**Common Medical Abbreviations Used in Notes about Your Care**

**What are some helpful things to know about notes I may see in my medical record in Duke MyChart?**

* Hospital and clinic notes you may read in your Duke MyChart are a tool that health care team members use to document your care and communicate with each other about your care.
* Your notes will often contain abbreviations that help your care team write their notes more quickly and may not be familiar to you.
* readsend a message to a member of your care team through MyChart.
* Below is a list of common medical abbreviations. This list does **not** have all the abbreviations you may see, but it has the terms that are used most often.

**A/P: Assessment and Plan**

**BMI: Body Mass Index (a calculated number based on your height and weight)**

**BMP: Basic Metabolic Profile**

**(a blood test looking at levels of electrolytes and kidney function)**

**BP: Blood Pressure**

**C&S: Culture and Sensitivity (A lab test to attempt to grow bacteria, viruses, or fungi**

**and then test which medications will effectively work to stop the infection)**

**C/O: Complains of – this is a way of abbreviating the fact that you the patient are**

**reporting a symptom to your provider**

**CBC: Complete Blood Count**

**CC: Chief Complaint**

**CCE: clubbing, cyanosis or edema**

**Chemistry: a blood test looking at levels of electrolytes and kidney or liver function;**

**May be referring to either a BMP or a CMP**

**Chem Panel: a blood test looking at levels of electrolytes and kidney or liver function;**

**May be referring to either a BMP or a CMP**

**CKD: Chronic Kidney Disease**

**CMP: a blood test looking at levels of electrolytes, kidney and liver function**

**Coags: Usually referring to blood tests like the PT with INR and PTT that measure how**

**“thin” the blood is and reflect how your liver is working and/or how well blood**

**thinners you are taking might be working**

**D/Dx: Differential Diagnosis (a list of possible diagnoses that your provider thinks**

**might explain your symptoms)**

**DOE: Dyspnea on exertion (this means symptoms of shortness of breath that occur**

**when you exert yourself)**

**DM: Diabetes Mellitus**

**DMII: Diabetes Mellitus Type II**

**ECG/EKG: Electrocardiogram**

**EOMI: Extra-ocular eye movements intact**

**ESRD: End Stage Renal Disease**

**ETOH: Alcohol**

**ETT: Endotracheal tube**

**EXT: Extremities (arms, legs, hands and feet)**

**F/U: Follow-up**

**GI: Gastrointestinal**

**GU: Genito-urinary (referring to the Urinary Tract)**

**H&H: Hemoglobin and Hematocrit (Measures of the number of Red Blood Cells; often**

**checked to rule out anemia)**

**H&P: History and Physical**

**HCT: Hematocrit (Measure of the number of Red Blood Cells; often**

**checked to rule out anemia)**

**HGB: Hemoglobin (Measures of the number of Red Blood Cells; often**

**checked to rule out anemia)**

**HgBA1C: A blood test that measures your average blood glucose control over the last 3**

**months**

**HPI: History of the Present Illness (this is the information you share about the reason**

**for your visit with your provider)**

**HEENT: Head, Ears, Eyes, Nose and Throat**

**HTN: Hypertension (High Blood Pressure)**

**I&D: Incision and Drainage**

**IM: intra-muscular**

**IMP: Impression**

**IV: Intra-venous**

**LBP: low back pain**

**LMP: last menstrual period**

**ND: naso-duodenal (used often to describe a feeding tube connecting the nose to a**

**portion of the small intestine where the food is delivered)**

**Neuro: Neurologic (referring to the Neurologic system)**

**NG: naso-gastric (used often to describe a feeding tube connecting the nose to a**

**the stomach where the food is delivered)**

**NJ: naso-jejunal (used often to describe a feeding tube connecting the nose to a**

**portion of the small intestine where the food is delivered)**

**N/V: nausea and vomiting**

**P: pulse**

**PCP: Primary Care Provider**

**PERRLA: Pupils equal, round and reactive to light and accommodation**

**PLT: Platelets (a portion of your blood that helps to stop bleeding)**

**PMHx: Past Medical History**

**PO: to be taken by mouth**

**PR: to be taken by rectum**

**PRN: As needed**

**PSHx: Past Surgical History**

**Pt: Common abbreviation for patient**

**PT: a measure how “thin” the blood is and reflect how your liver is working and/or**

**how well blood thinners you are taking might be working**

**PT with INR: PT (as defined above) with International Normalized Ratio (INR) – a way to**

**compare PT values between different laboratories; used to help understand**

**how “thin” the blood is and to help adjust the amount of blood thinners a**

**patient might need**

**PTT: another blood test a measure how “thin” the blood is and reflect how your liver is**

**working and/or how well blood thinners you are taking might be working**

**Renal Function Panel: a blood test looking at levels of electrolytes and kidney function;**

**Similar to a BMP (see above)**

**R/O: Rule Out (usually refers to a diagnosis or condition that your provider is actively**

**trying to figure out if you do *not* have)**

**RR: Respiratory Rate**

**SocHx or SH: Social History**

**SOB: Shortness of breath**

**SQ: Sub-cutaneous (under the skin)**

**STI: Sexually transmitted infection**

**T: Temperature**

**TM: Tympanic membrane**

**UA: Urinalysis**

**URI: Upper Respiratory Infection**

**UTI: Urinary Tract Infection**

**VSS: Vital Signs Stable**

**WBC: White blood cell**

**WCC: Well Child Check**

**WT: Weight**