

As a Technician in any veterinary practice your input to accurate and current medical record keeping is essential to the health of the practice. Medical records are legal and binding documents that have a universal code of accepted abbreviations. Below are several examples, which ones do you employ in your every day medical record assessment?



## Medical Abbreviations

<b>a.c.</b> — before food	<b>b.d.s.</b> — to be taken twice daily
<b>BID or b.d.</b> — twice daily	<b>o.m.</b> — every morning
<b>o.n.</b> — every night	<b>p.c.</b> — after food
<b>PRN</b> — repeat as required	<b>p.o.</b> — orally
<b>qd</b> — every day, <i>(used to mean once a day)</i>	<b>q.d.s.</b> — to be taken four times a day
<b>q.h.</b> — every four hours	<b>QID or q.d.</b> — four times a day
<b>qod</b> — every other day	<b>repet. or rep.</b> — repeat
<b>SID</b> — Once Daily	<b>t.d.s.</b> — to be taken three times a day
<b>TID or t.d.</b> — three times a day	<b>u.d.s.</b> — to be taken once daily

## Weight

**g** — grams    **kg** — kilograms    **mg** — milligrams    **mcg** — micrograms

## Volume

**l** — liter    **ml** — milliliter

## Time

**Min** — Minute    **S** — Seconds    **Hr(s)** — Hour(s)    **1 Hour** — 60 Minutes  
**24 hours** — 1440 Minutes    **1 Min** — 60 Seconds

## Unit Conversion Factors

**Kg** — 1 kilogram — 1000 grams *(1000 g)*    **Mg** — 1 milligram — 1000 micrograms *(1000 mcg)*  
**G** — 1 gram — 1000 milligrams    **Mcg** — 1 microgram — 1000 nanograms *(1000 Ng)*

## Common Prefixes

**Deci** — d    **Centi** — c    **Deca** — da    **Kilo** — k    **Milli** — m    **Micro** — u    **Mega** — M  
**10** — ten    **1000** — 1 thousand    **1,000,000** — 1 million    **0.1** — 1/10    **0.01** — 1/100  
**0.001** — 1/1000    **0.000001** — 1/1,000,000    **Kg** — 1 lb x 2.2046    **1 lb** — kg x .4356

## Tech Tip

Hang your medical abbreviation/conversion chart by the medical records for easy access when reading charts.

## References

Moore, Margaret and Palmer, Norman; Calculations for Veterinary Nurses, 2008 Blackwell Publishing. Pages 1-12.

