

The Medical Microbiology Test Development and Advisory Committee  
Acceptable Abbreviations and Terminology

ADH	arginine dihydrolase (SS only)
AFB	acid-fast bacilli
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
AML	acute myeloid leukemia
ARDS	acute respiratory distress syndrome
BAL	bronchoalveolar lavage
BCYE	buffered charcoal yeast extract
BSL	biosafety level
CAMP	Christie-Atkins-Munch-Petersen test
CLSI	Clinical Lab Standards Institute
CMV	cytomegalovirus
CNA	colistin nalidixic acid
CNS	central nervous system
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CSF	cerebrospinal fluid
CT	computed tomography
DFA	direct fluorescent antibody
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid
EBV	Epstein-Barr virus
EIA	enzyme immunoassay
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
ESBL	extended spectrum beta-lactamase
G6PD	glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency
GMS	Gomori (or Grocott) methenamine silver
H & E	hematoxylin & eosin
HAART	highly active antiretroviral therapy
HBV	hepatitis B virus
HHV	human herpes virus
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HSV	herpes simplex virus
IgA etc.	immunoglobulin A, D, E, G, M
IGRA	interferon gamma release assay
LDC	lysine decarboxylase test (SS only)
MALDI-TOF	matrix-assisted laser desorption-time-of-flight mass spectrometry
MIC	minimal inhibitory concentration
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MRSA	methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
NAAT	nucleic acid amplification test
NGS	next generation sequencing
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
ODC	ornithine decarboxylase (SS only)
ONPG	2-Nitrophenyl- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside
PAS	periodic acid Schiff
PCR	polymerase chain reaction

PPD	purified protein derivative
PYR	pyrrolidonyl amidase reactivity
RNA	ribonucleic acid
RPR	rapid plasma reagin
RSV	respiratory syncytial virus
SBA	sheep blood agar (SS only)
TCBS agar	thiosulfate-citrate-bile salts-sucrose agar
TPPA	treponema pallidum agglutination assay
TSI	triple sugar iron
UTI	urinary tract infection
VDRL	venereal disease research laboratory test
VZV	varicella zoster virus
WBC	white blood cell
WHO	World Health Organization

When referring to the Gram stain, it should be capitalized. When referring to the gram reactivity of an organism, gram-negative or gram-positive, it is not capitalized.

When writing a "sp." or "spp.", the entire name is not italicized.