

Acronyms and Abbreviations

The following is a list of acronyms and abbreviations that are acceptable for item writers to use without expansion per ABR style and policy. All other terms should be spelled out at first use, followed by the abbreviation or acronym in parentheses. See also *AMA Manual of Style*, 11th edition, 13.11 and 13.12. Questions or comments about this list may be directed to Editing@theabr.org.

2D, 3D, 4D – two-dimensional, three-dimensional, four-dimensional	development, genital abnormalities, ear abnormalities
5-FU – fluorouracil	CLIPPERS – chronic lymphocytic inflammation with pontine perivascular enhancement responsive to steroids
ACGME – Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education	CLOVES – congenital lipomatous overgrowth, vascular malformations, epidermal nevi, and spinal/skeletal anomalies and/or scoliosis
ACR – American College of Radiology	CNS – central nervous system
AI – artificial intelligence	COVID – coronavirus disease
AIDS – acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	COX – cyclooxygenase
AJCC – American Joint Committee on Cancer	CPPD – calcium pyrophosphate deposition disease
ANOVA – analysis of variance	CPR – cardiopulmonary resuscitation
ASCO – American Society of Clinical Oncology (ok on RO exams)	CPT – Current Procedural Terminology
ASTRO – American Society for Radiation Oncology (ok on RO exams)	CSF – cerebrospinal fluid
ATM – ataxia telangiectasia mutated	CT – computed tomography; computed tomographic [image]
ATP – adenosine triphosphate	CTDI – CT dose index
BED – biologically effective dose (ok on RO and MP exams)	CTDI_{vol} – volume of CT dose index
BI-RADS – Breast Imaging, Reporting and Data System	CTDI_w – weighted CT dose index
BMD – bone mineral density	DICOM – digital imaging and communications in medicine
BMI – body mass index	DLCO – diffusion capacity of the lung for carbon monoxide
CADASIL – cerebral autosomal dominant arteriopathy with subcortical infarcts and leukoencephalopathy	DMSA – dimercaptosuccinic acid
CBCT – cone-beam CT (ok on RO and MP exams)	DNA – deoxyribonucleic acid
CFR – Code of Federal Regulations	DSM – Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
CHARGE – coloboma, heart defects, atresia of the nasal choanae, retardation of growth and/or	DTPA – diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid

DVH – dose-volume histogram

DVT – deep vein thrombosis

ECG – electrocardiogram

ECMO – extracorporeal membrane oxygenation

ECOG – Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group

EDTA – ethylenediamine tetraacetate

EDTMP – ethylenediamine tetramethylene phosphonate

EEG – electroencephalogram

EORTC – European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer

ERCp – endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography

ESE – entrance skin exposure

FDA – Food and Drug Administration

FDG – fluorodeoxyglucose

FEV – forced expiratory volume

FEV1 – forced expiratory volume in 1 second

FIGO – International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics

FLAIR – fluid-attenuated inversion recovery

fMRI – functional MRI

GI – gastrointestinal

GU – genitourinary

HASTE – half-Fourier acquisition single-shot turbo-spin-echo

hCG – human chorionic gonadotropin

HELLP – hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, and low platelet count

HIDA – hepatobiliary iminodiacetic acid

HIPAA – Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996

HIV – human immunodeficiency virus

HMPAO – hexamethylpropyleneamine oxime

HPV – human papillomavirus

HU – Hounsfield unit

ICD – International Classification of Diseases

ICRP – International Commission on Radiological Protection

ICRU – International Commission on Radiation Units & Measurement

ICU – intensive care unit

IDA – iminodiacetic acid

IEC – International Electrotechnical Commission

Ig – immunoglobulin

IMRT – intensity-modulated radiation therapy

INR – international normalized ratio

IV – intravenous

kerma – kinetic energy released in matter

KUB – kidneys, ureters, bladder

LD₅₀ – median lethal dose

LET – linear energy transfer

linac – linear accelerator

MAA – microaggregated albumin

MAG-3 – mercaptoacetyltriglycine

MDP – methylene diphosphonate

MELAS – mitochondrial encephalomyopathy, lactic acidosis, and stroke-like episodes

MGMT – methyl guanine methyl transferase

MIBG – metaiodobenzylguanidine

MQSA – Mammography Quality Standard Act

MR – magnetic resonance

MRCP – magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography

MRI – magnetic resonance imaging

MSAD – multiple scan average dose

NCRP – National Council on Radiation Protection & Measurements

NRC – Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NSAIDs – nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
ODI – optical distance indicator
OER – oxygen enhancement ratio
PACS – picture archiving and communication system
PET – positron emission tomography
PHACE – posterior fossa malformations–hemangiomas–arterial anomalies–cardiac defects–eye abnormalities
PHACES – posterior fossa malformations–hemangiomas–arterial anomalies–cardiac defects–eye abnormalities–sternal cleft and/or supraumbilical raphe
PIOPED – prospective investigation of pulmonary embolism diagnosis
POEMS – polyneuropathy, organomegaly, endocrinopathy, monoclonal gammopathy, skin changes
PPD – purified protein derivative
PRF – pulse repetition frequency
PSA – prostate-specific antigen
QUANTEC – Quantitative Analysis of Normal Tissue Effects in the Clinic
RADS – Reporting and Data System
RBC – red blood cell
RBE – relative biological effectiveness
RNA – ribonucleic acid
ROC – receiver operating characteristic
RSNA – Radiological Society of North America
RTOG – Radiation Therapy Oncology Group
RVU – relative value unit
SAPHO – synovitis, acne, pustulosis, hyperostosis, osteitis

SBAR – structure, background, assessment, recommendation
SBRT – stereotactic body radiation therapy (ok on RO and MP exams)
SLAP – superior labrum from anterior to posterior
SNMMI – Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
SPECT – single photon emission computed tomography
SRS – stereotactic radiosurgery (ok on RO and MP exams)
SRU – Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound (ok on Cert/Sub exams)
SSFP – steady-state free precession
STIR – short tau inversion recovery or short T1 inversion recovery
SUV – standardized uptake value
TE – echo time
TGF – transforming growth factor
TIPS – transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt
TNM – tumor, node, metastasis
TORCH – toxoplasmosis, other infections, rubella, cytomegalovirus, herpes simplex virus
TR – repetition time
TURP – transurethral resection of the prostate
UV – ultraviolet
VACTERL – vertebral anomalies, anal atresia, cardiac defects, tracheoesophageal fistula and/or esophageal atresia, renal anomalies, and limb defects
WAGR – Wilms tumor, aniridia, genitourinary malformations (or gonadoblastoma), mental retardation

WBC – white blood cell

WHO – World Health Organization

Acronyms acceptable to use without expansion only on MP exams.

2D FT – Two-dimensional Fourier transform

AAPM – American Association of Physicists in
Medicine

BEIR – Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation

BOLD – blood-oxygen-level dependent (OK for
Diagnostic only)

COR – center of rotation

CZT – cadmium zinc telluride

DWI – diffusion-weighted imaging

EPI – echo-planar imaging (OK for Diagnostic
only)

FWHM – full width at half maximum

HDR – high dose rate (OK for Therapy only)

IR – interventional radiology

MIRD – medical internal radiation dose

MLC – multileaf collimator

MPPG – Medical Physics Practice Guideline

NEMA – National Electrical Manufacturers
Association

NSA – number of signals averaged

OSEM – ordered subset expectation maximization

PDD – percent depth dose

PMT – photomultiplier tube

QA – quality assurance

QC – quality control

SAD – source-to-axis distance

SID – source-to-image distance

SMPTE – Society of Motion Picture and
Television Engineers

SSD – source-to-surface distance

TAR – tissue-air ratio

terma – total energy released per unit

TG – task group (use with AAPM)

TLD – thermoluminescent dosimeter

Names of PET detectors:

BGO, LSO, GSO, LaBr₃, NaI(Tl)

Last updated 2/8/2024