



Acronym Cheat Sheet

AA	Alcoholics Anonymous
Al-Anon	support group for family members of alcoholics
ABX	antibiotics
AC	before meals: medication given AC or before meals
AD	administrative discharge: treatment team has decided to discharge the patient early due to behavioral issues or other problems
ADL	activities of daily living: self-care activities in normal, everyday life
A/E	adverse effects: usually refers to a medication (for example, “no a/e from this medication”)
AMA	against medical advice (for example, “the patient left AMA”)
AMP	amphetamines
AAOx3	awake, alert, and oriented to person, place, and time
AODE	Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Entity: Stepworks’ licensure designation by Kentucky
Appt	appointment
ASAM	American Society of Addiction Medicine: produces criteria for substance abuse treatment (pronounced “A-sam,” rhymes with “pay Sam”)
ASI	Addiction Severity Index: semi-structured interview designed to address seven potential problem areas in substance-abusing patients
AVH	auditory and visual hallucinations
BAR	barbiturates
BHSO	Behavioral Health Service Organization: a designation by Kentucky for Medicaid purposes
BID	twice a day: medication given twice a day (pronounced: “B-I-D”)
BP	blood pressure
BUP	buprenorphine: a medication used for opiate withdrawals and MAT (often pronounced “bup” for short)
BZD	benzodiazepines (often “benzos” for short)
CADC	Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor
LCADC	Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor

TCADC	Temporary Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor: a temporary certification while fulfilling the requirements of a CADC
CARF	Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities: Stepworks' accreditation body (pronounced "karf")
CD	chemical dependency
CIWA	Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment for Alcohol: 10-item scale used in the assessment and management of alcohol withdrawal (generally pronounced "kye-a-wah," rhymes with "cry-a-wah," but sometimes pronounced "sea-a-wah")
COB	close-of-business (generally 5:00 P. M.)
COWS	Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale: 11-item scale used to rate and monitor a patient's opiate withdrawal (pronounced like the animal: "cows")
CSW	Clinical Social Worker
D/C	discharge
D/C	can also mean discontinue (when referring to medications or detox status)
DTX	detox: level of care requiring higher level of medical treatment
DX	diagnosis
EDC	estimated date of confinement: a pregnant patient's due date
EMR	electronic medical record, sometimes called EHR (electronic health record)
EPS	extrapyramidal symptoms: a side-effect of some medications that includes tremors or repetitive movements such as finger rolling
ETOH	ethanol or alcohol
EtG	a laboratory test that detects recent alcohol use (three to five days)
FMLA	Family Medical Leave Act: gives employees who meet certain requirements the ability to take a leave of absence from work without the risk of losing their job
FSBS	finger stick blood sugar
F/U	follow-up
FYL	fentanyl
GLC	glucose/sugar level
H/A	headache
HI	homicidal ideation
HWH	halfway house
IM	intramuscular: describes medication injected into the muscle (pronounced "I-M")

IOP	intensive outpatient treatment: three hours of treatment at least three times a week (We sometimes have patients whose insurance has dictated this level of care, but we provide housing to them at no additional cost.)
KASPER	a report that lists the narcotics filled at all Kentucky pharmacies for a patient (pronounced "Casper" like the friendly ghost)
LCADC	Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor
LCSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker
LE	late-entry: used in the EMR to describe notes entered later than the event being documented
LFT	liver function tests
LPCA	Licensed Professional Counselor Associate
LPCC	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor
MAR	medication administration record
MAT	medication-assisted treatment: the patient is prescribed medication such as Suboxone/ buprenorphine or Methadone with their treatment (pronounced "M-A-T")
Milieu	social environment: often refers to how a particular group of patients are interacting with each other (For example, "The new patient's rude behavior really upset the milieu." In other words, the new patient had a negative effect on the treatment environment and group mood.) (pronounced "mill-yoo")
MOP	morphine
MSE	mental status exam
NA	Narcotics Anonymous
NA or N/A	can also mean "not applicable"
NKDA	no known drug allergies
OIG	Office of the Inspector General: regulating body for Stepworks
OTC	over-the-counter medication: medication that can be bought without a prescription
OTP	Opioid Treatment Program: program using MAT (medication-assisted treatment) to treat patients with opiate addictions (sometimes called an NTP or Narcotic Treatment Program)
P	pulse
PC	after meals: medication given after meals
PCP	primary care physician
PHP	partial-hospitalization: a program in which the patient reports to the facility every day for treatment but goes home at night (We sometimes have patients whose insurance has dictated this level of care, but we provide housing for them at no additional charge.)

PICC	peripherally-inserted central catheter: patients with a PICC line are receiving IV antibiotics for an infection related to their abuse of IV drugs (currently only at Stepworks Woodland) (pronounced "pick")
PO	by mouth: medication given by mouth (pronounced "P-O")
P02	blood oxygen level
Podio	online file management system used for incident reports and expenditures
PRN	as-needed
PSS	peer support specialist: an individual in recovery with specialized training to guide others
PT	patient
Q	prefix used in prescriptions meaning "every" (q4 or q4h would mean the patient receives the medication every 4 hours)
qAM	every morning: medication given every morning (pronounced "Q-A-M")
QD	daily: medication given every day
qHS	hour of sleep: medication given at bedtime
QID	four times a day: medication given four times a day (pronounced "Q-I-D")
QOD	every other day: medication given every other day (pronounced "Q-O-D")
QW	every week: medication given once a week
R	respiration
R	can also mean Thursday (for example, MWF = Monday, Wednesday, Friday; and TR = Tuesday, Thursday)
RCSU	residential crisis stabilization unit: licensure designation from Kentucky
Ref	reflection: patient has been given a reflection due to breaking a rule (You may see this abbreviation in the communication book.)
Rem	reminder: patient has been reminded of a specific rule (You may see this abbreviation in the communication book.)
Res	residential level of treatment: patient in treatment 24 hours a day
RC	recovery coach
RHC	rural health clinic: federal designation of a program located in a rural, underserved location (for example, Intensive Health by Stepworks)
ROI	release of information: consent patient has signed allowing their private health information to be released to an individual or entity (pronounced "R-O-I")
RTC	residential treatment center or residential treatment: patient in treatment 24 hours a day
Rx	prescription, usually for medication

SI	suicidal ideation
SL	Sober Living: Stepworks' sober living apartment complex in Elizabethtown
S/S	signs and symptoms
SSI	sliding scale insulin
STAT	urgent, immediately (pronounced "stat")
SQ	subcutaneous: an injection under the skin
SUD	substance use disorder (pronounced "S-U-D")
SW	Stepworks
T	temperature
T/A	toothache
TCADC	Temporary Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor: a temporary certification while fulfilling the requirements of a CADAC
THC	marijuana
temp	temperature
TID	three times a day: medication given three times a day (pronounced "T-I-D")
TX	treatment
UDS	urine drug screen
UDT	urine drug test
UR	utilization review: process by which insurance companies grant authorization for patients to admit and remain at our facility (Stepworks has a UR department.)
VO	verbal order (typically from the doctor)
WNL	within normal limits
Wt	weight
Zenefits	our HR (human resources) management platform