



VA Blue Button: Exploring Your Mental Health Notes

Common Abbreviations and Acronyms

This is a list of some common abbreviations and acronyms used in mental health clinical notes. If you see an acronym not in this list, use the [Veterans Health Library](#) or [Medline Plus](#) for more information.

	2 / 2	secondary to (due to)
A	A&O	alert & oriented
	ACT	acceptance and commitment therapy
	AH/VH	auditory/visual hallucinations
	AMA	against medical advice
B	BP	blood pressure
	BPD	borderline personality disorder
C	c/o	complaint of
	CABG	coronary artery bypass graft
	CBT	cognitive behavioral therapy
	CPT	cognitive processing therapy
	CVA	cerebrovascular accident (also known as a stroke)
D	d/c	discharge or discontinue
	d/o	disorder
	DBT	dialectical behavior therapy
	DM	diabetes Mellitus
	DSM	Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
	Dx	diagnosis
E	etoh	alcohol

F

f/u follow up
fmh or FH family medical history

G

GAF global assessment of functioning

H

h/o or hx history of
HPI history of presenting illness
HR heartrate
HTN hypertension

I

ICD-9/10 International Classification of Diseases (diagnostic codes)

L

LOC loss of consciousness

M

MDD major depressive disorder
MHC mental health clinic
MI myocardial infarction
MI motivational interviewing
MSE mental status exam
MST military sexual trauma
MVA motor vehicle accident

N

nka no known allergies
nm nightmare
NOS not otherwise specified

O

O/Vs objective/vital signs
OCD obsessive compulsive disorder
OD overdose

P

PARQ procedures, alternatives, risks and questions
PCP primary care provider
PE prolonged exposure therapy
pt patient
PTSD posttraumatic stress disorder

R

r/t related to
RO rule-out
ROS review of systems
RTC return to care
Rx medication

S

S.O.A.P subjective, objective, assessment, plan
s/p status post (after)
SA suicide attempt
se side effects
SI/HI suicidal ideation/homicidal ideation
SO significant other
SUD substance use (disorder)
sx symptoms
sz seizure

T

TBI traumatic brain injury
tx treatment

U

UDS urine drug screen

W

w/u work up (diagnostic tests)
wnl within normal limits
Wt weight



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