

COMMONLY USED ABBREVIATIONS

Apex	Heart rate
APH	Antepartum haemorrhage
Apnoea	Respiratory pause > 20 seconds
ARM	Artificial rupture of membranes
ASD	Arterial septal defect
AXR	Abdominal x-ray
B/P	Blood pressure
BPD	Bronchopulmonary dysplasia
Bradycardia	Heart rate < 88 beats per minute
Breech	Buttocks delivered first
Cephalic	Head delivered first
CHD	Congenital heart disease
CLD	Chronic lung disease
CMV	Continuous mandatory ventilation
CPAP	Continuous positive airways pressure
CTG	Cardio-tachygraph (measures fetal heart rate in conjunction with uterine contractions)
CXR	Chest x-ray
DIC	Disseminated intravascular coagulation
Dusky/ Cyanosed	Blue in colour
EBM	Expressed breast milk
ECMO	Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation
EDD	Estimated date of delivery
ELLSCS	Elective lower segment caesarean section
EMLSCS	Emergency lower segment caesarean section
ETT	Endotracheal tube
FBC	Full blood count
FBS	Fetal blood sample
FFD	Fit for discharge
FFP	Fresh frozen plasma
FIO2	Inspired oxygen concentration

FSE	Fetal scalp electrode
FTNVD	Full-term normal vaginal delivery
G	Gravida (number of pregnancies)
Gest	Gestational age
GOR	Gastro-oesophageal reflux
Grunting	Noise made on expiration (often heard in babies with RDS)
HDN	Haemolytic disease of the newborn; Rhesus incompatibility / ABO
HFOV	High frequency oscillation ventilation
HMD	Hyaline membrane disease
HVS	High vaginal swab
I/E Ratio	Inspiration / expiration ratio
IDDM	Infant of insulin dependent diabetic mother
IPPV	Intermittent positive pressure ventilation
IUGR	Intrauterine growth retardation
IVH	Intra-ventricular haemorrhage
IVI	Intravenous infusion
IVN	Intravenous nutrition
Jaundice	Yellow in colour
LBW	Low birth weight < 2.5kg
LL	Long line
LMP	Last menstrual period
LP	Lumbar puncture
LSCS	Lower segment caesarean section
MAP	Mean airway pressure or mean arterial pressure
MSB	Mean serum bilirubin
NAS	Neonatal abstinence syndrome
NBFD	Neville Barnes forceps delivery
NEC	Necrotising enterocolitis
NG	Nasogastric
NICU	Neonatal intensive care unit
NNU	Neonatal unit
NO	Nasopharynx, Nasal prong

NPA	Nasopharyngeal aspiration
NVD	Normal vaginal delivery
OGT	Orogastric tube
OP	Oropharynx
P	Parity (number of live deliveries)
PcO ₂	Partial carbon dioxide
PCV	Packed cell volume
PDA	Patient ductus arteriosus
PEEP	Positive end expiratory pressure
PET	Pre-eclampsia toxemia
PFC	Persistent fetal circulation
PICU	Paediatric intensive care unit
PIE	Pulmonary interstitial emphysema
PIH	Pregnancy induced hypotension
PMH	Past medical history
PO ₂	Partial oxygen
POH	Past obstetric history
PPH	Postpartum haemorrhage
Pre-term	Born before 37 weeks' gestation
PROM	Prolonged rupture of membranes (if >24 hours duration there is an increased risk of infection for the baby)
PTV	Patient triggered ventilation
RDS	Respiratory distress syndrome
Resps	Respiratory rate
RLF	Retrolental fibroplasias
ROM	Rupture of membranes
ROP	Retinopathy of prematurity
SCBU	Special care baby unit
SFD	Small for dates
SIMV	Synchronised intermittent mandatory ventilation
SPA	Suprapubic aspiration
SROM	Spontaneous rupture of membranes
STOP	Surgical termination of pregnancy

Tachycardia	Heart rate >180 beats per minute
Tachypnoea	Respirations > 60-70 per minute
TcPO2	Transcutaneous partial oxygen monitoring
Term	Born between 37 – 42 weeks' gestation
TOF	Tracheo-oesophageal fistula
TOP	Termination of pregnancy
TORCH	Screen for infection: Toxoplasmosis and others, e.g. Rubella, Cytomegalovirus and herpes
TPN	Total parenteral nutrition
TTN	Transient tachypnoea of the newborn
Type 1 dip on CTG	Heart rate falls with contraction
Type 2 dip on CTG	Heart rate falls, no relation to contractions
UAC	Umbilical arterial catheter
USS	Ultrasound scan
UVC	Umbilical vein catheter
Ventouse	Suction extraction (Kiwi – commonly used type of suction cup)
Volume guided	Alternative form of ventilation