# **Prefixes**

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# **Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this chapter, students are expected to be able to:

- 1. define a prefix
- 2. identify the functions of prefixes in medical terms
- 3. pronounce medical terms containing prefixes
- 4. use prefixes in medical terms
- 5. analyze medical terms into their components
- 6. write definitions of medical terms, diseases and medical procedures.

# **Prefixes**

## 1

#### **Medical Terms**

A prefix is a letter or a group of letters attached to the beginning of a word to modify or change its meaning. Pre- in the word 'prefix' means before. Prefixes are common components of medical terms. They may indicate location, number, time, color and opposite meanings, etc. Prefixes are never used independently. They have to be added to the beginning of words with a hyphen. However, medical dictionaries nowadays drop the hyphen after many frequent prefixes. They can be added before verbs, nouns and adjectives to modify their meanings. Learning prefixes is essential to healthcare students because they are frequently used in building up medical terminology. Furthermore, they are necessary for understanding the meanings of medical terms. Most of the medical prefixes come from Latin or Greek origins and that is why they are commonly used in the international language of science and medicine.

Consider the following examples and note the different meaning that results when a new prefix is added to the same root.

prefix	medical term	meaning
hypo- (beneath or below)	hypothyroidism	abnormally low activity of the thyroid gland
hyper- (over)	hyperthyroidism	over activity of the thyroid gland
a- (lack of)	apnea	cessation of breathing
dys- (difficulty)	dyspnea	difficulty in breathing
bi- (two)	bilateral	pertaining to two sides
uni- (one)	unilateral	pertaining to one side

### **Combining forms**

The following is a list of some combining forms to which a prefix can be added:

Combining form	Meaning	example
an/o	anus	perianal
carp/o	wrist bone	metacarpal
cis/o	cutting	incision
cost/o	ribs	subcostal
crani/o	skull	extracranial
crin/o	secretion	endocrine
dactyl/o	fingers or toes	polydactyly
dur/o	dura mater	subdural hematoma
gen/o	produce	congenital
ign/o	fire	malignant

later/o	side	bilateral
lingu/o	tongue	sublingual
nat/i	birth	postnatal
norm/o	rule/order	abnormal
peritone/o	peritoneum	retroperitoneal
phag/o	appetite	polyphagia
phas/o	speech	aphasia
plas/o	formation	dysplasia
pleg/o	paralysis	quadriplegia
scapul/o	shoulder blades	subscapular
sect/o	cutting	resection
thyroid/o	thyroid hormone	hyperthyroidism
top/o	to put/place	ectopic
troph/o	development	atrophy
urethr/o	urethra	transurethral
uter/o	uterus	intrauterine
ven/o	vein	intravenous
vertebr/o	backbone	intervertebral

### **Prefixes**

The following tables display the different types of prefixes and their meanings with examples.

#### **Table 3.1 Prefixes for Direction:**

prefix	meaning	example	meaning	
ab-	away from	abduct to move away from the midline		
ad-	toward	adjacent	being near or close	
dia-	through	diameter	nmeter through measurement	
trans-	through	transdermal	pertaining to through the skin	
per-	through	percutaneous	cable of being penetrated by liquids or gases	

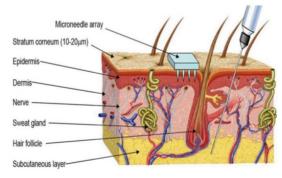


Figure 3.1: transdermal: pertaining to through the skin

Practice 3.1: Identify the prefix in each of the following words and write its meaning.

	prefix	meaning
1 adduct		
2. percolate		
3. dialysis		
4. adhere		
5. transurethral		
6. abnormal		

#### Table 3.2 **Prefixes for Numbers**

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
prim/i-	first	primitive primary	occurring first in time or sequence
mon/o-	one	monocular	a microscope with one lens
uni-	one	unilateral	one side
hemi-	half	hemiplegia	one side paralysis
semi-	half	semilunar	shaped like a half moon
bi-	two	bipolar	having two poles
di-	two	diatomic	having two atoms
dipl/o-	double	diplopic	pertaining to double vision
tri-	three	tripod	having three legs
quadri-	four	quadriplegia	paralysis of four limbs
tetra-	four	tetrad	four components
multi-	many	multicellular	consisting of many cells
poly-	many	polyphagia	excessive appetite

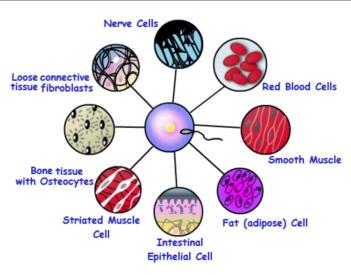


Figure 3.2: multicellular: consisting of many cells

**Practice 3.2:** Match each term in column A with its meaning in column B.

	A	В
1	diploid	a. an element that has one atom
2	polyneuropathy	b. half solid
3	monoatomic	c. disease of many nerves
4	unify	d. make two or more in one parts
5	semisolid	e. an organism that has two sets of chromosome

### **Table 3.3** Prefixes for Colors

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
leuk/o-	white	leukoplakia	having white patches in the mouth
cyan/o-	blue	cyanosis	bluish discoloration of the skin
erythr/o-	red	erythrocyte	red blood cell
melan/o-	Black, dark	melanin	the dark pigment that colors the hair and skin
poli/o-	grey	poliomyelitis	inflammation of the gray matter of the brain
xanth/o-	yellow	xanthoderma	yellow coloration of the skin
cirrh/o-	orange	cirrhosis	a disease of the liver
chlor/o-	green	chlorophyll	the grean coloring matter of leaves and plants



Figure 3.3: cyanosis: bluish discoloration of the skin

#### **Practice 3.3:** Define the following terms.

- 1. leukemia \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. xanthoma
- 3. melanocyte
- 4. erythrocytosis

### Table 3.4 Prefixes for Time or Position

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
ante-	before	antepartum	before birth
pre-	before, in front of	premenstrual	period before menstruation
pro-	before, in front of	prophase	first stage of cell division
Pros-	before, forward	prosthesis	artificial limb added to the body
post-	after, behind	postmortem	after death

It is worth noting that certain prefixes have two meanings. For example, the prefix ante- may refer to time and position as in antepartum (time), and antecubital (position). Similarly, pro- refers to time as in prophase and position as in prognathic. This explains why we place prefixes for time and position together in one list. This will also be noticed in some of the following tables.



Figure 3.4: prosthesis: a device added to the upper limb after amputation

#### **Practice 3.4:** Define the following terms:

- 1. projectile
- 2. antefebrile
- 3. postmenopause
- 4. premature

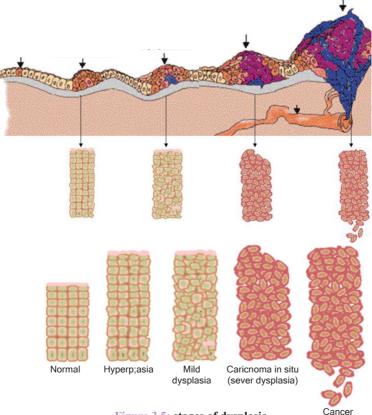


Figure 3.5: stages of dysplasia

(invasive)

### Table 3.5 Prefixes for Disease

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
brady-	slow	bradygastria	decreased rate of electrical pacemaker activity in the stomach
tachy-	fast	tachycardia	rapid heart rhythm
pachy-	thick	pachydactyly	abnormal thickness of the fingers
mal-	bad, poor	malignant	cancerous tumor that spreads like fire
dys-	abnormal, difficult painful, bad/poor	dysplasia, dyspnea dysuria dystrophy	-abnormal development in numbers -difficulty in breathing - painful sensation upon urination - poor development
xero-	dry	xeroma	excessive dryness of the cornea and conjunctiva

**Practice 3.5:** The prefix *tachy*- means rapid. Use this prefix in a word that means each of the following:

- 1. rapid heart rate
- 2. rapid breathing
- 3. extreme rapidity of speech
- 4. abnormally rapid mental activity\_

#### Table 3.6 Prefixes for Infectious Diseases

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
staphyl/o-	grapelike cluster	staphylococcus	round bacteria that form clusters
strept/o-	twisted chain	streptobacillus	a rod-shaped bacterium that forms chains

#### Table 3.7 **Prefixes for Position and Direction**

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
circum-	around	circumcision	circular cut
peri-	around	peritoneal	peritoneum
intra-	within	intravenous	within the vein
extra-	outside	extrahepatic	outside the liver
epi-	above	epidermis	above the skin
supra-	above	supraabdominal	above the abdomen
infra-	below	infrascapular	below the shoulder blades
sub-	below	subpatellar	below the kneecap
juxta-	near	juxtaposition	a location near another structure
para-	near	parathyroid gland	near the thyroid glands
inter-	between	interstitial	relating to or situated in the small, narrow spaces between tissues or parts of an organ
retro-	behind	retrogastric	behind the stomach

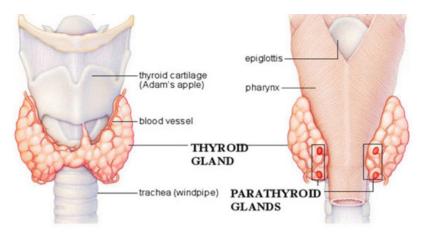


Figure 3.6: Parathyroid glands. four endocrine glands on the posterior of the thyroid gland

Practice 3.6: Replace the prefix in each of the following terms with another one having the same meaning.

- 1. circumoral
- 2. subcostal
- 3. periorbital
- 4. infrascapular

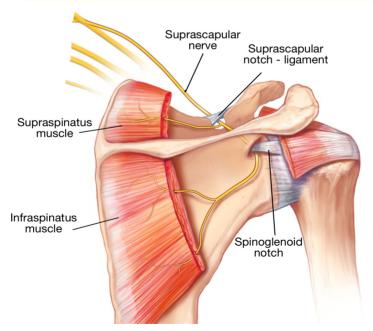


Figure 3.7: infrascapular: pertaining to below the shoulder blades

Practice 3.7: Write a word that means the opposite of each of the following terms:

- 1.suprapatellar\_
- 2. intracellular \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. suprascapular
- 4. hypogastric

### **Table 3.8** Prefixes for Negative

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
in-, im-	not	Insignificant impermeable	having no importance not allowing fluid to pass through
un-	not	unconscious	not aware of one's surroundings
non-	not	nonhuman	not appropriate to human being
a-,an-	not, lack, without	apnea anemia	cessation of breathing, no blood
anti-	against	antigen	a substance that when introduced into the body stimulates the production of an antibody
contra-	against	contraindicated	against recommendation
de-	down, without, removal	decongestant	a medication or treatment that decreases congestion, as of the sinuses
dis-	removal, separation	disinfect	to cleanse so as to destroy or prevent the growth of disease-carrying microorganisms

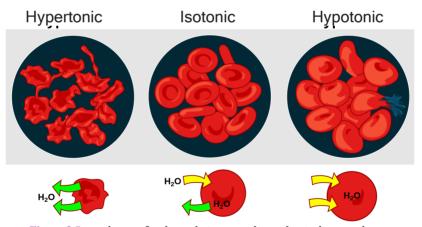


Figure 3.8: antigen. a foreign substance such as a bacterium or virus

**Practice 3.8:** Add a prefix to form the negative of the following words:

- 1. contributory\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. coordinated\_\_\_\_
- 5. dote \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. sect \_\_\_\_\_

7. ception	
8. hydrous	
9. mnesia_	
10 moral	

#### Table 3.9 Prefixes for Position

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
ecto-	outside	ectopic	out of normal position
ex/o-	outside	exophthalmos	(Graves' disease) protrusion of the eyeball to the outside
dextr/o-	right	dextrogastria	displacement of the stomach to the right
sinistr/o-	left	sinistromanual	left handed
end/o-	inside	endometrial	within the uterus
mes/o-	middle	mesoderm	middle layer of a developing embryo
tel/o- tel/e	end	telophase telencephalon	last stage of cell division endbrain
syn-, sym- con-	together	syndrome symbiosis congenital	-group of signs and symptoms that occur together, - two dissimilar organisms living together - present at birth

### Table 3.10 Differences between Endocrine and Exocrine Glands

Exocrine Glands	Endocrine Glands
They are enzyme secreting glands.	They are hormone secreting glands.
The activity of the enzymes is short term	The action of released hormones is prolonged.
The secreted substances are directly released over the target site or tissue.	The secretions are released into blood stream.
Some of the examples include sweat glands, gastric glands, etc.	Some examples include adrenal gland, pituitary gland, thyroid gland, etc.

#### The major glands that make up the human endocrine system include the:

- hypothalamus
- pituitary gland
- thyroid
- parathyroid
- adrenal glands
- pineal body
- reproductive glands (which include the ovaries and testes)
- pancreas

#### Examples of exocrine glands are:

- salivary glands that secrete saliva into the mouth
- bile-producing glands of the liver
- prostate gland
- the portion of the pancreas that secretes pancreatic fluid into the duodenum
- gastric glands
- sweat glands

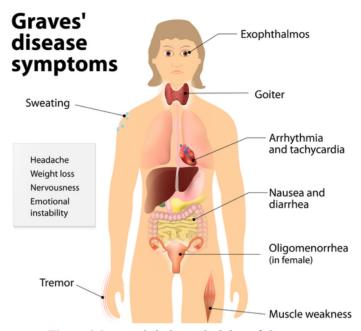


Figure 3.9: exophthaloms: bulging of the eyes

#### **Practice 3.9**: Define the following words:

1.endotoxin 2. exogenous 3. sympathetic 4. synapse

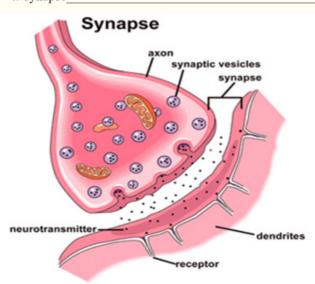


Figure 3.10: synapse: junction between two nerve cells

### Table 3.11 Prefixes for Degree

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
oligo-	few	oligodontia	less than the normal number of teeth
pan-	all	panplegia	total paralysis
super-	above excess	supernumerary superscript	in excess number something written above
hyper-	abnormally high	hypertension	high blood pressure
hypo-	abnormally low	hypoglycemia	low blood sugar



Figure 3.11: Oligodontia: having less than the normal number of teeth

**Practice 3.10:** The prefix *hyper*- means excessive. Use this prefix to produce a word that means each of the following:

- 1. overproduction of a hormone
- 2. abnormally deep respiration \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. high increase of cells in size \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. high increase of cells in numbers

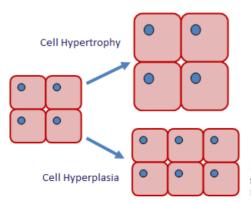


Figure 3.12: hypertrophy and hyperplasia: cells increase in size and increase in number

### Table 3.12 Prefixes for Size and Comparison:

prefix	meaning	example	meaning
equi-	equal, same	equicaloric	equal in terms of calories
iso-	equal, same	isochromatic	having the same color
homo-	same, unchanging	homosexual, homeostasis	having a sexual orientation to persons of the same sex.     a property of cells, tissues, and organisms that allows the maintenance and regulation of the stability
hetero-	different, unequal	heterosexual	a person whose sexual orientation is toward people of the opposite sex.
macro-	abnormally large	macrodactyly	a condition of abnormally large fingers or toes
mega-, megalo-	abnormally large	megacephaly megalomania	- the condition of having an unusually large head or cranial capacity - a psychopathological condition characterized by delusional fantasies of wealth, power, or omnipotence
micro-	small	microbiology	the branch of biology that deals with microorganisms
eu-	true, good, easy	eupnea	normal breathing
normo-	normal	normothermic	having normal body temperature
ortho-	straight, correct	orthognathism	the condition of having straight jaws
poikilo-	irregular	poikilothermic	having different body temperature
pseudo-	false	pseudogene	a segment of DNA that resembles a gene but is not functional and usually not transcribed
re-	again, back	resection	cutting back and forth in a sense of removal
neo-	new	neocortex	the dorsal region of the cerebral cortex, especially large in primates, thought to have evolved more recently than other parts of the brain.



Figure 3.13: macrodactyly: abnormally large fingers or toes

**Practice 3.11:** Match each of the following terms in column A with its definition in column B.

	A	В
1	isocellular	a. composed of different materials
2	homograft	b. composed of identical cells
3	normovolemia	c. false response
4	heterogeneous	d. correcting deformity

5	equilibrium	e. return of partly digested food from the stomach to the mouth/backward flow
6	pseudoreaction	f. a state of balance
7	euthyroidism	g. normal production of thyroid hormone
8	regurgitation	h. large enough to be seen without a microscope
9	poikiloderma	i. tissue transplanted to another of the same species
10	macroscopic	j. normal blood volume
11	orthotic	k. irregular condition of the skin

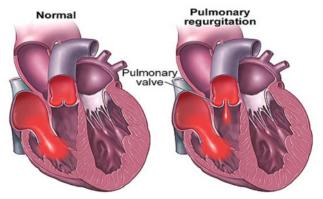


Figure 3.14: regurgitation: to cause to pour back

**Table 3.13** Terms using different prefixes with the combining forms for fingers (dactyl/o)

medical term	meaning
syndactyly a congenital anomaly in humans marked by webbing or fusion of the fingers or too	
polydactyly	a person or animal having more than the normal number of digits
oligodactyly congenital condition in which some fingers or toes are missing	
tetradactyly having four digits on each extremity	
monodactyly an animal having only one digit on each extremity	
pachydactyly enlargement of the fingers or toes, especially extremities	
microdactyly a condition of abnormal smallness of fingers or toes.	

### **Focus on Reading**

Read the following text and answer the questions following it.

#### **Nuclear Concepts Used in Medicine**

1. Our bodies are made up of cells in which chemical processes of one form or another constantly occur. Whenever we suffer from injury or disease, the affected part of our body cannot properly carry out its chemical functions. In such instances, the diagnostician can introduce a radioactively labeled chemical called a radiopharmaceutical into the affected area, where it will take part in some of these chemical activities.

- By detecting the gamma emissions from the radiopharmaceutical employed, we are able to produce useful information about the function and health of the organs that we are studying.
- 2. While most of the studies done in clinical nuclear medicine require the radiopharmaceutical to be injected into a vein (normally in the antecubital region), it may on occasion be inhaled, ingested, or injected through a catheter or other implanted device. Once the radiopharmaceutical has been administered to the patient, it travels through the body as though it were normally present. Since our bodies cannot distinguish a radiopharmaceutical from a normally present chemical, they handle it in the same way as it would a nonradioactive chemical. The only difference and advantage offered by the radiopharmaceutical is that the administered chemical can be detected externally.
- 3. A scintillation camera, which is able to map the distribution of the radiopharmaceutical within the patient's body, provides the images. These images, called scintigraphs or scintiscans, are produced when the gamma rays spontaneously emitted from the radiopharmaceutical escape from the patient's body. Each scintiscan is made up of hundreds of thousands of individual gamma ray interactions with the camera, and these many interactions are displayed as individual dots of light which are added together to form a single image.
- **4.** Typically, images are recorded every 2 seconds immediately following the injection of the radiopharmaceutical. These initial images provide information on the arterial supply, capillary transit, and venous drainage of the organ or tissue of interest. After a period of time sufficient to permit the tissues to extract the radiopharmaceutical from the circulation, more images are recorded. These first images are called dynamic images, and the latter ones are called statics or delayed images.
- 5. The radiopharmaceutical used in the study of a particular organ must be chosen for its ability to accumulate in that particular organ. The choice also depends on the isolation of a chemical pathway or function that is peculiar to the organ that is to be imaged. For the most part, the label (the radioactive part of the pharmaceutical) used as a tag within the pharmaceutical doesn't affect its localization, and so materials are often labeled with gamma emitters that have the best combination of availability, energy, and half-life. A radionuclide called technetium-99m is frequently used because it can be produced onsite from a system called a generator.
- 6. The process of generation of Technetium-99m is a simple one: molybdenum-99 (99Mo) decays to form Technetium-99m. Since technetium-99m is chemically different from molybdenum, it is easy to separate the two. A small amount of molybdenum can produce enough technetium each day to meet the needs of a typical nuclear medicine department. Also, technetium-99m emits gamma radiation at an acceptable energy level of 140 Ke V. Although this level is higher than most X-rays, human tissue can tolerate it since gamma rays escape the body while x-rays tend to irradiate body tissues. The final reason for the popularity of this radionuclide is that it has a 6-hour half-life long enough to allow the radiopharmaceuticals to accumulate in the tissues of interest and short enough to permit repeat studies within a day or so. The combination of the low energy (by gamma ray standards) and short half-life also gives the patient an acceptably low radiation dose.
- 7. The radioactivity principle can also be used to detect and measure substances in blood or urine, substances that may be present in such small concentrations that conventional methods cannot detect them. This technique, termed radioimmunoassay (RIA), involves the production of antibodies specific to the substance being

measured, the isolation of a pure extract of this substance (termed the antigen), and the radioactive labeling of the antigen. By mixing known amounts of these substances with the patient sample and allowing the whole to come to equilibrium in a test tube, one can separate the unreacted antigen (both from the patient and the labeled antigen) from that which has bound to the antibody provided for that purpose. The ratio of free-to-bound antigens permits a calculation of the amount of material present in the patient's original sample. Tests performed on blood or urine samples requiring that the radioactive chemical be added to the sample but not the patient are termed in vitro tests. Those procedures requiring a radioactive chemical to be administered to the patient are called in vivo tests. In vitro techniques are commonly used to measure various hormone levels, drug levels, and concentrations of other compounds of medical interest.

	. What does the italicized pronoun 'it' in <b>paragraph 6</b> refer to?		
2.	What do the rays emitted from the radiopharmaceutical enable us to do?		
3.	What is the main difference between the radiopharmaceutical and the normal chemical in the body?		
4.	. Define delayed images or 'statics'.		
5.	. Summarize <b>paragraph 5</b> in one sentence.		
6.	What is the difference between <b>in vitro</b> tests and <b>in vivo</b> tests?		
7.	Scan the text and find prefixes that mean  a. Against: b. before: c. between: d. complete:		
8.	Circle the word that is closest in meaning to the highlighted word in <b>paragraph 6</b> ?		
9.	a. reject b. accept c. accumulate d. radiate  Find a word that means "expose to radiation" in paragraph 6.		
10	. What is the meaning of the bold-faced word in paragraph 5?		
В.	Find words in the text that mean:_		
1.	A noun meaning "a person who determines the cause of a disease". (Para.1)		
2.	An adjective meaning "A radioactive compound used in diagnosis or therapy". (Para.1)		

3. An verb meaning "To take into the body by the mouth for absorption". (Para.2)
4. A noun meaning "Movement in a circle or circuit, especially the movement of blood through bodily vessels as a result of the heart's pumping action". ( Para. 4
5. An adjective meaning "Not ordinary or usual; odd or strange". ( Para. 5)
6. A verb meaning "To gather or cause to increase". ( Para. 6)
7. A noun meaning "the condition existing when a chemical reaction and its reverse reaction proceed at equal rates". ( Para. 7)

### 4 Vocabulary Development

### **Medical Collocations**

**Practice 3.12:** Match the word in column A with its complement in column B. Write the letter of the correct answer on the line provided.

(A)	(B)
1. inoperable	a. habits
2.tender	b. genes
3.subjective	c. tumor
4.premature	_ d. pain
5. genetic	e. neck
6. hygienic	f. voice
7. hoarse	g. report
8.stiff	h. infant
9. intermittent	_ i. skin
10. defective	_ j. trait

**Practice 3.13:** Complete the following sentences using collocations from Exercise 3.12.

a.	She suffered from herself to the sun.	af	ter exposing
b.	The doctor provided a history of his brain tumor.		on the patient
c.	He felt an	that kept recurring over ar	nd over again.

d.	The died due	to early birth.
e.	The young man died because of an	
f.	All doctors have	like using disposable tissues.
g.	The flu left him with a	
h.	He awoke with a painful	·
i.	Fixing those who carry them.	should be welcome news to
	The father had a	that predisposed

Practice 3.14: Match the words in column A with their collocates in column B. Write the correct answer on the line provided.

	A	В
1	enhance	a. the onset
2	maintain	b. a drug
3	ease	c. anxiety
4	identify	d. physical fitness
5	Induce	e. the appetite
6	go into	f. infections
7	eradicate	g. vomiting
8	tolerate	h. antibodies
9	speed up	i. nausea
10	relieve	j. shock

Practice 3.15: What can the following words collocate with?

1. trigger _	
2. enhance	
3. cleanse	
4. tolerate	
5. strain	

### **Academic Words**

Study the following academic lists.

#### **Academic List 1**

	Words	Definitions
1	Alternative	A choice or course of action that is mutually exclusive with another
2	Philosophy	the attitude or set of ideas that guides the behavior of a person or organization
3	justify	to give an acceptable explanation for something that other people think is unreasonable
4	publish	to make official information such as a report available for everyone to read
5	fund	an amount of money that is collected and kept for a particular purpose
6	react	to behave in a particular way or show a particular emotion because of something that has happened or been said
7	techniques	Non-prescriptive ways or methods used to perform missions, functions, or tasks
8	minor	small and not very important or serious, especially when compared with other things
9	outcome	the final result of a meeting, discussion, etc – used especially when no one knows what it will be until it actually happens
10	sequence	the order that something happens or exists in, or the order it is supposed to happen or exist in

### **Academic List 2**

	Words	Definitions
1	emphasize	to stress, single out as important
2	coordinate	to organize an activity so that the people involved in it work well together and achieve a good result
3	ensure	to make certain that something will happen properly
4	physical	related to someone's body rather than their mind or emotions
5	compensate	to pay someone money because they have suffered injury, loss, or damage
6	link	to make a connection between two or more things or people
7	sufficient	as much as is needed for a particular purpose
8	criteria	a standard that you use to judge something or make a decision about something
9	demonstrate	to show or prove something clearly
10	contribute	to give money, help, ideas etc to something that a lot of other people are also involved in

#### **Practice 3.16:** Match the words in column A with their definitions in column B.

A	В
1. link	a. to give an acceptable explanation for something that other people think is unreasonable
2. criterion	b. the attitude or set of ideas that guides the behavior of a person or organization
3. publish	c. to stress, single out as important
4. justify	d. a standard that you use to judge something or make a decision about something

5. philosophy	e. the order that something happens or exists in, or the order it is supposed to happen or exist in
6. techniques	f. to make a connection between two or more things or people
7. outcome	g. to make official information such as a report available for everyone to read
8. emphasize	h. to organize an activity so that the people involved in it work well together and achieve a good result
9. sequence	i. Non-prescriptive ways or methods used to perform missions, functions, or tasks
10. coordinate	j. the final result of a meeting, discussion, etc – used especially when no one knows what it will be until it actually happens

Practice 3.17: Complete each of the following sentences using the correct word from the box.

	funded	outcomes	sequential	philosophical	justified
	alternative	published	react	techniques	minor
1.	His injuries within a co	were relatively uple of hours o	f being admitte	, so he was relea	sed from the hospital
2.	Faced with	worsening hear	th, and a docto	or that didn't seem	able to help him, Ali
3.	B. Before we had a publicly— universal health care system in Canada, many people could not afford medical care, or faced bankruptcy with a serious illness.				
4.	Operations	on animals help	ped to develop	organ transplant an	d open-heart surgery
5.	5. Studies have shown that babies in the womb will to sudden loud noises or bright lights that are flashed on the mother's belly.				
6.		, but bl			produce favorable s are questionable or
7.	My grandfat die, but he	her is verysays he has live	abouted a long life, a	this illness; he certaind isn't afraid to go	ainly doesn't want to
8.		at animal test in each		reduced to a min	imum and carefully
9. Protein synthesis is a process in which DNA is transformed into protein.  10. She has a number of important papers in a leading medical journal.					
<b>Practice 3.18:</b> Complete each of the following sentences using the correct word from the box.					
	Criteria	compensat	ion coordina	ate demonstrate	ed emphasize
	contributes	physical	sufficien	tlv ensure	link

1. He a lot of ti disease.	me and money to helping peop	ple with Parkinson
<ol><li>Students in our medical program of described in the course outline.</li></ol>	will be graded according to the	
3. Eating plenty of fruits, vegetables, your body gets the minerals it no		
<ol> <li>He received almost half a million malfunction.</li> </ol>	on dollars in	_ after his surgical
5. Detectives were able to	the murderer to the crime us:	ing DNA evidence.
6. The Red Cross is trying to tims of Sunday's earthquake.	relief efforts aime	d at aiding the vic-
7. The best way to lose weight is to	do regulara	activity.
8. Recent studies have breast cancer.	that drinking green tea n	nay help to prevent
<ol> <li>Forgetting material which is stored explained by the simple passage</li> </ol>		e
10. Doctors usually the	need for regular exercise to ma	intain good health.

### **5** Focus on Grammar

#### **Asking questions**

Healthcare students and practitioners always need to extend their repertoire of medical terminology in order to avoid communication breakdowns with others. They also need more focus on certain grammatical issues such as asking and answering questions and comparing and contrasting drugs and their effects on human body. In this section, students will be reminded of how to ask questions of different types about several medical issues.

**Practice 3.19:** Study the following questions and learn how to use each highlighted question word. Decide what it is used for and when we can use it.

Who is that man? Who is the patient?

**Who** is his next of kin (closest relative)?

When did you hurt your arm?

When do you take your pills?

When did the pain start?

What do you do for a living?

What did you eat yesterday?

What did you do to your leg?

What makes the pain better?

What is the pain like?

How are you?

How are you feeling?

**How** did you cut yourself? **How** strong is the pain? **How long** have you been having fever? **How long** have you had the pain? **How many** tablets do you take a day? How many cigarettes do you smoke? How much sleep do you get? **How often** do you get regular exercise? **How often** do you eat vegetables? Why didn't you follow your doctor's instructions? Whose medication is this?

Where do you live? Where does it hurt you most?

Practice 3.20: Use each of the above highlighted question words or phrases in a question of your own on healthcare issues.

**Practice 3.21:** Ask questions to which the bold-faced words are answers.

The top of a person's scalp is covered with hair. (What)	
2. At the top and front of the upper body, just below the neck is the <b>collar bone</b> . (	
3. The patient takes the medication <b>three times a day</b> . (How often)	
4. Jane has been pregnant <b>for five months</b> . (How long)	
5. The front of the lower leg is the <b>shin</b> and the back of the lower leg is the <b>calf</b> .	
6. In many cases <b>specialists</b> require a <b>referal</b> from a family doctor before th see a patient. (who), (what)	
7. The newborn baby sleeps <b>four times</b> every day. (How often)	
8. <b>Tylenol 3</b> is one of the painkillers available without prescription. (which	:h)
9. <b>Women giving birth</b> usually find that the epidural is the most effective relief. (Who)	

10. He looks much worse today because the medicines he is taking don't seem to work. (how), (why)

### 6 Oral Communication Skills

**Practice 3.22:** Study the following dialogue between a doctor and a patient and answer the questions following it orally.

Doctor: Hi Janet. How are you feeling today?

Patient: A bit better.

Doctor: That's good to hear. Are you still feeling nauseous?

Patient: No, I haven't felt sick since you switched my medication. My stomach is fine.

Doctor: Great. Say, your test results came in this morning.

Patient: It's about time. Is it good news or bad?

Doctor: I guess it's a bit of both. Which do you want first?

Patient: Let's get the bad news over with.

Doctor: Okay. It looks like you're going to need surgery to remove the tumor from your leg. After the operation you're going to have to stay off your feet for at least three weeks. That means no soccer.

Patient: I was afraid you were going to say that.

Doctor: Now for the good news. The biopsy shows that the tumor is benign, which means it's not cancerous. We're going to take it out anyway just to be on the safe side.

Patient: Wow, that's a load off my mind. Thanks Doctor.

Doctor: Don't get too excited. We still need to get to the bottom of all of this weight loss.

Patient: I've probably just been so worried about this stupid lump.

Doctor: These things often are stress related, but we're still going to do a few blood tests just to rule a few things out.

Patient: Things like what? Cancer?

Doctor: Actually, I'm thinking more along the lines of a food allergy.

#### A. Answer the following questions.

- 1. What was the woman suffering from?
- 2. Why did she have to switch medication?
- 3. What bad news did the doctor tell her?
- 4. What medical procedure has the woman already undergone?
- 5. Define the term *biopsy*?

- 6. Give the opposite of:
  - henign:
  - to lose weight:

#### B. Act out the dialogue with a classmate.

#### **Focus on Writing**

#### **Definition**

Definitions may be brief or extended. A brief definition reflects the essence or primary characteristic of a term. The essence of an adjective, for instance, is that it is a part of speech that modifies a noun. On the other hand, an extended definition includes information beyond the essence or primary characteristic of a term. An extended definition of an adjective could include categories like size, shape, or color, etc., and an explanation of the various forms it takes such as comparative and superlative.

An extended definition essay should classify a term with relevant criteria, and use examples that focus on distinguishing the term from other closely related terms or concepts. The writer must decide what categories of information best distinguish the item or concept under scrutiny.

An appropriate range of examples can be the most direct way to identify and clarify a term.

#### **Examples**

stances and systems which include herbal preparations, mega-dose vitamins, homeopathy, naturopathy, osteopathy, aromatherapy, electromagnetic fields, acupuncture, chiropractic, hypnosis, bio-feedback, spiritual devotions, therapeutic touch, chelation therapy, and many more.

This extra information may include the properties of the defined item, an analysis of its parts, a physical description or its location. Furthermore, extra information may focus on the mode of operation of the item to be defined as in defining a diagnostic instrument: Sonography operates by the energy from sound waves being reflected off internal organs and transformed into an image on a TV-type monitor.

An object can also be clarified by indicating its functions or what it is particularly useful for, or by comparing and contrasting it to other members of the class:

> The lung disease 'emphysema', which limits a patient's ability to breathe, could be contrasted with 'pneumoconiosis', a disease which also results in breathing difficulty, but due to different causes and through a different process.

A definition may also include the causes of the defined item, or its results, or both:

> Atherosclerosis is the condition where fatty deposits, called plaque, within the lining of an artery gradually build up and harden, causing a narrowing of the vessel, thereby reducing the blood flow to tissues. (Result) A primary factor in its development is the presence of <u>cholesterol-containing lippoproteins</u>.

Other risk factors include high blood pressure, smoking, inactivity and family history. (Causes)

Defining a term may involve a description of its process or procedures:

Angioplasty is the procedure commonly used in cases of atherosclerosis. This involves surgically removing the plaque to reopen a narrowed vessel and restore blood flow. The vessel is then kept open by the installation of a stent. This hinged metal or plastic device is inserted into the vessel with a deflated balloon inside it. Once in place, the balloon is inflated and the stent is forced open to a size which will keep the vessel wide. The balloon can then be deflated and removed, while the stent remains open and in place.

A medical term can also be defined by stating what it is not:

Alternative medicine incorporates a very broad category of medical systems. However, though it is sometimes treated as synonymous with complementary medicine, they are not the same. Complementary medicine intends to be used as a supplement to conventional treatment. This could involve having vitamin supplements or a health food diet while undergoing conventional medical treatment. On the other hand, alternative systems or treatments function to replace a conventional treatment. Acupuncture could be used instead of anesthesia during an operation. In some countries, like the US and Britain, alternative medicine is not taught in medical schools, is generally not used in hospitals, and is not covered by insurance. Many conventional medical professionals reject their safety and efficacy. Despite this, there is some professional interest. There are surgeons in the countries mentioned who use acupuncture instead of anesthesia, for instance. In the UAE, there is a government department which deals with alternative medicine. It is fair to say that its status is not fixed.

#### **Practice 3.23:** Write an extended definition of one of the following:

a. Endocrine glands

b. Exocrine glands

c. Graves' disease

d. Colonoscopy

### **Pronunciation of Medical Terms**

The following are the medical terms introduced in this chapter. You are supposed to read them aloud as many times as you need to master their pronunciation. These medical terms are recorded on a CD to help you learn the correct pronunciation. In this activity, you are also required to give the meaning of each term in order to retain them active in your memory.

#### Read the following medical terms and know their meanings.

abduct	antepartum	bradygastria
adduct	antigen	circumcision
adhere	aphasia	circumoral
adjacent	apnea	congenital
amenorrhea	atrophy	contraindicated
anemia	bilateral	cyanosis
antefebrile	bipolar	decongestant

dextrogastria isochromatic primary dialysis iuxtaposition primitive diameter leukemia projectile diatomic leukoplakia prophase diploid macrodactvlv prosthesis diplopic macroscopic pseudogene disinfect malignant pseudoreaction dysplasia megacephaly quadriplegia dyspnea megalomania regurgitation dysuria melanin resection ectocardia melanocyte retrogastric ectonic mesoderm retroperitoneal endocrine metacarpal semilunar endometrial microbiological semisolid endotoxin microdactyly sinistromanual epidermis monoatomic staphylococcus equicaloric monocular streptobacillus equilibrium monodactyly subcostal erythrocyte multicellular subcutaneous erythrocytosis neocortex subdural hematoma eupnea nonhuman sublingual euthyroidism normothermic subpatellar exogenous normovolemia subscapular exophthalmos oligodactyly supernumerary extracranial oligodontia supraabdominal extrahepatic orthognathism suprascapular hemiplegia orthotic symbiosis heterogeneous pachydactyly sympathetic heterosexual panplegia synapse homeostasis parathyroid gland syndactyly homograft percolate syndrome homosexual, perianal tachycardia hypertension periorbital telencephalon hyperthyroidism peritoneal telophase hypochondriac permeable tetrad hypogastric poikiloderma tetradactyly hypoglycemia poikilothermic transurethral hypothyroidism poliomyelitis tripod incision polydactyly ultrasonography infrascapular polyneuropathy unify interstitial polyphagia unilateral intervertebral postmenopause unusual intracellular postmortem xanthoderma intrauterine postnatal xanthoma intravenous premature xeroma isocellular premenstrual

Name:	ID:	*
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# 9 Review Exercises

A. Circle the be	est answer.				
1. A prefix that	means the same as di- is	\$			
a. tri	b. uni	c. bi	d. mono		
2. The prefixes	<i>hemi-</i> and <i>semi-</i> mean				
a. whole	b. first	c. two	d. half		
3. The prefix in	binocular means				
a. one	b. three	c. four	d. two		
4. The prefix in	nonexistent means				
a. slow	b. complex	c. equal	d. not		
5. A neonate is	a(n)				
a. teen	b. adult	c. preteen	d. newborn		
6. The prefixes	ante-, pre-, and pro- all	mean			
a. after	b. within	c. under	d. before		
7. The prefix tell	l/o- means				
a. togethe	r b. middle	c. end	d. apart		
8. The prefixes <i>n</i>	neta- and ultra- mean				
a. whole	b. outside	c. inside	d. beyond		
9. The prefix in	analysis means				
a. apart	b. not	c. separation	d. breaking		
10. The prefix is	n pachycephaly means				
a. slow	b. fast	c. equal	d. thickness		
B. Write true o	or false before each stat	tement.			
1. The prefix	in leukocyte means "irr	egular."		(	)
2. The prefix	in percutaneous means	"on the skin."		(	)
3. The prefix	in synthesis means "apa	art."		(	)
4. The last st	age of cell division is pr	ophase.		(	)
	opears before a root and	_		(	)
	charide is composed of m		nosaccharide.	(	)
	in dissect means "to se	_		(	)
•	d "contra-" mean the sa			(	)
	ded people are dextroma	•		(	)
_	nere is found in the mid		e	(	)
	efix in <i>erythrocyte</i> mean			(	)
_	efix in <i>periosteum</i> mean			(	)
12. The pro	ona m <i>periosieum</i> mean	on the bolic.		(	,



C.	Fill in the blank with the correct medical term.	
	Hypoxia causes a bluish discoloration of the skin is termed	
	2. The prefix in <i>superciliary</i> means	
	3. The prefix <i>poikilo-</i> means	
	4. The prefix in the word <i>pachycephaly</i> means	
	5. Total paralysis is	
	6. Composed of similar cells is	
	7. A group of four is	
	8. Describing a colony derived from one cell is	
	9. To separate tissues for anatomical study is called	
	10. A mass of blood above the membrane surrounding the brain is	
	11. Surgical puncture to remove fluid from the membrane surrounding the fis	etus
D.	Write the word that means the opposite of each of the following:	
	1. hyperthermia	
	2. polyuria	
	3. incision	
	4. abduct	
	5. chronic_	
	6. benign	
	7. hypopnea	
	8. epigastric	
	9. postmortem	
	10. atrophy	
	11. bradypnea	
	Identify the prefix and provide its meaning:	
	Prefix meaning	
1.	normothermic	
2.	quadruplet	
	mesoderm	
4	euthyroidism ————————————————————————————————————	
	poikilothermic	
- 1	malabsorption	
	panplegia ————————————————————————————————————	
	symbioses	
L		
F.	Write a word or a prefix that means the same as each of the following:	
	1. isolateral	
	2. megalocyte	
	3. supersensitivity	
	4. prenatal	
	T. Pronaum	

5. para	
6. circum	
7. subcostal	
8. ecto	

# G. Identify the prefixes or the combining forms in the following words and figure out what they mean.

	Term	Prefix	Combining form	Meaning
1.	oliguria			
2.	cyanosis			
3.	erythropenia			
4.	leukorrhea			
5.	melanocyte			
6.	endocrine			
7.	fibroid			
8.	morphology			
9.	aphasia			
10.	dysplasia			
11.	eupnea			
12.	peritoneum			
13.	endoscopy			
14.	angioectasis			

#### H. Give the meaning of each of the following terms:

1. sublingual
2. retroperitoneal
3. aphasia
4. quadriplegia
5. intervertebral
6. hypochondriac
7. hypertension
8. congenital
9. dystrophy
10. transdermal
11. diplopia
12. polyphagia
13. postmortem
14. tachycardia



15. sinistromanual

#### I. Give the meaning of each of the following prefixes and give a medical term in which it is used.

	1	Meaning	example
1.	ab-		
2.	ad-		
3.	meta-		
4.	para-		
5.	con-		
6.	anti-		
7.	ante-		
8.	inter-		
9.	brady-		
10.	pre-		
11.	sub-		
12.	hyper-		
13.	dys-		
14.	ec-		
15.	intra-		
16.	syn-		
17.	epi-		
18.	extra-		
19.	trans-		
20.	endo-		

#### J. Circle the correct answer.

1 A	prefix	10	toun	а
1.0 / 1	prema	10	TOUL	u

- A. at the beginning of a word
  - C. at the end of the word
- 2. The prefix multi- means
  - A. single
  - C. twice
- 3. Which of the following has four components?
  - A. unicycle
  - C. bicuspid
- 4. Cyanosis refers to
  - A. dark coloration C. thickness
- 5. A xanthoma is

  - A. green C. dark

- B. after the root
- D. before a hyphen
- B. double
- D. many
- B. polysaccharide
- D. tetralogy
- B. blue coloration
- D. shape
- B. blue
- D. yellow

6. The prefix in disintegration means A. movement C. few	B. separation D. decreased
7. To detoxify means to A. poison C. remove toxins	B. confine D. manufacture toxins
8. The prefixes dia-, per-, and trans- all mean A. under C. through	B. near D. equal
9. The prefix pan- means A. ever C. excess	B. before D. all
10. Which of the following means the same as e A. pseudo C. ecto	equi-? B. megalo D. iso
11. The prefix pseudo- means A. good C. even	B. large D. false
12. The opposite of dextro- is A. telo C. megalo	B. sym D. sinistro
13. The opposite of ectoderm is A. endoderm C. mesoderm	B. proderm D. metroderm
14. The mesencephalon is the A. surface of the brain C. inner part of the brain	B. underneath part of the brain D. middle portion of the brain
<ul><li>15. A word that describes organisms living toge</li><li>A. symbiosis</li><li>C. metabiosis</li></ul>	ther is  B. antibiosis  D. endobiosis
<ul><li>16. Interstitial fluid is found</li><li>A. inside cells</li><li>C. on the surface of the skin</li></ul>	B. between cells D. under the brain
17. Metastasis is A. a wasting of tissue C. a form of infection	B. a form of anemia D. spreading of cancer
18. An antipyretic is used to A. increase body temperature C. reduce pain	B. harden bones D. reduce fever



C. substance	a bund within a cell e produced by the immune syster ecreted from a cell	B. spreading cancer cell
20. The opposite of A. dyscardia C. cardiocel	a	B. xerocardia D. tachycardia
21. In pachyemia th A. thin C. deficient	e blood is	B. light D. thick
	paric refers to I temperature t with chemicals	B. increased pressure D. decreased pressure
		B. given at night
arteries	ion of two arteries	B. inflammation of many D. removal of tissue from an
	ame for a "heart attack" is ial infarction al occlusion	B. endocarditis D. cardioversion
B. throat C. cartilage	the d of the trachea around the bronchioles that covers the trachea during sw	vallowing
C. irregular	ate of breathing breathing in breathing unless upright	B. a shallow depth of breathing
28. A decreased rate A. hyperpne C. hyperven		l B. hypocapnia D. hypopnea
29. A temporary sto A. apnea C. dysventil	ppage of breathing is	B. dyspnea D. eupnea



A. above the nose C. around the mouth	B. within the sinuses D. around the jaw
31. The term hemiglossal refers to A. the salivary glands in the cheek C. one half of the tongue	B. the position of the jaw D. the upper part of the palat
32. Oliguria is  A. excretion of a decreased amount of urine C. infection of the bladder	B. discoloration of the urine D. narrowing of the ureter
33. Painful or difficult urination is A. nocturia C. uremia	B. pyuria D. dysuria
34. A retrouterine structure is located A. under the uterus C. behind the uterus	B. behind the vagina D. within the uterus
35. A congenital disorder  A. is caused by viral infection C. appears during childhood	B. is present at birth D. appears in a mother

#### Case report

HIV Infection and Tuberculosis

T.H., a 48-year-old-man, was an admitted intravenous (IV) drug user and occasionally abused alcohol. Over 4 weeks, he had experienced fever, night sweats, malaise, a cough, and a 10-lb weight loss. He was also concerned about several discolored lesions that had erupted weeks before on his arms and legs.

T.H. made an appointment with a physician assistant (PA) at the neighborhood clinic. On examination, the PA noted bilateral anterior cervical and axillary lymphadenopathy and pyrexia. T.H.'s temperature was 39°C. the PA sent T.H. to the hospital for further studies.

T.H.'s chest radiograph (x-ray image) showed paratracheal adenopathy and bilateral interstitial infiltrates, suspicious of tuberculosis (TB). His blood study results were positive for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and showed a low lymphocyte count. Sputum and bronchobacillus (AFB); a PPD (purified protein derivative) skin test result was also positive. Based on these findings, T.H was diagnosed with HIV, TB, and Kaposi sarcoma related to past IV drug abuse.

A. Write the word or pl	irase from t	he text th	at has the	e same	meaning	as each	of
the following words or I	phrases:						

1. within a vein	
2. fever	
3. Pertaining to both sides	

5. 6. 7.	Pe X- No	ertaining to the neckertaining to the armpit  K-ray image  Jear the trachea  Circle the letter of the most appropriate a					
	The term lymphadenopathy means:  a a disease of the lymph  b. An enlargement of the lymph nodes, usually associated with disease c. lymph nodes enlargement d. a disease of a gland						
<ul><li>2. The term interstitial means:</li><li>a. above the cells</li><li>c. between the cells</li></ul>			b. under the cells d. within the cells				
3.	Th	the word 'discolored' has the prefix  di  b. dis  c.	ed	d. color			
<ul><li>4. Provide the meaning for the following words.</li><li>a. immunodeficiency</li></ul>							
	b. infiltrate						
	c. sarcomad. adenopathy						
d. ddenopatriy							
10 Self-assessment							
C	hec	$\operatorname{cck}(\sqrt{\ })$ what you learned. If you need more	information o	r practice, refer to the			
relevant section in the chapter.							
(	)						
(	)						
(	)						
(	)						
(	)						
(	)						
(	)						
(	)	I can skim and scan medical texts for main ideas and details.					
(	)	I can ask and answer questions pertaining to medical issues.					
(	)	71					
(	)	I can spell and pronounce the new medical terms in the chapter.					

