



Abbreviation	Term	What does this mean
A&E /ED	Accident & Emergency/ Emergency department	is for serious injuries and life-threatening emergencies. It's also known as the emergency department or casualty.
AHP	Allied Health professional	Physiotherapists, Radiographers, Occupational Therapists, Dietitians, Operating Department Practitioners, Paramedics, Speech and Language Therapist, Art Therapists, Drama Therapists, Music Therapists, Osteopaths, Podiatrists, Prosthetists and Orthoptists
ANP	Advanced Nurse practitioner	A Nurse who has undergone extensive/ advanced training, who is deemed competent in practice using expert clinical knowledge and skills.
BiPAP	Bi Positive airway pressure	(Bi means two) two levels of Positive Pressure Ventilation.
BP	Blood Pressure	Blood pressure is the term used to describe the strength with which your blood pushes on the sides of your arteries as it's pumped around your body.
BVM	Bag Valve Mask	A device that can be used to manually deliver breaths, either with a mask over face or attached to a tracheostomy tube
CATS	Children's Acute Transport Service	A North Thames retrieval team that bring the skills and knowledge of an intensive care unit to local hospitals, stabilising children for/ and transferring to a Children's intensive care unit.
	Care Package	If a children or young person is eligible for continuing care, they receive an individualised care package, this is usually provided in the child's own home. This can be at any time of the day and tailored around the needs of the child or young person. Depending on area they live, these care packages can be provided by a hospital at home team who are from the NHS or a private care agency funded by the ICB. Depending on clinical need this would either be a Nursing care package or Carer care package.
CCC	Children's Continuing Care	The Children and Young People's Continuing Care Team provides a service to children and young people who have very complex health needs, either due to congenital conditions, long-term, life-limiting, or life-threatening conditions, disability or the after-effects of serious illness or injury.
CCNT/CCN	Children's Community Nurse/ Children's community Nursing team	A children's community nursing team are experienced children's nurses who provide nursing care for children and young people to enable them to stay at home with their family, to prevent admission to hospital or help to facilitate an early discharge.



Co2	Carbon Dioxide	Carbon dioxide is a waste product that your body gets rid of when you exhale, it is created by our bodies as the cells make energy.
CPAP	Continuous positive airway pressure	A single pressured flow of air, keeping lungs and airway open.
CRT	Capillary refill time	A simple test to measure how well the circulatory system is functioning.
CYP	Child/ Young Person	Someone under the age of 18 years
DGH	District General Hospital	Local Hospitals.
DST	Decision support tool	The decision support tool is a national tool that has been developed to support practitioners in the application of the eligibility for NHS continuing healthcare and NHS funded nursing care, such as PHB or a care package.
EDN	Electronic Discharge Notification	A letter sent electronically to appropriate people such as GP saying when you were admitted what's happened during the admission and any medications going home, any plans for follow up should also be on this letter.
EPR	Electronic patients record	An Electronic patient record is a system that stores patient data, giving healthcare professionals access to the information they need to make informed decisions.
FFD	Fit for discharge	Medically ready to go home.
GCS	Glasgow coma Scale	Is scale used to assess conscious level, looks at what a patient is doing such as are they opening their eyes on their own, when spoken too or when touched etc.
GRIFT	Getting it right first time	The Getting It Right First Time programme is a national NHS England programme designed to improve the treatment and care of patients through in-depth review of services, benchmarking, and presenting a data-driven evidence base to support change.
HAP	Hospital Admission Protocol	The Hospital Admission Protocol enables carers to be admitted with their child to a hospital ward where they continue to provide the same level of basic routine care that they normally deliver at home.
HCA/ HCSW	Health Care Assistant / Health Care support Worker	Providing high quality and compassionate care to patients. They work under the supervision of registered healthcare professionals.
HDC/ HDU	High Dependency Care/ High Dependency Unit	This refers to care that is received, that is of a higher level than standard ward care. A high dependency unit or ward is a dedicated the part of a hospital that provides that higher level of care and treatment for patients who are seriously ill or who may have just had a major operation. This can be split into levels of care see below PCC L1 - L3

HME	Heat moisture exchange	A piece of equipment that helps to provide humidification, generally used for those with a tracheostomy, it mimics the function of our nose.
HR	Heart Rate	a Heart Rate is the about of times the heart beats in a minute. This is also known a pulse rate.
ICB	Integrated care board	ICBs are integrated care boards, they are NHS organisations that are responsible for planning health services for their local population. They were formally known as CCGs (Clinical Commissioning Group)
ICS	Integrated Care system	Integrated care systems are partnerships that bring together NHS organisations, local authorities and others to take collective responsibility for planning services, improving health and reducing inequalities across geographical areas.
IPC	Infection prevention and control	Prevents patients and health care workers from being harmed by avoidable infections.
JEG	Jejunostomy	A feeding tube that bypasses the stomach and goes to the Jejunum, which is part of our small bowel. This is done through the abdominal wall.
LTV	Long term ventilation	Using or being ventilated for more than 3 months.
MDT	Multi-disciplinary team	The wider team providing care, such as nurses, doctors, physios, occupational therapists.
NA	Nursing Associate	A Nursing Associate is a clinical support role that bridges the gap between healthcare support workers and registered nurses.
NG	Nasogastric Tube	A feeding tube that is passed up the nose down the food pipe (oesophagus) to the stomach. Can be used for feeds and medications.
NIV	Non-invasive Ventilation	Ventilation that uses a face mask or nasal pillow.
NBM	Nil By Mouth	Nothing to eat or drink by mouth, can sometimes be also used to say nothing via gastrostomy/ jejunostomy or NG.
NTPN	North Thames Paediatric network	The North Thames Paediatric Network is a larger network made up of slightly smaller Operational Delivery Networks such as surgery, critical care, long term ventilation & gastroenterology. Its aim to ensure that all children in the region have equal access to excellent care and that the workforce is supported to meet future demands.
O2	Oxygen	Oxygen is in the air we breathe, when we are unwell or struggling to maintain our Oxygen levels in our blood (SpO2) we can be given extra oxygen to help support.



PAU	Paediatric Assessment unit	A paediatric assessment unit for children and young people is where they can be referred, by their GP, Midwife, Health Visitor, Urgent Care Centre (UCC) and/or the Emergency Department. The Unit provides a rapid assessment of children and young people and aims where clinically possible to assess, treat and discharge home in a short space of time.
PCC	Paediatric Critical Care	Is a term used for the level of care a child or young person may require, there are 3 levels of Paediatric Critical Care, it can also be used to describe Paediatric Intensive Care, which is Level 3 Critical care (see below).
L1 CC	Level 1 Critical Care	This relates to the level of care a hospital, which admits acutely ill children should be able to provide. This includes an enhanced level of observation, monitoring and intervention than can be safely delivered on a normal ward, such as high flow nasal therapy.
L2 CC	Level 2 Critical Care	these units can deliver care which includes complex activities and interventions which are undertaken less frequently, to children with a higher level of critical illness, and demand the supervision by competent medical and nursing staff who have undergone additional training. This may include commencing on acute Non-invasive ventilatory support for children and young people in respiratory distress due to illness or supporting children on Long Term Ventilation via a tracheostomy.
L3 CC	Level 3 Critical Care	Level 3 Critical care describes activities that should only be undertaken within an intensive care setting, such as invasive mechanical ventilation & advanced respiratory support.
PPCU/ PICU	Paediatric Critical Care Unit/ Paediatric Intensive Care Unit	Highly specialist unit that delivers an intensive and advanced level of care. (Critical care level 3.)
PEG/G tube	Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy/ Gastrostomy	A tube which is passed into a patient's stomach through the abdominal wall, most commonly to provide a means of feeding, some medications can be given via this too.
PHB	Private Health Budget	A budget of money awarded to a family to employ carers to provide home care.
RAP	Respiratory Action Plan	A plan that gives guidance on what to do when a child or young person is unwell, who to contact for advice. It is used by parents and local health care teams.
RN	Registered nurse	A nurse who is registered with the nursing and midwifery council.
RR	Respiratory Rate	How many breaths taken in a minute.
SpO2 /	Oxygen saturations	The amount of oxygen in the blood. It is measured on a percentage. For an individual who is generally fit and



Sats		well the normal percentage would be between 95%-100%.
STPN	South Thames Paediatric network	The South Thames Paediatric Network is a larger network made up of slightly smaller Operational Delivery Networks such as surgery, critical care, long term ventilation & gastroenterology. Its aim to ensure that all children in the region have equal access to excellent care and that the workforce is supported to meet future demands.
STRS	South Thames Retrieval Service-	South Thames retrieval team that brings the skills and knowledge of an intensive care unit to local hospitals, stabilising children for/and transferring to a Children's intensive care unit.
	Tertiary Centre	A tertiary hospital usually has a full complement of services. Patients will often be referred from smaller hospitals to a tertiary hospital for major operations, consultations with sub-specialists and when sophisticated intensive care facilities are required.
TrLTV	Tracheostomy Long term ventilation	Mechanical Long Term Ventilation via a tracheostomy.
WOB	Work of Breathing	The effort required to breath.
TTO	To Take Out / To Take Home	An issued supply of medication(s) to take home upon discharge.
UCP	Universal Care Plan	The Universal Care Plan is an NHS service that enables every Londoner to have their care and support wishes digitally shared with healthcare professionals across the capital.