

COMPUTERIZED PHYSICIAN ORDER ENTRY
TERMS, ABBREVIATIONS AND INFORMATION TO STUDY FOR YOUR EXAM



100% Human	Fully human controls are preferred for immunological methods including those for serum proteins and hormones. Fully human controls are donor tested at source and found to be non-reactive for Hepatitis B and C antigen and HIV I and II antibodies. Human serum offers a matrix consistent with human patient samples.
AAPM	American Association of Physics in Medicine
AAS	Acute Abdominal Series
ABC	Automatic Brightness Control
ABD	Abdomen
ABG	Arterial blood gases
AC	Alternating Current
Accuracy	Agreement between your test result value and the true value; i.e. how correct your result is.
ACE	Angiotensin converting enzyme
ACL	Anterior cruciate ligament
ACR	American College of Radiology
ADC	Analog-to-Digital Converter
ADHD	Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
AEC	Automatic Exposure Control
Affinity	"An attractive force between substances or particles that causes them to enter into and remain in chemical combination, for example; the binding of antibody to antigen."
AFIB	Atrial fibrillation
AGC	Automatic Gain Control
Aggregation	The grouping of units or parts into a mass or whole.
AHRA	American Healthcare Radiology Administrators
AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
Al	Aluminum
ALARA	As Low As Reasonably Achievable
Aliquot	The division of a sample into at least two smaller size vials.
ALP	Alkaline phosphatase
ALS	Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
ALT	Alanine aminotransferase
AMD	Age-related macular degeneration
AMI	Acute myocardial infarction
Amplification	"Amplification generally means an addition to or expansion of a statement or idea. In medical terminology, amplification refers to the selective copying of a gene or any sequence of DNA. This occurs naturally in the body in order to satisfy the increased requirement of individual cells for gene products such as proteins. Amplification also plays a role in cancer cells when a tumor cell copies DNA segments as a result of cell signals or external environmental factors. Artificial amplification is conducted due to its central role in gene research."

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AMU	Atomic mass units
Anabolic Steroid	Anabolic steroids are a group of synthetic steroid hormones that promote tissue growth and the storage of protein; as such they are sometimes used in food producing animals to increase the lean meat to fat ratio.
Analyte	The chemical substance being measured in an assay usually contained in blood or other body fluids.
Anatomical position	"human body standing erect with palms turned forward, used as the position of reference in designating the site or direction of structures of the body"
Antibody	"A protein produced by our body in response to an antigen. There are 5 classes of antibodies (IgG, IgM, IgE, IgA, IgD). The antibody binds to and neutralizes the antigen."
Anticoagulant	A substance that stops the blood from clotting.
Antigen	"Antigens are usually foreign substances which enter the body and trigger the immune system to produce antibodies in order to fight off the potential infection. Antigens can be toxins, foreign blood cells, bacteria or the cells of transplanted organs."
Antimicrobial	The term given to a group of drugs that inhibits the growth or destroys microorganisms.
Antioxidant	A molecule that protects cells from oxidative damage of oxygen and free radical molecules that are chemically unstable and cause random reactions damaging proteins nucleic acids and cell membranes.
Antiserum	A solution of antibody or mixture of antibodies either purified or unpurified used in the manufacture of diagnostic reagents or used as a component of a diagnostic kit.
AODM	Adult onset diabetes mellitus
AP	Anterio-Posterior
APR	Anatomical Programmed Radiography
Aqueous	The term aqueous simply means dissolved in water.
ARNA	American Radiological Nurses Association
ARR	Academy of Radiology Research
ARRS	American Roentgen Ray Society
ARRT	American Registry of Radiologic Technology
a-Se	Amorphous Selenium
a-Si	Amorphous Silicon
Aspiration	"The withdrawal of fluid or tissue, e.g. by a wash probe on an analyzer."
ASRT	American Society of Radiologic Technologists
Assay	A diagnostic test to measure the concentration or level of a particular analyte.
Assay Range	"The assay range describes the highest and lowest concentrations, at which a reaction is still measurable."
Assayed	"Assayed controls are used for the control of accuracy and reproducibility of results. Each parameter has an assigned mean +/- 2SD range generated from up to 3000 independent laboratories world-wide and approximately 98,000 results."
AST	Aspartate aminotransferase

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Avidity	The average affinity of a mixture of antibody to their corresponding antigen.
AVM	Arteriovenous malformation
Ba	Barium
BAS	Barium Swallow
BE	Barium Enema
Be -	Beryllium
Benchtop	"This term simply refers to a position of an object, i.e. 'on top of a bench'. However, in a scientific setting, it is used to describe an analyzer which is small enough to fit on top of a laboratory workbench but is too large to be a point of care system."
Bias	The term bias refers to the difference between the expected result and an accepted reference value.
BID	Twice a day
Biochemistry	Biochemistry is the study of the chemical structures and vital processes which occur in living organisms. Biochemists study the compounds in the body and how these result in chemical processes. They seek to understand such processes both within healthy and unhealthy organisms.
Biochip	Proprietary solid substrate onto which reactive species are prefabricated for the detection of specific analytes.
Biological Variation	The mean for each laboratory's results will not be exactly the same. Individual homeostatic setting points usually vary. This difference is known as biological variation.
Biotechnology	"As the name suggests, this field of study is a combination of biology and technology. It is primarily concerned with the technical exploitation of biological processes. Through microbiological or biochemical techniques, cell cultures, microorganisms or enzymes are used to activate targeted metabolic processes. Used in conjunction with genetic engineering, biotechnology can be used to program certain microorganisms to perform specific tasks."
BIR	British Institute of Radiology
Blood Clotting	"Blood clotting, also known as coagulation performs the vital task of preventing excessive blood loss in the event of injury. Leakage of blood is prevented by the blood cells sticking to the wound. However, clotting can sometimes fail to occur, this is known as hemophilia."
Blood Gas Analysis	"The body has many functions; one critical function is to transport substances such as oxygen, carbon dioxide, nutrients and excretions. Most of these substances are gases; therefore blood gas analysis determines their concentrations in arterial and venous blood."
Blood Screening	Blood screening is used to detect pathogens which cause symptomless diseases. Blood screening is also performed on donated blood to identify and remove any infected blood.
BMI	Body mass index
Bovine	Bovine controls are prepared from certified disease-free animal source material and offer high performance when cost considerations are paramount.

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Bozeman's position	knee-elbow position with straps used for support
BP	Blood pressure
BPH	Benign prostatic hypertrophy
BRCA	Breast Cancer Gene
BS	British Standard
Buffer	"A liquid solution containing a combination of chemicals, which control and maintain the pH of any other solution it is added to."
BUN	Blood urea nitrogen
BW	Bandwidth
C/kg	Coulomb per Kilogram
CA	Cancer OR Calcium
CA-125	Cancer antigen 125
CABG	Coronary artery bypass graft
CAD	Coronary artery disease
Calibration	The process of setting up or standardizing an assay using a calibrator or standard of known concentration. When the data generated is analyzed this can then be used to calculate results for any subsequent sample of unknown concentration. It adjusts the accuracy of an assay method.
Calibrator	"A material, generally serum based with an accurately assigned analytical value, used to calibrate diagnostic assays."
CAT	Computed Axial Tomography
CAU	Caudal
CBC	Complete blood count
CCD	Charge Coupled Device
CD	Compact Disc
CDR	Recordable Compact Disc
Centrifugation	Centrifugation is a process used to separate or concentrate materials suspended in a liquid medium by use of the centrifugal force.
CEU	Continuing Education Unit
CHD	Congenital heart disease / Congenital heart defect
Chemiluminescence	The process in which energy from a chemical reaction is released directly as light.
CHF	Congestive heart failure
Cholesterol	"Cholesterol is a very important and essential part of our diet. Cholesterol is needed for the formation of bile acids, vitamin D, progesterone and much more. LDL is known as the bad cholesterol as it is associated with increased risk of coronary heart disease. HDL is therefore the good cholesterol as elevated HDL levels are associated with decreased risk of coronary heart disease."
Chromogen	A substrate which reacts with an enzyme or directly with the analyte to produce a colored end-point which can subsequently be measured to quantify the concentration of the analyte.
Chromosome	"A chromosome is the carrier of genetic information that is inherited from generation to generation. They exist in every cell nucleus. Cells in humans contain a double set of chromosomes, a total of 23 pairs of chromosomes exist in each human."

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CINE	Cinematographic
Clinical Chemistry	"This field deals with analyzing blood, urine and other body fluids. Their constituents i.e. proteins and enzymes are determined. The results from this analysis is used as a basis for patient diagnosis."
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
CNR	Contrast-to-Noise Ratio
CNS	Central nervous system
Co-enzyme	"A small but complex biochemical which many enzymes require to be able to carry out their function. Examples are NADH, NAD+ and ATP. Many vitamins are co-enzymes."
Colorimetric Methods	"Colorimetric methods result in a colored end product, the intensity of which is directly proportional to the concentration of the analyte being measured at 400-700nm."
Conjugate	This contains the various enzymes labelled analytes or enzyme labelled detection antibodies utilized in an immunoassay to generate a measurable signal.
Consolidation	Extensive analyte menus allow significant consolidation of existing controls. An average laboratory may rationalize from 7 different control products to a single control product.
Control	A serum based material with assigned target values and acceptable ranges to evaluate the accuracy and reproducibility of a diagnostic assay.
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Correlation	A clear positive relation between two methods.
CPK	Creatine phosphokinase
CPR	Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CR	Computed Radiography
CRA	Cranial
CRF	Chronic renal failure
Cross Reactivity	When an antibody binds or reacts with proteins other than the one it is specific for.
CRP	C-reactive protein
CRT	Cathode Ray Tube
CSF	Cerebrospinal fluid. CSF controls are available ensuring the same matrix as the patient sample.
CsI	Cesium Iodide
CT	Computed Tomography
CTDI	Computed Tomography Dose Index
Cu	Copper
Custom Made	"A custom made quality control is manufactured to meet a customer's own specifications. Custom made sera may involve the addition of extra analytes, removal of unwanted analytes, alteration of analyte levels or alteration of vial size."
Cuvette	A reaction vessel (similar to a tube) used in photometric analyzers.
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident
CXR	Chest X-ray

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Cytopathology	Also histopathology; the study of tissue samples of patients to detect diseases.
D&C	Dilatation and curettage
DAP	Dose Area Product
DAS	Data Acquisition System
DC	Direct Current
DDR	Direct Digital Radiography
DECUB	Decubitus
Decubitus position	an act of lying down; the position assumed in lying down
Dedicated Reagent	A reagent packed and bar-coded for specific use on one analyzer.
DH	Department of Health
Diabetes Mellitus	"Diabetes is a metabolic condition characterized by high blood sugar levels which result from defects in insulin production. Blood sugar levels are controlled by the hormone; insulin. Blood sugar levels rise after eating; insulin is then released to normalize the level. However, in diabetes patients, insufficient amounts of insulin are produced causing hyperglycemia. Diabetes is a chronic condition which can lead to kidney failure, blindness, stroke and cardiovascular disease."
Diagnostic Kit	A combination of reagents liquid or freeze-dried which can be used in a laboratory to measure specific serum or urine parameters to diagnose and monitor the therapy of specific diseases.
DICOM	Digital Imaging and Communication in Medicine
Disease Marker	A disease marker is any serum component which rises or falls outside its normal range in response to disease.
DJD	Degenerative joint disease
DLP	Dose-Length Product
DM	Diabetes mellitus
DNA	"Deoxyribonucleic acid. DNA is one of two types of molecules which encode genetic information, the other being RNA."
dorsal decubitus	lying on the back.
DQE	Detective Quantum Efficiency
Drug Residue	The small amount of drug left behind in animal products after treatment. Includes any degradation products which are a direct result of the drugs metabolism.
DSA	Digital Subtraction Angiography
DTP	"Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis"
DTPA	Diethylenetriaminepentaacetic Acid
DVD	Digital Video Disc
DVT	Deep-vein thrombosis
DX	Diagnosis
Eb	Electron Binding Energy
EBCT	Electron Beam Computed Tomography
ECG, EKG	Electrocardiogram
ECHO	Echocardiogram
EEG	Electroencephalogram

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ELISA	"Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay. A sample containing an unknown amount of antigen is immobilized on the surface of a micro titer plate. An enzyme labelled antibody specific to the antigen of interest is added and forms a complex with the antigen, a series of washes are then carried out to remove any proteins or antibodies that are not specifically bound. Finally the substrate is added and converted to visible signal which corresponds directly to the quantity of antigen in the sample."
EMG	Electromyography
End-Point	In an end-point reaction the reaction is allowed to go to completion. One final absorbance is measured which will relate directly to the analyte concentration in the sample.
ENT	"Ear, nose and throat"
Enzymatic	Enzymatic methods have gradually replaced classical chemical methods. They provide the laboratory with greater specificity and greater accuracy.
Enzyme	Complex proteins that are produced by living cells and catalyze specific biochemical reactions.
EPI	Echo Planar Imaging
Epitope	The part of the antigen (on its surface) that can be recognized by the antibody.
ERCP	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography
ESR	Electron Spin Resonance / Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
ESRD	End Stage Renal (Kidney) Disease
ETL	Echo Train Length
eV	Electron Volt
FA	Flip Angle
FATSAT	Fat Saturation
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FDD	Focus to detector distance
FE	Field Echo
FFT	Fast Fourier Transform
FID	Focus to Isocenter Distance
FID	Free Induction Decay / Focus to Isocenter Distance
FOV	Field Of View
Fowler's position	"head of the patient's bed is raised 18-20 inches above the level, with the knees also elevated."
FPR	Fluoroscopy Programmed Radiography
FPS	Frames Per Second
Fragmentation	"When something is broken up, the resulting smaller parts are called fragments. Fragmentation occurs during a PCR (polymerase chain reaction) and can be conducted by heating of chromosomes or parts of the DNA."
Freeze Drying	"Also called lyophilization, is a process in which an unstable mixture of chemicals can be stabilized by removing water and then sealed under a vacuum in a glass vial."

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FSE	Fast Spin Echo
FSH	Follicle stimulating hormone
FT	Fourier Transform
Fully Automated	"With a fully automated system all assay steps are performed automatically, the operator is only required to load reagents/samples and to program the instrument."
GCF	Grid Conversion Factor
GC-MS	Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrophotometry. A technique that combines gas liquid chromatography and mass spectrophotometry to identify different substances or components within a test sample.
Gd	Gadolinium
Gd2O2S	Gadolinium Oxysulphide
GE	Geometric Efficiency / General Electric / Gradient Echo
Gene	"A gene is the basic biological unit of heredity or genetic features. Genes are essentially the building blocks which allow proteins to control the diversity of processes within each human body, such as fighting infections."
Gene Expression	"Gene expression is the translation of the information encoded in a gene into another form, i.e. protein or RNA, this translation process is known as transcription."
Genetics	"Genetics is the study of heredity, for example the passing of characteristics such as eye color and even the transmission of genetic diseases. This enables scientists to further understand such diseases and therefore potentially improve diagnostic and treatment options. There are many different types of genetics including classical genetics, clinical genetics, forensic genetics and pharmacogenetics."
Genomics	"Genomics is the study of genes and their functions. It is interested in the structure of the genome, which carries all the genetic material, like a blueprint. Genomics studies how molecular mechanisms and genetic factors affect disease."
GERD	Gastroesophageal reflux disease
GFR	Glomerular filtration rate
GI	Gastrointestinal
Glucose	"Glucose, or dextrose, as it also known, is the main sugar produced by the body and is the primary source of energy. Glucose is made from fats, proteins and carbohydrates and is transported via the bloodstream to individual cells. Cells then require insulin to be able to use the glucose effectively."
Growth Promoter	"The term growth promoter is used to describe a class of drugs that have growth promoting properties. They are often used to improve the ability of food producing animals to efficiently and effectively use nutrients in order to produce leaner, more affordable meat."
GU	Genitourinary
Gy	Gray
H+	Hydrogen Density

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Half-life	"The time required to break down and eliminate half the concentration of a substance. At half the concentration a drug stops being effective, so the half-life indicates the amount of time that a drug will be effective."
Harvesting	"To remove or extract, (as living cells, tissues or organs) from a living being or a culture."
HAV	Hepatitis A virus
HBV	Hepatitis B virus
HCT	Hematocrit
HCV	Hepatitis C virus
HDL	High density lipoprotein
Hematology	The study of blood and its components. Blood is an important transport mechanism for essential nutrients. Hematology studies disorders associated with blood such as coagulation.
Hemoglobin	"The protein in the center of a red blood cell (erythrocyte), that is responsible for binding and delivering oxygen to the body. It also gives blood its red color."
Hemolysis	Lysis of red blood cells with liberation of hemoglobin; a hemolyzed sample is red.
HGB	Hemoglobin
HIS	Hospital Information System
Histogram	"Compares the distribution of your instrument group, method group and all method groups"
Histopathology	Also Cytopathology; the study of tissue samples of patients to detect diseases.
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
HPLC	High Performance Liquid Chromatography is a method used in clinical chemistry to separate a mixture of compounds and identify the individual components.
HPV	Human papilloma virus
HRT	Hormone replacement therapy
HTN	Hypertension
HU	Hounsfield Unit
Human-based	Human based controls are donor tested at source and found to be non-reactive for Hepatitis B and C antigen and HIV I and II antibodies. Human serum offers a matrix consistent with human patient samples.
Hybrid	A specially cultivated cell which contains components from one or more genomes.
Hybridoma	A hybrid cell produced by the fusion of an antibody-producing lymphocyte with a tumor cell and used to culture continuously a specific monoclonal antibody.
Hz	Hertz
IBD	Inflammatory bowel disease
IBS	Irritable bowel syndrome
ICD	Implantable cardioverter defibrillator
ICRP	International Commission on Radiological Protection
ICU	Intensive care unit

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IDDM	Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (can be type I or type II)
IFCC	The International Federation of Clinical Chemistry
II	Image Intensifier
IM	Intramuscular
Immunoaffinity Columns	Used to clean up samples for analysis by HPLC or ELISA. They work by binding and removing the target analyte from a variety of different sample types.
Immunoassay	An assay that makes use of the affinity of an antibody to a particular antigen. Specific antigens and antibodies in the body can be indicators of specific diseases or disorders. An immunoassay test gathers information on the quantity of these antigens and antibodies.
Immunochemistry	"A part of immunology, immunochemistry looks into the chemical detection of immune reactions."
Immunoturbidimetry	A method of measuring turbidity that is created during a chemical reaction between antigen and antibody.
In Vitro	A procedure carried out outside a living organism.
In Vivo	A procedure carried out within a living organism.
Inert	Inert means chemically non-reactive.
Interferent	A substance that interferes in any way with a chemical reaction and gives false results.
IR	"Inversion Recovery, Interventional Radiology"
ISE	Ion Selective Electrode
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IUD	Intrauterine device
IV	Intravenous
IVP	Intravenous Pyelogram
IVU	Intravenous Urogram
JRCERT	Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
KeV	Kiloelectron Volt
Kg	Kilogram
Kinetic	A diagnostic test where the speed of the reaction is measured and the rate at which the signal is produced will reflect the analyte concentration.
Knee-chest position	the patient resting on knees and upper chest
Knee-elbow position	the patient resting on knees and elbows with the chest elevated
kVp	Kilovoltage Peak
LAO	Left Anterior Oblique
lateral decubitus	"lying on one side, designated right lateral d. when the subject lies on the right side and left lateral d. when he lies on the left side"
Latex Slide Test	Latex slide tests are simple manual tests performed on a disposable card or glass slide.
LCD	Low Contrast Detail / Liquid Crystal Display
LC-MS	Liquid Chromatography - Mass Spectrophotometry
LCR	Low Contrast Resolution
LDL	Low density lipoprotein
LFT	Liver function tests

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LI	Linear Interpolator
Ligation	The binding together of two substances.
LIH	Last Image Hold
Limit of Detection (LOD)	The LOD refers to the smallest quantity of analyte that can be detected and distinguished from the blank with a reasonable degree of certainty.
Linearity	"In chemical terms; expression of the proportional relationship between response and concentration over a defined range. It is used to describe the highest concentration, at which a reaction is still measurable."
Lipid	A lipid is a water insoluble substance and is the name of a large class of structurally and functionally diverse molecules. Important lipids include fatty acids.
Lithotomy position	the patient supine with hips and knees flexed and thighs abducted and externally rotated.
LPO	Left Posterior Oblique
LSF	Line Spread Function
LT	Left
LUT	Look Up Table
Lyophilized	The term lyophilized refers to a material that has been freeze-dried. Freeze-drying is a process by which an unstable mixture of chemicals can be stabilized by removing water and then sealed under a vacuum in a glass vial.
Lysis	"A process of disintegration or dissolution of cells. For example, hemolysis is the dissolution of red blood cells."
mA	Milliamperage
MAMMO	"Mammography, Mammogram"
Manual	In manual tests the functional steps are carried out by hand and the reactions measured using a spectrophotometer. Results are not produced directly and the operator will generally have to perform calculations or plot a graph to generate meaningful data.
mAs	Milliampere Seconds
Maximum Residue Limits (MRL)	The maximum residue limit refers to the maximum permissible level according to legislation of a chemical or group of chemicals in human or animal feed.
Mayer position	"a radiographic position that gives a unilateral superoinferior view of the temporomandibular joint, external auditory canal, and mastoid and petrous processes."
MDA	Medical Devices Agency
MDCT	Multi-Detector Computed Tomography
MDD	Medical Device Directive
Metabolism	The general term given to describe the body's chemistry and all its biochemical reactions and transformations. It refers more specifically to the body's ability to turn food into energy.
Metabolite	Any biochemical compound which plays a key role in the metabolism of the body.
MI	Myocardial infarction

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Microarray	"Microarrays consist of many probes attached chemically to a substrate with a very small surface. This surface could be a glass slide or a microchip. Each probe, which holds genetic information, can detect many different genes at the same time. Microarrays can be used to assist in the detection of genetic variations."
Microbiology	"The study of microorganisms, such as bacteria, viruses and parasites."
MinIP	Minimum Intensity Projection
MIP	Maximum Intensity projection
MMR	"Measles, mumps, and rubella"
Mo	Molybdenum
MOD	Magneto-Optical Disc
Molecular Biology	Molecular Biology is the study of biology on a molecular level. It examines the structure and function of biologically important molecules within an organism in order to study viruses. It also encompasses biochemistry and genetics.
Molecule	A molecule is the smallest possible unit in a chemical compound. It is made up of at least two atoms held together by bonding forces. H ₂ O is an example of a molecule.
Monoclonal	Cells derived from a single origin.
MRA	Magnetic Resonance Angiography
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MRS	Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy
MRSA	Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
MS	Multiple sclerosis
MSAD	Multiple Scan Average Dose
MSCT	Multi-Slice Computed Tomography
MTF	Modulation Transfer Function
Mutation	"In a strict sense, mutations are changes in genes caused by genetic recombination. A change in the base sequence of DNA for example, represents to a mutational change. It is a permanent structural change in the DNA. Some mutations can be harmless and have no effect whilst others can be harmful. Mutations can be inherited."
Myocardial Infarction (MI)	"This is a heart attack. A heart attack occurs when a coronary artery is suddenly blocked by a blood clot. This causes the death of heart muscle. This blockage deprives the heart of blood and oxygen, therefore causing serious injury to the heart which causes pain in the chest. The damage can be irreversible if the blood flow is not started again quickly."
Mz	Magnetization Vector
NCRP	National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurement
Near patient testing	"This term is used to describe a rapid diagnostic test or testing platform which allows clinicians to respond quickly to critical situations. Near patient testing can be performed in a doctor's office, in the emergency room or other near patient sites. It enables the clinician to decide on diagnosis and potential treatment at the site of testing, for a rapid diagnosis thus improving patient outcome."
NEMA	National Equipment Manufacturers Agency
NEQ	Noise Equivalent Quanta

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NEX	Number of Excitations
NG	Nasogastric
NIDDM	Non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
NKDA	No known drug allergies
Normal Range	"The normal range refers to the results expected from a healthy individual. It is important to note that results may vary with age, gender and geographical location."
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NRPB	National Radiological Protection Board
NSAID	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug
OBL	Oblique
OCD	Obsessive-compulsive disorder
OD	Optical Density
Oncology	This field of medicine examines tumors and cancerous conditions and the subsequent treatment options as well as diagnosis.
PA	Postero-Anterior
PACS	Picture Archive and Communications System
PAD	Peripheral arterial disease
PAP	Papanicolaou
Parameter	Another term often used to describe the analyte being tested in an assay.
PAT	Paroxysmal atrial tachycardia
Pathogen	"A specific causative agent of disease such as bacterium, virus or chemical etc."
Pathological	The concentration of some analytes within the body are altered or caused by disease. Pathological control contains abnormal levels of analytes associated with disease.
Pb	Lead
PBL	Positive Beam Limitation
Peer Group	"A peer group consists of a number of laboratories using the same quality controls, methodology, instrument and reagents as such a peer group can be described as the ideal consensus group."
PET	Positron emission tomography
PFT	Pulmonary function test
pH	This is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of a solution. The activity of all biochemical reactions is influenced by the pH of its surroundings.
Photometry	Photometry describes the measurement of visible light.
PID	Pelvic inflammatory disease
Plasma	The clear amber liquid which is derived from whole blood that has been collected in the presence of an anticoagulant in such a way as to prevent clot formation. Plasma differs from serum in that it contains all the clotting factors and fibrinogen which are lost on clot formation.
PMS	Pre-menstrual syndrome
PMT	Photomultiplier Tube
Point of Care (POC)	The term used for diagnostic testing which takes place at or near the patient's site of care.

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Polyclonal Antibody	A mixture of different antibodies detecting different epitopes on the surface of the same antigen.
POSL	Pulse Optically Stimulated Luminescence Dosimeter
PPD	Purified protein derivative
PPS	Pulses Per Second
Precision	Precision refers to the reproducibility of test results and is a measure of how disperse the values are. Inter-assay and Intra-assay are two distinct measures of this.
PRE-SAT	Presaturation
PRN	As needed
Proliferate	To grow by rapid production of new cells.
Protein	"A protein is a molecule composed of one or more chains of amino acids. Proteins are needed for the function of cells, tissues and organs. They are also essential for muscle, skin and bones."
PSA	Prostate specific antigen
PSF	Point Spread Function
PSP	Photostimulable Phosphor
PT	Prothrombin time
PTCA	Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty
PTH	Parathyroid hormone
PTSD	Post-traumatic stress syndrome
PTT	Partial thromboplastin time
PUD	Peptic ulcer disease
Purify	The removal of unwanted contaminates or cleaning of a protein or chemical so it can be used in a particular application without interference.
PVC	Premature ventricular contraction
QID	Four times a day
R&F	Radiography and Fluoroscopy
RA	Rheumatoid arthritis
RAD	Radiation Absorbed Dose
Random Access	Random access refers to the capability of an analyzer to perform any requested test in any sequence.
RAO	Right Anterior Oblique
RBC	Red blood cell
Reagent	A component of a kit used to carry out a chemical reaction to determine levels of different analytes.
Recombinant Protein	A protein created by artificially inducing a DNA sequence into a living cell.
Reconstitution	The addition of water to a freeze-dried reagent or control material to return it to its former condition.
Reference Method	"Reference methods are generally considered the most accurate for the determination of a specific analyte and are traceable to international standards, enabling inter-laboratory standardization."
REM	Radiation Equivalent Man
RFOV	Reconstruction Field Of View



Rh	Rhodium
RIS	Radiology Information System
RNA	RNA is short for ribonucleic acid. This is a nucleic acid molecule which is similar to DNA but contains ribose rather than deoxyribose. Several classes of RNA exist and all have a key role in protein synthesis. Transfer RNA (tRNA) carries amino acids leading to the formation of protein with a specific amino acid arrangement. Messenger RNA (mRNA) carries the message of the DNA to cells where protein is made. Ribosomal RNA (rRNA) is a component of ribosomes and it functions as a nonspecific site for making polypeptides.
ROI	Region Of Interest
Rose's position	"a supine position with the head over the table edge in full extension, to prevent aspiration or swallowing of blood"
RPO	Right Posterior Oblique
RSNA	Radiological Society of North America
RSV	Respiratory syncytial virus
RT	Right / Registered Technologist
Rx	Prescription
SAD	Seasonal affective disorder
Sandwich Assay	"An immunoassay; the solid phase (such as a biochip) for the assay is coated or spotted with antibodies. When the antigen is added in the first step, the antigen binds to the antibody. Then a second antibody, or conjugate, is added, the conjugate is labelled with an enzyme soluble substrate to produce either a color (ELISA) or a chemiluminescent signal (biochips). The strength of the signal can be measured and used to calculate the analyte concentration."
SAR	Specific Absorption Rate
SCAR	Society for Computer Applications in Radiology
SCP	Service Class Provider
SCR	Silicon Controlled Rectifier
Screening	Screening is conducted to detect diseases and conditions at an early stage within an at-risk group. Its main aim is to identify those individuals who have disease-causing pathogens in their system and thus initiate effective treatment as quickly as possible.
SCU	Service Class User
SE	Spin Echo
Semi-automated	Semi-automated methods still require some interaction by the operator. The pipetting of reagents and reaction incubation steps are carried out manually however results are read and calculated by the analyzer.
Semi-Fowler position	similar to Fowler's position but with the head less elevated
Sensitivity	The ability to detect small quantities of a measured component.
Serum	"The clear amber liquid that is derived from clotted blood by centrifuging and removing the red blood cells. Serum is a complex mixture of hundreds of different proteins, sugars, fats and salts and is the starting material for most diagnostic tests. Many control products are serum based to ensure the matrix is the same as the patient sample."

**COMPUTERIZED PHYSICIAN ORDER ENTRY
TERMS, ABBREVIATIONS AND INFORMATION TO STUDY FOR YOUR EXAM**



SFOV	Scan Field Of View
Shift	The term shift is often used to describe an abrupt or sudden change in results.
SID	Source to Image Distance
SIDS	Sudden infant death syndrome
Sims position	"patient on the left side and chest, the right knee and thigh drawn up, the left arm along the back."
SLE	Systemic lupus erythematosus
SNR	Signal to Noise Ratio
SOB	Shortness of Breath
SONO	"Sonogram, Sonography"
Specificity	The ability of a method to measure solely the component of interest.
Spectrophotometer	An instrument for measuring the relative light intensities.
Spectrum	"Different wavelengths of light occur when any form of light (e.g. white light, UV) is dispersed. The different wavelengths can then be filtered and used to perform various photometric assays for the detection of different analytes."
SPR	Scan Projection Radiograph
SSD	Surface Shaded Display
Stability	The shelf life of a substance or component after manufacture it has been opened or reconstituted.
Standard	An aqueous solution containing a known level or concentration of analyte that will not change and can be used to calculate diagnostic results. Normally used to calibrate manual or semi-automated tests.
Standardization	Standardization is the process of developing and agreeing upon technical standards.
STD	Sexually transmitted disease
Substrate	The specific biochemical compound or compounds which an enzyme will act upon and convert into product.
Sv	Seivert
T	Tesla
T3	Triiodothyronine
T4	Thyroxine
TAH	Total abdominal hysterectomy
TB	Tuberculosis
TCDD	Threshold Contrast Detail Detectability
TDI	Time Delay Integration
TE	Echo Time
TFT	Thin Film Transistor
Throughput	The term throughput is used in clinical chemistry to describe the number of tests an analyzer is capable of carrying out in a given time period.
TI	Inversion Time
TIA	Transient ischemic attack
TIBC	Total iron binding capacity
TID	Three times a day

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Titer	A value expressed as a fraction that gives the highest dilution of a solution in which a particular analyte can still be measured e.g. Antibody titer.
TLD	Thermoluminescent Dosimeter
TMJ	Temporomandibular joint
TOMO	"Tomography, Tomogram"
TORCH	Stands for a group of infections that may cause birth defects
TR	Repetition Time
Traceability	Traceability ensures that laboratory results can be traced back to standards and methods that are recognized accurate.
Trendelenburg position	"patient is supine on a surface inclined 45 degrees, head at the lower end and legs flexed over the upper end."
Troponin T (or I)	A sensitive and specific marker of myocardial infarction
TSH	Thyroid stimulating hormone
TURP	Transurethral resection of prostate gland
UGI	Upper Gastrointestinal Series
Unassayed	Unassayed controls are generally referred to as precision controls and are used only for the control of reproducibility of results. Lot specific approximate values are assigned from a consensus mean of results from independent laboratories for the most common method.
URI	Upper respiratory infection
US	"Ultrasound, Ultrasonography"
UTI	Urinary tract infection
UV Method	A method of determining the concentration of a particular analyte in a blood sample. The molecule of interest absorbs UV light and creates a detectable signal proportional to the analyte concentration.
ventral decubitus	lying on the stomach
Verticosubmental position	"radiographic position that gives an axial projection of the mandible, including the coronoid and condyloid processes of the rami, the base of the skull and its foramina, the petrous pyramids, the sphenoidal, posterior ethmoid, and maxillary sinuses, and the nasal septum."
VR	Volume Rendered / Volume Rendering
W	Tungsten
Waters' position	"radiographic position that gives a posteroanterior view of the maxillary sinus, maxilla, orbits, and zygomatic arches"
WBC	White blood cell
WIP	Work In Progress
XR	X-ray
XRT	Radiotherapy