.	Myopia
LMP	Last Menstrual Period		
LOM	Limitation Of Motion		
LR	Light Reaction		
LRQ	Lower Right Quadrant	N0	No Regional Lymph Node Abnormality Demonstrated
LRT Tract	Lower Respiratory Tract	N1, N2, N3, N4	Indicates The Degrees Of Lymph Node Abnormality
LRTI	Lower Respiratory Tract Infection	Na	Sodium
LUSC	Lower Uterine Caesarian Section	NAD	No Abnormality Detected/ No Acute Distress
LV	Left Ventricle	NB	Newborn
LVF	Left Ventricle Failure	NIDDM	Non Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus
		NOAD	No Other Abnormality Detected
M	Murmur	nocte	Night
M0	No Evidence Of Lymph Node Metastases	NOF	Neck Of Femur
M1, M2, M3, M4	Indicates The Degree/ Extent of Metastases	NPO	Nil By Mouth
mane	Morning	NSAIA	Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agent
MBA	Multiple Biochemistry Analysis	NSAID	Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug
mg	Milligrams		
MH	Marital History		
MI	Myocardial Infarction, Mitrial Incompetence	O/E	On Examination
		O/A	On Admission
mict.	Micturition		
MR & F	Manual Rotation And Forceps		

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
OA	Osteoarthritis	pp	Post Prandial (After Meals)
Obs., OBS	Obstetric	PPH	Post Partum Haemorrhage
OD	Oculus Dexter (Right Eye)	Pr	Presbyopia
OGTT	Oral Glucose Tolerance Test	pr	By Rectum
OPD	Out Patients Department	PRA	Plasma Renin Activity
Ophth., Oph	Ophthalmology	prn	As Needed (Pro Re Nata)
ORIF	Open Reduction And Internal Fixation	Pt	Patient
OS	Oculus Sinister (Left Eye)	PTS	Permanent Threshold Shift
OU	Oculus Uterque (Each Eye)	PUO	Pyrexia Of Unknown Origin
p.c.	After Meals (Post Cibum)	PV	Per Vagina
PA	Pulmonary Artery	PVD	Peripheral Vascular Disease
PAP	Papanicolaou Smear	q6h	Every Six Hours
Para	Term Deliveries	q8h	Every 8 Hours
pc	After Meals	qd	Every Day
PD	Provisional Diagnosis	qid	Four Times At Day (Quaque In Die)
PE	Physical Examination, Pulmonary Embolism	(R)	Right; (Also D - Dextro)
PI	Present Illness	R/O	Removal Of, Rule Out
PID	Pelvic Inflammatory Disease	RA	Rheumatoid Arthritis
PIP	Proximal Interphalageal (Joint)	RA	Right Atrium
PH	Past History	RBC	Red Blood Cell, Red Blood Count
PNS	Peripheral Nervous System	RER	Renal Excretion Rate
PO	Post Operatively	RF	Rheumatic Fever
po	By Mouth (Per Os)	RHF	Right Sided Heart Failure
POP	Plaster Of Paris		

## 6 Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
RIF	Right Iliac Fossa	T0	No Evidence Of Primary Tumour
RLQ	Right Lower Quadrant	T1 to T12	Indicates Thoracic Vertebrae e.g. (T1, T2)
R/O	Removal Of	T1, T2, T3, T4	Indicates Size/ Progression/ Involvement Of Tumour
ROM	Range Of Motion	TAH	Total Abdominal Hysterectomy
RTI	Respiratory Tract Infection	TBL1	Term Birth, Living Infant
RV	Right Ventricle	tds (tid)	Three Times A Day (Ter In Die)
Rx	Prescription, Treatment	TDT	Tone Decay Test
̄	without	TFT	Thyroid Function Tests
s	left (sinistro)	TH	Total Hysterectomy
S1	First Sacral Vertebrae	THDSO	Total Hysterectomy And Double Salpingo-Oophorectomy
SCC	Squamous Cell Carcinoma	THR	Total Hip Replacement
SD	Shoulder Disarticulation	TIA	Transient Ischaemic Attack
SMR	Submucous Resection (Septectomy)	TIS	Tumour In Situ
SOB	Short Of Breath	TKR	Total Knee Replacement
SOF	Shaft Of Femur	TLC	Total Lung Capacity
SOH	Shaft Of Humerus	TOP	Termination Of Pregnancy
sos	If Necessary (Si Opus Sit)	TSS	Toxic Shock Syndrome
stat.	Immediately And Once Only (Statim)	TTS	Temporary Threshold Shift
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease	TUD	Transurethral Diathermy
STS	Serology Test For Syphilis	TURP	Transurethral Resection Of The Prostate Gland
SVC	Superior Vena Cava	TX	Tissue Cannot Be Assessed
SVF	Supraventricular Fibrillation		
SVT	Supraventricular Tachycardia		
Sx	Sign, Symptom		
SXR	Skull X-Ray		

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
UA, Ua	Urine Analysis	VF	Ventricular Fibrillation
URQ	Upper Right Quadrant	VT	Ventricular Tachycardia
URT	Upper Respiratory Tract	VHD	Valvular Hear Disease
URTI	Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	WBC	White Blood Cell, White Blood Count
UTI	Urinary Tract Infection	WNL	Within Normal Limits
VC	Vena Cava		

**Symbols**

<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
6/12	6 months	$\infty$	Infinity
6/52	6 weeks	<	Less than
16/40	16 weeks of pregnancy	$\leq$	Less than or equal to
$\rightleftharpoons$	A reversible reaction	$\sigma \square$	Male
$\alpha$	Alpha	$\mu$	Microm
$\cong$	Approximately equal to	$\mu$	Micrometer
$\equiv$	Approximately equals	$\mu\mu$	Micromicron
$\beta$	Beta	mg	milligram
$\dagger$	Death	ml	millilitre
$\downarrow$	Decreased	mm	millimeter
$^{\circ}$	Degree	i	One tablet
$\delta$	Delta	/	Per
$\Delta$	Disease	%	Percent
$\pm$	Either positive or negative, indefinite	+ve	Positive
=	Equals	$\sqrt{\quad}$	Root, square root
$\varnothing \circ$	Female	$\mathcal{R}$	Treatment, recipe, take
#	Fracture, number	$\bar{C}$	With
$\gamma$	Gamma	$\bar{S}, /c$	Without
>	Greater than		
$\geq$	Greater than or equal to		

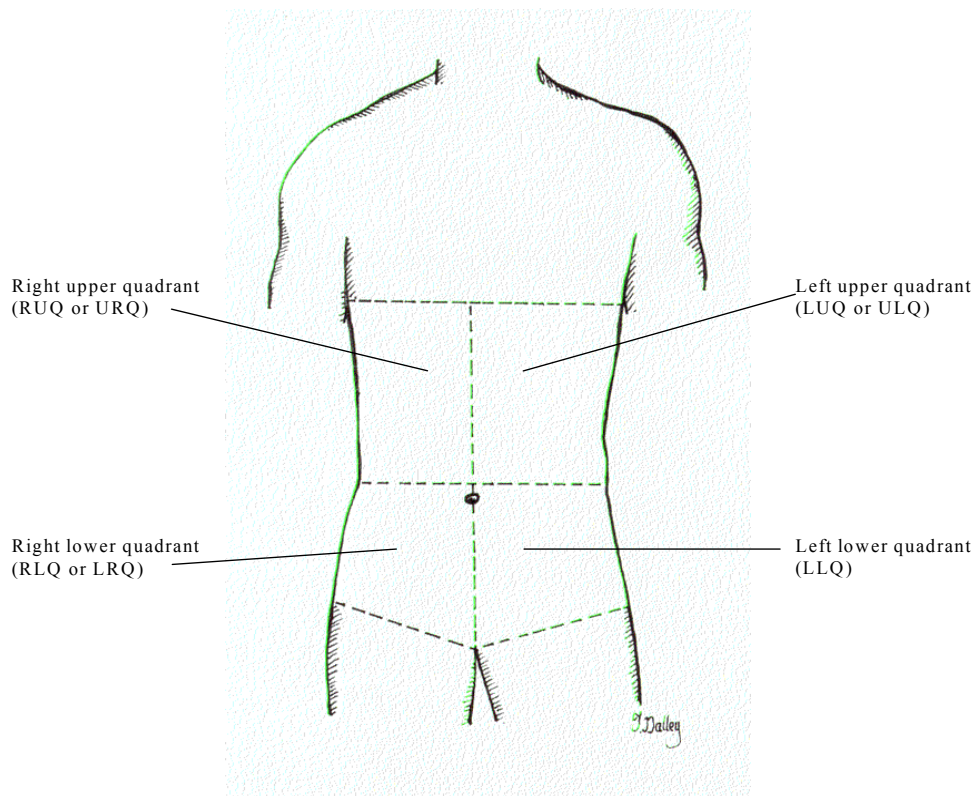


## Anatomical Divisions

Anatomical divisions are always made from **the patients'** point of view.

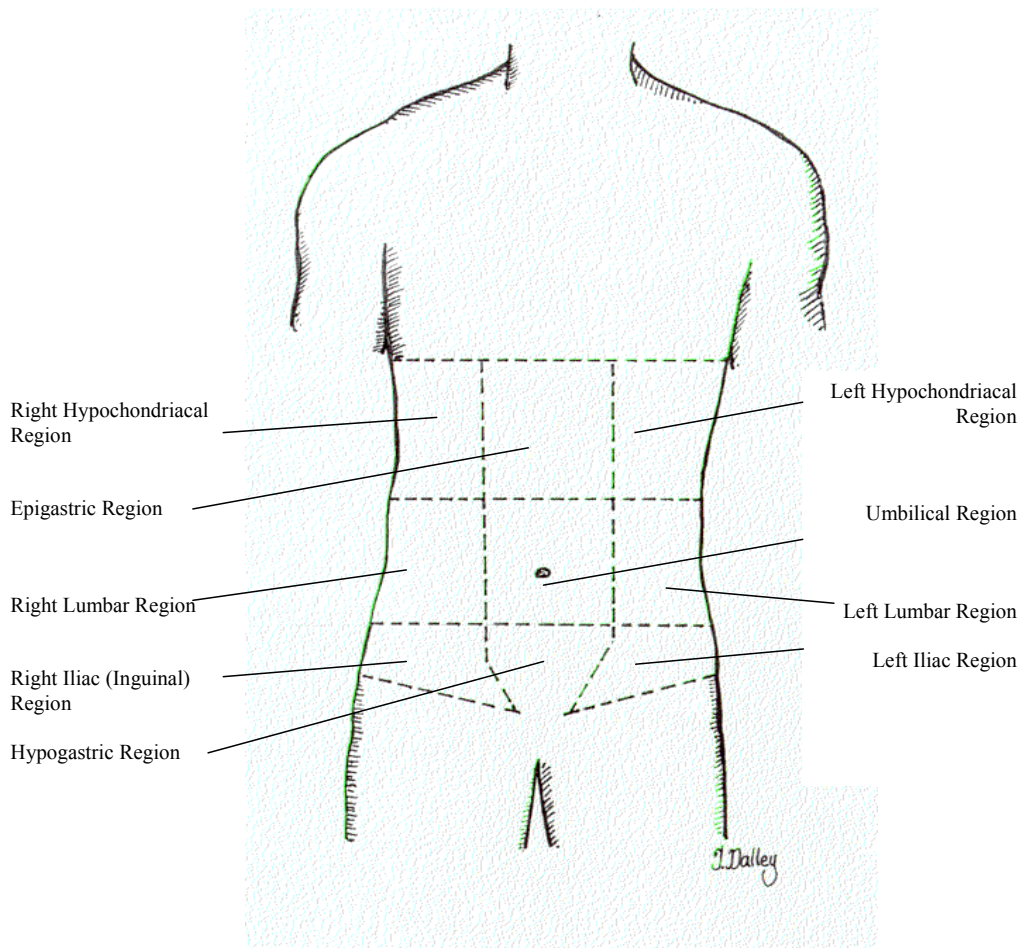
## Clinical Divisions of the Abdomen

These divisions are for clinical examination and reporting. The abdomen is divided into four quadrants with the umbilicus or navel being the intersecting point.



### Anatomical Regions of the Abdomen

These divisions are for the purpose of locating the internal organs. The abdomen is defined as the body cavity below the chest (thorax), separated by the diaphragm.



**Directional and Positional Terms:**

**abduction**—away from

**adduction**—towards

**afferent**—conducting towards a structure

**efferent**—conduction away from a structure

**anterior (ventral)** —front

**posterior (dorsal)**—back

**coronal (frontal)**—vertical body plane/ divides into front & back

**distal** —furthest from the centre or given point

**proximal**—nearest the centre or given point

**eversion**—turning outward

**extension**—straightening

**flexion**—bending

**inferior (caudal literally "tail")** —below

**superior (cephalic)**—above

**intermediate**—between medial and lateral

**lateral**—side

**medial (mesial)**—middle, towards the median plane

**median**—in the middle of a structure

**peripheral**—outer edges

**plantar**—pert. to the sole of the foot

**prone**—face or palm down

**supine**—face or palm up

**rotation (version)**—turning

**sagittal**—vertical body plane/ divides into left & right

**transverse**—horizontal plane/ parallel to horizon