



# KEY TO UNITS AND ABBREVIATIONS

This compilation represents possible abbreviations and units of measure used within the past 7 years that may appear on a patient chart and/or in test information found in the ARUP Laboratory Test Directory. Specific information about ARUP's compliance with the Unified Code for Units of Measure (UCUM) can be viewed [here](#).

## ARUP style:

- When multiple abbreviations/units appear for a concept below, the preferred ARUP style is bolded.
  - Units of measure used in FDA-approved special kits will supersede ARUP-preferred style.
- Italics, super- or subscripting, Greek letters, and special symbols (eg, degree symbol) are used only in the Laboratory Test Directory and will not be transmitted across the client interface or used on patient charts.
- When units of measure are used in combination (eg, mg/gCRT), the preferred style is to eliminate extra spaces. Maximum character limits for the reference interval field in most laboratory information systems vary between 6 to 10 characters
  - Preferred order of units/abbreviations used in combination is [unit]/[unit][analyte]
  - Extra-long units of measure may often be explained in another location on the patient chart, such as interpretive information or in a footnote comment.

Abbreviation	Word or Phrase
<b>A1c</b> , HbA1c	A1c hemoglobin
ARC	acid-resistant cells
Alc.	alcohol
AMA	American Medical Association
ASHI	American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics
Å	ångström
mgA, I	antibody (allergy testing)
Ab, ab; Abs, abs	antibody, antibodies
Ag, ag; Ags, ags	antigen, antigens
AU or U	arbitrary unit
APL	IgA phospholipid unit
ASHI	American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics
AU	arbitrary unit
BU	Bethesda unit
BCE	bone collagen equivalents
BAL	bronchoalveolar lavage
C	Celsius (centigrade)
cP	centipoise unit
CVS	clean-voided specimen
CAP	College of American Pathologists
CFU	colony forming unit
CAE units	complement activity enzyme unit
cpy	copy, copies
CPM	counts per minute
<b>CRT</b> , CR, Creat, Crt	creatinine
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology
Da	Dalton

Abbreviation	Word or Phrase
dL	deciliter
deg C, °C, C	degree centigrade (Celsius)
deg F, °F, F	degree Fahrenheit
CAG repeats	detection of mutation
DN	dibucaine number
EU	ELISA unit
EV	ELISA value
ETU	endotoxin unit
EIA	enzyme immunoassay
EIA U	enzyme immunoassay unit
<i>EGFR</i>	epidermal growth factor receptor gene (case and format sensitive)
eGFR	estimated glomerular filtration rate (case and format sensitive)
fL	femtoliter
FFPE	fresh-frozen paraffin-embedded tissue
GF	glomerular filtrate
<b>g</b> , gm	gram
GPL	IgG phospholipid unit
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
<b>Hb</b> , Hg, Hem, Hgb	hemoglobin
HPLC	high-performance liquid chromatography
HPF	high-powered field
<b>h</b> , hr, hr., hrs	hour, hours
APL	IgA phospholipid unit
GPL	IgG phospholipid unit
MGL	IgM phospholipid unit
ISR	immune status ration

## KEY TO UNITS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Word or Phrase
IFE	immunofixation electrophoresis
–	index unit
IV	index value
IFA	indirect fluorescent antibody
IU	international unit
IM	intramuscular
k/uL	kilo per microliter
kDa	kilodalton
kg	kilogram
kPa	kilopascal
kU/L	kilounit per liter (allergy testing)
–	Kronus unit
LC-MS	liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry
LC-MS/MS	liquid chromatography/tandem mass spectrometry
L	liter
Log	log
log cpy	log copy
log IU	log international unit
MS	mass spectrometry
<b>mU</b> , $\mu$ U	micro unit
ugE	microgE
<b>ug</b> , mcg, microg, $\mu$ g	microgram
$\mu$ gE	microgram equivalents
microIU	micro-international unit
MP MIA	microlatex particle mediated immunoassay
$\mu$ L, $\mu$ L	microliter
<b>umol</b> , uM, Umol	micromole, micromole
mg	milligram
mIU	milli-international unit
mL	milliliter
mmHg	millimeter of mercury
<b>Mmol</b> , mM, Mmol	millimole
M/uL	million per microliter
<b>mOsm</b> , mOs	milliosmole
mU	milliunit
MIC	minimum inhibitory concentration
Min, min	minute
CPM	minute (counts per minute)

Abbreviation	Word or Phrase
<b>mol</b> , Mol	mole
MoM	multiple of median
<b>MLPA</b>	multiplex ligation dependent probe
ng	nanogram
<b>nmol</b> , nMol, nM	nanomole
NGS	next generation sequencing
#	number
<b>24h</b> , D, Day, day, 24 hours, 24-hr., 24 hrs	one day, 24 hour time period
<b>OD</b> , O.D.	optical density (equivalent to absorbance)
PO	oral
ppm	parts per million
Pa	pascal
%	pct percent
PEG INF	pegylated interferon
pg	picogram
<b>pmol</b> , pmo	picomole (picomolar)
PEG	polyethylene glycol
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
lb, lbs	pound, pounds
PChE	pseudocholinesterase
–	ratio
qPCR	real-time (quantitative) polymerase chain reaction
RBC, Rbcs	red blood cells
RT-PCR	reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction
sat	saturation
sec	second
SNP	single nucleotide polymorphism
spp.	species
SAU	standard IgA beta-2 glycoprotein unit
SGU	standard IgG beta-2 glycoprotein unit
SMU	standard IgM beta-2 glycoprotein unit
TU	titer unit
TPN	total parenteral nutrition
U	unit
wk	week
WBC	white blood cells
WB	whole blood