



# KEY TO UNITS AND ABBREVIATIONS

• ARUP style:

- Where multiple abbreviations appear for a concept, the preferred ARUP style is bolded.
- Italicized or Greek symbols (e.g.,  $\mu$ ) are used only in ARUP's Laboratory Test Directory and not in interface code or on patient charts
- When combining abbreviations (e.g., mg/gCRT), the preference is to eliminate extra spaces. Character limitations for the reference value field in laboratory information systems vary from 6 to 10 characters.

- Units of measure used in FDA-approved special kits supersede the ARUP preferred style.

Preferred format: [unit]/[unit][analyte]		
cpy/mL	IU/mL	nmolBCE
CFU/mL	mg/gCRT	U/gHb
g/24h	mOsm/kg	umol/gCRT
g/5h	ng/mL/h	umolZPP/molHg

- For information regarding ARUP's compliance with UCUM, refer to the [ARUP and The Unified Code for Units of Measure document](#).
- This compilation represents the possible abbreviations used within the past seven years that may appear on a patient chart and/or in test entries in the ARUP Laboratory Test Directory.

Abbreviation	Word or Phrase	Abbreviation	Word or Phrase	Abbreviation	Word or Phrase
#	number	CAP	College of American Pathologists	DFA	direct fluorescent antibody
% pct	percent	CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	dL	deciliter
–	index unit	CFU	colony forming unit	DN	dibucaine number
–	Kronus unit	CLSI	Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute	eGFR	estimated glomerular filtration rate
Å	ångström	CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	EGFR	epidermal growth factor receptor gene
Ab/ab Abs/abs	antibody or antibodies	cP	centipoise unit	EIA	enzyme immunoassay
Alc	alcohol	CPM	counts per minute	EIU	enzyme immunoassay unit
<b>A1c</b> HbA1c	A1c hemoglobin	CPM	minute (counts per minute)	ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
AMA	American Medical Association	CPT	Current Procedural Terminology	ETU	endotoxin unit
Ag/ag	antigen	cpy	copy/copies	EU	ELISA unit
APL	IgA phospholipid unit	<b>CRT</b>	creatinine	FFPE	fresh-frozen, paraffin-embedded tissue
ARC	acid-resistant cells	CR		EV	ELISA value
ASHI	American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics	Creat		fL	femtoliter
AU	arbitrary unit	crt		<b>g</b>	gram
BAL	bronchoalveolar lavage	CVS	clean-voided specimen	gm	
BCE	bone collagen equivalents	<b>24h</b>	1 day/24 hour time period	GF	glomerular filtrate
BU	Bethesda unit	d		GPL	IgG phospholipid unit
C	Celsius [centigrade]	Day		<b>Hb</b>	hemoglobin
CAE units	complement activity enzyme unit	day		Hg	
CAG repeats	detection of mutation	24 hours		Hem	
		24-hour		Hgb	
		24-hr.		<b>h</b>	hour
		24 hrs		hr.	
		24h		hrs	
		deg C	degree centigrade (Celsius)	hours	
		Degrees C		hr	

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HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act	mg	milligram	PChE	pseudocholinesterase
HPLC	high-performance liquid chromatography	mgA/I	milligrams antigen/ specific antibody (allergy testing)	PEG	polyethylene glycol
HPF	high-powered field	microIU	micro-international unit	PEG INF	pegylated interferon
IFA	indirect fluorescent antibody	<b>umol</b> uM μM Umol	micromole	<b>pmol</b> pmo	picomole (picomolar)
IFE	immunofixation electrophoresis	M/uL	million per microliter	pg	picogram
IM	intramuscular	<b>mmol</b> mM Mmol	millimole	PO	oral
ISR	immune status ration	MIC	minimum inhibitory concentration	qPCR	real-time (quantitative) polymerase chain reaction
IU	international unit	Min min	minute	–	ratio
IV	index value	mIU	milli-international unit	RBC rbcs	red blood cells
kDA	kilodalton	MGL	IgM phospholipid unit	RT-PCR	reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction
k/uL	kilo per microliter	mL	milliliter	sat	saturation
kU/L	kilounit per liter (allergy testing)	MLPA	multiplex ligation-dependent probe amplification	SAU	standard IgA beta-2 glycoprotein unit
kg	kilogram	mmHg	millimeter of mercury	sec	second
kPa	kilopascal	<b>mol</b> Mol	mole	SGU	standard IgG beta-2 glycoprotein unit
L	liter	MoM	multiple of the mean	SMU	standard IgM beta-2 glycoprotein unit
LC-MS	liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry	<b>mOsm</b> mOs	milliosmole	SNP	single nucleotide polymorphism
LC-MSMS	liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry	MS	mass spectrometry	TPN	total parenteral nutrition
LI	Lyme index	mU	milliunit	TU	titer unit
LIV	Lyme index value	NGS	next-generation sequencing	U	unit
lb lbs	pound	<b>nmol</b> nMol nM	nanomole	uL	microliter
LIA	microlatex particle-mediated immunoassay	ng	nanogram	μL	
log cpy	log copy	<b>OD</b> O.D.	optical density	<b>ugE</b> microgE μgE	microgram equivalents
log IU	log international unit	Pa	pascal	WB	whole blood
LOINC	Logical Observation Identifier Names and Codes	PCR	polymerase chain reaction	WBC	white blood cells
LPF	low-powered field			ZPP	zinc protoporphyryn
<b>ug</b> mcg microg μg	microgram			wk	week
				<b>y</b> yrs	year