

UNIT 1

Admitting patients

Medical term		Definition	Translation
admission		collecting patient details when a patient goes into hospital	
allergy		when the body reacts badly to a drug, food or other substance	
blood pressure		the pressure of blood in the arteries, abbreviated to <i>BP</i>	
blood pressure cuff		a device which wraps around a patient's arm to take blood pressure	
digital blood pressure monitor		a machine that takes a patient's blood pressure and pulse	
ID bracelet		a plastic wristband which records patient information and is worn whilst the patient is in hospital for identification, also called <i>patient armband</i>	
nurse call		a buzzer which patients press to call for a nurse	
Obs.		abbreviation of Observations; vital signs e.g. temperature, pulse, respirations, blood pressure and oxygen saturation	
pulse		the contraction and expansion of an artery due to blood circulation; the speed of the pulse is called the <i>pulse rate</i> or <i>heart rate</i>	
pulse oximeter		a device that measures a patient's blood oxygen saturation, usually attached to the fingertip	
respirations		the number of breaths a person takes each minute; usually expressed as the <i>respiration rate</i> , abbreviated to <i>resps</i>	
sats		a measure of how much oxygen the blood is carrying; a percentage of the maximum oxygen molecules the blood can carry	
temperature		how hot or cold a patient is, measured in °C, abbreviated to <i>temp</i>	
tympanic thermometer		a thermometer that is used in a patient's ear	