

National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) Acronyms and Abbreviations Guide

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Department of Testing Services

Last Updated: October 3, 2023

The following acronyms and abbreviations may appear on the examinations of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations and/or the Advanced Dental Admission Test (ADAT).

| AED | Automated external defibrillator |
|-------|---|
| BOP | Bleeding on probing |
| ASA | Anterior superior alveolar branch of the infraorbital nerve |
| BP | Blood pressure |
| CAL | Clinical attachment level |
| CBCT | Cone-beam computed tomography |
| CEJ | Cementoenamel junction |
| CPI | Community periodontal index |
| CPAP | Continuous positive airway pressure device |
| CPR | Cardiopulmonary resuscitation |
| DEJ | Dentinoenamel junction |
| DNA | Deoxyribonucleic acid |
| dmft | Decayed, missing, and filled primary teeth |
| DMFT | Decayed, missing, and filled permanent teeth |
| dmfs | Decayed, missing, and filled surfaces (for primary teeth) |
| DMFS | Decayed, missing, and filled surfaces (for permanent teeth) |
| EMS | Emergency medical services |
| GBR | Guided bone regeneration |
| GTR | Guided tissue regeneration |
| HbA1c | Hemoglobin A1c |
| HIPAA | Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 |
| HIV | Human immunodeficiency virus |
| IAN | Inferior alveolar nerve |
| MRI | Magnetic resonance imaging |
| MSA | Middle superior alveolar branch of the infraorbital nerve |
| OSHA | Occupational Safety and Health Administration |



| PDI | Periodontal disease index |
|------|---|
| PDL | Periodontal ligament |
| PHP | Patient hygiene performance index |
| PID | Position indicating device |
| PSA | Posterior superior alveolar branch of the maxillary nerve |
| RNA | Ribonucleic acid |
| Temp | Temperature |
| TMD | Temporomandibular disorder |
| TMJ | Temporomandibular joint |
| Tx | Treatment |

Tooth surfaces

| В | Buccal |
|---|----------|
| D | Distal |
| F | Facial |
| L | Lingual |
| М | Mesial |
| 0 | Occlusal |

Note: Tooth surface abbreviations can be combined to indicate multiple surface lesions or anatomy. Examples: MO=Mesial-Occlusal; MOD=Mesial-Occlusal-Distal; MODB=Mesial- Occlusal-Distal-Buccal