

Suffixes

A **suffix** is a letter or a group of letters that is attached to the **end** of a word to form a new word, as well as alter the way it functions grammatically.

It is quite important to understand what different suffixes mean as they can help to understand the meaning of any new vocabulary.

Down below are listed some of the most common suffixes in Obstetrics & Gynecology:

SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE
A		
-ac	pertaining to; one afflicted with	<i>Cardiac</i>
-aemia	blood condition	<i>Anaemia</i> <i>Hypoglycaemia</i>
-al	pertaining to	<i>Endometrial</i> <i>Abdominal</i>
-algia	pain	<i>Myalgia</i>
-ary	pertaining to	<i>Urinary</i>
-ation	process	<i>Medication</i> <i>Embolization</i>
C		
-cele	pouching, hernia	<i>Cystocele</i> <i>Hysterocele</i>
-centesis	surgical puncture for aspiration	<i>Amniocentesis</i>
-cidal, -cide	killing, destroying	<i>Bacteriocidal</i>
-coccus	round, spherical	<i>Streptococcus</i>
-cyte	cell	<i>Oocyte</i> <i>Spermatocyte</i>
D		
-dynia	Pain	<i>Vulvodynia</i>
E		
-eal	pertaining to	<i>Perineal</i>
-ectomy	denotes a surgical operation or removal of a body part; resection, excision.	<i>Mastectomy</i> <i>Hysterectomy</i>
-emesis	vomiting condition	<i>Hyperemesis (Gravidarum)</i>
-emia	blood condition	<i>Anemia</i> <i>Hyperuricemia</i>
G		

-gen	born in, from	Endogen Exogen
-gnosis	knowledge	Diagnosis Prognosis
-gram, -gramme	record or picture	Mammogram
-graphy	process of recording	Hysterosalpingography
I		
-iasis	condition, formation, or presence of	Candidiasis
-ic	pertaining to	Pelvic
-ics	organized knowledge, treatment	Obstetrics
-ismus	spasm, contraction	Vaginismus
-ist	one who specializes in	Gynecologist
-itis	inflammation	Cervicitis Salpingitis
-ium	structure, tissue	Endometrium Myometrium
L		
-logist	denotes someone who studies a certain field (the field of _____ -logy); a specialist; one who treats	Gynecologist
-logy	denotes the academic study or practice of a certain field; the study of	Gynecology
M		
-meter	instrument used to measure or count	Hysterometer
-metry	process of measuring	Hysterometry
O		
-opsy	examination or inspection	Biopsy
-osis	a condition, disease or increase	Psychosis (Postpartum) Tuberculosis
P		
-pathy	denotes (with a negative sense) a disease, or disorder	Cardiomyopathy (Peripartum)
-penia	deficiency	Thrombopenia
-pexy	fixation	Oophoropexy
-plasia	formation, development	Neoplasia Dysplasia
-plasty	surgical repair, reconstruction	Mammoplasty Labiaplasty
-plexy	stroke or seizure	Apoplexy (Uteroplacental)
-ptosis	falling, drooping, downward	Mammoptosis

	placement, prolapse	
R		
-rrhage, -rrhagia	burst forth, rapid flow (of blood, usually)	<i>Hemorrhage Mehorrhagia</i>
-rrhaphy	surgical suturing	<i>Hymenorrhaphy</i>
-rrhea, -rrhoea	flowing, discharge	<i>Galactorrhea Hydrorrhea</i>
S		
-scope	instrument for viewing	<i>Hysteroscope</i>
-scopy	process of viewing	<i>Endoscopy</i>
T		
-tension, -tensive	pressure	<i>Hypertensive (encephalopathy)</i>
-tic	pertaining to	<i>Amniotic</i>
-tome	cutting instrument	<i>Mammotome</i>
-tomy	act of cutting; incising, incision	<i>Laparotomy</i>
-tonia	tension	<i>Hypertonia (Uterine)</i>
-trophy	nourishment, development	<i>Hypertrophy</i>
-tropic	turned toward, with an orientation toward, having an affinity for, affecting	<i>Gonadotropic</i>
U		
-ula, -ule	small	<i>Nodule</i>
V		
-version	turning	<i>Anteversion Retroversion</i>
Y		
-y	condition or process of	<i>Surgery Delivery</i>