 **Medical Abbreviations Study Guide**

**Common Medical Abbreviations & Their Meanings**

* **ac** – Before meals (*Ante Cibum*), commonly used in medication instructions to indicate when a drug should be taken.
* **bid or B.I.D.** – Two times a day (*Bis in Die*), often seen on prescriptions.
* **NSAID(s)** – Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, a class of medications used to reduce pain, inflammation, and fever.
* **gtt(s).** – Drop(s) (*Guttae*), frequently used in ophthalmic or liquid medications.
* **hs or H.S.** – Hours of sleep (bedtime) (*Hora Somni*), used for medications or instructions related to sleep.
* **mg. or Mg** – Milligrams, a unit of measurement for weight in the metric system, often used for dosing medications.
* **SQ or sq.** – Subcutaneous (under the skin), indicating an injection method used for insulin, vaccines, and other drugs.
* **SL or sL.** – Sublingual, referring to medication that is placed under the tongue for rapid absorption.
* **PRN.** – *Pro Re Nata* – as needed or necessary, used in medical prescriptions to indicate that a drug should be taken only when required.
* **q** – Every (*Quaque*), used in prescriptions to denote frequency.
* **qd** – Every day (*Quaque Die*), instructing daily medication intake.
* **qid or QID** – Four times a day (*Quater in Die*), used for frequent dosing schedules.
* **qod** – Every other day (*Quaque Altera Die*), alternating day dosage.
* **q2h** – Every two hours, ensuring consistent medication or monitoring intervals.
* **qam** – Every morning (*Quaque Ante Meridiem*), prescribing medications or treatments upon waking.
* **tid or TID** – Three times per day (*Ter in Die*), indicating medication administration three times daily.
* **RDA** – Recommended daily allowances, referring to dietary guidelines for essential nutrients.
* **TPR** – Temperature, pulse, and respirations, three critical vital signs monitored in healthcare settings.
* **MAR** – Medication Administration Record(s), a document used by healthcare providers to track medications given to patients.
* **DC’d or D/C** – Discontinue, meaning a medication or treatment is stopped, often noted in patient records.