

Medical Abbreviations List #23 (23)

fever	elevation of temperature above normal
febrile	feverish; pertaining to a fever
intermittent fever	a fever that alternates between fever and normal
remittent fever	a fever that rises several degrees above normal , then drops a degree but doesn't reach normal body temperature
continued fever	a fever that stays elevated above normal body temperature
crisis	sudden drop from fever to normal body temperature
hypothermia	below normal body temperature
pulse	the beat of the artery that you feel when the heart pumps blood through the body
rate	number of pulse beats, heartbeats, or respirations per minute
rhythm	regularity or irregularity of the pulse, heartbeat, or respiration
quality	volume; strength of pulse beats
arrhythmia	uneven intervals between pulse or heartbeats
apical pulse	heart rate counted at the apex of the heart by using a stethoscope

pulse deficit	difference between pulse count taken simultaneously at two sites, usually radial and apical pulse
tachycardia	excessively rapid heart rate
bradycardia	abnormally slow heart rate
respiration	breathing; the inspiration and expiration of air
blood pressure	the force of blood that is exerted against the vessel wall as the heart beats
body temperature	balance between heat produced and heat lost by the body
sphygmomanometer	instrument used to measure blood pressure
stethoscope	instrument used to listen to the sounds produced by the heart, lungs, and other organs
hypertension	high blood pressure
hypotension	low blood pressure