



Glossary

A

acetabulum

the cavity or depression on the hip bone that provides the socket into which the head of the femur fits

anesthesia

loss of sensation resulting from pharmacologic depression of nerve function

antibiotics

natural or synthetic substances that destroy microorganisms or inhibit their growth. Antibiotics are used extensively to treat infectious diseases in plants, animals, and humans

anticoagulant

an agent that prevents or delays blood coagulation; common anticoagulants are heparin, sodium citrate, and warfarin sodium

anti-inflammatory

counteracting inflammation, the immunological defense against injury, infection, or allergy

antiplatelet

an agent that destroys or inactivates platelets, which prevents them from forming blood clots

arthroplasty

a surgical procedure used to reshape, reconstruct, or replace a diseased or damaged joint to alleviate pain, to allow normal function, or to correct a joint defect

C

charges

cost to the patient or third-party payer for medical services

clotting time

the time required for blood to clot in a glass tube

comorbid

a disease that worsens or impacts a primary disease

congenital

existing at birth; referring to certain mental or physical traits, anomalies, malformations, diseases, etc, which may be either hereditary or due to an influence occurring during gestation up to the moment of birth

D

deep vein thrombosis (DVT)

a blood clot in one of the deep veins of the legs (most common site), arms, pelvis, neck, axilla, or chest

E

epidural block

a method of regional anesthesia, administered or situated in the space between the spinal cord and the connective tissue membrane covering the spinal cord, used to stop the passage of sensory impulses in the spinal cord, thus depriving a patient of sensation in the area involved

F

femur

the thigh bone. It extends from the hip to the knee and is the longest and strongest bone in the skeleton

folic acid

a water-soluble B complex vitamin needed for DNA synthesis and occurring naturally in green leafy vegetables, beans and yeast

fondaparinux sodium

a compound that selectively binds to antithrombin III, thereby potentiating the innate neutralization of factor Xa by antithrombin. Neutralization of factor Xa inhibits its activity and interrupts the blood coagulation cascade, thereby preventing thrombin formation and thrombus development. Fondaparinux is manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline under the trade name Arixtra®



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I

indwelling epidural catheters

A tubular instrument that remains inside the body for a prolonged period of time that is used to allow passage of fluids or liquids from or into in the space between the spinal cord and the connective tissue membrane covering the spinal cord

international normalized ratio (INR)

the internationally recognized standard for monitoring warfarin therapy. Regular intensity therapy is defined as achieving a goal INR of 2.5 (range 2.0 to 3.0) and is appropriate for most cases that require the prevention and/or treatment of thromboembolic disease

L

low molecular weight heparins (LMWHs)

The most bioavailable fraction of heparin that also has a more precise anticoagulant effect than unfractionated heparins. It is used to treat and prevent deep venous thrombosis, pulmonary embolisms, and unstable coronary syndromes

M

methotrexate

an inhibitor of dihydrofolate reductase that is used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, psoriasis, and several cancers. Side effects to the use of this drug may include suppression of bone marrow production of blood cells, hepatitis, and others

N

nabumetone

an anti-inflammatory agent used to relieve pain, tenderness, swelling and stiffness caused by osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis

necrosis

the death of cells, tissues, or organs

O

osteoarthritis

a type of arthritis marked by progressive cartilage deterioration in synovial joints and vertebrae

P

patella

a lens-shaped bone situated in front of the knee in the tendon of the quadriceps femoris muscle

pelvis

the bony compartment consisting of the sacrum and coccyx, that supports the vertebral column and articulates with the lower limbs

prednisone

a glucocorticoid that is used as an anti-inflammatory, antineoplastic, and immunosuppressant agent

prophylaxis

the prevention of a disease or of a process that could potentially lead to disease

prosthesis

replacement of a body part by an artificial substitute

prosthetic

relating to a prosthesis or to an artificial part

proximal

a location that is nearest to the point of origin, center of the body, or a given reference point

pulmonary embolism (PE)

an obstruction of the pulmonary artery or one of its branches that is usually caused by an embolus from an embolism, such as a blood clot, in a lower extremity



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R

radiographic

relating to the exposure of x-rays to produce an image on film

radiographs

the film on which an image is produced through exposure to x-rays

rehabilitation

the processes of treatment and education that help disabled individuals to attain maximum function, a sense of well-being, and a personally satisfying level of independence

rheumatoid arthritis

a chronic disease characterized by inflammation of multiple joints. The disease usually affects similar groups of joints on both sides of the body, and can create bony erosions that can be seen radiographically

S

skyline view

a radiograph taken with the knee bent and the X-ray beam directed at an angle to the bent knee. The skyline view allows fracture or dislocation of patella to be visualized

spinal

pertaining to the spinal column, or backbone, which consists of 33 vertebrae

synthetic pentasaccharides

an artificially prepared carbohydrate that on hydrolysis yields five molecules of simple sugars (monosaccharides)

T

thromboembolic

pertaining to the obstruction of a blood vessel due to a clot or part of a clot that has detached from its original place of formation and has traveled to another organ

thromboprophylaxis

the prevention of clot formation in the cardiovascular system, or the prevention of a process that could potentially lead to a blood clot in the cardiovascular system

tibia

the inner and larger bone of the leg between the knee and the ankle; it articulates with the femur above and the talus below

total hip replacement (THR)

surgery to replace the hip joint with an artificial device

total knee replacement (TKR)

surgery to replace a painful, damaged, or diseased knee joint with an artificial joint

V

venous thromboembolism (VTE)

the collective term used to describe deep-vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE)

vitamin K antagonist (VKA)

because vitamin K is necessary for synthesis of clotting factors and prothrombin by the liver, its blocking by VKAs such as warfarin prolongs blood clotting time. Warfarin is manufactured by Bristol-Myers Squibb Company under the trade name Coumadin®

W

warfarin sodium

An anticoagulant drug. It is manufactured by Bristol-Myers Squibb Company under the trade name Coumadin®. Warfarin is also available generically by many manufacturers