

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Common abbreviations (e.g., FDA, QC, FAQ, CEO) are useful, but avoid using abbreviations readers might not know. If in doubt, spell out the term on first use, then abbreviate it in subsequent uses.

Example: *The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) is a plate-based assay technique.*

Plural abbreviations require no apostrophe: ELISAs, CPAs, FAQs, not ELISA's, CPA's, FAQ's.

It's acceptable to use abbreviations in titles/headlines (when spelling them out is impractical) if they're used in the reader's industry. When doing so, spell out the abbreviation in the text as soon as possible.

Some commonly used abbreviations:*

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| AACC: | American Association for Clinical Chemistry | IQAP: | Interlaboratory Quality Assurance Program |
| ACC: | American College of Cardiology | ISLH: | International Society for Laboratory Hematology |
| ASCLS | American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science | ISO: | International Organization for Standardization |
| ASCP | American Society for Clinical Pathology | LCD: | liquid crystal display |
| AUC: | area under the curve or analytical ultracentrifugation | LED: | light-emitting diode |
| CBC: | complete blood count | NACB: | National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry |
| CDC: | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention | NIH: | National Institutes of Health |
| CE: | Conformite European Marking | NRTL: | Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory |
| CLE: | Clinical Laboratory Exposition | P.A.C.E.: | Professional Acknowledgement of Continuing Education |
| CLIA: | Clinical Laboratory Improvements Amendments | P.A.C.E.: | Professional Acknowledgement of Continuing Education |
| CLMA: | Clinical Laboratory Management Association | RBC: | red blood cell |
| CLSI: | Clinical & Laboratory Standards Institute | RCF: | relative centrifugal field |
| CTS: | closed-tube sampling | Rmax: | maximum radius |
| dBA: | decibel | SDS: | safety data sheets |
| DBS: | Danaher Business System | TAT: | turnaround time |
| ESC: | European Society of Cardiology | URL: | upper reference limit or Universal Resource Locator |
| FTE: | full-time equivalent | WBC: | white blood cell |
| IEC: | International Electrical Commission | WEEE: | waste electrical and electronic equipment |
| IFCC: | International Federation of Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine | | |

Do not abbreviate Beckman Coulter Life Sciences in external documents/publications.

Don't refer to Beckman Coulter Life Sciences by the BEC designation previously used, as it can create confusion between brands. In internal communications it can be abbreviated BECLS.

* What about acronyms? A common belief is that all abbreviations are acronyms. Not so. Acronyms are a subset of abbreviations. Acronyms form a commonly used, pronounceable "word," such as NASA, GIF, OSHA, RADAR and ZIP code (ZIP stands for Zone Improvement Plan). So all acronyms are abbreviations, but only some abbreviations are acronyms.